# FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE) TRUSTEES' REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

### **CONTENTS**

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Trustees' report	3 - 14
Governance statement	15 - 19
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	20
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	21
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	22 - 25
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	26 - 27
Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account	28 - 29
Balance sheet	30
Statement of cash flows	31
Notes to the accounts including accounting policies	32 - 53

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members Lord F Field of Birkenhead

J Hoareau

C Penn Corporate Member C of E

M Doyle N Whittle

Trustees A E Bleasedale OBE

Rev S Burmester Dame F A Cairncross

D C Chapman (Appointed 26 January 2021)

Rt Hon Lord F Field of Birkenhead Dr C Hampshire (Chair of Trustees)

W Norrie M Pollitt

Rev Canon Dr I Stockton (Vice Chair) D Wooff (Appointed 4 March 2021)

Senior management team

Chief Executive Officer
 Chief Operating Officer
 Deputy Chief Executive Officer
 Principal - EPC
 Principal - HGPS
 Principal - BHA
 T Quinn
 K Gauller
 M Unwin
 K Dixon

Company registration number 09904025 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office Frank Field Education Trust

Whitby Road Ellesmere Port Cheshire CH65 6EA

Location

**Academies operated** 

The Ellesmere Port C of E College
Handforth Grange Primary School
Birches Head Academy

Ellesmere Port
Handforth
Stoke on Trent

Independent auditor UHY Hacker Young Manchester LLP

St James Building 79 Oxford Street Manchester M1 6HT

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc

Liverpool Law Courts Merchants Court 2-12 Lord Street Liverpool

Liverpool L2 1TS

### **REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**Solicitors** 

Hill Dickinson LLP No.1 St Pauls Square Liverpool L3 9SJ

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

For the year, the academy trust operated as a Multi Academy Trust with 1 Primary School (3-11) serving the borough of Cheshire East, 1 Secondary School (11-18) serving the town of Ellesmere Port and 1 Secondary School (11-16) serving the City of Stoke.

The membership of The Frank Field Education Trust (FFET) is currently:

- The Ellesmere Port Church of England College: an 11-18 Secondary Church of England College serving the community of Ellesmere Port in Cheshire. The College joined the Trust in December 2018 and has no formal OFSTED or SIAMS judgement.
- Handforth Grange Primary School: a 3-11 Primary academy with a Resource Provision for children with ASC, serving the Handforth community in East Cheshire, joined the Trust in February 2019 with an OFSTED Outstanding 2017.
- Birches Head Academy: an 11-16 Secondary School serving the community of Stoke. The Academy joined the Trust in December 2020 and has no formal OFSTED judgement.

Additionally, following a competitive tendering process, the Trust has been contracted to provide school improvement and central services to the Esprit Trust based in Stoke. The Trust is currently made up of two single form entry infants Schools and a four form entry Junior School. The contract starts 1 September 2021 and is for the academic year with an option to extend for a further year.

#### Structure, governance and management

#### Constitution

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

The charitable company operates as Frank Field Education Trust (FFET).

The trustees of Frank Field Education Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

#### Members' liability

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

#### Trustees' indemnities

The Trust is a member of the DFE's Risk Protection Arrangement for most of its insurance needs including cover for trustees, governors and officers from claims arising due to negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. See Note 12 for further details.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

All members of the academy trust are appointed and/or elected in accordance with the Articles of Association of the FFET. Consideration is given to skills that would enhance the effectiveness of the trust in line with its articles of association.

During the academic year under review the FFET held 7 main Board meetings, supplemented by sub-committee meetings.

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

All new trustees and governors will be given a tour of the site of the respective academies and given an opportunity to meet with the staff and students and are provided with copies of procedures, minutes, accounts, budget plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as trustees.

#### Organisational structure

The trustees have overall responsibility and ultimate decision-making authority for all the work of the Academies and in order to discharge these responsibilities appoint people who are more locally based to serve on a board (each being a 'Local Governing Body') which has been established to ensure good governance of the academy trust. The directors have delegated the following functions to the Local Governing Body (LGB) through a formal scheme of delegation:

- · Have a monitoring role in connection with the Academy;
- Consider budget monitoring information and make recommendations to the Head Teacher of the Academy in relation to annual budget proposals and any potential overspend;
- Govern admissions and appoint a committee to apply admissions criteria in accordance with DES guidance, the admissions code and with due regard to a locally agreed fair access protocols and to appoint the Chair of the LGB and the Principals as proposers in any admissions appeals;
- Govern exclusions in accordance with appropriate regulations;
- Support the Principal in recruitment and selection, grievance, disciplinary and processes in relation to staff where appropriate;
- Monitor and be accountable for standards and report annually to the Directors (or more frequently if requested);

The trustees delegate the leadership and day to day management of the academy trust to the CEO and delegation of the leadership and day to day management of each school within the Trust to the school's Principal supported by the CEO.

Senior Management Teams (listed on page 1) will operate at each academy and are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the academies. In particular, they are responsible for organising the staff (teaching and non-teaching), facilities and students.

The board of directors (trustees) will meet at least termly with an additional AGM following the submission of the accounts and report relevant decisions for appropriate decisions.

Roles and responsibilities are defined in the relevant Terms of Reference and Academy Scheme of Delegation.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

Academy trustees are non-salaried and therefore no pay and remuneration scales are applicable.

The Trust Board continues to refer to School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) and National Joint Conditions (NJC) for support staff in the appointment of relevant grade and pay range allocations.

In addition, the CEO, DCEO and COO of the trust, whilst not directors (trustees) are deemed to have sufficient influence/control to be key management personnel. Their remuneration is calculated in line with other trusts and using the same appraisal objectives set at the start of the year and outcomes delivered. The annual evaluation is carried out by the Chair and vice Chair.

#### Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

With the exception of those disclosed in note 24 to the accounts no further related parties or other connected charities and organisations have been identified.

#### Trade union facility time

The Academy Trust does not have any employees that are Trade Union representatives. The Academy Trust pays into an LA scheme to pay Trade Union representatives employed elsewhere and providing trade union or public duty services.

#### Objectives and activities

#### Objects and aims

The aim of the Trust, is to establish academies that enable pupils to achieve social justice through excellence in education.

We believe that by providing a high-quality education through excellent teaching and learning this will break the cycle of deprivation that exists in our society today. In our academies through a relentless commitment to delivering our aim we will provide:

- · An excellent academic education for all providing all our children with intellectual capital.
- · A network of supportive adults who will help pupils develop strong values and social capital.
- Develop pupils who are well-rounded, confident and aspirational individuals through experiences that will help them achieve rich cultural capital.

Achieving these commitments will ensure when pupils leave our academies, they are ready for the next steps in their journey, leaving us with the necessary skills and knowledge to have a choice filled life, a vision of what they want to achieve in life, a strong sense of duty, care and compassion towards each other and the desire to make a positive contribution to their local communities and wider society.

