Registration number: 08235194

Queniborough Church of England Primary School

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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Reference and administrative details

Members

StJohn Russell (resigned 4 July 2023)

Jacob Shell

Carolyn Lewis, The Diocese of Leicester Education Trust

Anthony Pick

Gillian Weston (appointed 11 July 2023)

Governors and **Trustees (Directors)** Gillian Weston (Chair) (appointed 11 July 2023)

StJohn Russell (Chair to 4 July 2023) (resigned 4 July 2023)

Elizabeth Hallam (Headteacher) (ceased 8 November 2023)

Rita Laughton Vanessa Dixon

Grant Mills (Chair of Finance and Audit Committee)

Daniel Wale (resigned 4 October 2023) Rachel Lovett (resigned 12 June 2023) Brenda Hackett (resigned 3 April 2023) Viraj Patel (resigned 19 September 2023) Sally Burford (resigned 18 December 2023) Luke Clarke (resigned 4 October 2023)

Cathrine Justesen

Lindsay Charlton (Acting Headteacher and Accounting Officer) (appointed 9 June

2023)

Company Secretary

Vanessa Yardley

Senior Management Team

Elizabeth Hallam, Headteacher (ceased 8 November 2023)

Lindsay Charlton, Acting Headteacher and Accouting Officer (from 9 June 2023)

Vanessa Yardley, Director of finance and administration

Alishia Durrant, Acting Deputy Headteacher (from 9 June 2023) Katie Spencer, Acting Deputy Headteacher (from 9 June 2023)

Company Registration 08235194

Number

Auditors

TC Group

Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close

Leicester LE4 9LJ

Reference and administrative details (continued)

Bankers Lloyds Bank p

Lloyds Bank plc High Street Leicester LE1 9FS

Solicitors Legal Services, Leicestershire County Council

County Hall Glenfield Leicestershire LE3 8RA

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31/08/2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The trust operates an Academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in Queniborough. It has a pupil capacity of 210 and had a roll of 204 in the school census Summer 2023.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The company registration number is 08235194.

The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of Queniborough Church of England Primary School and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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.

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.

Trustees' indemnities

The academy trust through its Articles has indemnified its Trustees to the fullest extent permissible by law. During the period the Academy also purchased and maintained liability insurance for its Trustees.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The number of Governors shall be not less than 3 or more than 17 except for appointments of Additional Governors made by the Secretary of State.

Recruitment of Governors is outlined in the Memorandum of Articles. The appointment of staff Governors is via a process of a staff ballot. Appointment of Parent Governors is made via parent ballot.

The Article of Association states the Academy Trust shall have the following Governors:

- up to 1 LA Governor if appointed under Article 51;
- up to 6 Parent Governors appointed under Articles 53-58;
- up to 2 Staff Governors appointed under Article 58A;
- up to 4 Foundation Governors appointed under Article 58B;
- the Principal or Headteacher;
- any Additional Governors, if appointed under Article 62, 62A or 68A; and
- any Further Governors, if appointed under Article 63 or Article 68A.
- The Academy Trust may also have any Co-opted Governor(s) appointed under Article 59.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Governor induction training alongside a menu of extensive specialised training is available through the local network of schools to support all new Governors. The Academy buys into the LA Governor Development Service who across the Governing Body offers further Governor training. A skills matrix is being developed to identify areas of strength and weakness.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Organisational structure

Under the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) "Scheme for Financing Schools", the Governing Body is responsible for the control of expenditure and income in accordance with the delegation of budgets and assisting the ESFA in the discharge of its statutory duties. The Governing Body has in turn delegated the governors' financial responsibilities to the Finance & Audit Committee. The Headteacher - the accounting officer; shall be responsible for implementing agreed policies and maintaining day to day control of the school finances and accounts. The School Business Manager shall assist the Headteacher in the discharge of financial responsibilities. However, the Governing Body will remain accountable when governors' financial responsibilities are delegated. The Headteacher and Business Manager are responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weakness or breakdowns in in internal controls.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The performance progression of the Headteacher, will be considered by the Pay Sub Committee on the recommendation of the Chair of Governors with advice from the external advisor. Leadership posts must demonstrate sustained high quality of performance, with particular regard to leadership, management and pupil progress at the school and will be subject to a review of performance against objectives before any pay progression will be rewarded.

Senior staff members performance will be reviewed by the Headteacher against the schools pay policy they must demonstrate sustained high quality of performance, with particular regard to leadership, management and pupil progress at the school and will be subject to a review of performance against objectives before any pay progression will be rewarded.

Risk management

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk. A thorough Risk Management Assessment has been conducted using guidelines provided by the ESFA and has been assessed and approved via Personnel and Finance Committee along with the Statement of Internal Control. The assessment involved identifying the types of risk the Academy faces, prioritising them into operational and financial impacts, accessing the likelihood of the occurrence and the impact that the occurrence will have on the Academy, putting in place controls to mitigate such risks. Whilst reviewed via the Personnel and Finance Committee on an annual basis the Risk Register is a live document which will be is reviewed regularly with Governors and Management.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

The school works very closely with a local group of schools to provide the best outcomes for our children. Our school accesses CPD from various local teaching schools.

