WHICKHAM SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019



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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

S L Ban

L Levy (Chair of Members)

D Murphy M Pears

D Warden (appointed 13 July 2018) G Wilson (resigned 10 October 2018)

Governors

S Alexander (staff)

S L Ban (Chair of the Governors)

D B Bradford M A Brain F Charles M Crabtree A Day

C J Enlund (staff) (Resigned 19 July 2019)

A G Hewison

C Hewitson (Appointed 20 November 2019)

R Hogarth-Willis (staff) (Resigned 29 September 2019)

R E Jones

M Ledger (Resigned 16 November 2018) G Little (Resigned 31 August 2019)

G I Maitland V McLeod A W Oakes M L Pears Mr R Phillips

G A Potse (Resigned 31 August 2019)

E Ridley A Wilson

S J Haigh (Accounting Officer)

J Yeo (Appointed 20 November 2019)

Senior management team

- Headteacher- Associate Head TeacherS HaighF Turnbull

- Deputy Head Teacher T Conway (resigned 31 August 2019)

- Deputy Head Teacher
- Deputy Head Teacher
- Deputy Head Teacher
- Assistant Head Teacher
- Assistant Head Teacher
- Assistant Head Teacher
- Assistant Head Teacher
- S Maher
- P Wheatley
K Binns
- Crosland
- S Tumelty

- Assistant Head Teacher- Business ManagerL WoodH Davison

Company secretary Mrs H Davison

Company registration number 07729766 (England and Wales)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Registered office Burnthouse Lane

Whickham

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE16 5AR

Independent auditor Baldwins Audit Services

Wynyard Park House Wynyard Avenue

Wynyard TS22 5TB

Bankers Lloyds Bank pic

5th Floor

102 Grey Street Newcastle upon Tyne

NE1 6AG

Solicitors · Womble Bond Dickinson

One Trinity Broad Chare

Newcastle upon Tyne

NE1 2HF

GOVERNORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The governors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 11 to 16 years with a pupil admission number of 266.

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.

The Governors of Whickham School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Whickham School and Sports College (Academy Trust).

Details of the governors who served throughout 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.

Governors' indemnities

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 s236 every governor or other officer or auditor of the academy trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the academy trust against any liability incurred by him in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the academy trust.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors

- The number of parent governors required shall be made up by parent governors appointed by the governing body if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.
- In appointing a parent governor the governing body shall appoint a person who is the parent of a registered pupil at the Academy; or where it is not reasonably practical to do so, a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age.

Co-opted Governors

The governors may appoint up to one co-opted governor. A 'co-opted governor' means a person who is
appointed to be a governor by being co-opted by governors who have not themselves been so
appointed. The governors may not co-opt an employee of the academy trust as a co-opted governor if
thereby the number of governors who are employees of the academy trust would exceed one third of
the total number of governors (including the Headteacher).

Appointment of additional Governors

- The Secretary of State may give a warning notice to the governors where she is satisfied:
 - That the standards of performance of pupils at the academy are unacceptably low.
 - That there has been a serious breakdown in the way the academy is managed or governed.
 - That the safety of pupils or staff of the academy is threatened (whether by a breakdown of discipline or otherwise).

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

- For the purposes of Article 60 a 'warning notice' is a notice in writing by the Secretary of State to the academy trust delivered to the office setting out:
 - . The matters referred to in Article 19.
 - The action which she requires the governors to take in order to remedy those matters.
 - The period within which that action is to be taken by the governors ('the compliance period').
- The Secretary of State may appoint such additional governors as she thinks fit if the Secretary of State has:
 - Given the governors a warning notice in accordance with Article 19: and
 - The governors have failed to comply, or secure compliance, with the notice to the Secretary of State's satisfaction within the compliance period.
 - The Secretary of State may also appoint such additional governors where following an inspection by the chief inspector in accordance with the Education Act 2005 (an "inspection") the academy trust receives an Ofsted grading (being a grade referred to in The Framework for School Inspection or any modification or replacement of that document for the time being in force) which amounts to a drop, either from one inspection to the next inspection or between any two inspections carried out within a five year period, of two Ofsted grades. For the purposes of the foregoing the grade received by Whickham School shall be regarded as the grade received by the academy.

