Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Report of the Trustees and

Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Harris & Co Limited Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Marland House 13 Huddersfield Road Barnsley South Yorkshire S70 2LW

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Reference and Administrative Details for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

MEMBERS:	Reverend K A N Greaves - Resigned 11 th July 2024 Mrs C Watkins - Resigned 10 th January 2024, Re-elected 14 th November 2024 Mrs S Shaw Mr K Wainwright Mrs C Sadler – Appointed 7 th March 2024 Mrs M Allen – Appointed 7 th March 2024, Resigned 11 July 2024 Mrs C Stead – Appointed 14 th November 2024
TRUSTEES	Reverend K A N Greaves - Resigned 11 th July 2024 Mrs C Watkins - Resigned 10 th January 2024 Mrs C D Sadier Mrs N Priestley Ms V L Callaghan - Appointed 18 th January 2024 Ms R D Dent Ms C Holding Ms S Lodge Ms B Minor Mrs M Allen – Resigned 11 July 2024 Miss L McCarthy – Resigned 11 July 2024 Mr T P Wildey – Appointed 16 October 2024 Mr S Bluff – Appointed 10 October 2024
SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM:	Miss B Minor (Accounting Officer) Mrs R D Dent Mr T Wildey Mrs J Butterworth Miss L McCarthy
REGISTERED OFFICE	St James Way Crigglestone Wakefield West Yorkshire WF4 3HY
REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER	08097265 (England and Wales)
INDEPENDENT AUDITORS	Harris & Co Limited Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Marland House 13 Huddersfield Road Barnsley South Yorkshire S70 2LW
BANKERS	Nat West 56 Westgate Wakefield West Yorkshire WF1 1XF

Page 1

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust (the Academy Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2024. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the Academy Trust comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Academy Trust's governing document, the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" effective from 1 January 2015, and the Financial Reporting Standard 102 (FRS102).

STRUCTURE GOVERNANCE AND MANGEMENT

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and was set up by a Memorandum of Association on 8 June 2012. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the year ended 31 August 2024 are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

The principal object of the Academy Trust is to provide a balanced and broadly based curriculum satisfying the requirements of the Education Act 2001 for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4 and 11.

Conversion

The school converted to an Academy on 1 July 2012. Assets, liabilities and staff were transferred from Wakefield Metropolitan District Council ("Wakefield LA") as at this date.

Members liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

Trustees may benefit from any indemnity insurance purchased at the Academy Trust's expense to cover the liability of trustees which by virtue of any law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust.

Recruitment and appointment of new Trustees

The management of the Academy Trust is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association. The Trustees have regard to guidance as to the governance of Academies that the Secretary of State may publish. There will be no fewer than five Trustees.

Each Trustee (excluding the Headteacher) is elected to serve a term of four years. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of trustee, any Trustee may be reappointed or re-elected.

The Academy Trust has the following types of Trustee:

- Members there will be a minimum of three Members at any one time, comprising of the Chair of Trustees, the Diocesan Corporate Member and at least two other individual members
- Trustees appointed by the Diocese Corporate Member a minimum of two Trustees will be appointed by the Diocese Corporate Member and will not exceed 25% of the total number of Trustees.
- Staff Trustees elected by Members of the Academy Trust and restricted to not exceeding one third of the total number of Trustees (including the Headteacher)
- Parent Trustees elected by parents of pupils at the Academy Trust. The requirement is a minimum of two parent trustees. Parent Trustees must be parents (or exercising parental responsibility) of pupils on roll at the Academy at the point at which the Parent Trustee is appointed.
- Co-opted Trustees appointed or co-opted to bring specific skills and experience to the board for the benefit of the Academy.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

 Governor Trustee - appointed by the Academy Trust as a result of a recruitment process for identified skills to enhance capacity.

The Secretary of State may appoint additional Trustees.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The Trustees have an induction of new Trustees' procedures in place, which ensures that all new Trustees are adequately inducted and trained in order to fulfil their duties. The Academy Trust created its own bespoke governor training package, which provided a full range of training for both new and established Trustees.

The Academy Trust undertakes an annual skills audit across the Board of Trustees. The Academy Trust also provides training for Trustees on Safeguarding and Child Protection and Learning and Teaching. Training relating to Financial Management is provided on an as required basis.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Trustees meets at least six times each year. There is also an Annual General Meeting. Roles and responsibilities of the Trustees are as stipulated in the Academy Funding Agreement and Articles of Association.

There are additional Trustee Committees with their own terms of reference and constitution, which are agreed annually at the first meeting of the academic year. There are a number of committees which meet on a regular basis throughout the year. These are:

- Pay & Appraisal Committee - responsible for teaching staff pay awards and the staff appraisal system;

- Resources Committee - responsible for finance, health and safety, premises and contracts;

- Standards Committee - responsible for monitoring the standards achieved by the pupils, the policies adopted by the Academy Trust and ensuring there are appropriate priorities for raising standards at the school;

In addition, there are Governors who can be called upon to avoid conflicts of interest, as required, to support with: Complaints, Appeals, Safeguarding, Code of Conduct and Pupil Discipline Appeals. These only meet when required.

The Headteacher Appraisal Committee meets twice a year to agree the Headteacher's performance management objectives for the year and assess performance against the previous year and to review those objectives during the year. This meeting is led by an external advisor.

The Trustees delegate the day-to-day operations of the school to the Senior Leadership Team, which for the year ended 31 August 2024 comprised the Headteacher (who is also the Accounting Officer), the Deputy Headteacher and two Assistant Headteachers. Each has their own particular area of the Academy to lead and this is reviewed annually.

The staffing structure, including responsibilities, is reviewed on an annual basis.

Staff pay including all management personnel is reviewed annually. The existing appraisal system is used to measure and reward performance upon the meeting of objectives, with recommendations then taken to the Pay & Appraisal Committee and full governing body for ratification. The appraisal system is undertaken each Autumn Term with a mid-point and end of year review.