The school is proud of its Christian heritage and continues to build on relationships with the Church and community. The school continues to develop both local and international partnerships.

Friends of Queniborough School (FOQS) are the School's PTA. They raise funds for the school through planned events. The focus on fundraising during 2022-2023 was on helping to improve outdoor play facilities. Charity and fundraising is something our pupils love to be engaged in helping many good causes.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

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 with a designated Church of England religious character offering a broad and balanced curriculum conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship (as required by the Funding Agreement) and in having regard to the advice of the Diocesan Board of Education.

Vision and Values:

'A little school with a big heart'

Biblical Root:

'To act justly, to love mercy and to walk humbly with your God' Micah ch. 6 v 8

Our School aims to develop among all children:

- confidence, self-esteem and an awareness among pupils of their own feelings and the feelings of others
- physical health, mental health, wellbeing and quality of life
- skills, knowledge and personal qualities that will prepare them for adult life
- lively enquiring minds with the ability to question, hypothesise, argue rationally, make decisions and apply themselves to tasks, including physical activities
- high levels of attainment in English, Mathematics, Science and Computing
- the ability to use language, number, scientific and information communication technology skills effectively in a variety of contexts
- to encourage the morals and values of the Christian faith encompassing the Church of England's vision for Education
- an understanding and respect for moral and religious values, for all individuals, for the world's many ethnic and religious groups and for people having any form of disability, including children with special educational needs
- knowledge and appreciation of the world and an understanding of the interdependence of individuals, groups and nations
- an appreciation of human achievements

These aims will be reflected in all we do in our teaching and dealings with pupils and parents.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Our main aims for the school year centered on recovery work from the Covid-19 pandemic. This involved aiming to enable children to recover lost learning and achieve attainment levels typical for their age group, particularly in writing. There was a whole school focus on writing

Priority 1 Pupil Outcomes - Improving outcomes at the end of Reception. Maintaining outcomes at KS1 and KS2.

Priority 2 Teaching and Learning - Improving the progress and attainment of children in Writing across Key stages 1 and 2- Ensuring that as many children as possible meet or exceed ARE at the end of the year as possible.

Priority 3 Teaching and Learning - Improving the progress and attainment of children in Reading (phonics) across EYFS and Key stage 1. To ensure that there are phonics resources, teacher resources and an adequate supply of decodable reading books for the teaching of Early Reading. Establish robust procedures for teaching phonics ensuring consistency.

Priority 4 Curriculum - To ensure that there are robust planning documents, schemes of work and assessment resources for teachers to use across all subjects. To ensure whole school approaches are implemented in each curriculum area.

Public benefit

The academy trust provides educational services to all children in the local area. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

In setting objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

Our school data for children achieving a GLD (Good Level of Development) in the Early Years Foundation Stage is in line with national data. In 2022-23, 66.7% of pupils achieved a GLD. Pupils attainment was above national in every area of learning. Our GLD has remained stable since 2019.

2022-23	66.7%	67.2%
2021-22	71.4%	65.2%
2018-19	65%	72%

Year 2 Phonics Results:

88% children in Year 1 passed the 2023 phonics screen. (National 79%)

Key Stage 1 Results

Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined	Science
70%	46.7%	76.7%	43.3%	80%
(N- 68.3%)	(N- 60%)	(N- 70.4%)	(N - 56%)	N- 79%
20%	13.3%	13.3%	6.7%	N/A
(N- 18.8%)	(N- 8.2%)	(N- 16.3%)	(N - 6.2%)	
	70% (N- 68.3%) 20%	70% 46.7% (N- 68.3%) (N- 60%) 20% 13.3%	70% 46.7% 76.7% (N- 68.3%) (N- 60%) (N- 70.4%) 20% 13.3% 13.3%	70% 46.7% 76.7% 43.3% (N- 68.3%) (N- 60%) (N- 70.4%) (N - 56%) 20% 13.3% 13.3% 6.7%

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Key Stage 2 Results

	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined	Grammar, punctuation and spelling	Science
At the Expected Standard (EXS)		61.3% (N- 71.5%)	61.3% (N- 72.9%)	51.6 % (N - 59.4%)	77.4% (N-73.3)	87.1% (N – 80%)
		9.7% (N- 13.4%)	12.9% (N- 23.8%)	3.2% (N -7.9%)	25.8% (N-30.1%)	N/A

Multiplication Tables Check (Year 4)

	Mean average	% achieving full marks
Queniborough	22.5	40.7
National 2023	20.2	29

Key non-financial performance indicators

- Attendance for 2022 23 was around the national average at 96.2% (National -93.6%).
- The school had an Ofsted inspection in October 2018 and continues to be a judged a 'Good' school.
- The school had a no notice Ofsted inspection in July 2023 where safeguarding was judged to be effective.
- At the last SIAMS (Diocesan) inspection the school was judged to be outstanding.

