Registered number: 08434233

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNORS' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Members	The Diocese of Gloucester Education Trust (Corporate Foundation Member) P G Mosley C Moor M Chappell
Governors	A Barry[1] M Chappell[1] (Chair) Revd D L Delap (Vice Chair) D Graham[1] G Jones (until 22.09.23) S Luff R Morris[1] J Peters[1] (until 31.01.23) T Sampson[1] A Stanley E Turriff[1] (from 01.05.23) S White [1] Resources committee
Senior Leadership Team (SLT)	A Barry, Interim Executive Headteacher S White, Deputy Headteacher
Registered Office	Park Road Blockley Moreton-in-Marsh Gloucestershire GL56 9BY
Company Registration Number	08434233
Statutory Auditor	Hazlewoods LLP Staverton Court Staverton Cheltenham Gloucestershire GL51 0UX

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISORS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Bankers	Lloyds Bank High Street Moreton-in-Marsh Gloucestershire GL56 0AY
Solicitors	Lee Bolton Monier-Williams 1 The Sanctuary Westminster London SW1P 3JT

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the audited financial statements of Blockley Educational Academy (the 'Academy', 'trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report, and a Directors' Report under company law.

The Trustees confirm that the Annual Report and financial statements of the Academy comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Academy's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in October 2019.

The Trust operates as an Academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in and around the village of Blockley in the North Cotswolds with a pupil capacity of 140 and 143 pupils are currently enrolled based on the October 2023 census.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

CONSTITUTION

The Trust, which was incorporated on 7 March 2013 and opened as an Academy on 1 April 2013, is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Trust.

The Trustees are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Trustees who have served during the year are listed within the reference and administrative details on page 1.

MEMBERS' LIABILITY

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while 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

The Trustees benefit from the Department of Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA) membership. This provides unlimited employers liability, third party public liability and professional indemnity.

METHOD OF RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OF GOVERNORS

The Trust shall have the following Trustees as set out in its Articles of Association and Funding Agreement:

- Up to 5 Trustees who are appointed by the Members;
- At least 2 Foundation Trustees if appointed by the Foundation Member in consultation with Blockley Parochial Church Council provided that the total number of Foundation Governors (including ex officio Foundation Governors) would not thereby exceed 25% of the total number of Governors (excluding any Additional or Further Governors);
- The Incumbent who is treated for all purposes as being an ex-officio Trustee;
- A minimum of 2 Parent Trustees who are elected by the parents of registered pupils at the Academy;
- At least 2 Staff Trustees appointed by the Members (provided that the total number of Trustees, including the Head Teacher, who are employees of the Academy, does not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees);
- The Head Teacher who is treated for all purposes as being an ex-officio Trustee;
- Up to 2 co-opted governors may be appointed by the Trustees. The Governors may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Governor if thereby the number of Governors who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Governors (including the Principal).

Trustees are appointed for a 4-year period, except that this time limit does not apply to the Head Teacher or Incumbent. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustees can be re-appointed or re-elected.

When appointing new Trustees, the Board of Trustees considers the skills and experience mix of existing Trustees, in order to ensure the Board of Trustees has the necessary skills to contribute fully to the Academy's on-going development.

Governors identify skill requirements and any gaps by means of a skill audit and matrix. The results of the audit are used for training and recruitment where possible.

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend upon their existing experience but always includes an Induction briefing pack, a tour of the Academy and the opportunity to meet governors, staff and pupils. Trustees are provided with Office 365 accounts giving access to Teams and email, allowing for remote induction if necessary. All Trustees are provided with access to copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents they will need to undertake their role as Trustee. As there are normally only two or three new Trustees a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual. Advantage is taken of specific courses offered by the various other organisations as appropriate and school buys into the National Governor Association 'Learning Link' giving access to specific Governor training modules.

ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The Board of Trustees normally meets at least six times each academic year. The Board of Trustees establishes an overall framework for the governance of the Academy and determines membership, scheme of delegation, terms of reference and procedures of Committees of the Board of Trustees and other groups. It receives reports and policies from its committees for ratification. It monitors the activities of the Committees through the minutes of their meetings and verbal reports delivered to the Full Governing Board meeting. The Board of Trustees may from time to time establish working groups to perform specific tasks over a limited timescale.

There are 4 Committees of the Board of Trustees as follows:

- Standards Committee
- Resources Committee
- Ethos Committee
- Head Teacher Performance Review Committee

Each Committee has its own terms of reference detailing the responsibilities discharged to it.

The following decisions are reserved to the full Board of Trustees:

- to consider any proposals for changes to the status or constitution of the Academy and its committee structure;
- to appoint or remove the Chair and/or Vice Chair; and
- to appoint and/or consider the performance management of the Head Teacher.

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policies, adopting an annual development plan and budget, approving the annual statutory accounts, monitoring the Academy by the use of budgets and other data (both financial and non- financial), and making the major decisions about the direction of the Academy, capital expenditures and senior staff appointments.

The Trustees have delegated the day-to-day management of the Academy to the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The Head Teacher is the Academy's Accounting Officer and has overall responsibility for the day to day financial management of the Academy. The SLT team implements the policies laid down by the Trustees and reports back to them on performance.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Trustees consider the Board of Governors and the Senior Leadership Team comprise the key management personnel of the Academy responsible for directing, managing and operating the Academy on a day to day basis.

The interim Executive Head teacher is employed by Gloucestershire County Council at Temple Guiting CoE Primary School. An Informal Partnership with the Governing Body of Temple Guiting CoE Primary School (a local authority-maintained school) was agreed in July 2021 to share the Head Teacher between the two schools from 1st September 2021. This arrangement was approved by ESFA and it has been extended until 1st September 2024.