Risk Management

The Trustees have adopted a strategic approach to risk management and assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching, provision of facilities, financial, health and safety and other operational areas of the Academy. The Trustees are satisfied that systems and procedures are currently in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The Board of Trustees acknowledges that it has overall responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control for financial management. The Trustees are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Academy Trust and ensure that financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. The Trustees also acknowledge responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the Academy Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other regularities and to provide assurance that:

- The Academy Trust is operating efficiently and effectively
- The assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposal
- Proper records are maintained and financial information used within the Academy Trust is reliable
- The Academy Trust complies with relevant laws and regulations

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

- Submission of comprehensive income and expenditure reports to the Resources Committee which are reviewed, guestioned and approved by Trustees
- Reviews of all delegated budgets ensuring that the financial information is accurate and expenditure is in line with expectations
- Clearly defined financial procedures within the Academy Trust
- Open tendering procedures and clear processes for procuring goods and services
- Effective delegation of authority
- Identification and management of risk

The arrangements made to safeguard the resources and assets of the Academy Trust are, in the opinion of the Trustees, fit for purpose. However, the current arrangements can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance.

Connected Organisations including Related Party Relationships

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

Links are maintained with Kettlethorpe High School, Crigglestone Nursery and other feeder nurseries through transition arrangements. St James is part of a partnership with the 'All Saints' Wakefield C of E schools - this work consists of monitoring and quality assuring of teaching and standards, Religious Education (RE), subject leadership, early years development, development for SEND and safeguarding training. Training for SLT and Headteachers is also shared, as is identified whole school staff training. Peer reviews between schools are also undertaken.

Objects and Aims

In summary the Academy Trust's objects, as set out in the Articles of Association, are specifically restricted for the public benefit to:

- advancing education, carrying on, managing and developing a school with a designated Church of England religious character offering a broad and balanced curriculum and arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship having regard to the advice of the Diocesan Board of Education;
- promoting for the benefit of the inhabitants of Crigglestone and the surrounding area the provisions of facilities for recreation or other leisure time.

Vision & Mission Statement

'Ready for the Future'

We provide a happy and safe environment for everyone, opportunities to take responsibility and lead, promote curiosity and engagement with the world around us and to be kind and respectful to all. We are resilient and not afraid to make mistakes. We are ready for the future.

Our key Christian values that arise from our vision are:

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

- Trust
- Hope
- Peace
- Forgiveness
- Koinonia
- Thankfulness

Our vision is rooted in the parable of the 'The Good Samaritan' which helps us to understand that help may come from those we least expect. It teaches us to have hope, have trust in others and to be kind to all. It demonstrates how we can use our skills and knowledge to serve others and shows our collective readiness for the future. This is what you will find across our academy.

Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers. The principal public benefit delivered by the Academy Trust is the provision of a high-quality education to pupils that contributes to improving educational outcomes.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRATEGIC REPORT Achievement and performance

Achievement and performance

The main objectives and key performance indicators for the academic year 2023/2024 are set out below.

1. QUALITY OF EDUCTION:

- WRITING Pupils accurately secure basic skills of writing
- READING As a result of the strong practice in the teaching of reading and the effective reading culture, pupils read to learn and read to enjoy.
- WIDER CURRICULUM Core knowledge taught is mirrored in the scaffolding provided to children and is sequenced at a lesson and unit level to promote retrieval practice.

2. BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES

- a. The proportion of unauthorised absence caused by term time holidays is reduced.
- b. Refined approaches to managing behaviour using research led strategies (Paul Dix) reduces even further the small amount of low-level disruption caused by pinnacle children.

3. PERSONAL DEVELOPMENT

Children's understanding of protected characteristics and their understanding of those who are different from themselves further develops.

4. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

- a. Roles and responsibilities are embedded so that leadership is sustained at a highly effective level.
- b. As a result of effective training, Governors support for the strategic direction of the school is refined.
- c. As a result of using the PiXL materials, assessment is used more effectively as a tool. Gaps are identified swiftly and therapies put into place to address these effectively.

5. EARLY YEARS

 As a result of further refining and promoting the development of early language through taught opportunities and enhanced provision, pupils in the early years speak with confidence using a wide vocabulary.

Policies 8 1

The Senior Leadership Team (including Governors) ensure that policies are reviewed and updated annually to further the objectives of the academy. This includes all statutory policies and statements expected from a 'stand-alone academy' and additional non-statutory policies pivotal to the work and progress of the academy.

Achievements and Performance against Key Indicators

The Academy underwent a Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools (SIAMS) in March 2019. The academy achieved an 'Excellent' grading, which is the highest possible level.

Achievement and performance

OFSTED last inspected the academy in November 2023 and the school achieved 'good' in all areas. The academy's current self-evaluation judgement is 'good' for all key areas and this has clearly been validated by Ofsted and by the external review.

The Academy's self-evaluation for early reading and phonics is good. This has been validated by Ofsted (November 2023) and an external auditor from the English Hub (November 2023). External consultant support for the teaching of phonics from RWI also validated school's practice (Spring 2024).

Externally commissioned validation of self-review will continue into 2024-25.

Achievement and performance:

Early Years Foundation Stage

	St James 2024	National 2024
% achieving a good level of development	69%	69%

Key Stage 1 Phonics

	St James	National
% pass rate at year 1	2024 93%	2024 80%
% Y2 resits pass rate	0%	55%

End of Key Stage 1: Year 2

ία.	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Reading	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Writing	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Mathematics	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined
St James July 2024	77%	61%	86%	59%
National 2024	71%	63%	72%	59%

- 11

1

	% Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Reading	% Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Writing	% Pupils. Working at Greater Depth in Mathematics	% Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined
St James July 2024	2%	9%	0%	0%
National 2024	19%	9%	17%	7%

End of Key Stage 2: Year 6

	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Reading (SAT Test Performance)	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Writing (Teacher Assessment)	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Mathematics (SAT Test Performance)	% Pupils Working at Expected Standard (and Higher) in Reading, Writing & Mathematics Combined (Using Above Data)
St James July 2024	76%	70%	70%	54%
National 2024	74%	72%	73%	61%

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	% Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Reading (SAT Test Performance)	Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Writing (Teacher Assessment)	% Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Mathematics (SAT Test Performance)	% Pupils Working at Greater Depth in Reading, Writing and Mathematics Combined (Using Data Provided)
St James July 2024	22%	2%	7%	2%
National 2024	28%	13%	24%	8%

Progress: There are no progress measures in 2023-24. This is because children did not sit the KS1 SATs. There is a total of 311 children on roll. The school currently has 4 places available.