To ensure that the Trust becomes one of the country's leading education providers, FFET has brought together a highly experienced, committed and successful group of professionals, to create an exceptional team with a deep commitment to social justice.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Rt. Hon. Lord Frank Field, served for almost 40 years as the Member of Parliament for Birkenhead. During this time, Frank campaigned extensively for social justice and in 2010 wrote "The Foundation Years: Preventing poor children becoming poor adults" report; this has become a landmark document in regards to the importance of Education and Early Years care in ending disadvantage.

Our education plan is centered around establishing local hubs, working with Social Care, primary schools, and secondary schools to establish a high-quality 0-18 education provision in each area we work in the following ways:

- Developing an Early Life Programme offer centered around childrens' school readiness pre-Nursery.
- Working with primary schools in the same community, either as part of our Trust or as Associate partners to build on the initial work pre-school.
- Children from our Trust primary schools, our partner primary schools/Trusts, feeding into our secondary schools and continuing our unique offer.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives of the trust during the period ended 31 August 2021 are summarised below:

- To ensure that every student enjoys the same high-quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care.
- To raise the standard of educational achievement of all students.
- To improve the effectiveness of the academy trust by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under regular review.
- To provide value for money for the funds expensed.
- To comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements.
- To conduct the academy trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

The high-quality education we aim to deliver will ensure that all children gain the social, intellectual and cultural capital that enables them to have:

- · Unlimited dreams and ideas beyond expectation.
- · A vision of what they want to achieve in life and how to achieve it.
- · A strong sense of duty, responsibility and service.
- · Care and compassion towards each other, within the local community and the wider world.
- · Choice-filled lives and the desire and motivation to develop as a good person.
- A positive contribution to local communities and wider society.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Above all else we want our pupils to have an education that gives them 'fullness of life', where the person that they become is of paramount importance.

The promotion and development of social, intellectual and cultural capital is at the core of the Trust's vision for promoting social justice, building social cohesion and providing outstanding opportunities for children and their offspring in turn to lead choice-filled lives in the future.

We believe that a high-quality education is the catalyst whereby children from all backgrounds can achieve. Social justice lies at the heart of our vision and we believe that this can only be attained in our society when all barriers to educational success have been removed. It is our mission to ensure that all FFET academies remove those barriers and so ensure social justice outcomes for all our pupils.

#### Public benefit

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

The key public benefit delivered by the Frank Field Education Trust is the maintenance and development of the high-quality education provided by the schools.

#### Strategic report

#### Achievements and performance

The CEO has extensive educational experience as a former member of the Lancashire and West Yorkshire Head Teacher Board (HTB), a member of the DFE Secondary Reference Group, a former OFSTED Inspector and a former CEO of a medium sized MAT. He previously led an outstanding school for 14 years.

The Principal of Handforth Grange Primary has worked extensively across the region supporting and developing other schools through his Alliance networks.

The Principal of Ellesmere Port C of E College joined the trust in March 2019 having previously led a successful OFSTED Good rated school.

The Principal of Birches Head Academy, who together with the Academy, joined the Trust in December 2020, has promoted a renewed sense of purpose and drive to improve the school. The changes have strengthened the school's ethos and rebuilt the school's reputation within the local community.

There are three schools currently within the trust and all had examination success this year. Students from across the schools participated in a wide range of curriculum and extra-curricular activities which enabled them to enjoy high quality provision in line with our ethos and aims.

Handforth Grange Primary School continues to provide excellent educational experiences and outcomes for its pupils in line with its vision of the 'very highest expectations of academic success, behaviour, excitement and fun.'

It is highly over-subscribed with 105 applications for 45 places in 2020 / 2021. The school was judged outstanding in every category by Ofsted in April 2017 and has continued to improve its curriculum offer, outcomes and experiences in the years since.

The schools' achievements for 2020 / 2021 include:

Highly Commended (second) in TES Primary school of the Year award
Achievement in all statutory and non-statutory assessments significantly above national outcomes
Full-time online virtual school during Covid lockdown very well received by parents and local community
Highly commended Primary Garden at RHS Tatton Park Flower Show
800 people attended the Handforth Vibes Festival in July
Reigning Cheshire and Macclesfield and District Choir of the Year

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

#### Key performance indicators

#### **Results in Statutory Assessments report**

These results (like those in 2019/2020) are based on Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) derived from standardised assessments conducted under examination conditions at the end of the academic year. 2018/2019 data was the last set of externally assessed data.

(National comparisons in brackets where available)

Handforth Grange Primary School Performance

Handforth Grange Primary School Performance							
2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018	2016/2017	2015/2016		
ge							
87%	85% (71.8%)	75%	78%	83%	83%		
87%	70% (70.7%)		ı				
l							
93%	93% (82%)	92%	86%	93%	83%		
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82%	86% (75%)	88%	93%	95%	80%		
62%	53% (25%)						
82%	84% (69%)	86%	90%	85%	76%		
31%	35% (13%)		1				
89%	95% (76%)	91%	93%	90%	84%		
42%	63% (22%)			1	1		
	2020/2021 ge  87%  87%  93%  82%  62%  82%  31%  89%	2020/2021   2019/2020   3e	2020/2021   2019/2020   2018/2019   2018	2020/2021   2019/2020   2018/2019   2017/2018   39e	2020/2021   2019/2020   2018/2019   2017/2018   2016/2017   2016/2017   2018   2016/2017   2		

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

#### Results in Statutory Assessments report (continued)

	2020/2021	2019/2020	2018/2019	2017/2018	2016/2017	2015/2016
Key Stage 2 SATs			_!			
Year 6 (age 11)						
Reading / Writing & Mathematics combined at the expected level	90%	80% (65%)	77% (65%)	84% (64%)	85% (61%)	69%
Reading / Writing & Mathematics combined at Greater Depth	28%	38% (11%)	18% (11%)	10% (10%)	8% (9%)	
Reading at the Expected Level	92%	82% (73%)	77%	87%	92%	86%
Writing at the Expected Level	92%	82% (78%)	100%	90%	85%	83%
Mathematics at the Expected Level	95%	80% (79%)	97%	97%	96%	93%
Reading at Greater Depth	62%	42% (27%)	32%			
Writing at Greater Depth	41%	38% (20%)	46%			
Mathematics at Greater Depth	49%	60% (27%)	32%			
Reading Progress		4.2	0.6	0.8	3.3	3.8
Writing Progress		3.0	4.6	1.0	2.8	-0.9
Mathematics Progress		2.4	2.2	2.6	5.0	3.8

The Ellesmere Port Church of England College (EPC) continues to strengthen its highly effective education for its pupils. The school has worked hard in developing long lasting relationships with its local community demonstrated by a significant rise in student enrolment to year 7 in 2021 (almost doubling). The school has a distinctive Christian ethos and, working in conjunction with the Diocese of Chester, has developed a spiritual and liturgical framework that places gospel values at the centre of everything it does.