The pay of staff is reviewed annually based on performance and normally increased in accordance with Government guidelines and school pay policy. The remuneration is set to ensure it is both fair but also will attract and retain staff of the appropriate calibre and experience required by the Academy.

Details of Trustees' remuneration and expenses are disclosed in Note 9 to the accounts.

RELATED PARTIES AND OTHER CONNECTED CHARITIES AND ORGANISATIONS

The Academy has an Informal Partnership with Temple Guiting CoE Primary School which covers the provision of the support and financial renumeration for the Interim Executive Head Teacher. From time to time there are joint pupil and staff events and activities between the two schools for mutual benefit. There is no other financial commitment beyond the Interim Executive Head Teacher.

There is a Parent Teacher Association associated with the Academy. This is called 'Friends of the School' and is an unconnected registered charity with the purpose of enhancing the curriculum of the Academy by providing funding to support educational outings, guest speakers and third party workshops as well as providing funding for specific projects.

OBJECTIVES AND AIMS

OBJECTS AND AIMS

The principal objects of the Academy, as set out in its Articles of Association, are to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school with a designated Church of England religious character, offering a broad and balanced curriculum conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England, both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship (as required by the Funding Agreement) and in having regard to the advice of the Diocesan Board of Education.

The aims of the Academy during the period ended 31 August 2023 are summarised below:

- To offer a curriculum that is broad, balanced and ambitious.
- To promote the spiritual, moral, cultural, mental and physical development of all pupils at the Academy.
- To prepare pupils at the Academy for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life.

OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

Safeguarding is a cornerstone of the Academy. During the year, the Academy continued to be rigorous on safeguarding measures in all aspects of school management and operations.

The key objectives for the period are contained in the Academy's Development Plan which is available from the Academy. The main priorities of the Academy for the period ended 31 August 2023 were as follows:

- To provide a safe and stimulating school learning environment;
- To ensure Writing in all subjects will be of equivalent quality as in English books;
- To focus on Phonics and Spellings;
- Maths – to develop Reasoning and problem-solving skills in all maths lessons;

- Priority subject History in 2022/23 – Teaching chronology of major events in History alongside writing;
- To continue with Covid catch-up interventions for key pupil groups;
- To prepare for SIAMS and Ofsted inspections to maintain good standards.

PUBLIC BENEFIT

The Academy Trust aims to advance for public benefit education in Blockley and the surrounding area, offering a broad curriculum and an excellent education environment for its pupils.

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the requirement in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Academy's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

STRATEGIC REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Academy continues to work towards a curriculum which is broadly based, locally orientated, progressive and ambitious. Pupils have been supported academically and emotionally throughout the academic year. Interventions and resources continue to be applied in addressing gaps in learning in pupils due to the Covid pandemic. Mental health and wellbeing remain a priority to allow pupils to make the best progress they are capable of.

During the year, the Academy was independently inspected by both the OFSTED and the Church of England's Education Department for SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist schools). Both rigorous inspections confirm the Academy is a "Good" school. These outcomes are results of the hard work that has been put in over the past few years and demonstrate that the Academy is continuing to progress and perform at the high level that it is aspired to.

REVIEW OF ACTIVITIES

The Academy is committed to continual improvement which is achieved in a number of ways including improvement in planning, review meetings, continual professional development, lesson observations, performance management, self-evaluation, data analysis and follow-up action. Measures taken during the academic year include:

- continuing to develop a broad, balanced, progressive and ambitious curriculum;
- Subject Leaders undertook training with a local leading training school to ensure our subject leaders were able to develop their practise and lead more effectively.
- Talk for Writing – a scheme developed by Pie Corbett with proven effectiveness was introduced in all classes. It was trialled throughout the year and has had a positive impact on Writing.
- In the second half of the year the EYFS curriculum and resources were audited and improved. This should lead to long term impact and ensure our EYFS provision is of the highest quality.
- All teachers engaged with the moderation of writing assessments with both internal moderation and with our partner school. EYFS, Year 2 and Year 6 Writing was moderated within cluster groups of the North Cotswold Schools to ensure our judgements were accurate.

END OF YEAR ASSESSMENT DATA

***Early Year Foundation Stage**: Blockley 43% Good Levels of Development / National 71.8% (2022) -* There were a number of issues with progress within the EYFS cohort during the first part of the year for many reasons, including change of class teacher, which impacted the end of year data. The second half of the year saw improvement and pupils made good progress. With the return of stability in the class and additional staffing in place in the afternoons to support Year 1 pupils, any gaps in their learning were quickly rectified. We are confident the dip is a short-term issue that has now been addressed.

Phonic screening check: Blockley 72% / National 81% (2022) - Although below the national level, the Academy identified this as a need for improvement and have invested in resource support as part of a three-year plan. 2022-23 was the second year of implementation and improvements are already showing. We are confident that our scores will be in line or above national levels in 2023 – 24.

Multiplication Times Tables check:

- 68.75% Passed
- 12.2% full marks
- 22 % in the lowest quintile (below 15/25)

Although there is some development and positives we still need to focus on our times tables in 2023-24.

Key Stage 1 SATs

Subject	Percentage of pupils in Blockley achieving the expected standard: Academy (2023)	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: National (2023)
English reading	86.4%	77%
English writing	77.3%	77%
Maths	77.3%	92%

Key Stage 2 SATs

Subject	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: Academy (2023)	Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard: National (2023)	Percentage of pupils achieving the greater depth standard: Academy (2023)
English reading	91.3%	73%	47%
English writing	78.2%	71%	17.5%
GPS	91.3%	73%	52%
Maths	91.3%	73%	65%

KEY FINANCIAL PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

The Academy's primary financial performance indicator is how the Academy spends its grants and income on its charitable objectives i.e. the net revenue for the year compared to budget and the level of reserves held as at the balance sheet date. The results for the year are set out in the statement of financial activity.