Attendance from September 2023 - July 2024 was 95.7%.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review Investment policy and objectives

The funds of the Academy Trust are held in an interest draw down account. A daily transfer to a current account takes place in order to meet expenditure. This is a low-risk investment.

Reserves policy

The Board of Trustees consider it prudent that the Academy Trust maintains sufficient reserves to meet unexpected expenditure. There are no restrictions on the amount of unrestricted income which can be held in reserves and under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

At 31 August 2024, the Trust had unrestricted reserves of £123k and restricted funds of £279k (excluding CIF, fixed assets and pensions reserves) which together total £402k (2023: £496k) and represent 11 weeks expenditure (2023: 15 weeks). This is above the target of holding reserves of 8 weeks expenditure.

The pension reserve was in surplus of £139k as at 31 August 2024 (2023: £37k).

Going concern

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

The majority of the Academy Trust's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency in the form of the General Annual Grant (GAG). The Academy Trust also received other central government grants such as the Pupil Premium, Sports Premium, Universal Infant Free School Meals, Recovery Premium, National Tutoring Grant, Mainstream Schools Additional Grant and Teachers Pay Additional Grant. In accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, this income is disclosed as restricted funding.

During the twelve-month period ended 31 August 2024, the total restricted income of £1,651k was less than total restricted expenditure (excluding LGPS adjustments and CIF spend) of £1,765k giving a deficit on expenditure over restricted income of £114k.

Taking the actuarial gain on the defined benefit pension scheme of £102k, the LGPS adjustment into account along with reserve transfers gives a total in year surplus relating to restricted funds of £8k.

For unrestricted funds the income was in line with expenditure the twelve-month period ended 31 August 2024 with no surplus or deficit reported on unrestricted funds.

The Academy Trust received restricted capital grants amounting to £7k to the year ended 31 August 2024.

Total fund carried forward at 31 August 2024 (excluding the pensions deficit and restricted fixed asset funds) are £402k. The restricted fixed asset reserve carried forward is £173k and as the pension deficit is now a £139k surplus, the total funds carried forward is a surplus of £714k.

A Financial Management Policy and Procedures document was reviewed during the period. This included a range of accounting policies which are set out in the notes to the Financial Statements.

Fundraising

The Parent Partnership was re-launched this year, with a new team of parents. The leader of the Parent Partnership has worked with the school Office team to organise events that have taken place over the year including: a Christmas Fayre; a school disco and Sports Day/performance refreshments. The funds are held separately by the partnership and then donated to the trust through discussion and agreement with the Parent Partnership. The last funding received enabled the purchase of reading books to support the reading curriculum. Monies also helped to subsidise the cost of transport to and from residentials and other external school trips for all children.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRATEGIC REPORT

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Board of Trustees has considered the principal risks relating to the business and has put in place control measures to ensure that these risks are managed appropriately. The governors report that the Trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA. The principal risks are outlined below; those facing the Academy at an operational level are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls. The governors and Headteacher assess the risks and uncertainties facing the Academy as follows:

- One of the key principle risks is the commitment in respect of the two principal pension schemes to which the Academy Trust's employees belong. These are both defined benefit pension schemes and appropriate provision has been made as at 31 August 2024 within the Academy Trust's financial statements for the current liability.
- Failures in governance and/or management the risk may relate to potential failure to manage finances
 effectively, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation. The governors and senior
 leaders continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to ensure compliance and
 mitigate risk.
- Reputational the continued success of the academy is dependent on continuing to attract sufficient numbers by maintaining a strong academic, spiritual, moral, social and cultural performance and presence within the wider community. To mitigate this risk leaders ensure that pupil achievement and personal success are closely monitored and reviewed.
- Safeguarding and child protection the governors, alongside academy leaders, continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of recruitment and monitoring of staff, the day to day operation of child protection policies and procedures, health, safety and discipline.
- Fraud and mismanagement of funds Finance staff received, as required, training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and to develop skills in this area. The academy's financial systems, records and plans are monitored through both internal and external scrutiny.
- The maintenance and safety of the trust's estate all necessary compliance checks are completed at least annually, for example, asbestos and plans are in place to mitigate identified risks to ensure that the trust's estate is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations.
- The Academy has employed more staff in the last academic year. There are more children requiring 1-1 adult support and the Academy has had to employ staff for these children. It will be difficult to maintain current staffing levels, due to the increase in staff costs (increased teacher salaries and increase in staff salaries on NJC contracts) The Government did not give schools additional funding for the increased staffing costs (unfunded pay rises) for non-teaching staff and gave limited funding to support the additional teacher pay increases, the Academy budget had to be used. The Government are giving schools some additional funding for the increased staffing costs in the 2024-25 academic year, however the exact funding to be given is uncertain. As a result, staffing costs will have to be reduced accordingly in the projected five-year budgets.
- Falling rolls the Academy is usually full. At times, there have been up to 4 spaces available but work with the LA, and accepting children through Fair Access, means that the numbers increase quickly.
- Staffing ensuring the capacity and productivity of the leadership team in order to maintain current performance. Succession planning is part of this process.
 - The academy continues to undertake its risk management process alongside internal and external auditors to ensure rigour and appropriate challenge.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The governors maintain a risk register identifying the major risks to which the Academy is exposed and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. A formal review of the risk register and management process is undertaken annually which considers internal control systems - these are monitored on behalf of the governors by the resources committee and a delegated governor.

The Academy Trust's dealings with financial instruments are limited to bank accounts, creditors and debtors. This limitation serves to minimise credit and liquidity risks when this is combined with the nature of the Academy Trust's debtors (being principally government bodies) and therefore the risk to cash flow is also minimal.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRATEGIC REPORT

Future plans The priority objectives set out in the 2024-25 Academy Development Plan.

1. QUALITY OF TEACHING, LEARNING & ASSESSMENT/OUTCOMES FOR PUPILS

a. READING: Through embedding fluency and developing comprehension, a greater proportion of pupils achieve the 'expected' standard and the 'greater depth' standard in Reading.

b. WRITING: a greater proportion of children secure the expected standard in writing and an increasing proportion achieve greater depth.

c. MATHS: by extending the implementation of the Maths Hub training into KS2, outcomes in Maths at the expected standard and the greater depth standard improve.

d. ASSESSMENT: As a result of using PiXL, assessment us used more effectively as a tool. Gaps are identified swiftly and therapies put into place to address these effectively.