#### **Ellesmere Port Church of England College Performance**

Despite the loss of 7 months of face to face teaching (4 months during Y10 and 3 months during Y11) results are broadly in line with 2020 results, and again much improved from 2019. Progress 8 score is slightly lower and this has been largely affected by how the BTEC calculations were done last year in the open bucket vs this year. This year Teacher Assessed Grades ensured these results were more robust and evidence based.

Progress in maths was up from 2019 and remained higher for 2020 but was impacted by a higher entry profile. Progress and Attainment in English and EBacc baskets is in line with 2020.

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

	Y11		
		1	1
	GCSE results 2019	GCSE CAGs 2020	GCSE TAGs 2021
Total Number on Roll	141	117	101
P8/A8			
Attainment 8:	33.30	44.21	42.18
Progress 8:	-0.77	0.06	-0.14
Basics			
% Basics (9-5):	18	26	24
% Basics (9-4):	37	55	55
A8/P8 English Basket			
A8 English:	3.55	4.21	4.12
P8 English:	-0.99	-0.55	-0.60
A8/P8 Maths Basket			
A8 Maths:	3.35	4.00	3.73
P8 Maths:	-0.57	-0.18	-0.49
A8/P8 Ebacc Basket			
A8 Ebacc:	3.10	3.94	3.92
P8 Ebacc:	-0.79	-0.18	-0.26
A8/P8 Open Basket			
A8 Open:	3.43	5.32	4.90
P8 Open:	-0.84	0.78	0.36
Ebacc			
Average Points Score	2.86	3.48	3.57

Birches Head Academy is rapidly growing in student numbers as its reputation for inclusion, diversity and excellence spreads amongst the community. The school has developed an exciting new vision based around our Trust's Curriculum for Social Justice and is going from strength to strength.

#### **Birches Head Academy Performance**

#### Y11 Headlines Commentary

The results for 2021 were based on a series of small assessments on what students had been taught under high and medium control. Students in 2020 were graded on their highest of staff prediction for their GCSE and an algorithm. 2019 was the last year of formal assessment. The variation in assessment methodology over the previous 3 years makes a comparison unreliable

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

There has been a 3 year increase in both attainment and progress across all headline measures.

	National 2019	BHA CAGs 2020	BHA TAGs 2021
Total Number on Roll	-	131	129
P8/A8			
Attainment 8:	4.7	4	4.4
Progress 8:	-0.03	-0.4	0.2
Ebacc Average Points Score	4.07	3.05	3.54
Basics			
% Basics (9-5):	43	27	35
% Basics (9-4):	67	57	61
A8/P8 English Basket			
A8 English:	4.98	4.6	5
P8 English:	-0.04	-0.1	0.5
A8/P8 Maths Basket			
A8 Maths:	4.53	4	4
P8 Maths:	-0.02	-0.2	0.1
A8/P8 Ebacc Basket			
A8 Ebacc:	4.49	3.2	3.8
P8 Ebacc:	-0.03	-1	-0.2
A8/P8 Open Basket			
A8 Open:	4.73	4.4	4.8
P8 Open:	-0.04	-0.1	0.5

During this year two local Primary Schools, based in Ellesmere Port, became Associate Partners to the Trust strengthening our community links and Trust vision.

The Frank Field Education Trust is recognised by the Department of Education as a sponsor. This means the Trust has given a commitment to support academies facing all types of challenges, including educational standards and financial viability. Our growth model is established around local hubs within Lancashire & West Yorkshire and West Midlands RSC regions which will provide education from 3-18 years and also include support from birth to three years.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Going concern

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

#### Financial review

The Statement of Financial Activities ('SOFA') summarises the financial performance of the trust and the balance sheet on page 30 summarises the assets and liabilities of the trust at 31 August 2021.

Most of the Academies income is obtained from the Government in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted for particular purposes. The grants received during the year ended 31 August 2021 and associated expenditure is shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

During the period the trust received total income of £11,347,963 and incurred expenditure totalling £11,163,131 resulting in a surplus in the year of £184,832 before inclusion of defined benefit pension liabilities inherited on conversion and movement in defined benefit pension liabilities. The overall deficit within restricted and unrestricted funds at 31st August 2021 is £349,183.

At the 31st August 2021 the trust had total funds carried forward of £12,591,673 (2020: 15,089,841).

#### Reserves policy

Trustees review the level of reserves on an annual basis. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments (including future commitments) and the type of reserves. The trusts current level of free reserves, represented by total reserves less the amounts held in fixed assets reserve and restricted pension fund reserve, is a deficit position of £349,183.

The Trust is operating in surplus however an agreed deficit of £480,000 was inherited by the Trust as a condition of The Ellesmere Port Church and England College joining the trust, as part of the re-brokering agreement. This was a substantial element of the existing deficit the College had built up whilst under the management of the previous sponsor. The Trust has negotiated with the ESFA a repayment schedule over the next four years and has budgeted accordingly.

The academy trust has decided to adopt GAG pooling to consolidate from the current financial reporting year (note 18).

The Trustees have decided to adopt a prudent approach and aim to hold reserves of at least 5% of income. These reserves will help to cover unforeseen business interruptions, assist budgetary pressures over the medium term, provide funds for capital improvements or developments, assist cash flow where payments of the ESFA funding are retrospective and support short-term emergency requirements. This is sound commercial practice designed to safeguard the trust business interests and quality of education at all of its academies.

The Academies have taken on the deficit in the Local Government Pension Schemes in respect of its non-teaching staff transferred on conversion as detailed in the accounts. The academy trust's share of the deficit represents the amount the academies would have to contribute if the fund were wound up and its liabilities had to be met at that point. This is reflected in the provisions, and the surplus arising in the year is shown in the Statement of Financial Activities, however at this time there is no intention to wind up the scheme and therefore the Academies do not expect to have to fund this liability. The academies take advice on funding levels and would increase contributions if advised to so.

The net liability of the trust in the Local Government Pension Scheme and (LGPS) amounts to £5,469k. It should however be noted that an immediate liability for this amount is not crystallised at the financial year end. 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. This guarantee provides comfort to the Trustees in the event of an academy closure.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Investment policy

The academies trust operates an investment policy that seeks to maximise returns, minimise risk and maintain flexibility and access to funds.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks to the trust are documented and managed using a risk management policy and a risk register that is regularly reviewed.

The trust has carried out a careful review of the risks and uncertainties it faces in the forthcoming year.

In summary these are viewed as;

- Pressures on growth emanating from Government policy direction for Multi Academy Trusts to take on additional schools.
- Potential loss of reputation and community confidence arising from any drop in standards and academic performance leading to falling pupil numbers,
- Budgetary pressures brought about by reduced public sector education spending and funding formula changes,
- Impact of changes to school performance measures in terms of curriculum structures,
- Failure on high profile school to school support commissions,
- Downgrading of the current OFSTED report for any FFET academy following inspection,
- Inability to sufficiently increase pupil numbers due to local demographic position for any academies within the trust,
- Sufficiency of accommodation to meet major growth in demand for places,
- · Erosion of reserves to balance budgets in the short to medium term,
- Succession planning within trust governance and leadership.