Appointment of additional Governors

- The Secretary of State may also appoint such further governors as she thinks fit if a special measures termination event (as defined in the funding agreement) occurs in respect of the academy.
- Within five days of the Secretary of State appointing any additional or further governors in accordance
 with Articles 21, 62A or 22 any governors appointed holding office immediately preceding the
 appointment of such governors, shall resign immediately and the members' power to appoint governors
 under Article 9 shall remain suspended until the Secretary of State removes one or more of the
 additional or further governors.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of governors

The governing body and head teacher believe it is essential that all new governors receive a comprehensive induction package covering a broad range of issues and topics. There is a commitment to ensure that the new governors are given the necessary information and support to fulfil their role with confidence. The process is seen as an investment, leading to more effective governance and retention of governors.

Purpose

- To welcome new governors to the governing body and enable them to meet other governors.
- To encourage new governors to visit the academy to experience its atmosphere and understand its ethos.
- · To meet the head teacher, staff and pupils.
- To explain the partnership between the head teacher, academy and governing body.
- To explain the role and responsibilities of governors.
- To explain how the governing body and its committees work.
- To enable new governors to join the committee(s) of their choice.
- · To give background material on the academy and current issues.
- To enable new governors to ask questions about their role and/or the academy.

New Governors will:

- Be welcomed to the governing body by the chair.
- · Be invited by the head teacher to visit the academy.
- Have the opportunity to tour the academy and meet staff and children.
- Receive an informal briefing on the academy from the head teacher.
- Have the opportunity to meet informally with an existing governor who then acts as their active mentor.
- Be accompanied by their mentor to their first full governing body meeting.
- · Have the opportunity to review their first meeting with the mentor.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

New Governors will receive from Governor Support:

- The new governor Induction pack.
- The instrument of government which notes the composition of the governing body.
- A Disclosure and Barring Service (DBS) application form.
- · A governor details form.
- An eligibility form.
- · A membership list for the governing body.
- The code of conduct for the governing body (if one has been agreed).
- The committee structure, terms of reference and membership for the governing body.
- The governor support service development directory.
- · A copy of the most recent governor support service newsletter.

New Governors will receive from the academy:

- · The academy prospectus.
- · Recent academy newsletters.
- · A calendar of academy events.
- The school improvement plan (SIP).
- A full list of staff and the staffing structure.
- Copies of the key policy statements including the academy visits policy.
- · A full set of papers from the last full governing body meeting.
- Details of how to contact the other governors.
- Details of how to contact the academy including the email address.

Areas the Head Teacher will cover include:

- · Background to the academy.
- · Current issues facing the academy.
- · Visiting the academy.
- · The relationship between the head teacher and governing body.

Areas that the mentor will cover include:

- An overview of the governor's role.
- How the full governing body and committee meetings are conducted.
- · How to propose agenda items.
- · Governor training.

Organisational structure

The academy trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It has a strategic role in running the academy and is responsible for appointing the governors. It has control over the land and other assets and delegates management of the academy to the governors.

Subject to provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the academy trust shall be managed by the governors who may exercise all the powers of the academy trust. No alteration of the articles and no such direction shall invalidate any prior act of the governors which would have been valid if that alteration had not been made or that direction had not been given. The powers given by this article shall not be limited by any special power given to the governors/trustees by the articles and a meeting of governors at which a quorum is present may exercise all the powers exercisable by the governors.

The head teacher, as accounting officer, has personal responsibility to the governing body for financial and administrative matters including:

- · Ensuring regularity and propriety.
- · Prudent and economical administration.
- · Avoidance of waste and extravagance.
- · Efficient and effective use of available resources.
- · Day to day organisation, staffing and management of the academy.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The governing body have an appointed business manager who acts as company secretary and have entered into a service level agreement with Gateshead Metropolitan Borough Council to provide clerking to the governors.

Delegation of Decision Making to Management is as follows:

- · Staffing appointment of teaching and non-teaching staff.
- Curriculum responsibility for standards of teaching, subject options to be taught and each individual child's education.
- Performance management implementation of policy.
- Religious Education provision of religious education (RE) in line with locally agreed syllabus.
- Collective worship arrangements for and application to the advisory councils concerning the requirements for collective worship.
- · Health and Safety institute a policy.
- Information for parents ensure provision of free school meals to those pupils meeting criteria.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The governors and the senior leadership team review and challenge the academy staffing structure regularly to ensure it is the best structure to meet the needs of the academy whilst maintaining financial integrity. Senior leaders pay is tightly correlated to strong educational outcomes and sound financial management. The academy benchmark the size of the senior leadership team annually against that of similar schools/academies. There is a robust staff appraisal process, which in turn supports with strong performance management.