2. BEHAVIOUR AND ATTITUDES

The small amount of low-level disruption caused by pinnacle children reduces further.

3. SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT

a. To develop children's understanding of justice and responsibility.

b. Children know what courageous advocacy means and have opportunities to become agents for change.

4. LEADERSHIP AND MANAGEMENT

a. To further secure leadership at all levels so that this impacts even more positively on the smooth running of the Academy

b. By further embedding the use of PIXL materials to identify and prioritise key marginal children, the combined measure at both KS1 and KS2 increases.

c. subject leaders refine their curriculum and begin to develop a whole school approach to wider curriculum assessment.

5. EARLY YEARS

As a result of further developing the curriculum and provision in the Early Years an increased proportion of children achieve GLD

Funds held as Custodian

The Academy Trust does not hold any funds as custodian trustee for other persons or organisations.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

AUDITORS

Harris & Co Limited are deemed to be reappointed under section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006.

Disclosure of Information to Auditors

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- 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.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on December 2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:

adlel.

Mrs C D Sadler - Trustee

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

The board of the trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Head teacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the 2023-2024 year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
B Minor	6	6
L McCarthy	6	6
R Dent	6	6
K.Greaves	3	6
N Priestley	6	6
C Sadler	6	6
C Watkins	2	2
S Lodge	5	6
C Holding	6	6
M Allen	4	6
V Callaghan	4	4

To maintain an effective oversight of funds, the Chair of the Resources Committee gives a termly update on academy funds in a Full Governors meeting each term. In addition, the School Business Manager sends monthly management accounts to all Governors each month, with Governors able to ask questions either to the Chair of the Resources Committee or to the School Business Manager.

The last external review of governance - undertaken to consider its impact and effectiveness - took place in November 2019 as commissioned by the governing body as it strives to maintain high levels challenge and accountability to leaders. The review was led by Mr Craig Batley of CBAC Education and was undertaken within the context of the 6 areas of competency for governance.

The purpose of the review was:

- To review governing body documentation
- To assess progress on the recommendations from the External Review of Governance in November 2018
- To judge the impact of governance over the last year
- To summarise the areas of strength
- To recommend appropriate future steps to further develop governance

The activities undertaken were:

- Review of the governance section of the academy's website
- Review of the full governing body and committee minutes from Spring and Summer Terms 2019
- Review of progress on the recommendations to governors in November 2018 and discussion of how this might inform future plans
- Reflection on the strengths of the governing body, its impact over the last year and potential future objectives

The following documents were utilised within the review:

- Review of Governance section of the academy's website
- Review of the full governing body minutes from 2018-2019
- Review to establish progress made on the recommendations to governors in November 2018 Discuss with governors around the 20 'Key Questions every governing body should ask itself'
- Discuss with Headteacher and governors as to the current state of governance including strengths and potential 'Next Steps'

Summary of main findings in acting on previous recommendations and general practice

Strengths

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

- Excellent attendance of governors at meetings over the last year;
- Excellent contributions to the academy's work through regular visits to school and supporting in their key areas of responsibility. Reporting back to Governors on work done in school is of particularly strong practice.
- The good practice in place through the attendance of the School Business Manager at Resources Committee Meetings.
- The good level of challenge provided by Governors through the use of thoughtful, intelligent questioning.
- The hard work of Governors in setting up a group with other Church schools that will be used as a network of support.
- Governors have worked closely with middle leaders, embedding the academy's 'Circle of Life' curriculum and further developing both Governors and middle leaders understating of the academy's curriculum intent.-
- Attendance and presentations at governor meetings of key staff who are not governors- especially the business manager and the 4 teachers leading on the development of the wider curriculum. This has ensured governors have been kept fully informed of key issues in the academy's evolution and avoids the danger of Governors only hearing from specific staff in school.

Possible areas of development

- Update the school's website so that the documentation includes details that relate to 2020/21 and to ensure that the website includes a record of governor attendance at meetings in the previous academic year
- Update the 'Governor Details and Register of Interests Sept 18 Aug 19'. The current document was last updated in November 2018 and is now out of date.
- Consider talking to a wider range of teachers beyond subject leaders so that Governors develop a better overview of the school's curriculum work.
- Provide support and professional development for the member of staff who takes committee minutes.
- Consider inviting more recently appointed teachers to the first part of committee meetings, to further extend the good practice of meeting with teachers in school. This will provide good professional development for less experienced teachers and it will enable governors to build a wider knowledge of the staff and curriculum.
- Consider how to develop the newly formed governor's network through discussions with governors from other schools regarding how the network can best support future progress and sharing of best practice.
- Consider the potential benefits of working more closely with local partners in the Kettlethorpe pyramid.

The governing body will complete an action plan, incorporating the areas to develop from the external review and aligning with the academy development plan.

The Resources and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- assist the decision making of the Board of Trustees, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Board of Trustees' responsibility to ensure sound management of the Academy's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity;
- make appropriate comments and recommendations on such matters to the Board of Trustees on a regular basis;
- refer major issues to the full Board of Trustees for ratification.

The Governing Body used a Circle Model for the year 2023-2024. Once a term, the Full Governing Body would have a focus on Resources with the Chair of Resources giving an update to Governors.

The Standards Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- monitor standards achieved by pupils and help them achieve more;
- monitor the school's success in promoting Inclusion;
- ensure that the school development plan is focused on appropriate priorities for raising standards at the school;
- ensure that school policies are reviewed on a regular basis to promote improved standards and contain appropriate targets/success criteria.

The Governing Body used a Circle Model for the year 2023-2024. Once a term, the Full Governing Body would have a focus on Standards with the Chair of Standards giving an update to Governors.

The Pay & Appraisal Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- review the appraisal system for teaching staff within school ensuring policy is followed;
- consider evidence presented in a confidential manner;
- validate judgements made and subsequent pay awards/pay progression holding the headteacher to account and challenging where required;
- report findings back to the full Board of Trustees.

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
C Sadler	1	. 1
B Minor	1	1
C Watkins	1	1

Conflicts of Interest

To manage conflicts of interest a complete register of interests is kept up to date. Any transactions involving related parties and connected organisations will always be concluded at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy Trust Handbook.