Key controls in place to mitigate these risks include;

- · Forensic data and annual examination performance analysis,
- Regular review of annual school improvement plans at all academies of the trust,
- Robust self-evaluation procedures and careful monitoring of teaching and learning with early intervention when required,
- · An organisational structure with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and authorisation levels,
- · Documented terms of reference and policies for the governance of the trust,
- Financial planning, budgeting and regular financial reporting to governors, sub committee and detailed scrutiny of financial risk,
- Robust due diligence procedures in place for growth of the trust through acquisitions.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### **Fundraising**

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

#### Plans for future periods

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have given careful consideration to the charity commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Trust will continue to work to raise both the aspirations and outcomes of all its students at whatever age, closing gaps between the performance of different groups, where this is needed, and ensuring that they are able to proceed successfully to the next stage of their education.

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

The Academy does not hold funds as Custodian on behalf of others.

#### **Auditor**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

40 GMT)

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

A resolution proposing that UHY Hacker Young Manchester LLP be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr C Hampshire

C.C. Hampshire

**Chair of Trustees** 

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Scope of responsibility

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

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

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 7 times during the academic year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
A E Bleasedale OBE	0	0
Rev S Burmester	5	7
Dame F A Cairncross	7	7
D C Chapman (Appointed 26 January 2021)	4	4
Rt Hon Lord F Field of Birkenhead	5	7
Dr C Hampshire (Chair of Trustees)	7	7
W Norrie	2	7
M Pollitt	2	7
Rev Canon Dr I Stockton (Vice Chair)	7	7
D Wooff (Appointed 4 March 2021)	3	3

A E Bleasedale OBE took a sabbatical from the board during the year.

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

The main responsibilities and issues dealt with during the year were as follows:

- · Review of the initial budget setting
- Regular monitoring of actual income and expenditure against budgets
- · Ensuring returns are completed by deadlines
- · Capital monitoring
- · Authorising personnel changes through the year
- · Reviewing the findings of the internal audit reports in particular financial procedures and internal control.

As part of an internal review of Governance the Trust identified recommendations that have led to:

- The role of CEO and COO being developed further with the appointment of a full time COO from February 2021.
- A trust sub-committee structure has been introduced made up of 3 sub committees that meet at least 3 times a year:

Finance, Premises, IT & HR

Risk & Audit

**Education Standards** 

- Membership of these sub committees is made up of appropriate and qualified Trustees.
- An Accountant and a Senior HR Officer have been appointed to support the work of the CEO and COO thereby strengthening the central team.
- An industry standard financial software package (IRIS) is utilised for internal accounts production and for budget setting.

The Finance, Premises, IT & HR committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Within the board meetings there is a defined finance agenda and a chair of finance committee separate to the chair of trustees.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Dame F A Cairncross	5	5
Rt Hon Lord F Field of Birkenhead	4	4
Dr C Hampshire (Chair of Trustees)	5	5
W Norrie	1	2
M Pollitt	3	5

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Risk & Audit committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. and the committee reports to trustees on a termly basis

The Risk & Audit committee is authorised to obtain independent professional advice if it considers this necessary. The Risk & Audit committee physically audit a number of areas on a termly basis, both financial and non-financial and a full annual schedule is prepared and agreed. In attendance was the Accounting Officer and the Chief Finance Officer.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Dame F A Cairncross	3	3
Rt Hon Lord F Field of Birkenhead	2	3
Dr C Hampshire (Chair of Trustees)	3	3
W Norrie		

The Education and Standards Committee is a committee of the Trust established To review and evaluate teaching and learning; pupils' standards and progress; and teachers' CPD.

#### Review of value for money

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

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

#### **Better Purchasing**

Across the Trust, we have, since 2019 procured shared HR, payroll, consultancy, legal, H&S, EVOLVE (safeguarding procedures), Recruitment, Occupational Health, Insurance, Asset Management and Catering to secure better purchasing powers which should provide further joint savings.

This has been researched with the help of a "Capacity growth Fund" grant from the DfE, to develop more effective and efficient operational back office management systems.

#### Income generation

The CEO has secured grants from the DfE and the National College for specific projects and has have been particularly successful in winning grants to support curriculum development.

Next steps are to explore further the benefits of applying for grants from a variety of sources to further improve the quality of resources for teaching and learning.

#### Financial Governance

The COO ensures compliance with ESFA regulations regarding management of finance and delivering value for money.

Next steps: to go beyond compliance and use the COO to scrutinise all our practices to help us ensure outstanding management of finances, to ensure the best possible value for public money.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Reviewing Controls and Managing Risk

All academies have Business Continuity Plans and Risk Management plans in place.

The next steps are to ensure that these plans themselves enable the Trust to make best use of our financial resource.

#### Lessons Learned

During 2021-22, we will:

- Further accelerate the process of shared procurement to gain maximum value for money for goods and services:
- Through greater inter-academy collaboration, share staff and resources to ensure that all Trust academies are able to deliver good or better provision and outcomes for learners;
- Continue to improve the quality of financial management through more efficient use of IT and regular reporting to Directors.
- Further develop the back office structure to support the work of the CEO and COO.
- Continue to develop the use of the newly purchased asset management software which is tailored to work hand in hand with the financial software.

#### The purpose of the system of internal control

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

#### Capacity to handle risk

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

#### The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint Haines Watts as internal auditor.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The internal reviewer's role includes performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included;

- Scrutinise and review the robustness of the Trust Board meetings and the reports presented, including the management accounts and budget;
- · Review Gifts and Hospitality Policy and associated mandatory disclosures / monitoring ;
- Review the Academy's policies as regard Related Party Transactions;
- · Review of Bribery Policy and associated monitoring.

During 2021-22 these reviews will continue to be performed termly and reported to the trustees through the risk and audit committee.

#### **Review of effectiveness**

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

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

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

C.C. Hampshire (Dec 15, 2021 17:40 GMT)

Dr C Hampshire Chair of Trustees

Thank (Dec 15, 2021 15:59 GMT)

T Quinn

**Accounting officer** 

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

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

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

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

Th year P (2005)
Tom Quinn (Dec 15, 2021 15:59 GMT)

T Quinn

**Accounting Officer** 

10 December 2021

### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of Frank Field Education Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021:
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring that grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 10 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Dr C Hampshire

Chair of Trustees

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Opinion

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

In our opinion the accounts:

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

#### Basis for opinion

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

#### Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

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

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

#### Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, 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.

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance
- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance,
- detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud:
- the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
   and
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team and involving relevant internal specialists, including tax, and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks the academy operates in, focussing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act and Academies Accounts Direction.