1

1.00

Trade union facility time

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period
Full-time equivalent employee number

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time £614
Total pay bill £6,698,706
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facilty time 0.01%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The academy has no connected organisations.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The strategic vision has been developed from a view of what we would wish for our pupils as they grow and develop through their school career at Whickham School. The aim is to ensure that all staff, pupils, parents and stakeholders are the very best they can be.

The school improvement plan (SIP) details the aims and strategies that the academy is employing to realise our vision. The fundamental aims and objectives are linked to our four keys of academy life. As an academy we have a short, medium and long term approach to school improvement planning.

Our wider strategic aims and objectives are as follows:

Leadership

- Staff, parents and pupils understand and live the academy values and beliefs.
- Leaders are highly effective in leading the process of school improvement and securing impact.
- The academy is engaged in partnerships that improve the quality of provision at Whickham and other schools in the local area.
- The learning environment effectively supports strong pupil progress.
- · The academy is financially stable.

Quality of education

- The curriculum is aspirational, meets the needs of all pupils and results in strong pupil progress.
- High quality, holistic assessment and feedback that leads to positive progress for all.
- There is no difference in performance between boys and girls by the end of KS4.
- · Removal of performance gaps between disadvantaged and other pupils.

Behaviour and attitudes

- · Pupils consistently demonstrate a positive attitude towards their learning.
- Staff and pupils create a positive learning environment rooted in mutual respect.
- · Staff and pupils make a positive contribution to the academy and wider community.

Personal development

- Pupils access and participate in a rich set of experiences and opportunities to develop wider life skills.
- · Pupils develop the strength of character to be well rounded citizens and successful learners.
- · The academy champions a culture of equality, diversity and wellbeing.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The academy trust's objective is specifically restricted to the following: to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a academy offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

At Whickham School we aim to provide a first class education to pupils from the ages of 11 to 18 and we seek to provide a structured educational environment that develops our pupils' capabilities, competencies and skills. We promote the academic, moral and physical development of our pupils through the academic curriculum, strong pastoral care systems and diverse sporting and extra curricula opportunities. The academy provides an educational environment where staff and pupils are encouraged to fulfil their full potential with the tools and scaffolding to support a healthy growth mindset. Pupils are provided support to help to build their own self-confidence and a desire to contribute to the wider community. Whickham is an extraordinary aqcademy where everyone is valued for their unique contribution to the life of the academy. We recognise the special gifts, talents and needs of each individual as we strive for excellence, where everyone is encouraged to be the very best they can be. The academy vision and values are as follows:

Our Academy Vision: Whickham, a academy to be proud of at the heart of the community. Where learning is cherished in a safe, caring and supportive environment. A academy where everyone is valued and inspired to be the best they can be.

Our Academy Purpose: Whickham School; an academy that ensures all pupils are the very best they can be.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Public benefit

The governors of the academy trust have complied with their duty in that the academy teaches the national curriculum and meets the standards set by Ofsted. The governors of the academy trust have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the charity commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Overall results by Key Stage showed a significant improvement in achievement and progress in KS4. Whilst A-level progress dipped slightly in KS5 the performance in applied general qualifications increased substantially and results overall continue to be impressive. The overall performance of the academy is judged as good.

Key performance indicators

Key Stage 4:

Key Indicator	2018/19	2017/18	2018/19 National
Progress 8	-0.06 ▲	-0.40	0.00
	Average	Below Average	0.00
Entering EBACC	51% ▲	25%	40%
Grade 5+ in English & Maths	50% ▲	43%	43%
Attainment 8	52.1 ▲	49.0	46.5
EBACC Average Points Score	4.52 ▲	4.07	4.06

Key Stage 5:

Key Indicator	2018/1	9	2017/18	2017/18 National
A-Level Value Added	0.07	•	0.35 Well above average	0.00
A-Level Average Points	34.77	▼	36.80	33.33
Applied General Value Added	0.53	A	0.34 Above average	0.00
Applied General Average Points	35.84	A	31.62	28.47

Note: 2018/19 figures are taken from provisional data published by the DfE and can be found on the academy performance tables website. At the time of writing the DfE has not yet published national data for 2018/19 for Key Stage 5.