Going concern

On 1 October 2023 the academy trust transferred the school and its activities to the Learn-AT Multi-Academy Trust. On the basis of the ongoing operational existence of the school after the transition to the Multi-Academy Trust, the trustees believe it is correct to continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Financial review

The financial performance is currently considered to be adequate, the reduction of the minimum funding guarantee may affect this going forward and strategies will be put in place to ensure this does not affect the financial performance of the Academy. The Academy is continuing to increase the number of participants which in turn will continue to help improve the financial position of the Academy. The School Development Plan outlines future aims and objectives indicate how and where resources will be spent or targeted in future years. The Academy continues to ensure children's learning is at the forefront.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Reserves policy

Queniborough Church of England Primary School maintains reserve funds which are made up from:

- o The accumulated surplus in the official fund
- o Money derived from sources other than budget, including fundraising and donations

The Academy Trust maintains reserves to cover unexpected expenditure requirements or an unexpected fall in school numbers.

It is the policy of the Governing Body to maintain an annual budget that is balanced and sustainable, and to reserve funds to support future years' budgets where necessary.

The Finance & Personnel Committee maintains oversight of the school reserves through the budget setting process and financial monitoring.

The Academy currently has a reserve of £23,696 (2022 - £6,893).

Any surplus at the end of the year will be carried over to the following year. The Governing Body must inform the ESFA immediately if a deficit is anticipated in the current year.

Investment policy

The Governing Body shall authorise all investment of money under its control. Investment of Building Society and Bank Deposit Accounts shall be in the name of the school. This is an item agenda at each Finance & Audit meeting.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The academy faced financial pressures over the past few years and have been moving towards joining a Multi Academy Trust at the end of this financial year.

Internal Controls - Risk Management

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risks. A thorough Risk Management Assessment has been conducted using guidelines provided by the EFA and has been assessed and approved via Personnel and Finance Committee along with the Statement of Internal Control. The assessment involved identifying the types of risk the Academy faces, prioritising them into operational and financial impacts, accessing the likelihood of the occurrence and the impact that the occurrence will have on the Academy, putting in place controls to mitigate such risks. Whilst reviewed on an annual basis the Risk Register is a live document which will be is reviewed regularly with Governors and Management.

Capacity to handle Risk

The Academy Trust Board reviews the risks to which the academy is exposed, together with the controls implemented to mitigate those risks. The academy provides training for Trustees through Leicestershire County Council Governor Development Service.

Risk and Control

The Academy maintains and operates a system of internal control to safeguard all the resources delegated, granted or otherwise entrusted and ensures they are used cost effectively. The systems of internal control have been developed and coordinated by the Business Manager and Headteacher (Accounting Officer). The aim is to provide as much assurance as is reasonably possible (not absolute assurance) that assets are safeguarded, transactions are properly authorised and recorded and that any errors or regularities are either prevented or can be detected promptly.

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Plans for future periods

On 1 October 2023 the Academy Trust transferred the school and its activities to the Learn-AT Multi-Academy Trust

The key priorities of the school in future periods are:

Priority 1: Establish an open and vigilant whole school safeguarding culture in which children flourish and staff are well-trained and confident that they understand how to keep children safe.

All statutory safeguarding and safety-related policies are up-to-date, implemented and monitored effectively,

Priority 2: Spiritual, moral, social and cultural education is consistently good in all year groups.

Pupils thrive because they have access to high quality, well-planned personal development opportunities and support for their emotional wellbeing and resilience.

Priority 3: Implement an effective, coherently-sequenced writing curriculum which aligns to Learn-AT writing curriculum principles. Quality of teaching in writing is consistently good in all year groups. Pupil outcomes in writing improve rapidly as a result of effective formative and summative assessment.

Priority 4: Implement a knowledge-rich, coherently-sequenced subject-led curriculum, contextualised for Queniborough and aligned to the Learn-AT Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment Frameworks.

Priority 5: Staff wellbeing is supported by: access to high quality Trust services including HR and effective policies which reduce staff workload; engagement with staff wellbeing services through SAS support from colleagues and peers through Learn-AT professional networks.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The Academy does not hold funds for any other organisations.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 21 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Gillian Weston (Chair)
Governor and trustee

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Accouting 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 Queniborough Church of England Primary School and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control. The Headteacher, Elizabeth Hallam, was Accounting Officer for the Trust from 1 September 2022 to 9 June 2023. The Acting Headteacher, Lindsay Charlton, took over the role of Accounting Officer from 9 June 2023.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 8 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Gillian Weston (Chair) (appointed 11 July 2023)	I	1
StJohn Russell (Chair to 4 July 2023) (resigned 4 July 2023)	6	6
Rita Laughton	7	8
Vanessa Dixon	8	8
Grant Mills (Chair of Finance and Audit Committee)	7	8
Rachel Lovett (resigned 12 June 2023)	5	6
Daniel Wale (resigned 4 October 2023)	4	8
Elizabeth Hallam (Headteacher) (ceased 8 November 2023)	6	6
Brenda Hackett (resigned 3 April 2023)	6	6
Vanessa Yardley	8	8
Viraj Patel (resigned 19 September 2023)	4	8
Sally Burford (resigned 18 December 2023)	7	8
Luke Clarke (resigned 4 October 2023)	4	8
Cathrine Justesen	7	8
Lindsay Charlton (Acting Headteacher and Accounting Officer) (appointed 9 June 2023)	3	3