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

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

- the continued purchase of additional guided reading books to further develop the reading curriculum, giving children more access to challenging, high-quality.
- the purchase of high quality schemes of work to support effective teaching and learning and to support teacher workload and wellbeing.
- the refurbishment of the toilets in EYFS in order for them to be age-appropriate and compliant with current health and safety standards.
- the refurbishment of the EYFS classrooms, in order to further enhance indoor provision and further develop the learning opportunities for children in EYFS.
- various purchasing options, both on-line and direct through suppliers, are now sought on each occasion to ensure best value e.g. resources, reward systems, cleaning products.
- the purchase of laptops for staff, ensuring that new teaching staff, HLTAs and ESAs can use up to date equipment, supporting teaching and learning (through teaching of lessons, access to high quality resources and delivering interventions).
- service level agreements that are coming to an end are reviewed and put to tender where appropriate, to ensure best value for money.
- the All Saints Partnership focussed upon school improvement for Headteachers, including sharing good practice and sharing CPD and training costs.
- we have an SLA with the LA in regard to the health and safety of the trees on school grounds. This ensures that trees are checked annually and any trees deemed unsafe are treated and/or removed. This ensures we are compliant with health and safety and ensures maintenance of school grounds.
- we have an SLA with the LA for compliance, to ensure that the school building and lands are safe and meet health and safety requirements. For example, in 2023-2024 we had electricity tests, the boiler was tested monthly and we had monthly legionella tests. The annual legionella survey recommended that we have outlet taps fitted to each boiler expansion valve. As boilers have been replaced, taps have been fitted to the expansion valves in order to meet the recommendations. The LA also replaced seals on fire doors to ensure we are compliant with health and safety standards.
- we have used a contractor to test for asbestos before the flooring was replaced in the EYFS toilets and EYFS classrooms. This ensured the safety of contractors, staff and children.
- as standard good practice, we always look for a minimum of 3 quotes for any work that needs to be completed. This also supports best value.

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of charitable company 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 Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 charitable company 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 on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the charitable company's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has appointed Sohail Mahmood to complete this task.

The reviewers' role includes performing a range of checks on the academy's financial systems, ensuring adherence to the Academy Trust Handbook, giving suggestions and advice on best practice and producing reports to this effect which are shared with the Trustees.

In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Reviewing the budgeting and budget monitoring process;
- Reviewing the financial reporting process;
- Reviewing controls in place over purchasing and sample checking the controls are correctly implemented.

The work of Mr Mahmood has not identified any material control issues.

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control.

During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the peer reviewer;
- the work of the external auditors;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the management team and resources committee within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

CONCLUSION

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the charity has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs C D Sadler - Trustee

CN-Miss B Minor - Accounting Officer

Page 18

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

As accounting officer of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the charitable company 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 charitable company 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 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the charitable company board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the charitable company, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the charitable company's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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.

Miss B Minor - Accounting Officer

Date: 20 December 2024

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees (who act as governors of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) have been followed, subject to any
 material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 to 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 the 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 of trustees on December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs C D Sadler - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement 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, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 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 2023 to 2024.

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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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

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

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and noncompliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- Enquiring of management, including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation, concerning the charitable company's policies and procedures relating to:

- Identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;

- Detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;

- The internal controls established to mitigate risk related to fraud or non-compliance with laws & regulations;

- Obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the company operates in, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the charitable company. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included in the UK Companies Act, Charities SORP (FRS102), UK Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, the Education and Skills Funding Agency's (ESFA) Academy Trust Handbook and Accounts Direction and Ofsted Regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust

Audit response to risks identified

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations;

- Reviewing the most recent Ofsted report;

- Enquiring of management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation and claims:

- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risk of material misstatement due to fraud; and

- In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing the judgements used in accounting estimates to assess whether these may be indicative of potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

Use of our report

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

Ian Bragger FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Harris & Co Limited Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor Marland House 13 Huddersfield Road Barnsley South Yorkshire S70 2LW

Date:

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust 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 Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- consideration of the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance;
- review of the delegated authorities set out in the Academy Trust Handbook;
- assessment and testing of a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity;
- review and testing of income and expenditure for compliance with the funding and other agreements and the Academy Trust Handbook.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Harris & Co Limited Chartered Accountants Reporting Accountant Marland House 13 Huddersfield Road Barnsley South Yorkshire S70 2LW

Date:

Statement of Financial Activities (Including Income and Expenditure Account) for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

				Destricted	2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted General funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £	Total funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and capital grants	2	10,381	-	7,544	17,925	31,216
Charitable activities Funding for the academy's educational operations	3	62,547	1,651,091	-	1,713,638	1,646,763
Other trading activities Investment income	4 5	6,209 7,614			6,209 7,614	7,570 5,262
Total		86,751	1,651,091	7,544	1,745,386	1,690,811
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities Academy's educational operations	7	86,751	1,765,956	16,355	1,869,062	1,765,823
Total	-	86,751	1,765,956	16,355	1,869,062	1,765,823
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) Transfers between funds Other recognised gains/(losses)	18	-	(114,865) 21,096	(8,811) (21,096)	(123,676)	(75,012)
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	-		102,000		102,000	83,000
Net movement in funds		-	8,231	(29,907)	(21,676)	7,988
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS Total funds brought forward	_	123,071	409,883	203,361	736,315	728,327
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	-	123,071	418,114	173,454	714,639	736,315

The notes form part of these financial statements

Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust (Registered number: 08097265)

Balance Sheet 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	12	173,454	188,120
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank	13	82,494 442,687	67,777 524,508
		525,181	592,285
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	14	(121,918)	(77,854)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		403,263	514,431
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		576,717	702,551
CREDITORS Amounts falling due after more than one year	• 15	(1,078)	(3,236)
PENSION ASSET	19	139,000	37,000
NET ASSETS		714,639	736,315
FUNDS Restricted funds:	18		
Restricted funds. Restricted General Restricted Fixed Asset Restricted - Pension		279,113 173,454 139,001	372,885 203,359 37,000
		591,568	613,244
Unrestricted funds: General fund		123,071	123,071
TOTAL FUNDS		714,639	736,315

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on December 2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

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Mrs C D Sadler - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