The academy was last visited by Ofsted in February 2018 and the outcome from the visit endorsed that Whickham School was a Good School in all five categories:

- Effectiveness of leadership and management Good
- Quality of teaching, learning and assessment Good
- Personal development, behaviour and welfare Good
- · Outcome for pupils Good
- 16 to 19 study programmes Good

Academy Strengths: The academy performance, whilst currently judged good, continues to improve and the quality of provision pupils experience is continuously improving. A number of the judgements detailed above are borderline outstanding. An ambitious curriculum is in place that results in pupils making good progress. Pupil outcomes at the end of KS4 and in the sixth form are good or better. Pupil outcomes in the sixth form have been very strong for a significant period of time.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Strong teaching, learning and assessment practices ensure pupils access a curriculum that prepares them well for post 16 study and either employment or further study at university or college. This is reflected in outcomes that are above national average and pupils accessing a strong range of destinations when leaving the academy. The academy benefits from a wide range of subject specialists. Very few teachers teach outside of the subject that they are qualified to degree level in.

Pupil behaviour is very good with few instances of inappropriate conduct. When behaviour falls below expectations this is dealt with swiftly and fairly. We practice restorative approaches that enable behaviours to be changed. Pupils enjoy school and attendance is well above local and national averages. Punctuality to school and lessons is good.

Pupils engage in a wide range of extra curricular and enrichment activities that help build them into well rounded citizens. The number of after school clubs, activities and organised trips is extensive.

A culture exists where equality and diversity is celebrated. The academy has a well established Rainbow Society and supports other schools in developing their own. The academy is at the forefront of work to ensure the quality of mental health care provision, both at Whickham and in other local schools, is of a high quality.

The academy has a culture that puts safeguarding first. Safeguarding processes and procedures are effective and staff understand and apply all related policies.

Academy leaders demonstrate a clear vision and are relentless in their drive to ensure all pupils realise their potential and to be the very best they can be.

Care, Guidance, Support, and Safeguarding: Pupil care, guidance and support continues to be a strength of the academy. Excellent pastoral care is vital in achieving the academy vision and ensure all pupils are happy, safe and successful. All staff have undertaken prevent training. An electronic child protection software system (CPOMS) supports with effective and efficient safeguarding communications and processes further. Staff at all levels are effectively trained in safeguarding procedures and effective communication ensures parents and carers as well as pupils understand school policies and practices that promote pupil safety and welfare. Overall pupil attendance is strong and above national and local averages.

The academy has high expectations for pupils' behaviour and conduct. This is evident within relevant policies which are applied consistently. All staff share these expectations and consistently apply agreed routines. This has resulted in the development of a school environment where pupil behaviour and conduct is positive and disruption to learning is rare. Where low levels of disruption occur they are dealt with quickly and effectively.

Pupils demonstrate pride and ownership and provide a positive contribution to school life which is endorsed by parent and pupils active engagement in the use of Class Charts. Our citizenship and assembly programmes ensure all pupils understand how to stay healthy and form safe and positive relationships. Their SMSC development ensures they are reflective on issues in today's society and become good citizens.

The academy provides high-quality pastoral support. Pupils know how to eat healthily, maintain and active lifestyle and keep physically and mentally healthy. They have an age-appropriate understanding of healthy relationships. Pastoral support is highly effective in meeting the diverse needs of pupils.

The academy is at the forefront of local work to enhance the quality of pastoral care. Whickham School led the development of the 'Team around the School' pilot programme with Gateshead Council, by writing protocols and assessment tools which identified pupils for early intervention and support. This has been adopted by the Local Authority as a model of excellence to develop good practice within other secondary schools within Gateshead.

Duke of Edinburgh Awards: Whickham School runs the acclaimed Duke of Edinburgh Awards scheme at all three levels. This is open to pupils from Years 10 to Year 13. As part of the rigorous programme they complete an expedition, develop new skills, carry out volunteering and for the 'Gold' award, organise and participate in a residential trip.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Academy Visits: The academy participates in a host of international visits each year. In 2018/19 pupils have visited Belgium, France, Germany, Iceland, Switzerland, Uganda and New York. These visits took place for a range of reasons; sightseeing, course related projects, sports based activities and pupil leadership projects.

Pupils engage in a wide range of extra-curricular and enrichment activities that helps to build them into well rounded citizens. The number of after school clubs, activities and organised trips is extensive. Pupils understand the needs of others and give their time generously both inside and outside of academy life. Each year the sixth form pupils follow a process as part of their induction into sixth form life to nominate and appoint an annual charity. The pupils then develop and follow through with a focused delivery plan, which is lead and driven by the year 12 sixth form pupils. Sixth form pupils have raised in excess of £100k over the last decade for a variety of local and national charities, all of whom have been worthy of the support.