Another key financial performance indicator is staffing costs, excluding actuarial pension adjustments, as a percentage of grant income for educational activities. For the year ended 31 August 2023 this was 84.2% (2022 – 82.2%). The percentage is below the normal level mainly due to the Interim Executive Headteacher not being employed directly by the Academy.

The Academy's Funding Agreement is not subject to a specific carry forward limit on the amount of GAG funding. However, a key financial performance indicator is the level of reserves (excluding Capital and Pension funds) held at the balance sheet date. At 31 August 2023 these amounted to: £148,949 (2022 - £141,208) representing 28.0% (2022 – 26.9%) of GAG funding.

The majority of the Academy's funding is based on pupil numbers, the Board of Trustees carefully monitor and review pupil numbers as a key performance indicator. The most recent October 2023 census is 143 (2022: 141) and funding for next year is based on this number. This is slightly higher than in the previous census.

GOING CONCERN

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The majority of the Academy's income is received from the DfE via the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the period ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure of these grants are shown as Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE and other organisations and funders and these are shown as Restricted Fixed Asset Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. The balance of the Restricted Fixed Asset fund is reduced by the depreciation charges on the assets acquired using these funds.

During the period ended 31 August 2023, the total expenditure (less depreciation and pension adjustments) of £872,202 (2022: £816,061) was covered by the recurrent grant funding from the DfE, together with other incoming resources and the use of the Academy's reserves.

The incoming resources (excluding capital grants) for the period over total expenditure (less depreciation, loss on disposal of fixed assets and pension adjustments) was £9,857 in surplus (2022: £18,037 in surplus). The Trustees will continue to monitor the Academy's financial position taking into consideration the future plans of the Academy, its income streams and the risk factors faced by the Academy.

The net book value of fixed assets at 31 August 2023 was £1,352,938 (2022: £1,388,500) which includes the value of land and buildings transferred on conversion (1 April 2013) of £1,695,000. The fixed assets held by the Academy are used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

The balances of total funds held at 31 August 2023 were £1,481,887 which comprised of the following:

Restricted funds (excluding pension liability)	£143,043
Restricted pension liability fund	(£20,000)
Restricted fixed asset fund	£1,352,938
Unrestricted funds	£5,906

The key financial policies are reviewed and adopted during the period. These included the Financial Regulations Policy, which lays out the framework for the Academy's financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, Head Teacher, managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as the delegated authorities for spending.

RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match the income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Trustees also take into consideration the future plans of the Academy, the uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks identified during the review.

The Trustees have determined that an appropriate level of reserves (excluding capital and pension reserves) should be held to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipts of grants, to fund on-going capital maintenance and replacement, to provide a cushion to deal with rising operational costs, unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance, long term staff absences and to mitigate the impact of key risk factors including declining pupil numbers and increasing employer pension contribution rates. Declining pupil numbers can have a significant impact on the Academy's income streams; the variable pupil rate in the 2022/2023 budget amounts to £3,237 so any decline in pupil numbers could cause a disproportionate reduction in income for a small school. Employers' pension contribution rates remain relatively low for the academy but future changes in pension regulations, actuarial assumptions and profile of members may cause an increase in these rates.

The level of reserves needed to meet these 'working capital' requirements has been determined to be an amount not exceeding 15% of average GAG income of the preceding 3 years, this amounts to £96,661 for the year ended 31 August 2023. The excess of non-capital and non-pension reserves over this level amount to £52,288 and are 'ear-marked' to a 'Future Development Fund' to be used on projects to enhance the school facility and educational capability. The 'Future Development Fund' should not exceed £100,000 unless a specific project is, or projects are, identified which would require funds in excess of this amount.

The Academy's current level of reserves excluding capital and pension reserves is £148,949 and £52,288 of this is earmarked to a Future Development Fund, which is in line with the policy. The Trustees maintain and regularly review its Capital Project plan and the deployment of reserves to support the activities of the Academy.

INVESTMENT POLICY

All funds surplus to immediate requirements are invested by the Academy with the objective of ensuring maximum return on assets invested but with minimal risk. Where cash flow allows, sums in excess of the free cash reserves may be invested on deposit for extended periods with the Academy's principal bankers or other reputable financial institutions.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy are as follows:

Financial

The Academy has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA. In the period approximately 91% of the Academy's incoming resources were ultimately Government funded and whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same or improved levels or terms. This is particular acute whilst inflation rate, pay increases and operational costs are rising rapidly. The Trustees continue to monitor this closely and take the necessary action to achieve cost savings and Best Value.

The Academy has seen stable intake numbers for Reception class in past years, with a number of in year admissions throughout the year. However, with larger cohorts at the upper end of the school this has the potential to result in lower numbers on roll over time. This is closely monitored and evaluated by the Board of Trustees to arrive at appropriate actions.

Failures in governance and/or management

The risk in this area arises from the potential failure to effectively manage the Academy's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns etc. The Trustees continue to review and ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.

Reputational

The continuing success of the Academy is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk, the Trustees ensure that safeguarding, pupil success and achievement are actively promoted, closely monitored and interventions timely placed.

Safeguarding and child protection

The Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline. The Academy's safeguarding culture and approach has been recognised by the Ofsted inspection during the year.