Page 27

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities Cash generated from operations	1	(93,133)	(56,809)
Net cash used in operating activities		_(93,133)	(56,809)
Cash flows from investing activities Purchase of tangible fixed assets Capital grants from DfE/EFA Interest received Net cash provided by investing activitie	25	(1,689) 7,544 7,614 13,469	(15,118) 23,784 5,262 13,928
Cash flows from financing activities Salix Loan repayments in year		(2,157)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by financin	ig activities	(2,157)	
			and the second
Change in cash and cash equivalent in the reporting period	S	(81,821)	(42,881)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		524,508	567,389
Cash and cash equivalents at the en of the reporting period	d	442,687	524,508

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2024 £	2023 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities) Adjustments for:	(123,676)	(75,012)
Depreciation charges	16,355	22,957
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(7,544)	(23,784)
Interest received	(7,614)	(5,262)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(14,717)	13,193
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	44,063	(22,901)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions		34,000
Net cash used in operations	(93,133)	(56,809)

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS AND DEBT

	At 1/9/23 £	Cash flow £	At 31/8/24 £
Net cash Cash at bank	524,508	(81,821)	442,687
	524,508	(81,821)	442,687
Debt Salix Loan	(5,392)	2,157	(3,235)
Total	519,116	(79,664)	439,452

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The notes form part of these financial statements

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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

Basis of preparing the financial statements

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 Reputing Standard applicable in the UK and Reputing Standard 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 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Crigglestone St James CE Primary Academy Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. As noted in the trustees report, in the longer term, pressures from unfunded teachers' and support staff pay awards together with increased energy costs and general inflation have created unsustainable pressures for schools and academy trusts. Without increases in per pupil funding to offset these cost increases, there is uncertainty around the medium to long-term outlook for many schools and trusts, including our own. This is a sector-wide issue that will need to be addressed by funding decisions from central government.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The academy trust makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results.

The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit asset/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 the notes to the accounts, 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 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgment:

A critical area of judgement is the treatment of the church school premises, the treatment of which is as stated in the accounting policies note.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

The Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit recognition policy is also a critical judgement because at 31 August 2024 the actuarial valuation is an asset rather than a liability. Paragraph 28.22 of FRS 102 states "If the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date is less than the fair value of plan assets at that date, the plan has a surplus. An entity shall recognise a plan surplus as a defined benefit plan asset only to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan."

As part of performing the year end valuation, the actuary have calculated the maximum economic benefit the Academy could recognise in the accounts (referred to as the asset ceiling) and have calculated the asset ceiling is higher than the net pension asset.

On that basis the net pension asset calculated by the actuarial valuation has been recognised in full.

Income

All income is recognised once the academy has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

Sponsorship income provided to the academy which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account in the period in which it is receivable, where receipt is probable and it is measurable.

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

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Expenditure

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Long term leasehold land	-	Over the life of the lease straight line
Furniture & Equipment	-	Straight line over 10 years
Computer equipment	-	Straight line over 3 to 6 years

All assets costing more than £500 are capitalised and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

The school premises which the Academy Trust occupies are on a long term lease to the Academy Trust from the Local Authority and from the Diocese. The part of the site that is leased from the Local Authority is purely land and has been recognised on the balance sheet of the Academy Trust at the depreciated replacement cost valuation on the conversion date. Control over the part of the school premises leased from the Diocese and so this element is not recognised on the balance of the Academy Trust.

For church school premises that are not on the balance sheet the Accounts Direction requires that an annual donation for rent should be recognised equal to what the Academy Trust would have to pay to secure premises, if such a figure can be reliably measured. Since there is no open market for such transactions this amount can not be reliably measured and so no donation has been recognised. Subsequent expenditure on the church school premises out of capital grants are included as expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities as a premises repair cost.

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 incorporating income and expenditure account 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 incorporating income and expenditure account. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives.

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 incorporating income and expenditure account.

Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in the notes to the financial statements. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised costs as detailed in the notes to the financial statements. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Taxation

The academy 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 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.

Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Department for Education 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 and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is a multi employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is therefore 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 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 incorporating income and expenditure account 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

Liabilities and provisions

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

2. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

Donations Grants	Unrestricted funds £ 10,381	Restricted funds £ 7,544	2024 Total funds £ 10,381 <u>7,544</u>	2023 Total funds £ 7,432 23,784
	10,381	7,544	17,925	31,216

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Capital grants	7,544	23,784

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

3. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS					
	2024	2023			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total	
	funds	funds	funds	funds	
	£	£	£	£	
DfE/ESFA grants	~	~	-	-	
General Annual Grant(GAG)	_	1,383,170	1,383,170	1,343,476	
Pupil Premium	-	52,788	52,788	55,332	
	-	52,700	52,700	37,047	
Supplementary Grant	-	18,700	18,700		
Sports Funding	-			18,700	
Rates	-	5,939	5,939	5,427	
Recovery premium & national tutoring	-	7,438	7,438	10,675	
UIFSM	-	55,983	55,983	48,801	
Other	-	857	857	10,827	
Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	-	45,420	45,420	-	
Teachers Pay Additional Grant		35,066	35,066	18,925	
	-	1,605,361	1,605,361	1,549,210	
				62	
Other Government grants					
Special Educational Projects	-	39,409	39,409	51,549	
Other government grants	-	600	600	01,010	
Other government grante				3	
		40,009	40,009	51,549	
		40,005	40,003	31,348	
Other income from the academy's	00.575	6 7 0 ·		10.001	
educational operations	62,547	5,721	68,268	46,004	
	62,547	1,651,091	1,713,638	1,646,763	

There are no unfulfilled conditions at the year end with regards to the amounts included in the above government grants. The recovery premium and national tutoring funding was all spent on additional staffing costs.

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

Fundraising events	Unrestricted funds £ 711	Restricted funds £	2024 Total funds £ - 711	2023 Total funds £ 5,627 1,943
Insurance Income	5,498		5,498	
	6,209		6,209	7,570
Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

			2024	2023
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Investment income - local cash	7,614		7,614	5,262

6. EXPENDITURE

EXIENDITORE				2024	2023
		Non-pay	expenditure		
	Staff		Other		
	costs	Premises	costs	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities					
Academy's educational	operations				
Direct costs	905,560	-	132,967	1,038,527	985,673
Allocated support costs	517,323	128,450	184,762	830,535	780,150
	1,422,883	128,450	317,729	1,869,062	1,765,823

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £	2023 £
Auditors' remuneration	7,801	7,500
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	750	750
Depreciation - owned assets	16,355	22,957

Included in premises costs within allocated support costs is £30,424 (2023: £nil) relating to improvements to diocesan property occupied by the Trust.