World Challenge: Every second year we take pupils on a world challenge expedition. The pupils raise funds for the trip over a two year period to fund their visit. This year 21 pupils took up the challenge and completed a four week expedition in South Africa. World Challenge is designed to develop pupil's leadership qualities and independence. The pupils usually trek for a week and complete a community project while on their expedition. Previous visits have been to Tanzania, Namibia, Bolivia, Ledakh / India Mexico, Borneo and Swaziland, Mozambique, South Africa. The next World Challenge project is currently in the planning stage, and pupils are excited for the next international expedition which will take 36 plus pupils to the Indian Himalayas and Rajasthan in 2021.

Parents' Forum: Listening and responding to the voice of our parents is extremely important to us. A Parents' Forum exists to enable our parents to support with continued improvement, and to articulate any concerns on school matters. We seek the opinion of parents to gauge their opinions on key changes like academy uniform, the academy reporting system, and any issues or concerns along with solutions to support our educational aims and priorities.

Parents' Forum meets once a half term on the second Monday. The forum has an agenda and theme for each meeting and also time for parents to raise any whole academy concerns they may have.

Going concern

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

Financial review

"Whickham School will develop an annual budget that can be sustained by enrolment and additional sources of revenue and is in support of pupil academic achievement."

The academy annual budget is sustained by its enrolment and additional sources of revenue. The academy has a well-tested budget process that relies on building a needs based budget each year. Departmental requests are combined into a consolidated budget by the business manager and head teacher who ensure that the budget addresses the academy strategic objectives, and accounts for all reasonably anticipated expenses. The proposed budget is then presented for review to the resources committee. The resources committee have delegated responsibility for the approval process. Once approved the budget plan is then shared with the full governing body.

Financial statements, cashflow, balance sheet and year-to-date budget monitoring reports are produced regularly and are presented to both the Chair of Governors and the resources committee, where significant variances are explained in writing.

The academy demonstrates a history of positive net assets, adequate cash flow to sustain operations and to support the academic programme and consistently operates within budget.

The academy consistently maintained cash flow necessary to sustain operations and advance the academic programme through the financial year 2018/19.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The academy will build up reserves in order to mitigate risk should there be a delay in grants or unforeseen increase in expenditure.

In 2018/19 the academy has utilised reserves to support with school priorities and continues to have a healthy overall level of both restricted and unrestricted funds.

Other financial key performance indicators which are monitored closely include:

Staff costs: Where possible the academy will keep staffing costs to 80% or below of total income

Pension liability: Whickham School will demonstrate its ability to cover the increase in pension liability for non-teaching staff. The governing body recognise the liability existing in the Tyne & Wear Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for staff, and are satisfied that existing cash flows are sufficient to meet any anticipated increase in costs.

The current local funding formula places Whickham School at a significant disadvantage to similar academies regionally and nationally. The current per pupil funding allocated is significantly lower than any other similar academy in England and this presents some significant challenges that can only be met through efficiency savings. Financial stability is crucial in ensuring that we can deliver the objectives we have set and we will continue to work with the Gateshead Schools Forum to address the basic funding needs of the academy. We will continue to enhance our reputation through maintaining high academic standards and publicising the many successes achieved in all spheres.

The academy made an operating deficit of £778,465 (2018: £946,668) in the year, and held fund balances at 31 August 2019 of £2,231,013 (2018: £3,996,478) comprising restricted reserves of £1,934,887 (2018: £3,762,837) and unrestricted reserves of £296,126 (2018: £233,641).

Total income in the period was £8,551,794 (2018: £7,992,290), the vast majority of which came from Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) (or equivalent) grants. As the majority of the grant income is pupil number driven it is imperative that recruitment and retention levels are maintained, or increased over time.

Excluding the impact of the £661,268 depreciation of fixed assets, the academy generated an underlying operating deficit of £117,197 (2018: deficit of £274,323).

Reserves policy

The governors of the academy aim to carry forward a prudent level of reserves which is designed to meet a long-term cyclical need to support capital bid applications and to provide the academy with the security of being able to renew assets, and have a contingency for any unforeseen needs Reserves are mainted subject to the constraint that the level of reserves does not exceed the level permitted by the ESFA.

Given the current financial climate it would be prudent to review the reserves policy and set a more realistic goal and timeline. The Academy held total fund balances at 31 August 2019 of £2,231,013 (2018: £3,996,478). Academy reserves have been cautiously build up to help to fund the new school building, which will be completed January 2020. Reserves are set aside to purchase the required equipment to ensure that the teaching and learning environments are equipped with the necessary resources.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Investment policy

The governors have approved a treasury policy in relation to the investment of surplus funds. The overriding principle in lending is to limit risk rather than maximise return. The following instruments are approved as investments by the academy:

- · Fixed term deposits.
- · Notice term deposits.
- · Bank or building society deposit accounts.
- · Money market funds.