Governance statement (continued)

Governance reviews

The Accounting Officer has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During Year ended 31 August 2023 the review has been informed by:

- The Finance and Audit Committee
- The Internal Auditor
- The Education Funding Agency Auditor
- The External Auditor

The Accounting Officer has been advised of any implication of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Internal Auditor. Action plans are in place to address weakness and ensure continuous improvement of the systems in place.

The Finance & Audit committee is a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Provide guidance and assistance to the Head and governing body in all matters relating to budget and finance within an agreed framework;
- To determine and review financial systems and procedures, in line with prevailing regulations;
- To consider the budgetary implications of the annual School Development Plan;
- To oversee arrangements for obtaining quotations and inviting tenders in line with regulations;
- To ensure annual audits are carried out and results reported to Full Board;
- To review policy documents relating to Financial Regulations, Lettings, Charging and Best Value;
- To ensure insurance arrangements are appropriate and sufficient;
- To be aware of funding opportunities and how these can be accessed;
- To authorise all write-offs and disposals of surplus stock and equipment in accordance with regulations and the annual inventory check;
- To monitor conditions of school premises and grounds regularly and report to Full Board with proposals for repairs, maintenance and decoration in line with agreed financial allocations;
- To work with the Head and others to develop a long term plan for improving facilities and premises for all school users;
- To report termly to Full Board to ratify all decisions made in committee.

Governance statement (continued)

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Grant Mills (Chair of Finance and Audit Committee)	6	7
StJohn Russell (resigned 4 July 2023)	6	6
Rita Laughton	6	7
Elizabeth Hallam (Headteacher) (ceased 8 November 2023)	6	7
Viraj Patel (resigned 19 September 2023)	1	7
Vanessa Yardley	7	7
Sally Burford (resigned 18 December 2023)	7	7
Gillian Weston (appointed 11 July 2023)	1	1
Lindsay Charlton (Acting Headteacher and Accounting Officer) (appointed 9 June 2023)	1	1

Review of value for money

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

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

- Income generation letting the premises for community use.
- Bring school catering in house.
- · Regular reviews with Finance & Audit committee and looking at benchmarking resources with similar schools.
- In house wraparound care.

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 trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Queniborough Church of England Primary School for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

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

Governance statement (continued)

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Finance and Audit Committee, which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- · setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- · clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- · identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has decided:

· to employ Greenhill Independent Audit and Assurance as internal auditor

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

On an annual basis, the auditor reports to the Board of Trustees, through the audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees's financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

Governance statement (continued)

Review of effectiveness

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

- · the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- · the work of the external auditor;
- correspondence from ESFA: FNtI/NtI and 'minded to' letters.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 21 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Gillian Weston (Chair)
Governor and trustee

Lindsay Charlton (Acting Headteacher and Accounting Officer)

Governor and trustee

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As accounting officer of Queniborough Church of England Primary School I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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

Lindsay Charlton
Accounting Officer

Date: 21 December 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Direction 2021 to 2022;
- · make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 Board on 21 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Gillian Weston (Chair)
Governor and trustee

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Queniborough Church of England Primary School

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Queniborough Church of England Primary School (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2023, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy trust's affairs at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- · have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- · have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information (covers the Reference and administrative details, the Trustees' report and Strategic Report and the Governance statement)

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Queniborough Church of England Primary School (continued)

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 Strategic Report and Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Trustees' report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 16], the Trustees 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.

Auditor 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Queniborough Church of England Primary School (continued)

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Academy Trust and determined that the most significant frameworks which are directly relevant to specific assertions in the financial statements are those that relate to the reporting frameworks.

We understood how the Academy Trust is complying with those frameworks by making enquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures. We corroborated our enquiries through review of board minutes and discussions with those charged with governance.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Academy Trust's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur, by discussion with management from various parts of the business to understand where they considered there was a susceptibility to fraud. We considered the procedures and controls that the Academy Trust has established to prevent and detect fraud, and how these are monitored by management, and also any enhanced risk factors such as performance targets.

Based on our understanding, we designed our audit procedures to identify any non-compliance with laws and regulations identified in the paragraphs above.