In 2023, of the total expenditure, £62,014 was to unrestricted funds and £1,703,809 was to restricted funds.

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted	Restricted funds	2024 Total funds	2023 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Direct costs	48,632	989,895	1,038,527	985,673
Support costs	38,119	792,416	830,535	780,150
	86,751	1,782,311	1,869,062	1,765,823

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS - continued				
		2024	2023	
		Total	Total	
		£	£	
	Analysis of support costs			
	Support staff costs	517,323	524,537	
	Depreciation	1,465	1,742	
	Technology costs	21,562	17,744	
	Premises costs	128,450	90,152	
	Other support costs	131,353	117,931	
	Governance costs		28,044	
	Total support costs	830,535	780,150	
•	STAFF COSTS			
8.	51AFF C0515	2024 £	2023 £	
	Wages and salaries	1,063,961	940,720	
	Social security costs	98,469	82,207	
	Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	230,593	232,304	
		1,393,023	1,255,231	
	Supply teacher costs	29,860	119,554	
		1,422,883	1,374,785	

Included in wages and salaries is £-3,000 (2023: £nil) relating to pension interest.

There are no severance payments in 2024 or 2023.

The average number of persons employed by the academy during the year expressed as full time equivalents:

	2024	2023
Teachers Teaching assistants	12 13	12 13
Administration and support Leadership and management	4	3
	32	32

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

Teachers Teaching assistants Support and administration Leadership and management	2024 13 19 7 5	2023 13 18 7 3
	44	41

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

8. STAFF COSTS - continued

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

	2024	2023
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1

The key management personnel of the Academy trust comprise the senior leadership team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust for the year was £332,702 (2023: £246,262).

9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The Principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and other 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:

		2024	2023
R Dent	Remuneration	45,000-50,000	20,000-25,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000-15,000	5,000-10,000
B Minor	Remuneration	65,000-70,000	60,000-65,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000-20,000	10,000-15,000
L McCarthy	Remuneration	45,000-50,000	45,000-50,000
•	Pension contributions paid	10,000-15,000	10,000-15,000
T Wildey	Remuneration	5,000-10,000	40,000-45,000
-	Pension contributions paid	0-5,000	10,000-15,000

Please note that T Wildey and L McCarthy were trustees for only part of the year ended 31 August 2024.

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totalling £390 (2023: £280) were reimbursed to 2 trustees (2023: 2).

10. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

From 1 April 2022, the charitable company has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted General funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM Donations and capital grants	7,430	2	23,784	31,216
Charitable activities Funding for the academy's educational operations	46,004	1,600,759	-	1,646,763
Other trading activities Investment income	7,570 5,262	:	-	7,570 5,262
Total	66,266	1,600,761	23,784	1,690,811
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities Academy's educational operations	62,014	1,680,852	22,957	1,765,823
Total	62,014	1,680,852	22,957	1,765,823
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial gains on defined benefit	4,252	(80,091)	827	(75,012)
schemes		83,000		83,000
Net movement in funds	4,252	2,909	827	7,988
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS Total funds brought forward	118,819	406,976	202,532	728,327
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	123,071	409,885	203,359	736,315

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS 12.

9

	ANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS				
-		Long term leasehold land £	Furniture & Equipment £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
	COST At 1 September 2023 Additions	142,000	142,575	147,537 1,689	432,112 1,689
	At 31 August 2024	142,000	142,575	149,226	433,801
	DEPRECIATION At 1 September 2023 Charge for year	1,235 1,235	114,584 7,896	128,173 7,224	243,992 16,355
	At 31 August 2024	2,470	122,480	135,397	260,347
	NET BOOK VALUE At 31 August 2024	139,530	20,095	13,829	173,454
	At 31 August 2023	140,765	27,991	19,364	188,120

See accounting policy for further information relating to the treatment of the church school premises and subsequent expenditure.

DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR 13.

13.	DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WIT Trade debtors VAT Prepayments and accrued income	THIN ONE YEAR		2024 £ 31 44,731 37,732	2023 £ 31 38,167 29,579
				82,494	67,777
14.	CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE V Trade creditors Social security and other taxes Other creditors Accruals and deferred income	VITHIN ONE YEAR		2024 £ 38,416 20,768 31,280 31,454 <u>121,918</u>	2023 £ 9,474 20,635 26,412 21,333 77,854
	Deferred income Deferred income as at 1 September 2023 Resources deferred during the year Amounts released from previous years Deferred income as at 31 August 2024	2024 £ 2,683 800 <u>(2,683)</u> <u>800</u>	2023 £ 2,683 <u>2,683</u>		

Deferred income at 31 August 2024 relates to income received for 2024/25 school trips that is received in advance but is to be spent on trips starting from September 2024.

£2,157 of other creditors relates to Salix monies due to the ESFA (at 0% interest rate).

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER MORE THAN ONE YEAR

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other creditors	<u>1,078</u>	3,236

Other creditors falling due after more than one year relates to Salix monies due to the ESFA (at 0% interest rate), £nil (2023: £nil) falls due in greater than 5 years.

16. 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 they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a member.