Staffing

The success of the Academy is reliant on the quality of its staff so the Trustees monitor and review policies and procedures to ensure continued development and training of staff. The Trustees are aware of the importance of quality recruitment and succession planning, in particular of school leadership, and support a proactive and result-driven approach. The current informal Partnership with Temple Guiting CoE Primary School for the Interim Executive Headteacher has been extended until September 2024 with the approval of the ESFA whilst the Trustees actively explore a long-term solution.

Cyber security

Cyber security is an increasing risk for the Academy. The Academy promotes cyber security awareness as part of its safeguarding culture and all staff and trustees have taken part in related trainings. The Academy also reviews its ICT infrastructure and use policies to ensure reduce risks.

School estate safety and security

With a mainly Victorian building and aging facilities, maintenance and upkeeping of the school estate is a challenging task with limited resources. The Academy takes safety and security of the school estate seriously. The trustees have regular walkabouts of the school site and maintain and regularly review its Capital Project plan which includes the maintenance and development of the school site.

Fraud and mismanagement of funds

The Academy has made internal scrutiny arrangements to perform a programme of work aimed at checking and reviewing the financial systems and records as required by the Academy Trust Handbook. In addition, the Academy has also appointed external auditors who have designed and undertaken procedures to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities including fraud.

All finance staff received training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and to develop their skills by participating training and development organised by the DfE.

The Academy has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the period by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness. A Risk Register is maintained, reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The Trustees examine the financial health of the Academy formally every month, reviewing performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of regular update reports through emails and at all full Trustees and Resource Committee meetings.

At the balance sheet date, the Academy had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be a significant effect on the Academy's liquidity.

The Trustees recognise that the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit represents a significant potential liability to the Academy. However, as Trustees consider the Academy is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, the risk from this liability is minimised.

FUNDRAISING

The Academy supports fundraising efforts that support the Academy and any pupil led fundraising events that support external charities.

The Academy works with the Friends of Blockley School (PTA) as the main way of generating funds for the Academy. The Friends of Blockley School is a separate legal entity with charitable status and funds are held separate to the Academy. The approach taken by the PTA is to raise funds through events and sales, not through individual donations.

The Academy does not work with any commercial participators or professional fundraisers approach to raise funds but organises all events through its staff and volunteers.

FUTURE DEVELOPMENTS

The Academy's key priorities for 2023 – 24 are as follows:

- Assessment in foundation subjects to be further developed;
- Subject leaders to develop roles and take on a more proactive moderating role;
- Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS) provision to be strengthened;
- SEN – as provision needs change, to ensure our provision is high quality and fit for purpose.

All the above are underpinned by high quality teaching and learning in every class, every day.

In 2023 -24, the Trustees will determine a long-term solution in the Academy's leadership structure whilst continue to develop its informal partnership with Temple Guiting CoE Primary School and ensure benefits to pupils and staff in both schools. The Trustees are actively exploring in joining Multi Academy Trusts and assessing whether this will provide the most progressive and sustainable future for the Academy.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

The Academy and its Trustees do not act as Custodian Trustees of any other charity.

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

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

- So far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- That Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

This report, incorporating the Strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 28 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
M Chappell, Chair of Trustees

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Head Teacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform to 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 Blockley Educational Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Barry	7	7
M Chappell	7	7
Revd D L Delap	4	7
D Graham	5	7
G Jones	1	7
S Luff	7	7
R Morris	7	7
J Peters	0	3
T Sampson	5	7
A Stanley	6	7
S White	5	7
E Turriff	2	3

CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The Academy has appropriate processes in place to manage potential conflicts of interest, including (but not limited to) maintaining an up-to-date and complete register of interests. The Register is publicised on its website so the information is transparent and is used in the day-to-day management and governance of the Academy.

GOVERNANCE REVIEW

The Board of Trustees identified key priorities and reviewed the provision of teaching and learning for the year in order to drive up standards and implement good practices and improvements. Resources were used to maintain a high teaching staff numbers to close gaps in learning because of the Covid pandemic. During the year, the Academy received Ofsted and SIAMs inspections both of which were rated 'Good'. The Board of Trustees will reflect on the inspections and continue to drive up standards. Trustees engaged with stakeholders to review and finalise the school vision which is the foundation of decision makings throughout the year. Trustees' skills were identified and knowledges enhanced by using the National Governors Association's Learning Link modules for training. Throughout the year, the Trustees met regularly to support and guide the Academy.

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to provide guidance and assistance to the Board of Trustees on all matters related to finance, resources, personnel and health and safety of the Academy. This includes approving annual budgets and virements establishing financial policies and procedures, monitoring financial performance against that budget, reviewing delegated authorities, ensuring all transactions are conducted in accordance with good practices as directed by the Academy Trust Handbook and school policies, to ensure best value is achieved in all financial transactions and to receive and (where relevant) respond to periodic audit and scrutiny reports on the Academy and of public funds. This Committee also acts as the Academy's Audit Committee.

Attendance at meetings in the year of this committee was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Barry, Interim Head & Accounting Officer	4	4
M Chappell	3	4
D Graham	4	4
R Morris	4	4
J Peters	0	2
T Sampson, Chair	3	4
E Turriff	0	1

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

The interim Head Teacher acts as an off-payroll Accounting Officer for the Academy was agreed with the ESFA prior to the commencement of academic year. As Accounting Officer, the interim Head Teacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes as well as the safety and security of school estate achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- Rigorous recruitment procedures are in place which are regularly reviewed to ensure a high quality and affordable staffing structure is in place;
- Good procurement practices are followed in achieving Best Value;

- Strategic planning of capital projects and use of the Academy's reserves to ensure that the school estate is safe, well-maintained and complies with H&S regulations;

- The Academy's ICT infrastructure and equipment is one area that needs regular upgrades and renewal. The Academy is working with the ICT support company in developing a long-term development plan.