No investment will be for a duration exceeding 364 days. To reduce counterparty risk no more than £1m should be invested with a single approved counterparty. Reports are presented to the board of governors annually detailing the performance of investments made over that period.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the academy have been reviewed by the governors and are set out in the risk register which has been approved by the board of governors. The major risks are highlighted below in the risk management section of this report. The risk register of the academy is reviewed regularly.

As the majority of income received by the Academy is pupil number driven strategies are in place to enhance what is already a strong transition program for our feeder primary schools, along with marketing strategies to attract admissions from wider catchment areas. The board of governors is acutely aware that the academy is operating in an increasingly competitive environment and that maintaining the strong reputation of the academy in the community and wider catchment areas is imperative. Achievement of the strategies outlined in plans for the future should secure intake at the required level. Current funding formula changes have also impacted on funding allocations, however the academy have managed to set a balanced budget for the forthcoming financial year.

Risk Management: The management of risks to the academy and the fulfilment of the vision statement is undertaken in accordance with the Funding Agreement and the Academies' Financial Handbook.

The governing body is responsible for risk management and for maintaining a sound system of internal control that supports the achievement of policies, aims and objectives, whilst safeguarding public funds and other funds and assets for which it is responsible. The governing body is advised in this role by the resources committee and both are advised and informed by members of the leadership team. A review of the academy's risk management process is undertaken throughout the year and is managed by the relevant committees covering financial stability and employment, premises and health and safety and curriculum and pupil welfare.

The governing body fulfils its role by establishing the system of internal control:

- Approving and reviewing a series of policies that underpin the internal control process.
- Agreeing objectives, plans and resources by means of the budget and the annual School Evaluation Form (SEF) and School Improvement Plan (SIP).
- Approving the policy statement and the risk register and reviewing them carefully each year to identify risks, near misses and opportunities.
- Considering carefully the advice from the auditor, internal assurance reports and the audit committee on internal financial controls, together with advice from any external consultants or inspectors.

The leadership team fulfils its risk management role by:

- Implementing governors' policies on risk management and internal control advising the resources committee of the fundamental risks faced by the school and helping to evaluate them.
- Providing timely and sufficient information to governors and the resources committee on the status of risks and controls.
- Assisting the resources committee to draw up and revise the risk register.
- Working to embed risk management and risk-based internal control in all aspects of academy management.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Fundraising

The academy employ a community partnership and funding officer with a discreet brief to secure grant funding and donations to enhance the educational outcomes for the pupils of Whickham School.

For the last two years there has been a focus to raise funds for the procurement of new equipment for the new school building which is due to open January 2020.

The academy continually apply for grant funding for capital funding opportunities, for the replacement and refurbishment of the retained building stock which make up the academy site.

All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the governors.

Plans for future periods

The academy will focus on our short term school improvement plan (SIP) to ensure that all strands of leadership and management, quality of education, behaviour and attitudes and personal development are achieved. Leaders are focused on ensuring all pupils, staff, and stakeholders are the very best they can be. This will be achieved through ensuring that our four keys are at the heart of everything that we do.

One of the priorities for 2019/2020 academic year is to embrace the new learning environments which have been gifted, as part of the new school rebuild, via Priority School Building Programme 2 (PSBP2), which will come into operation on handover, January 2020.

The academy will continue to champion and bid via the Condition Improvement Funding (CIF) programme for all available opportunities to either replace, refurbish or enhance the building stock which is remaining.

The new building replaces approximately seventy percent of the academy building stock and will be home to our STEAM subjects 'Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics. The stunning four storey building will also house full new sports facilities. The additionally of the new school building, will not only have a positive impact on our existing pupils, but many more generations to come, including our wider community users.

Unfortunately after completion, this still leaves a large footprint of the academy site which will not be upgraded or replaced, therefore the academy will continue to lobby and seek advice to gain support and solutions for the upgrade or replacement of the remaining blocks which remain in use, some of which are in very poor condition.