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- Enquiring of management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation claims;
- In assessing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and assessing whether judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of potential bias.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the academy's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- Reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance
  with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial
  statements;
- Enquiring of management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation claims;
- In addressing the risk of fraud through inappropriate recording of income, we review the existence and completeness of ESFA income and reconcile all other material income streams to third party evidence;
- We carry out a detailed review of deferred income, including a review of amounts released to income in the year.
- We review a sample of expenditure to ensure it has been appropriately authorised and that tender process have been followed where applicable;
- We carry out a review of the register of interests and minutes to ensure that all related parties have been disclosed adequately;

# INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FRANK FIELD EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

#### Use of our report

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

UMY Hacke Young

Stephen Grayson FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of UHY Hacker Young Manchester LLP

10 December 2021

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

St James Building 79 Oxford Street Manchester M1 6HT

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

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

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

# Respective responsibilities of Frank Field Education Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

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

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

#### Approach

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

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

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

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

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

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

#### Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**Reporting Accountant** 

UMY Hacke Young

UHY Hacker Young Manchester LLP St James Building 79 Oxford Street Manchester M1 6HT

Dated: 10 December 2021

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £		cted funds: Fixed asset £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	69,566	55,830	125,396	42,143
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion Charitable activities:	27	-	78,710	820,200	898,910	-
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	10,207,290	-	10,207,290	6,656,206
Other trading activities	5	80,699	35,613	-	116,312	227,526
Investments	6	55	-	-	55	217
Total		80,754	10,391,179	876,030	11,347,963	6,926,092
Expenditure on: Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	9,775	10,685,638	467,718	11,163,131	7,509,506
Charitable expenditure - transfer from local authority on conversion	27		1,383,000		1,383,000	
Total	7	9,775	12,068,638	467,718	12,546,131	7,509,506
Net income/(expenditure)		70,979	(1,677,459)	408,312	(1,198,168)	(583,414)
Transfers between funds	18	(8,034)	-	8,034	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined						
benefit pension schemes	20	-	(1,300,000)	-	(1,300,000)	337,000
Net movement in funds		62,945	(2,977,459)	416,346	(2,498,168)	(246,414)
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward		356,205	(3,259,873)	17,993,509	15,089,841	15,336,255
Total funds carried forward		419,150	(6,237,332)	18,409,855	12,591,673	15,089,841

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

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative information	U	nrestricted		cted funds:	Total
Year ended 31 December 2019		Funds		Fixed asset	2020
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:	_		10.110		40.440
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	-	19,119	23,024	42,143
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	6,656,206	-	6,656,206
Other trading activities	5	172,872	54,654	-	227,526
Investments	6	217	-	-	217
Total		173,089	6,729,979	23,024	6,926,092
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	23,286	7,054,808	431,412	7,509,506
Total	7	23,286	7,054,808	431,412	7,509,506
Net income/(expenditure)		149,803	(324,829)	(408,388)	(583,414)
Transfers between funds	18	-	40,053	(40,053)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	337,000	-	337,000
Net movement in funds		149,803	52,224	(448,441)	(246,414)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		206,402	(3,312,098)	18,441,951	15,336,255
Total funds carried forward		356,205	(3,259,874)	17,993,510	15,089,841

# BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

			)21		20
Et al accept	Notes	£	£	£	£
<b>Fixed assets</b> Tangible assets	13		18,409,855		17,956,403
Current assets Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	14	535,332 310,393		415,561 294,721	
Current liabilities		845,725		710,282	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(764,907)		(569,844)	
Net current assets			80,818		140,438
Total assets less current liabilities			18,490,673		18,096,841
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(430,000)		(480,000
Net assets before defined benefit pensions scheme liability	on		18,060,673		17,616,841
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		(5,469,000)		(2,527,000
Total net assets			12,591,673		15,089,841
Funds of the academy trust: Restricted funds - Fixed asset funds - Restricted income funds	18		18,409,855 (768,332)		17,993,510 (732,874
- Pension reserve  Total restricted funds			(5,469,000) 		14,733,636
Unrestricted income funds	18		419,150		356,205
Total funds			12,591,673		15,089,841

The accounts on pages 28 to 53 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 10 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

C.C. Hampshire
C.C. Hampshire (Dec 15, 2021 17:40 GMT)

Dr C Hampshire Chair of Trustees

Company Number 09904025

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

		202	1	2020	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities  Net cash (used in)/provided by operating					
activities  Cash funds transferred on conversion	21		(17,953) 78,710		51,344 -
			60,757		51,344
Cash flows from investing activities					- 1,- 11
Dividends, interest and rents from investme	nts	55		217	
Capital grants from DfE Group Purchase of tangible fixed assets		55,830 (100,970)		23,024 (13,558)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing	activities		(45,085)		9,683
Net increase in cash and cash equivalent	ts in the				
reporting period			15,672		61,027
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of t	the year		294,721		233,694
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the	year		310,393		294,721

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

#### 1 Accounting policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

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

#### 1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

#### 1.3 Conversion to an academy trust

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £nil consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from the local authority to the academy trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in transfer from local authority on conversion in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds. Further details of the transaction are set out in note 27.

#### 1.4 Income

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

#### Grants

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

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

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

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

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

#### **Donations**

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

#### Other income

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

#### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

#### 1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### Expenditure on raising funds

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

#### Charitable activities

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

#### Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management, trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

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

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets acquired since the trust was established are stated at historical costs less accumulated depreciation and any accumulated impairment losses.

In the case of fixed assets transferred from predecessor schools these are treated as acquired at fair value, calculated by reference to either:

- · net book value at date of transfer: or
- in the absence of reliable bet book value data, an estimate of fair value calculated by reference to an assumed value of fixed assets as compared to the pupil roll.

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

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

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

Land and buildings 2% straight line
Computer equipment 25% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment 25% straight line

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

#### 1.7 Liabilities

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

#### 1.8 Provisions

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

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

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

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

#### 1.9 Leased assets

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

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

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

#### Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

#### Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

#### 1.11 Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### 1.12 Pensions benefits

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

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

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

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

#### 1.13 Fund accounting

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

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

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

#### 1.14 Accounting period

The current accounting period is for the year ended 31 August 2021.

#### 1.15 PFI agreement

The Academy occupies buildings which are owned by Stoke Council and utilised by the Academy under a PFI agreement. The Academy pays revenue contributions in respect of the facilities management and buildings use. The contract will expire in the year 2025. The Academy does not have any rights or obligations of ownership in respect of these assets and therefore they are not included on the Academy's balance sheet. The revenue payment is recognised in the SOFA. Where the Academy procures and pays for additional furniture or equipment or changes to the building, the costs are capitalised and depreciated in accordance with the tangible fixed assets policy.

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

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

#### <u>Critical accounting estimates and assumptions</u>

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.

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

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

(Continued)

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

#### Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible fixed assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are reassessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets.