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. It is based on an on-going process designed to identify and manage risks to the achievement of the Academy's 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 at the Academy for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

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

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 Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and large contracts;
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- Appropriate delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- Identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has considered the requirements for an independent review of internal scrutiny function and has established a peer to peer review process with two other local academy trusts.

The internal scrutiny's role includes providing an independent assurance to the Board that its financial and non-financial controls and risk management procedures are operating effectively, giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy's financial systems and controls. Internal scrutiny reports and their findings are shared with the Resources Committee, which also acts as the Audit Committee.

During the year the Academy received three internal scrutiny reports which covered a wide range of checks and verifications of governance, correct use of public funds, financial systems, personnel management and financial benchmarking etc.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

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

- The work of the external auditors;
- The reports from the internal scrutiny visits;
- The financial benchmarking exercises;
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- The regular financial reports;
- The work of the executive managers within the Academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer 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 any identified weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

A Barry, Interim Executive Headteacher, is the Accounting Officer. She has been involved in the completion of the financial statements and the Trustees Report and audit with Hazlewoods LLP, external auditors.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 28 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

M Chappell, Chair of Trustees

A Barry, Accounting Officer

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

As Accounting Officer of Blockley Educational Academy I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Board of Trustees and the Education and Skill Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

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

A Barry
Accounting Officer

Date: 5/12/23

TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees (who act as governors of Blockley Educational Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP and the Annual Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform to the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the Education & Skills Funding Agency and Department for Education have been applied for the purposes intended. The Governors 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 28 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
M Chappell, Chair of Trustees

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Blockley Educational Academy for the year ended 31 August 2023 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 and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland*, the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report[2]. Our opinion on the financial statements does not

cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the company financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the company. We determined that the most significant laws and regulations included UK GAAP, UK Companies Act 2006 and taxation laws;
- We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included challenging assumptions and judgments made by management in its significant accounting estimates and identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual characteristics.

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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the academy trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the academy trust's ability to continue as a going

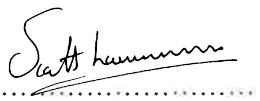
concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the academy trust to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

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



Date...12/12/2023.....

Scott Lawrence FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Hazlewoods LLP, Statutory Auditor, Cheltenham

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 28 July 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Blockley Educational Academy during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY'S ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Blockley Educational Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education date 1 April 2013, and the Academy Trust Handbook extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

APPROACH

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

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

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

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

In this regard we have carried out the following:

- specific testing of a sample of items of income and expenditure to ensure appropriately applied for the purposes intended;
- specific testing of a sample of system controls relevant to the above items;
- a general review of relevant correspondence with the ESFA regarding Academy governance matters during the period since conversion; and
- a general review and discussion of the Academy's internal processes for establishing and maintaining systems of control and documentation regarding these matters.

CONCLUSION

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

Scott Lawrence FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Hazlewoods LLP, Statutory Auditor
Cheltenham

Date 12/12/2023

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and capital grants	2	10,927	2,538	18,512	31,977	18,933
Charitable activities:						
Funding for the School's educational operations	3	19,743	830,382	-	850,125	807,187
Other trading activities	4	17,177	-	-	17,177	16,563
Investments	5	1,292	-	-	1,292	21
TOTAL		**49,139**	**832,920**	**18,512**	**900,571**	**842,704**
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities:						
School's educational operations	7	60,983	816,219	53,353	930,555	951,213
TOTAL		**60,983**	**816,219**	**53,353**	**930,555**	**951,213**
NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME C/F		**(11,844)**	**16,701**	**(34,841)**	**(29,984)**	**(108,509)**

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME B/F	**(11,844)**	**16,701**	**(34,841)**	**(29,984)**	**(108,509)**
Transfers between funds	15,824	(17,940)	2,116	-	-
NET (EXPENDITURE) / INCOME FOR THE YEAR	**3,980**	**(1,239)**	**(32,725)**	**(29,984)**	**(108,509)**
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes	-	110,000	-	110,000	571,000
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	**3,980**	**108,761**	**(32,725)**	**80,016**	**462,491**
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward	1,926	14,282	1,385,663	1,401,871	939,380
Total funds carried forward	**5,906**	**123,043**	**1,352,938**	**1,481,887**	**1,401,871**

All of the Academy's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

No separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented as all such gains and losses are delt with in the statement of financial activities above.

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

Registration number: 08434233

	Note	£	2023 £	£	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11		1,352,938		1,388,500
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	19,723		22,356	
Cash at bank and in hand		195,848		198,969	
			215,571		221,325
LIABILITIES					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13		(66,622)		(82,954)
NET CURRENT ASSETS			148,949		138,371
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			1,501,887		1,526,871
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24		(20,000)		(125,000)
TOTAL NET ASSETS			1,481,887		1,401,871
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY					
Restricted funds:					
Restricted funds	14	143,043		139,282	
Restricted fixed asset funds	14	1,352,938		1,385,663	
Restricted funds excluding pension liability		1,495,981		1,524,945	
Pension reserve		(20,000)		(125,000)	
Total restricted funds	14		1,475,981		1,399,945
Unrestricted income funds	14		5,906		1,926
TOTAL FUNDS			1,481,887		1,401,871

The financial statements on pages 26 to 51 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 28 November 2023 and are signed on their behalf, by:

.....
M Chappell, Chair of Trustees

BLOCKLEY EDUCATIONAL ACADEMY
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

CASH FLOW STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash provided by operating activities	18	(5,134)	38,778
Cash flows from investing activities	19	2,013	(845)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE REPORTING PERIOD		(3,121)	37,933
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2022		198,969	161,036
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 AUGUST 2023	20	195,848	198,969

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Basis of Preparation of Financial Statements

The financial statements of the Academy, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. Blockley Educational Academy meets the definition of a public benefit entity under 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 one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. This is discussed in the Trustees' Report above.