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fixed assets Current assets	Unrestricted fund £ 123,871	Restricted General funds £ - 401,310	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £ 173,454	Total funds £ 173,454 525,181
Current liabilities Long term liabilities	(800)	(121,118) (1;078)	-	(121,918) (1,078)
Pension asset		139,000		139,000
	123,071	418,114	173,454	714,639

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

				2020
			Restricted	
		Restricted	Fixed	
	Unrestricted	General	Asset	Total
	fund	funds	funds	funds
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	2	188,118	188,120
Current assets	123,071	453,973	15,241	592,285
Current liabilities	-	(77,854)	-	(77,854)
Long term liabilities	-	(3,236)	-	(3,236)
Pension asset		37,000		37,000
	123,071	409,885	203,359	736,315

2024

2023

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	Balance at 1st September 2023	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in/out	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance at 31st August 2024
Restricted general funds General Annual Grant (GAG)	344,002	1,383,170	(1,500,417)	21,065	, , ,	247,846
Pupil Premium	-	52,788	(52,788)			-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	28,883	169,403	(167,019)			31,267
Other restricted grants	-	45,731	(45,731)			-
Pension	37,000		-		102,000	139,000
	409,885	1,651,092	(1,765,955)	21,065	102,000	418,113
Restricted fixed asset funds Capital Expenditure						
from Other Funds	14,237		(6,845)			7,362
Assets transferred on conversion	140,765		(1,235)			139,530
Capital Donations	1,751		(583)			1,168
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	46,606	7,544	(7,692)	(21,065)		25,393
	203,359	7,544	(16,355)	(21,065)	-	173,453
Total restricted funds	613,244	1,658,636	(1,782,310)	-	102,000	591,566
Total unrestricted funds	123,071	86,751	(86,751)			123,073
Total funds	736,315	1,745,387	(1,869,061)	-	102,000	714,639

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

e.	Balance at 1st September 2022	Income	Expenditure	Transfers in/out	Gains/ (Losses)	Balance at 31st August 2023
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	385,189	1,343,476	(1,384,663)			344,002
Pupil Premium		55,332	(55,332)			÷ +
Other DfE/ESFA grants	33,787	150,403	(155,307)			28,883
Other restricted grants	-	51,549	(51,549)			-
Pension	(12,000)		(34,000)		83,000	37,000
	406,976	1,600,760	(1,680,851)	-	83,000	409,885
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Capital Expenditure from Other Funds	24,620		(10,383)			14,237
Assets transferred on						
conversion	143,504		(2,739)			140,765
Capital Donations	2,834		(1,083)			1,751
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	31,574	23,784	(8,752)			46,606
	202,532	23,784	(22,957)	-	-	203,359
Total restricted funds	609,508	1,624,544	(1,703,808)	-	83,000	613,244
Total unrestricted funds	118,819	66,266	(62,014)			123,071
Total funds	728,327	1,690,810	(1,765,822)		83,000	736,315

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

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

1) Restricted general funds must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy in line with the Master Funding Agreement and restrictions from other sources of funding. Any transfers between restricted funds and restricted fixed asset funds relate to fixed assets purchased from GAG.

2) Restricted fixed asset funds are used solely for capital purposes in line with the strategic objectives of the Academy.

At 31 August 2024 the restricted pension fund is in surplus to the value of £139,000. Previously this has been in deficit which had been inherited upon conversion to Academy status. When the fund has been in deficit in the past, the Trustees continued to monitor the situation closely so that the Academy could continue to meet the cash funding requirement of the pension deficit and they will continue to do so even when the fund is in surplus.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS to the period ended 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £27,183 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023 - £24,544) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' pension scheme

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Valuation of the teachers' pension scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million.

The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £167,561 (2023 - £133,494).

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 charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The charity has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the asserts held in separate trusteeadministered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £102,993 (2023: £87,492), of which employer's contributions totalled £71,258 (2023: £65,004) and employees' contributions totalled £23,735 (2023: £22,488). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.1% to 17.2% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans		
	2024 £	່ 2023 £	
Present value of funded obligations Fair value of plan assets	(1,566,000) 1,705,000	(1,350,000) 1,387,000	
Present value of unfunded obligations	139,000	37,000	
Surplus	139,000	37,000	
Net asset	139,000	37,000	

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024 £	2023 £
Current service cost Net interest from net defined benefit	75,000	99,000
asset/liability Past service cost	(3,000)	-
	72,000	99,000
Actual return on plan assets	251,000	(94,000)

In line with the commentary in the accounting policies, the net pension asset has been recognised on the basis that the actuary has calculated the maximum economic benefit the Academy could recognise in the accounts (referred to as the asset ceiling) and have calculated an asset ceiling figure higher than the net pension asset. On that basis the net pension asset has been recognised in full.

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

		Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023	
Opening defined benefit obligation	1,350,000	± 1,428,000	
Current service cost	75,000	99,000	
Contributions by scheme participants	25,000	23,000	
Interest cost	69,000	59,000	
Actuarial losses/(gains)	77,000	(236,000)	
Benefits paid	(30,000)	(23,000)	
	1,566,000	1,350,000	

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

		Defined benefit pension plans		
	2024	2023		
O	£ 1,387,000	£ 1,416,000		
Opening fair value of scheme assets Contributions by employer	72,000	65,000		
Contributions by scheme participants	25,000	23,000		
Expected return	72,000	59,000		
Actuarial gains/(losses) Benefits paid	179,000 (30,000)	(153,000) (23,000)		
	1,705,000	1,387,000		

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans		
	2024	2023	
Actuarial (losses)/gains	£ 102,000	£ 83,000	
	102,000	83,000	

The major categories of scheme assets as amounts of total scheme assets are as follows:

		Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023	
	£	£	
Equities	1,352,000	1,111,000	
Government bonds	150,000	103,000	
Corporate bonds	68,000	62,000	
Property	46,000	46,000	
Cash and other liquid assets	46,000	54,000	
Other	43,000	11,000	
	1,705,000	1,387,000	

Actual return on scheme assets was £251,000 (2023: £-94,000).

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

Page 47

	2024	2023
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.90%	5.10%
Rate of increase in salary	3.75%	3.85%
Rate of increase for pensions payments	2.50%	2.60%
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	2.50%	2.60%
Pension accounts revaluation rate	2.50%	2.60%

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

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

	2024	2023
Retiring today Males Females	20.8 24	21 , 24.1
Deticine in 20 years		
Retiring in 20 years Males Females	21.7 24.7	22.2 25.1
Sensitivity analysis	2024 £	2023 £
Discount rate +0.1%	(31,000)	(27,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	31,000 (39,000)	27,000 (34,000)
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	39,000	34,000
CPI rate +0.1%	28,000	24,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(28,000)	(24,000)
CAPITAL COMMITMENTS		
	2024	2023
Contracted but not provided for in the financial statements	£	£

21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

20.

Owing to the nature of the charitable company 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. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

J Shaw, spouse of S Shaw, a member in the year ended 31 August 2024, is employed by the academy trust as caretaker. J Shaw is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of his connection to a trustee.