#### 3 Donations and capital grants

, v	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Capital grants	-	55,830	55,830	23,024
Other donations	-	69,566	69,566	19,119
	-	125,396	125,396	42,143

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
DfE / ESFA grants	~	~	~	~
General annual grant (GAG) Other DfE / ESFA grants:	-	8,508,404	8,508,404	4,859,627
Others		1,258,551	1,258,551	1,185,878
	<u> </u>	9,766,955	9,766,955	6,045,505
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	440,335	440,335	610,701
Total funding	-	10,207,290	10,207,290	6,656,206

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

	Other trading activities		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2021	Total 2020
			£	£	£	£020
	Hire of facilities		31,688	_	31,688	83,472
	Catering income		6,754	-	6,754	10,460
	Other income		42,257	35,613	77,870	133,594
			80,699	35,613	116,312	227,526
6	Investment income					
			Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			funds	funds	2021	2020
			£	£	£	£
	Short term deposits		55		55	217
			<del></del>			
7	Expenditure					
		04-55 4-	Non Pay Exp		Total	Total
		Staff costs £	Premises £	Other £	2021 £	2020 £
	Academy's educational operat	tions				
	- Direct costs	7,054,803	_	417,177	7,471,980	5,289,026
	- Allocated support costs	1,274,966	1,547,007	869,178	3,691,151	2,220,480
		8,329,769	1,547,007	1,286,355	11,163,131	7,509,506
		8,329,769	1,547,007	1,286,355	11,163,131	7,509,506
	Net income/(expenditure) fo			1,286,355	2021	2020
				1,286,355		
	Fees payable to auditor for:			1,286,355	2021 £	2020 £
	Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit			1,286,355	2021 £ 13,000	2020 £ 12,000
	Fees payable to auditor for:			1,286,355	2021 £	2020 £
	Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit - Other services			1,286,355	2021 £ 13,000 4,000	2020 £ 12,000
	Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit - Other services Unitary PFI payments	r the period incl		1,286,355	2021 £ 13,000 4,000 339,755	2020 £ 12,000 3,000

#### 8 Central services

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

- · Human resources co-ordination and casework
- Financial services via hub managers
- IT Services
- · Facilities and estates via hub managers

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

8	Central services				(Continued)
	The academy trust charges for these service	es on a flat 6% of G	AG income.		
	The amounts charged during the year were	as follows:		2021 £	2020 £
	The Ellesmere Port C of E College Handforth Grange Primary School Birches Head Academy			166,458 51,327 272,225	220,635 75,558 -
				490,010	296,193
9	Charitable activities				
		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
	Direct costs				
	Educational operations	9,775	7,462,205	7,471,980	5,289,026
	Support costs				
	Educational operations	-	3,691,151	3,691,151	2,220,480
		9,775	11,153,356	11,163,131	7,509,506
				2021 £	2020 £
	Analysis of support costs			£	L
	Support staff costs			1,284,856	851,787
	Depreciation			467,718	431,412
	Technology costs			106,412	47,499
	Premises costs			1,079,289	540,211
	Legal costs			3,033	1,768
	Other support costs			732,853	340,713
	Governance costs			16,990	7,090
				3,691,151	2,220,480

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

#### 10 Staff

#### Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

Ciail costs during the year were.	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	6,678,466	4,409,177
Pension costs	1,515,179	1,024,401
Amounts paid to employees	8,193,645	5,433,578
Agency staff costs	91,556	164,853
Staff restructuring costs	44,568	31,088
Amounts paid to staff	8,329,769	5,629,519
Staff development and other staff costs	9,890	5,247
Total staff expenditure	8,339,659	5,634,766
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy payments	39,094	24,913
Severance payments	5,474	6,175
	44,568	31,088
	<del></del>	

#### Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £5,474 (2020: £6,175). Individually, the payments were: £1,000; £2,079 and 2,394.

#### Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	122	73
Administration and support	153	87
Management	3	3
	278	163

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

10 Staff (Continued)

#### Higher paid staff

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

	2021	2020	
	Number	Number	
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-	
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1	
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1	
£140,001 - £150,000	1	1	

#### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £521,778 (2020: £455,593).

#### 11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees have been remunerated or have received any benefits from an employment with the academy trust.

#### 12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

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

13	Tangible fixed assets		_		
		Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings &	Total
		£	£	equipment £	£
	Cost	00 000 004	0.450.000	4 0 4 0 0 4 0	05 005 040
	At 1 September 2020 Transfer on conversion	20,993,864 680,000	2,159,036 140,200	1,943,040	25,095,940 820,200
	Additions	-	45,543	55,427	100,970
	Disposals	-	(46,720)	-	(46,720)
	At 31 August 2021	21,673,864	2,298,059	1,998,467	25,970,390
	Depreciation				
	At 1 September 2020	3,051,036	2,147,795	1,940,706	7,139,537
	On disposals Charge for the year	- 419,880	(46,720) 37,001	- 10,837	(46,720) 467,718
	At 31 August 2021	3,470,916	2,138,076	1,951,543	7,560,535
	Net book value				
	At 31 August 2021	18,202,948	159,983	46,924	18,409,855
	At 31 August 2020	17,942,828	11,241	2,334	17,956,403
14	Debtors				
14	Debiois			2021	2020
				£	£
	Trade debtors			16,530	8,707
	VAT recoverable			93,706	41,550
	Prepayments and accrued income		<u>-</u>	425,096	365,304
			_	535,332	415,561
			<del>-</del>		
15	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year				
				2021 £	2020 £
	ESFA Creditor			50,000	-
	Trade creditors			162,620	225,737
	Other taxation and social security			165,547	84,007
	Other creditors			174,477	123,324
	Accruals and deferred income		-	212,263	136,776
			<u>-</u>	764,907	569,844
			-		<del></del>

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

16	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
		2021	2020
		£	£
	ESFA Creditor	430,000	480,000
		2021	2020
	Analysis of loans	£	£
	Wholly repayable within five years	480,000	480,000
	Less: included in current liabilities	(50,000)	-
	Amounts included above	430,000	480,000
		<del></del>	
	Loan maturity		
	Debt due in one year or less	50,000	-
	Due in more than one year but not more than two years	50,000	120,000
	Due in more than two years but not more than five years	380,000	360,000
		480,000	480,000

The long term creditor relates to a loan issued by the ESFA for £480,000. The loan is to be repaid by 2025 with repayments commencing in 2021, with a payment of £50,000 in 2021/22, an additional £50,000 in 2022/23, £100,000 in 2023/24 and a final payment of £280,000 in 2024/25.

#### 17 Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	34,756	66,486
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	66,486	50,698
Released from previous years	(65,776)	(50,698)
Resources deferred in the year	34,046	66,486
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	34,756	66,486

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds of £27,492 in relation to Universal Infant Free School meals for the academic year beginning September 2021, £3,554 in relation to ongoing rates relief to March 2022, £3000 in sports funding from the FA and £710 in other sundry amounts.