Income

All income is included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Academy has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the Academy being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of 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 year for which it is receivable and any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general fund. Capital grants are recognised when receivable 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.

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the School are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the Academy can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the School's policies.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt 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 in the period in which a liability is incurred and has been classified under the headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Expenditure on Raising Funds: This includes all expenditure incurred by the School to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and charitable trading.

Charitable Activities: These are costs incurred on the School's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the School apportioned to charitable activities.

Tangible Fixed Assets and Depreciation

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and are carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy's depreciation policy.

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the costs of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold Property	- 25 years straight line
Plant & Machinery	- 15 years straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 33% reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% reducing balance

Motor vehicles and computer equipment transferred from the predecessor school were transferred at depreciated cost and are depreciated over the useful life from original purchase.

Leasehold property and Fixtures and fittings transferred from the predecessor school were transferred at an estimate of depreciated replacement cost and are treated as if purchased at that date.

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.

Lease Assets

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 12. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

Cash at bank – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.
None are included in this model but if relevant the suggested disclosure could be as follows, with valuation in line with the SORP 2015.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. 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. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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 School 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.

Pension Benefits

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

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 quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in note 24, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the Academy is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on the settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

Fund accounting

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education.

1 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Estimates and judgements are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances. . The Governors do not consider that they have made any critical judgements apart from those involving estimation in the preparation of the financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Donations	10,927	2,538	-	13,465	10,367
Capital grants	-	-	18,512	18,512	8,566
	10,927	2,538	18,512	31,977	18,933

Income from donations and voluntary income in 2022 was £18,933 of which £5,385 was unrestricted funds and £2,852 was restricted funds and £10,696 was restricted fixed asset funds.

3 FUNDING FOR SCHOOL'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Funds 2023 £	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund 2023 £	Total Funds 2023 £	Total Funds 2022 £
DfE/ESFA grants					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	513,178	-	531,178	524,906
Other DfE/ ESFA Grants:					
Pupil premium	-	35,886	-	35,886	36,308
COVID – 19 Catch up	-	7,404	-	7,404	9,902
Other factors	-	126,349	-	126,349	120,838
Exceptional factors	-	19,672	-	19,672	19,735
PE grants	-	17,270	-	17,270	17,230
Supplemental grants	-	19,812	-	19,812	8,255
Other grants	-	16,042	-	16,042	5,900
Free school meals	-	19,690	-	19,690	15,909
Capital grants	-	-	-	-	-
	-	793,303	-	793,303	758,983
Other government grants					
Local authority grants	-	22,534	-	22,534	17,709
Other funding					
Other income	19,743	14,545	-	34,288	30,495
	19,743	830,382	-	850,125	807,187

Funding for school's educational operations in 2022 was £807,187, of which £14,822 was unrestricted funds and £792,365 was restricted funds.

The academy received £7,404 of funding for catch-up premium which has been used to provide additional staffing and resources for academic and pastoral support.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State the School was subject to limits at 31 August 2023 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% of GAG could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes. The School has not exceeded these limits during the year ended 31 August 2023.

4 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Before and After school care	14,059	-	14,059	10,147
Tuition fees	2,950	-	2,950	2,228
Other income	168	-	168	4,188
	17,177	-	17,177	16,563

Income from other trading activities in 2022 was £16,563, all of which was unrestricted funds.

5 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Interest from bank account	1,292	-	1,292	21

Income from investment income in 2022 was £21 of which all was unrestricted funds.

6 EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other costs 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Educational operations					
- Direct Costs (note 7)	477,037	-	32,843	509,880	483,335
- Allocated Support Costs	214,847	65,346	140,482	420,675	467,848
	691,884	65,346	173,325	930,555	951,213

Expenditure on Educational operations in 2022 was £951,213 of which £52,497 was unrestricted funds, £845,604 was restricted funds and £53,112 was restricted fixed asset funds.

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets owned by the charity	53,353	53,112
Operating lease rentals	23,524	20,929
Fees paid to auditor for:		
- Audit	9,950	8,675
- Other services	750	675

7 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
DIRECT COSTS		
Educational supplies	32,843	39,386
Wages and salaries	357,197	334,652
National insurance	30,850	26,886
Pension cost	88,990	82,431
	509,880	483,335
SUPPORT COSTS		
Wages and salaries	173,313	153,126
National insurance	6,532	5,388
Pension cost	30,002	28,321
Depreciation	53,353	53,112
Pension expense	5,000	82,000
Maintenance of premises	17,265	20,026
Rent and rates	25,595	23,893
Light and heat	13,624	9,454
Insurance	8,862	8,368
Catering	24,563	27,648
Legal and professional	16,825	18,508
Other support costs	35,791	28,934
Governance costs	9,950	9,100
	420,675	467,878
	930,555	951,213

8 STAFF COSTS

a. Staff costs during the year were:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	480,382	487,778
Social security costs	37,382	32,254
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	118,992	110,752
Pension expense	5,000	82,000
Total	641,756	693,571

The above wages and salary cost does not include the cost of the Interim Executive Headteacher (see note 9).

b. Staff numbers

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

Charitable Activities	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Teachers	7	7
Support	10	9
Management	1	1

c. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs and employer national insurance contributions) exceeded £60,000 was none (2022: none).

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £87,965 (2022: £81,619).