We also performed audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: 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 Trustees, 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 trustees 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 Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Richard Buckby FCA

For and on behalf of TC Group, Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close Leicester LE4 9LJ

Date: 21.12.2023

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Queniborough Church of England Primary School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 October 2020 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Queniborough Church of England Primary School during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Queniborough Church of England Primary School and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to Queniborough Church of England Primary School and the 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 Queniborough Church of England Primary School and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Trustees's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Board of Trustees's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 November 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Queniborough Church of England Primary School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- On a sample basis testing transactions and balances
- Making enquiries of the academy regarding systems and controls in place that are relevant to our regularity conclusion
- On a sample basis reviewing records for evidence of those systems and controls in operation.

Conclusion

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

TC Group

Reporting Accountant

Hamilton Office Park 31 High View Close Leicester LE4 9LJ

Date: 21.12.2023

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/22 Total £
Income and endowments fro	m:				
Donations and capital grants Other trading activities	2 4	53,584	466	20,510	20,976 53,584
Charitable activities: Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	<u>-</u>	1,131,584	_	1,131,584
Total		53,584	1,132,050	20,510	1,206,144
Expenditure on: Raising funds	5	4,667	_	-	4,667
Charitable activities: Academy trust educational operations	6		1,169,952	35,477	1,205,429
Total		4,667	1,169,952	35,477	1,210,096
Net income/(expenditure)		48,917	(37,902)	(14,967)	(3,952)
Transfers between funds		(30,776)	23,564	7,212	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	49,000	~	49,000
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		18,141	34,662	(7,755)	45,048
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2022		4,475	(33,582)	1,347,060	1,317,953
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		22,616	1,080	1,339,305	1,363,001

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2022 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/21 Total £
Income and endowments from	m:				
Donations and capital grants	2	-	1,324	6,351	7,675
Other trading activities	4	40,035	-	-	40,035
Charitable activities: Funding for the Academy					1 000 000
trust's educational operations	3		1,092,000	<u> </u>	1,092,000
Total		40,035	1,093,324	6,351	1,139,710
Expenditure on: Raising funds	5	3,837	-	-	3,837
Charitable activities: Academy trust educational			1 2 40 500	25.005	1 204 504
operations	6	***************************************	1,249,509	35,085	1,284,594
Total		3,837	1,249,509	35,085	1,288,431
Net income/(expenditure)		36,198	(156,185)	(28,734)	(148,721)
Transfers between funds		(52,911)	22,925	29,986	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23		841,000		841,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(16,713)	707,740	1,252	692,279
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021		21,188	(741,322)	1,345,808	625,674
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2022		4,475	(33,582)	1,347,060	1,317,953

(Registration number: 08235194) Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	10	1,348,760	1,354,893
Current assets			
Stocks	11	1,756	1,756
Debtors	12	28,521	32,217
Cash at bank and in hand		76,046	59,363
		106,323	93,336
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	,	(87,355)	(84,820)
Net current assets		18,968	8,516
Total assets less current liabilities		1,367,728	1,363,409
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(4,727)	(9,456)
Net assets excluding pension asset		1,363,001	1,353,953
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	**	(36,000)
Total net assets		1,363,001	1,317,953
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	15	1,080	2,415
Restricted fixed asset fund	15	1,339,305	1,347,060
Pension reserve	15	•	(36,000)
		1,340,385	1,313,475
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	15	22,616	4,478
Total funds		1,363,001	1,317,953

The financial statements on pages 22 to 46 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 21 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Gillian Weston (Chair)
Governor and trustee

Lindsay Charlton (Acting Headteacher and Accounting Officer)

Governor and trustee

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	18	46,026	10,531
Cash flows from investing activities	19	(29,343)	(25,258)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		16,683	(14,727)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		59,363	74,090
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	20	76,046	59,363

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

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

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 company to continue as a going concern.

On 1 October 2023 the school and its activities were transferred to the Learn-AT Multi-Academy Trust.

The trustees make their assessment on goiong concern in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. The trustees have concluded that due to the continuing operational existence of the school following transition to the Multi-Academy Trust that it is appropriate to continue to apply the going concern basis of preparation.

Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Donations

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

Other income

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

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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, per the table below. Where an asset comprises of two or more components which have substantially different useful lives, each component is depreciated separately over its useful economic life.

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

The Trustees of Queniborough Church of England Primary School, in agreement with the Board of Education of the Diocese of Leicester, occupy buildings, a swimming pool and some open land on a rent free licence. Full details of the arrangment are detailed in note 10.

The Trustees have considered the guidance in the Academies Accounts Direction in relation to properties occupied under licence. Having considered the arrangements under which the Academy Trust is occupying the land and buildings, for the reasons given in note 10, the Trustees have concluded that the arrangement should not be included as an asset on the Balance Sheet and the Trustees have not included any value of land or buildings in the financial statements.

Asset class

Long leasehold property improvements Long leasehold land Furniture and equipment Computer equipment

Depreciation method and rate

2% Straight line
Over the period of the lease
20% Straight line
33.3% Straight line

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Liabilities

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

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust 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.