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

Funds					
	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(732,873)	8,508,404	(8,543,863)	-	(768,332)
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	1,258,551	(1,258,551)	-	-
Other government grants	-	440,335	(440,335)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	183,889	(183,889)	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,527,000)		(1,642,000)	(1,300,000)	(5,469,000)
	(3,259,873)	10,391,179	(12,068,638)	(1,300,000)	(6,237,332)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	-	820,200	-	-	820,200
DfE group capital grants	17,993,509	55,830	(467,718)	8,034	17,589,655
	17,993,509	876,030	(467,718)	8,034	18,409,855
Total restricted funds	14,733,636	11,267,209	(12,536,356)	(1,291,966)	12,172,523
Unrestricted funds			<del></del>		
General funds	356,205	80,754	(9,775)	(8,034)	419,150
Total funds	15,089,841	11,347,963	(12,546,131)	(1,300,000)	12,591,673
	Restricted general funds General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DfE / ESFA grants Other government grants Other restricted funds Pension reserve  Restricted fixed asset funds Inherited on conversion DfE group capital grants  Total restricted funds Unrestricted funds General funds	Restricted general funds General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DfE / ESFA grants Other government grants Other restricted funds Pension reserve  Restricted fixed asset funds Inherited on conversion DfE group capital grants  Total restricted funds General funds  Unrestricted funds General funds General funds  356,205	Balance at 1 September   2020   Income	Balance at 1 September 2020	Balance at 1 September   2020   Income   Expenditure   E

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

Restricted general funds are those resources that have been designated by the grant provider in meeting the objectives of the academy.

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objectives of the academy.

Unrestricted funds are those which the Trustees may use in the pursuance of the academy's objectives and are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees.

Transfer of funds from General Annual Grant restricted general funds to restricted fixed asset funds are to fund assets for which no capital grant was received.

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

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

18 Funds (Continued)

The academy trust is carrying a net deficit of £349,183 on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus unrestricted funds as a result of agreeing to take on a deficit of £480,000 when The Ellesmere Port C of E College (formerly University Church of England Academy) was transferred to the trust. This deficit was generated under the management of another Multi Academy Trust. The academy trust believes the deficit will continue to reduce over the coming years.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(561,098)	4,859,627	(5,071,456)	40,053	(732,874)
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	1,185,878	(1,185,878)	-	-
Other government grants	-	610,701	(610,701)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	73,773	(73,773)	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,751,000)		(113,000)	337,000	(2,527,000)
	(3,312,098)	6,729,979	(7,054,808)	377,053	(3,259,874)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	2,416,864	-	-	-	2,416,864
DfE group capital grants	16,025,087	23,024	(431,412)	(40,053)	15,576,646
	18,441,951	23,024	(431,412)	(40,053)	17,993,510
Total restricted funds	15,129,853	6,753,003	(7,486,220)	337,000	14,733,636
Unrestricted funds			· <u> </u>		·
General funds	206,402	173,089	(23,286)	-	356,205
Total funds	15,336,255	6,926,092	(7,509,506)	337,000	15,089,841

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

18	Funds		(Continued)
	Total funds analysis by academy		
		2021	2020
	Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:	£	£
	The Ellesmere Port C of E College	(540,943)	(473,658)
	Handforth Grange Primary School	112,910	45,122
	Birches Head Academy	114,117	-
	Central services	(35,266)	51,867
	Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	(349,182)	(376,669)
	Restricted fixed asset fund	18,409,855	17,993,510
	Pension reserve	(5,469,000)	(2,527,000)
	Total funds	12,591,673	15,089,841

#### Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and educational support staff	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
The Ellesmere Port C of E College Handforth Grange Primary	2,776,505	389,607	133,091	949,709	4,248,912	4,788,371
School	1,263,668	66,426	78,324	263,600	1,672,018	1,822,232
Birches Head Academy	2,690,713	488,691	204,963	969,245	4,353,612	-
Central services	323,916	142,132	803	(304,979)	466,851	348,566
	7,054,802	1,086,856	417,181	1,877,575	10,741,393	6,959,169

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

19	Analysis of net assets between funds				
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,409,855	18,409,855
	Current assets	419,150	426,575	-	845,725
	Creditors falling due within one year	-	(764,907)	-	(764,907)
	Creditors falling due after one year	-	(430,000)	-	(430,000)
	Defined benefit pension liability	-	(5,469,000)	-	(5,469,000)
	Total net assets	419,150	(6,237,332)	18,409,855	12,591,673
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	17,956,403	17,956,403
	Current assets	356,205	316,970	37,107	710,282
	Creditors falling due within one year	-	(569,844)	-	(569,844)
	Creditors falling due after one year	-	(480,000)	-	(480,000)
	Defined benefit pension liability	-	(2,527,000)	-	(2,527,000)
	Total net assets	356,205	(3,259,874)	17,993,510	15,089,841

#### 20 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

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

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

#### Introduction

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

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

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

#### 20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to 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% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £437,183 (2020: £395,516).

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

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

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.7 to 22.7% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

As described in note 27 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, being the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who joined the scheme in the period. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

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

Total contributions made	2021 £	2020 £
Employer's contributions Employees' contributions	336,000 91,000	364,000 54,000
Total contributions	427,000	418,000