9 GOVERNORS' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The Head Teacher and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Head Teacher and staff, and not in respect of their services as Trustees. Other Trustees also did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy in respect of their role as Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration, including employer pension contributions, fell within the following bands:

	2023	2022
	£	£
S L White	£60,000-£65,000	£60,000-£65,000
S Luff	£25,000-£30,000	£25,000-£30,000

During the year, the cost of the interim Executive Headteacher was paid directly to Gloucestershire Country Council at a total cost of £50,128.

During the year, Trustees received no reimbursement of expenses incurred in their role as Trustee (2022: No trustee).

10 GOVERNORS' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides unlimited cover on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £3,024 (2022: £2,774). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost and relates to a multiple-line policy provided by the ESFA.

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Long leasehold property £	Plant & machinery £	Fixtures & fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
As at 1 September 2022	1,695,000	48,873	72,510	45,727	1,862,110
Additions	-	-	13,123	4,668	17,791
At 31 August 2023	1,695,000	48,873	85,633	50,395	1,879,901
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	362,354	26,064	53,898	31,294	473,610
Charge for the year	38,480	3,258	6,211	5,404	53,353
At 31 August 2023	400,834	29,322	60,109	36,698	526,963
Net book value					
At 31 August 2023	1,294,166	19,551	25,524	13,697	1,352,938
At 31 August 2022	1,332,646	22,809	18,612	14,433	1,388,500

Included in long term leasehold property is land of £733,000 (2022: £733,000) which is not depreciated.

12 DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
VAT refund	2,005	1,832
Other debtors	213	4,552
Prepayments and accrued income	17,505	15,972
	19,723	22,356

13 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	-	125
Taxation and social security	21,544	19,345
Accruals and deferred income	45,078	63,484
	66,622	82,954

	£
Deferred Income	
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	11,340
Resources deferred during the year	12,058
Amounts released from previous years	(11,340)
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	12,058

Deferred Income
Deferred income relates to Universal Infant Free School Meals grant and GAG rates which will be utilised in the year ending 31 August 2023.

14 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (2022/23)

The income funds of the School comprise the following balances of grants to be applied for specific purposes:

	Balance at 31 August 2022	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains, Losses and Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	72,970	531,178	(514,537)	(15,824)	73,787
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	62,696	284,659	(279,341)	(2,116)	65,898
Other income fund	3,472	14,545	(14,803)	-	3,214
Pension reserve	(125,000)	-	(5,000	110,000	(20,000)
Other restricted funds	144	2,538	(2,538)	-	144
	14,282	832,920	(816,219)	92,060	123,043
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Assets transferred on conversion	1,332,647	-	(38,480)	2,116	1,296,283
Devolved formula grant	19,939	5,643	(6,916)	(720)	17,946
Devolved formula Grant- unutilised	1,017	-	-	720	1,737
Kitchen grant	22,808	-	(3,258)	-	19,550
Playground equipment donation	1,486	-	(732)	-	754
Goal post donation	84	-	(84)	-	-
Fencing grant	386	-	(386)	-	-
Friends of School donation	3,872	-	(1,196)	-	2,676
DfE Capital Donation	3,424	12,869	(2,301)	-	13,992
	1,385,663	18,512	(53,353)	2,116	1,352,938
Total restricted funds	1,399,945	851,432	(869,572)	94,176	1,475,981
Unrestricted funds	1,926	49,139	(60,983)	15,824	5,906
Total of funds	1,401,871	900,571	(930,555)	110,000	1,481,887

14 STATEMENT OF FUNDS (2021/22)

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

	Balance at 31 August 2021	Incoming Resources	Resources Expended	Gains, Losses and Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	40,125	665,479	(632,634)	-	72,970
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	62,895	111,213	(111,412)	-	62,696
Other income fund	4,505	15,673	(16,706)	-	3,472
Pension reserve	(614,000)	-	(82,000)	571,000	(125,000)
Other restricted funds	144	2,852	(2,852)	-	144
	(506,331)	795,217	(845,604)	571,000	14,282
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Assets transferred on conversion	1,371,127	-	(38,480)	-	1,332,647
Devolved formula grant	9,351	5,609	(6,897)	11,876	19,939
Devolved formula Grant- unutilised	7,612	-	-	(6,595)	1,017
Kitchen grant	26,066	-	(3,258)	-	22,808
Playground equipment donation	2,218	-	(732)	-	1,486
Goal post donation	126	-	(42)	-	84
Fencing grant	576	-	(190)	-	386
Friends of School donation	5,733	2,957	(1,826)	(2,992)	3,872
DfE Capital Donation	5,111	2,130	(1,687)	(2,130)	3,424
	1,427,920	10,696	(53,112)	159	1,385,663
Total restricted funds	921,589	805,913	(898,716)	571,159	1,399,945
Unrestricted funds	17,791	36,791	(52,497)	(159)	1,926
Total of funds	939,380	842,704	(951,213)	571,000	1,401,871

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

Restricted fund:

The Restricted General Annual Grant Fund (GAG) and other grants receivable from the ESFA and Local Authority towards the Academy's educational activities.

School funds held in respect of educational visits and events are also included in the Restricted General Fund.

Other DfE/ESFA grants are used to provide specific support for children.

The Local Authority grant consists of high needs funding which is used to provide specialist support for the children.

Other income fund comprises income raised to be used for educational purposes.

The Pension Reserve relates to the Academy's share of the deficit of the Local Government Pension Scheme overseen by the Local Authority.

Transfers between GAG Fund and Restricted Asset Fund relate to asset purchases from this fund.

Restricted fixed asset fund:

Fixed assets transferred on conversion represent the land and buildings and other assets transferred to the Academy from Gloucestershire County Council on conversion.

The devolved formula capital grant will be used to fund capital expenditure.