Leased assets

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

Stock

Unsold uniforms and catering stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pension benefits

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

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

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

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31/08/2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Capital grants	-	20,510	20,510	6,351
Other donations	466	-	466	1,324
	466	20,510	20,976	7,675

The income from donations and capital grants was £20,976 (2022: £88,877) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2022: £Nil), £466 restricted funds (2022: £1,325), £20,510 restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £6,351) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted General Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Educational operations			
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	905,377	905,377	897,466
Supplementary grants	24,172	24,172	10,072
Other government grants	22,528	22,528	4,666
Pupil Premium	14,004	14,004	11,955
Sports funding	17,780	17,780	17,790
UIFSM	35,259	35,259	33,312
	1,019,120	1,019,120	975,261
Other government grants			
Local authority grants	36,073	36,073	40,171
Non-government grants and other income			
Other funding	12,438	12,438	12,692
Parental contributions and trip income	63,953	63,953	62,786
	76,391	76,391	75,478
Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up premium	***		1,090
Total grants	1,131,584	1,131,584	1,092,000

The funding for educational operations was £1,131,582 (2022: £1,091,998) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £Nil unrestricted funds (2022: £Nil), £1,131,582 restricted funds (2022: £1,091,998), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023/22 Total £	2022/21 Total £
Hire of facilities	28,776	28,776	22,785
Catering income	24,425	24,425	16,697
Other sales	383	383	553
	53,584	53,584	40,035

The income from other trading activities was £53,584 (2022: £19,295) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £53,584 unrestricted funds (2022: £19,295), £Nil restricted funds (2022: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2022: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2022: £Nil).

5 Expenditure

•		Non Pay Ex	penditure	2023/22	2022/21
	Staff costs	Premises £	Other costs	Total £	Total £
Expenditure on raising funds					
Direct costs	-	-	4,667	4,667	3,837
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	733,131	35,477	74,848	843,456	824,023
Allocated support costs	193,907	90,056	78,010	361,973	460,571
_	927,038	125,533	157,525	1,210,096	1,288,431
Net income/(expenditu	re) for the vear in	cludes:			
(capellation	20, 202 0000 y 0000 000			2023/22 £	2022/21 £
Operating lease rentals				924	935
Depreciation				35,476	35,085
Fees payable to auditor	- audit			7,000	6,000
- other audit services				1,650	1,450

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

6 Charitable activities			
		2023/22	2022/21
		£	£
Direct costs - educational operations		843,456	824,023 460,571
Support costs - educational operations	•	361,973	
	,	1,205,429	1,284,594
	Educational	2023/22	2022/21
	operations £	Total £	Total £
	a.	~	2
Analysis of support costs		400.00	201226
Support staff costs	193,907	193,907	294,226
Premises costs	90,056	90,056	79,188
Other support costs	69,360 8,650	69,360 8,650	79,707 7,450
Governance costs			
Total support costs	361,973	361,973	460,571
7 Staff			
Staff costs		2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Staff costs during the year were:		£	
			£
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries		£ 701,234	£ 704,159
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs		£ 701,234 52,617	£ 704,159 49,824
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs		701,234 52,617 172,359	£ 704,159 49,824 274,254
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes		701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210	704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes		701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828	704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes Supply staff costs Staff numbers	ny trust during the year	701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828 927,038	704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes Supply staff costs	ny trust during the year	701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828 927,038	704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes Supply staff costs Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academ	ry trust during the year	701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828 927,038	£ 704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820 1,034,057 2022/21 No
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes Supply staff costs Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academ Teachers	ry trust during the year	701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828 927,038 r was as follows: 2023/22 No 9	£ 704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820 1,034,057 2022/21 No 10
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes Supply staff costs Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academ Teachers Administration and support	ny trust during the year	701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828 927,038 r was as follows: 2023/22 No 9 26	£ 704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820 1,034,057 2022/21 No 10 31
Staff costs during the year were: Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes Supply staff costs Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the academ Teachers	ry trust during the year	701,234 52,617 172,359 926,210 828 927,038 r was as follows: 2023/22 No 9	£ 704,159 49,824 274,254 1,028,237 5,820 1,034,057 2022/21 No 10

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

7 Staff (continued)

Higher paid staff

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

2022/21	2023/22	
No	No	
1	-	£60,001 - £70,000
-	1	£70,001 - £80,000
		# / 0,001 - #00,000

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £159,137 (2022: £143,024).

8 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

Elizabeth Hallam (Headteacher) (ceased 8 November 2023) (Head Teacher):

Remuneration: £70,000 - £75,000 (2022 - £60,000 - £65,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £15,000 - £20,000 (2022 - £15,000 - £20,000)

Helen Frances (Staff Trustee):

Remuneration: £Nil (2022 - £40,000 - £45,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2023 no Trustees received reimbursement of school related expenses (2022 - fNil)

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 24.

9 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £3,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £11 (2022 - £11).