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

Rate of increase in salaries       3.3 - 3.6       2.9 - 3.1         Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation       2.9       2.2 - 2.3         Discount rate for scheme liabilities       1.65       1.7         The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates are sumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:       2021       2021         Retiring today       21.4       21.2       22.1       20.2         - Females       24       23.6       23.6       24       23.6         Retiring today       24       23.6       23.6       24       23.6       23.6       24       23.6       23.6       23.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6       25.7       25.6	0	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation       2.9       2.2 - 2.3         Discount rate for scheme liabilities       1.65       1.3         The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:       2021       2021         Retiring today       - Males       21.4       21.4         - Females       24       23.6         Retiring in 20 years       22.4       21.5         - Males       25.7       25.7         - Females       25.7       25.0         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Colomoter Females         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Colomoter Females         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Colomoter Females         Colomoter Females       2021       2021       2020       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021       2021		Principal actuarial assumptions		<b>2020</b> %
Discount rate for scheme liabilities   1.65   1.1		Rate of increase in salaries	3.3 - 3.6	2.9 - 3.0
The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:    2021   2020   Years		Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.2 - 2.3
The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:    2021   Years     Retiring today     - Males   21.4   21.2     - Females   24   23.6     Retiring in 20 years     - Males   22.4   21.5     - Females   25.7   25.6     Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:    2021   £000     £000		Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1.7
Retiring today   Females   Pemales   Pemales			ovements in r	nortality rates.
Retiring today         Years         Years           - Males         21.4         21.2           - Females         24         23.6           Retiring in 20 years         22.4         21.9           - Males         22.4         21.9           - Females         25.7         25.0           Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:           Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:           2021         2026           £'000         £'000         £'000           0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate         442         135.7           1 year increase in member life expectancy         677         0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)         378         117.7           0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate         58         15.5           The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme         2021         2020           Fair value £         Fair value £         Fair value £           £ only 1.2         5.190,180         3,524,856           Bonds         4,738,860         3,211,530           Cash         225,660         313,320           Property         1,128,300		The assumed life expectations of retirement age ob are.	2021	2020
- Males				Years
Females   24   23.6     Retiring in 20 years   - Males   22.4   21.5     Females   25.7   25.0     Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:     2021   2020     £'000   £'000     £'000   £'000     0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate   442   1352     1 year increase in member life expectancy   677     0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)   378   1172     0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate   58   153     The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme   2021   Fair value     £ Equities   5,190,180   3,524,856     Bonds   4,738,860   3,211,536     Cash   225,660   313,320     Property   1,128,300   783,300     Property   1,128,300   1,128,300     Property   1,128,300   1,128,			21 4	21.2
## Retiring in 20 years - Males - Females  - Males - Females  - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:    2021				23.6
- Males				20.0
Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:    2021   2020			22.4	21.9
2021   2020   £'000   £'000   £'000		- Females	25.7	25.0
£'000       £'000         0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate       442       1352         1 year increase in member life expectancy       677         0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)       378       1172         0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate       58       153         The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme       2021       2020         Fair value       £       4         Equities       5,190,180       3,524,850         Bonds       4,738,860       3,211,530         Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300		Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:	ws:	
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate       442       1352         1 year increase in member life expectancy       677         0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)       378       1172         0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate       58       153         The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme       2021       Fair value         Equities       5,190,180       3,524,850         Bonds       4,738,860       3,211,530         Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300			2021	2020
1 year increase in member life expectancy       677         0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)       378       1172         0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate       58       153         The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme       2021       2026         Fair value £       Fair value £       Fair value £         Sequities       5,190,180       3,524,850         Bonds       4,738,860       3,211,530         Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300			£'000	£'000
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)       378       1172         0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate       58       153         The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme       2021       2020         Fair value       £       4         Equities       5,190,180       3,524,850         Bonds       4,738,860       3,211,530         Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300		0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	442	1352
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate       58       153         The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme       2021 Fair value F				
The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme  Equities  Bonds  Cash  Property  The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme  2021 Fair value £  5,190,180 3,524,850 3,211,530 3,211,530 783,300		, ,		1172
Equities 5,190,180 3,524,850 Bonds 4,738,860 3,211,530 Cash 225,660 313,320 Property 1,128,300 783,300		0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	58	153 ————
Equities 5,190,180 3,524,850 Bonds 4,738,860 3,211,530 Cash 225,660 313,320 Property 1,128,300 783,300		The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2021	2020
Equities       5,190,180       3,524,850         Bonds       4,738,860       3,211,530         Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300		•	Fair value	Fair value
Bonds       4,738,860       3,211,530         Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300			£	£
Cash       225,660       313,320         Property       1,128,300       783,300         —       —       —		•		3,524,850
Property 1,128,300 783,300				3,211,530
				313,320
Total market value of assets 11,283,000 7,833,000		Property	1,128,300	783,300
		Total market value of assets	11,283,000	7,833,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,337,000 (2020: £(285,000)).

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

20	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
	Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2021 £	2020 £
	Current service cost	727,000	424,000
	Interest income	(155,000)	(150,000)
	Interest cost	216,000	203,000
	Total operating charge	788,000	477,000
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations		2021 £
	A4.4 Constantly on 2000		10.000.000
	At 1 September 2020		10,360,000
	Obligations acquired on conversion		3,147,000
	Current service cost		534,000
	Interest cost		216,000
	Employee contributions Actuarial loss/(gain)		91,000 2,482,000
	Benefits paid		(78,000)
	At 31 August 2021		16,752,000
	Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets		
			2021
			£
	At 1 September 2020		7,833,000
	Assets acquired on conversion		1,764,000
	Interest income		155,000
	Actuarial (gain)/loss		1,182,000
	Employer contributions		336,000
	Employee contributions Benefits paid		91,000 (78,000)
	At 31 August 2021		11,283,000

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

21	Reconciliation of net expenditure to net ca	sh flow from ope	erating activitie	es	
				2021	2020
				£	£
	Net expenditure for the reporting period (as pe	er the statement o	f financial		
	activities)			(1,198,168)	(583,414)
	Adjusted for:				
	Net deficit on conversion to academy			484,090	-
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital inco	me		(55,830)	(23,024)
	Investment income receivable			(55)	(217)
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributio	ns payable		198,000	60,000
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	61,000	53,000		
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets			467,718	431,412
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(119,771)	335,801		
	Increase/(decrease) in creditors			145,063	(222,214)
	Net cash (used in)/provided by operating a	ctivities		(17,953)	51,344
				<del></del>	
22	Analysis of changes in net debt				
		1 September 2020	Cash flows	Other non- ash changes	31 August 2021
		£	£	£	£
	Cash	294,721	15,672	-	310,393
	Loans falling due within one year	-	-	(50,000)	(50,000)
	Loans falling due after more than one year	(480,000)	-	50,000	(430,000)
		(185,279)	15,672		(169,607)

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

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year Amounts due in two and five years	22,427 21,897	18,210 24,613
	44,324	42,823

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

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

(Continued)

#### **Consideration of Birches Head Academy PFI Buildings**

On conversion to an academy trust, the PFI properties were transferred from Stoke City Council to the school via a donation. No liability has arisen as a result of this transaction as Stoke City Council retained ultimate responsibility for the outstanding capital finance. However, a financial commitment exists for the schools in the form of PFI quarterly charges under a contract which commenced on 26 October 2000 to cover the service charge element of the unitary charge payable by Stoke City Council. The annual commitment for the year was £339k (2020 - £nil as not admitted to the Trust until 1 December 2020). The commitment amounts to a £442,894 within 1 year, £1,402,498 within 2-5 years, subject to an increase which is linked to the retail price index. The PFI contributions are recognised within the SOFA. The contract is until 25 October 2025.

#### 24 Related party transactions

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

During the period the Trust paid fees totalling £1,950 (2020: £nil) to the Chester Diocesan Board of Education in respect of membership fees and support services in which a member of the Trust was Company Secretary.

#### 25 Members' liability

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

#### 26 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the trust received £21,907 (2020: £10,378) and disbursed £8,188 (2020: £8,188) from the fund, with the balance carried forward totalling £16,243 (2020; £2,524).

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

#### 27 Conversion to an academy

On 1 December 2020 the Birches Head Academy converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Frank Field Education Trust from the Local Authority for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair values and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the statement of financial activities as donations – transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

<b>Academy</b> Birches Head Academy	<b>Location</b> Stoke on Trent	_	Date of conversion 1 December 2020	
Net assets transferred:				2021 £
Freehold land and buildings Other tangible fixed assets Cash Pension scheme deficit				680,000 140,200 78,710 (1,383,000) (484,090)
	Unrestricted Funds	General	ricted funds: Fixed asset	Total 2021
Funds surplus/(deficit) transferred:	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets funds LA budget funds LGPS pension funds	- - -	78,710 (1,383,000)	820,200	820,200 78,710 (1,383,000)
	-	(1,304,290)	820,200	(484,090)

### FFET 2021 accounts final

Final Audit Report 2021-12-15

Created: 2021-12-15

By: Stephen Grayson (s.grayson@uhy-uk.com)

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