Partnerships with other schools: The academy has developed a number of partnerships over the past two years. These are benefiting pupils at Whickham and other local schools and academies. Recent work with other secondary schools has focused upon the sharing of best practice in curriculum planning, teaching and learning and assessment. Leaders have also supported another local secondary school in reviewing their pastoral support structure. Work with primary schools continues through our local cluster group and leaders are currently working on a ground breaking project that will improve the quality of mathematics teaching at both secondary and primary schools.

Curriculum: The leadership team and governors of the academy continue to review the business and curriculum plans using curriculum lead financial planning to ensure that risks are considered and that we are well prepared and have the flexibility to review and respond to changing needs within the educational landscape.

Succession Planning: The academy is currently conducting a leadership review. Leaders at all levels are increasingly effective in securing improvements in the quality of provision. As the academy moves from 'good' to 'outstanding' and invests in partnerships with other local schools it is appropriate that the structure and capacity of the leadership structure is reviewed regularly.

Recruitment to the School Roll: The academy continues to be popular and based on experience it is expected that we will be oversubscribed at the start of each academic year on our five year forecast. We will continue to be effective in promoting the academy with all parents, thus ensuring that we maintain our status as an oversubscribed academy.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

Whickham School and Sports College do not hold assets or act as custodian trustee.

Auditor

In so far as the governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the governors 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 Baldwins Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of governors, as the company directors, on 16 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

S L Ban

Chair of the Governors

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The governors (who are the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the governors' annual report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and regulations, including the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

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

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the head teacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform to the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Whickham School & Sports College Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of governors of any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the governors' report and in the statement of governors' responsibilities. The board of governors has formally met on three times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Governing Body was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
S Alexander (staff)	3	3
S L Ban (Chair of the Governors)	2	3
D B Bradford	2	3
M A Brain	1	3
F Charles	0	0
M Crabtree	0	0
A Day	0	0
C J Enlund (staff) (Resigned 19 July 2019)	3	3
A G Hewison	2	3
C Hewitson (Appointed 20 November 2019)	0	0
R Hogarth-Willis (staff) (Resigned 29 September 2019)	3	3
R E Jones	· 1	1
M Ledger (Resigned 16 November 2018)	0	0
G Little (Resigned 31 August 2019)	1	3
G I Maitland	3	3
V McLeod	3	3
A W Oakes	3	3
M L Pears	1	3
Mr R Phillips	3	3
G A Potse (Resigned 31 August 2019)	3	3
E Ridley	2	3
A Wilson	2	3
S J Haigh (Accounting Officer)	3	3
J Yeo (Appointed 20 November 2019)	0	0

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

There have been no key changes in the composition of the governing body or the coverage of its work. The governing body have undertaken skills audits, and always look to recruit within any skill set deficits when vacancies occur.

The resources committee is a sub-committee of the governing body its purpose is to assist the decision making of the governing body, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the governing body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the academy finances, staffing and resources, including premises, health and safety and safeguarding matters, to ensure that proper planning, monitoring and probity are in place. The resources committee have delegated responsibility as an audit committee and report back to the full governing body on all such matters.

Attendance during the year of the resources committee meeting was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
S L Ban (Chair of the Governors)	5	5
M A Brain	3	5
R Hogarth-Willis (staff) (Resigned 29 September 2019)	4	4
R E Jones	0	0
G Little (Resigned 31 August 2019)	1	5
M L Pears	4	5
Mr R Phillips	3	5
G A Potse (Resigned 31 August 2019)	3	5
S J Haigh (Accounting Officer)	5	5

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of governors 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:

- Ongoing regular review of the curriculum model to ensure that staff and resources are reviewed and aligned within best value principles to support our teaching and learning aims.
- Ongoing review of staff resources to ensure there is an efficient staffing model to take us forward into the future.
- Consider and evaluate options for 'Invest to Save' opportunities to improve productivity within the workforce
- Consider and evaluate options for 'Invest to Save' opportunities when procuring equipment and capital resources

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Whickham School & Sports Collage (Academy Trust) for the year ended 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The governing body 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 governing body 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 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of governing body.

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 governing body
- regular reviews by the resources committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- · setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- · clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- · delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- · identification and management of risks

The governing body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to not appoint an internal auditor. However the governors have appointed MHA Tait Walker, an external auditor to perform a cycle of internal assurance checks.

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

- Payroll
- · Financial systems and segregation of duties
- · Internal controls, financial monitoring and oversight
- · Financial oversight
- · HR policies

This is a new and additional level of internal assurance which has been procured by the academy. For financial year 2018/19 there has been one internal assurance report prepared. Moving forward into the new financial year, the internal assurance programme of work will be undertaken and reported to governors on a quarterly basis, the auditor will report to the governing body, through the resources committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the governing body's financial responsibilities.