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

10 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land £	Leasehold property improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment	2023/22 Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2022 Additions	600,000	865,524 18,412	71,966	88,470 10,931	1,625,960 29,343
At 31 August 2023	600,000	883,936	71,966	99,401	1,655,303
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022 Charge for the year	46,797 4,800	86,731 17,679	54,552 5,442	82,987 7,555	271,067 35,476
At 31 August 2023	51,597	104,410	59,994	90,542	306,543
Net book value					
At 31 August 2023	548,403	779,526	11,972	8,859	1,348,760
At 31 August 2022	553,203	778,793	17,414	5,483	1,354,893

The Trustees of Queniborough Church of England Primary School, in agreement with the Board of Education of the Diocese of Leicester, occupy the buildings, a swimming pool and some open land of the Academy on a rent free licence. This continuing permission of the Board of Education is pursuant to, and subject to, the Board's charitable objects. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land (and buildings) to the Academy Trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the Academy Trust. The terms of this licence have been agreed between the Secretary of State and the Trustees of Queniborough Church of England Primary School and contain a termination clause on the Trustees of Queniborough Church of England Primary School by the Board of Education giving two years notice. The Academy is responsible for the maintenance and insurance of the land and buildings.

The value of the donated facility cannot be reliably quantified and measured and accordingly no accounting adjustment has been made for this matter.

Long leasehold land is valued at £600,000 (2022 - £600,000) on conversion in 2012 by Leicestershire County Council, Andrea Hopkins MRICS, using the depreciated replacement cost method.

The freehold of the land is owned by Leicestershire County Council. The Academy holds a 125 year lease on a peppercorn rent from 2012.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

11 Stock		
	2023	2022
	£ 1,756	£ 1,756
Books and stationery	1,730	1,730
12 Debtors		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	1	313
VAT recoverable	2,976	3,170
Prepayments	20,843	24,426
Accrued grant and other income	4,701	4,308
	28,521	32,217
13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Other taxation and social security	33,098	30,523
Loans	4,728	4,728
Accruals	18,350	24,404
Deferred income	31,179	25,165
	87,355	84,820
	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	25,165	29,951
Resources deferred in the period	31,179	25,165
Amounts released from previous periods	(25,165)	(29,951)
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	31,179	25,165

Included in the closing balance of deferred income is £21,592 (2022 - £19,767) relating to Universal Infant Free School Meals funding received in advance of the 2023/24 academic year.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14	Creditors:	amounts	falling of	due a	after	one year	
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14 Creations amounts raining as	J			2023	2022
•				£	£
Loans			***************************************	4,727	9,456
15 Funds					
	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023
Restricted funds					
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,415	905,377	(944,360)	36,568	-
Pupil Premium		14,004	(14,004)	_	-
Sports funding		17,780	(17,780)	-	
Other Government grants		46,701	(46,701)	-	-
Other income	-	76,856	(75,776)	-	1,080
UIFSM	-	35,259	(35,259)	***	-
Local Authority grants	-	36,073	(36,073)	~	w
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Net book value of assets	1,354,893	_	(35,476)	29,343	1,348,760
ESFA capital grants unspent	6,351	20,510	-	(26,861)	-
CIF loan	(14,184)	-	-	4,729	(9,455)
Pension reserve funds					
Pension reserve	(36,000)	-		36,000	-
Total restricted funds	1,313,475	1,152,560	(1,205,429)	79,779	1,340,385
Unrestricted general funds					
Unrestricted general funds	4,478	53,584	(4,667)	(30,779)	22,616
Total unrestricted funds	4,478	53,584	(4,667)	(30,779)	22,616
Total endowment funds		-			
Total funds	1,317,953	1,206,144	(1,210,096)	49,000	1,363,001

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted funds					
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	897,466	(917,975)	22,924	2,415
Pupil Premium	-	11,955	(11,955)	-	-
Sports funding	7,147	17,790	(24,937)	-	-
Other Government grants	-	14,737	(14,737)	-	-
Other income	531	76,802	(77,333)	-	-
UIFSM	-	33,312	(33,312)	-	-
Local Authority grants	-	40,171	(40,171)	-	***
Catch-up premium	-	1,090	(1,090)	-	200
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Net book value of assets	1,364,720	-	(35,085)	25,258	1,354,893
ESFA capital grants unspent	-	6,351	-	-	6,351
CIF loan	(18,912)	-	-	4,728	(14,184)
Pension reserve funds					
Pension reserve	(749,000)		(128,000)	841,000	(36,000)
Total restricted funds	604,486	1,099,674	(1,284,595)	893,910	1,313,475
Unrestricted general funds					
Unrestricted general funds	21,188	40,035	(3,835)	(52,910)	4,478
Total unrestricted funds	21,188	40,035	(3,835)	(52,910)	4,478
Total endowment funds	***		***		***
Total funds	625,674	1,139,709	(1,288,430)	841,000	1,317,953

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

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

Restricted general funds

General Annual Grant (GAG), other Dfe/ESFA grants and local authority grants are to be applied for the primary purpose of the Academy Trust in line with the master funding agreement and other specific funding letters. This includes the pension reserve, which represents the potential liability due by the Academy Trust at the year end.