The kitchen grant was used to cover the refurbishment of the Academy kitchen.

The playground equipment donation was used to purchase new playground equipment.

The goal post donation was used to purchase goal posts for the playing fields.

The fencing grant was used to replace the fencing around the Academy.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Endowment funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,352,938	-	1,352,938	1,388,500
Current assets	5,906	209,665	-	-	215,571	221,325
Current liabilities	-	(66,622)	-	-	(66,622)	(82,945)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(20,000)	-	-	(20,000)	(125,000)
	5,906	123,043	1,352,938	-	1,481,887	1,401,871

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

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Endowment funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,388,500	-	1,388,500	1,427,920
Current assets	1,926	219,399	-	-	221,325	174,454
Current liabilities	-	(80,117)	(2,837)	-	(82,945)	(48,994)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(125,000)	-	-	(125,000)	(614,000)
	1,926	14,282	1,385,663	-	1,401,871	939,380

16 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2023 the Academy had capital commitments of £Nil (2022: £nil). Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements £nil (2022: £Nil).

17 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the Academy had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Land and Buildings		
Commitments within one year	22,600	18,816
Other		
Commitments within one year	1,420	992
Commitments within two and five years inclusive	1,826	89
	25,846	19,897

18 RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net (expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(29,984)	(108,509)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation (note 12)	53,353	53,112
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(18,512)	(10,696)
Interest receivable (note 5)	(1,292)	(21)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (note 25)	5,000	82,000
Decrease/(Increase) in debtors	2,633	(8,938)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(16,332)	33,960
Fixed asset acquired other than for cash	-	(2,130)
Net cash used/(provided by) provided by operating activities	(5,134)	38,778

19 CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

	2023	2022
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,292	21
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(17,791)	(11,562)
Fixed asset acquired other than for cash	-	2,130
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	18,512	8,566
Net cash from/ (used) used in investing activities	2,013	(845)

20 ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	195,848	198,969
Total cash and cash equivalents	195,848	198,969

21 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 September 2022	Cash Flows 2023	New Finance Leases 2023	Other Non-cash Changes 2023	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash	198,969	(3,121)	-	-	195,848

22 MEMBERS LIABILITY

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

23 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) Equalisation is a requirement to equalise the Guaranteed Minimum Pension benefits accrued between 1990 and 1997 from contracting out of the State Earnings Related Pension Scheme based on the principles outlined in the judgement of the "Lloyds Bank" High Court case in October 2019. The actuarial valuation prepared for the Local Government Pension Scheme (as disclosed in Note 24) does not currently included an adjustment for GMP Equalisation, as the fund actuary considers that a 'trigger event ' is yet to occur in the LGPS. The trigger event referred to in this instance is that Government are yet to confirm the long term solution and hence the potential impact of GMP equalisation remains an unknown. In view of this continuing uncertainty, no provision has been made in these financial statements in relation to this matter.

24 PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teacher's Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Hymans Robertson LLP. Both are defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

At the end of the year there were unpaid contributions of £12,866 (2022: £11,707).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

24 PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

The pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £63,447 (2022: £63,153).

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

Under the definitions set out in Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 102), the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The School has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The School has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £67,000 (2022: £64,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £55,000 (2022: £52,000) and employees' contributions totalled £12,000 (2022: £12,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.1% for employers and 5.5% for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions	**At 31 August 2023**	**At 31 August 2022**
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20%	4.25%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.45%	3.35%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.95%	3.05%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.95%	3.35%

24 PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are set out below:

	Approximate increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount
Change in assumptions at year ended 31 August 2023		
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	16,000
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	26,000
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	1,000
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	16,000

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

	2023	2022
Retiring today		
Males	21.4	21.7
Females	24.4	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.2	22.6
Females	25.7	25.8

The Academy trusts share of the net assets in the scheme were:

	Expected Return at 31 August 2023	Fair value at 31 August 2023	Expected return at 31 August 2022	Fair value at 31 August 2022
	%	£	%	£
Equities	65.0	416,000	68.0	360,400
Government Bonds	21.0	134,400	19.0	100,700
Property	12.0	76,800	11.0	58,300
Cash/liquidity	2.0	12,800	2.0	10,600
Total market value of assets		640,000		530,000
Present value of scheme liabilities: Funded		(660,000)		(655,000)
Deficit in the scheme		(20,000)		(125,000)

24 PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

The actual return on scheme assets was £24,000 (2022: £9,000)

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	55,000	124,000
Past service cost	-	-
	55,000	124,000
Analysis of pension finance income/(costs)		
Expected return on scheme assets	24,000	9,000
Interest on obligation	(29,000)	(19,000)
Pension finance income/(costs)	(5,000)	(10,000)

The actuarial gains and losses for the current year are recognised in the statement of financial activities. The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the statement of financial activities is a gain of £110,000 (2022: Gain of £571,000).

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September	655,000	1,114,000
Current service cost	55,000	124,000
Past service cost	-	-
Interest cost	29,000	19,000
Employee contributions	13,000	12,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(196,000)	(608,000)
Benefits paid	(9,000)	(5,000)
Change in demographic	(25,000)	(3,000)
Change due to other experience	138,000	2,000
At 31 August	660,000	655,000

24 PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

Movements in the fair value of the School's share of scheme assets:

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September	540,000	500,000
Expected return on assets	24,000	9,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	(17,000)	(38,000)
Employer contributions	55,000	52,000
Employee contributions	13,000	12,000
Benefits paid	(9,000)	(5,000)
At 31 August	640,000	530,000

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2023 is £55,000 (2022: £51,000).

25 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the Academy'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's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2020 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

Related party transactions amounted to Nil during the year ended 31 August 2023 (2022: £185).