Other DfE/ESFA grants

Other funds provided by the DfE/ESFA for particular purposes within the Academy's educational operations.

Devolved Formula Capital

This consists of Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) and other capital funding from the Education and Skills Funding Agency. the DFC is to be used for ICT items, improvements to buildings and other facilities or capital repairs and refurbishments and minor works. Other capital grants are to be used as per the individual terms of the agreement and for the specific capital project as applied for.

Pupil Premium

Additional funds from the Education and Skills Funding Agency to support their disadvantages pupils and close the attainment gap between them and their peers. This is allocated to every pupil who receives free school meals.

Other grants

These are funds and grants received from the Local Authority and other institutions for use on specific educational projects.

Other income

These consists of income from all other sources to be used primarily for the Academy's educational operations.

Restricted fixed asset funds

The restricted fixed asset funds relate to the assets acquired on conversion to an Academy Trust, being the property and fixed assets purchased using grants. it includes further amounts invested in fixed assets.

Pension reserve

Being the fund in relation to the defined benefit pension scheme liability included in the Balance Sheet. The fund is in deficit given the nature of the liability, however, this is not payable immediately. Plans are in place to address the deficit.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds represents other incoming resources to the Academy Trust applied for general purposes of the Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,348,760	1,348,760
Current assets	22,616	83,707	-	106,323
Current liabilities	-	(82,627)	(4,728)	(87,355)
Creditors over 1 year	-		(4,727)	(4,727)
Total net assets	22,616	1,080	1,339,305	1,363,001

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,354,893	1,354,893
Current assets	4,475	82,510	6,351	93,336
Current liabilities		(80,092)	(4,728)	(84,820)
Creditors over 1 year	-	-	(9,456)	(9,456)
Pension scheme liability	•	(36,000)	_	(36,000)
Total net assets	4,475	(33,582)	1,347,060	1,317,953

17 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts due within one year	924	924
Amounts due between one and five years	924	1,848
	1,848	2,772

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

18 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Net expenditure	(3,952)	(148,721)
Depreciation	35,476	35,085
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	11,000	115,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	2,000	13,000
Decrease in stocks	-	958
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,696	(7,281)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(2,194)	2,490
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	46,026	10,531
19 Cash flows from investing activities		
	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(29,343)	(25,258)
20 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
·	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	76,046	59,363
Total cash and cash equivalents	76,046	59,363
21 Analysis of changes in net debt		
At Septe 20	mber 22 Cash flows	At 31 August 2023

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023
Cash	59,363	16,683	76,046
Loans falling due within one year	(4,728)	-	(4,728)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(9,456)	4,729	(4,727)
Total	45,179	21,412	66,591

22 Member 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by . 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 2022

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

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 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 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 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £92,813 (2022: £91,251). A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Local government pension schemes Leicestershire County Council Pension Fund

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £86,378 (2022 - £86,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £68,682 (2022 - £69,000) and employees' contributions totalled £17,696 (2022 - £17,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23.6 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees. The scheme is managed by Leicestershire County Council.

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

The actuarial valuation calculated the fair value of plan assets to be in excess of the defined benefit obligation giving a plan surplus as at 31 August 2023 of £202,000. FRS102 28.22 states that a plan surplus shall be recognised only to the extent that the entity is able to recover the surplus through either reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The trustees believe there to be insufficient certainty over the ability to meet these conditions and therefore the plan surplus has not been recognised.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.50	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.00	3.10
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20	4.30
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	3.00	3.10
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	55.00	50.00

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

	2023	2022
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.70	21.50
Females retiring today	24.60	24.00
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	20.40	22.40
Females retiring in 20 years	25.70	25.70

The academy's share of the assets in the scheme were:

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued) 2023 2022 642,000 **Equities** 626,000 294,000 374,000 Government bonds 77,000 95,000 Property 21,000 22,000 Cash and other liquid assets 1,099,000 1,052,000 Total market value of assets The actual return on scheme assets was (£2,000) (2022 - (£1,000)). Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities 2023/22 2022/21 80,000 184,000 Current service cost Interest income (46,000)(17,000)48,000 30,000 Interest cost 82,000 197,000 Total amount recognized in the SOFA Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows: 2023/22 2022/21 At start of period 1,088,000 1,731,000 80,000 184,000 Current service cost 30,000 48,000 Interest cost 17,000 18,000 **Employee contributions** (320,000)(859,000)Actuarial (gain)/loss (17,000)(15,000)Benefits paid 897,000 1,088,000 At 31 August Changes in the fair value of academy's share of scheme assets: 2022/21 2023/22 982,000 At start of period 1,052,000 46,000 17,000 Interest income Actuarial gain/(loss) (69,000)(18,000)69,000 69,000 Employer contributions 18,000 17,000 Employee contributions (17,000)(15,000)Benefits paid 1,099,000 1,052,000

At 31 August

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

24 Related party transactions

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

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 8.