The Internal Assurance report has been delivered to the schedule of work as planned. From the detailed work completed on the areas above it can be concluded that the academy trust has good controls in place which are generally well designed and implemented. There were no material control issues arising as a result of the external auditors work review.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the head teacher 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 resources committee and the governors proactively strive to build on existing good practices to ensure continuous improvements to the accounting system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of governors on 16 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

S L Ban

Chair of the Governors

S J Haigh

Accounting Officer

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

As accounting officer of Whickham School and Sports College I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of governors and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy 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 2018.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of governors 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 2018.

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 governors and ESFA.

S J Haigh

Accounting Officer

16 December 2019

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The governors (who act as trustees for Whickham School and Sports College and are also the directors of Whickham School and Sports College for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the governors' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the governors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the governors 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 governors are required to:

- · select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019:
- 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of governors on 16 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

S L Ban

Chair of the Governors

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WHICKHAM SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Whickham School and Sports College for the year ended 31 August 2019 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & 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 2019 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the accounts is not appropriate; or
- the governors have not disclosed in the accounts any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the academy trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the accounts are authorised for issue.

Other information

The governors 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 WHICKHAM SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of 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 governors' 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 governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the statement of governors' responsibilities, the governors 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors 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.

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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF WHICKHAM SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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.

Graham Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Baldwins Audit Services

Statutory Auditor

Beldwin Andr Senier

Wynyard Park House Wynyard Avenue Wynyard TS22 5TB

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WHICKHAM SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 3 October 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Whickham School and Sports College during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Whickham School and Sports College and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Whickham School and Sports College 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 Whickham School and Sports College and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Whickham School and Sports College's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Whickham School and Sports College's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 4 April 2017 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. 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 2018 to 31 August 2019 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 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 WHICKHAM SCHOOL AND SPORTS COLLEGE AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer
- · discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team
- · review of internal assurance reports
- · review of trustee and committee meeting minutes
- · review of finance and other relevant policies
- review of purchases, expenses and expense claims on a sample basis including the application of controls and tendering processes where applicable
- review of gifts and hospitality transactions including the application of controls
- review of credit and debit card transactions including the application of controls
- review of payroll transactions on a sample bases including the application of controls
- · review of potential special payments to staff
- · review of leases and consideration of areas where borrowing may have been incurred
- · consideration of transactions with related and connected parties
- · review of register of business interests for completeness and compliance with regulations
- · enquiries into transactions that may require disclosure under ESFA delegated authority rules
- consideration of value for money and appropriateness of transactions

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 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Baldwin, Ardit Sevices

Baldwins Audit Services

Dated: 16/N/R

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		Unrestricted Funds		cted funds: Fixed asset	Total 2019	Total 2018
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					•	
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	4	6,695	63,690	133,940	204,325	112,894
- Funding for educational operations	5	97	7,988,171	-	7,988,268	7,762,149
Other trading activities	6	358,714	-	-	358,714	115,118
Investments	7	487		-	487	2,129
Total		365,993	8,051,861	133,940	8,551,794	7,992,290
Expenditure on:					•	
Raising funds	8	297,458	_	_	297,458	159,523
Charitable activities:		,			,	,.
- Educational operations	9	6,050	8,365,483	661,268	9,032,801	8,779,435
Total	8	303,508	8,365,483	661,268	9,330,259	8,938,958 ———
Net income/(expenditure)		62,485	(313,622)	(527,328)	(778,465)	(946,668)
Transfers between funds	17	-	76,964	(76,964)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	(987,000)	-	(987,000)	739,000
Net movement in funds		62,485	(1,223,658)	(604,292)	(1,765,465)	(207,668)
Reconciliation of funds		000.044	(000,000)	4 574 770	2 000 472	4 004 440
Total funds brought forward		233,641	(808,936)	4,571,773	3,996,478	4,204,146
Total funds carried forward		296,126	(2,032,594)	3,967,481	2,231,013	3,996,478

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Comparative year information	ı	Unrestricted	Restric	cted funds:	Total
Year ended 31 August 2018		Funds	General F	ixed asset	2018
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	4	31,223	54,134	27,537	112,894
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	5	8,940	7,753,209	-	7,762,149
Other trading activities	6	103,146	11,972	-	115,118
Investments	7	2,129			2,129
Total		145,438	7,819,315	27,537	7,992,290
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	8	140,032	19,491	-	159,523
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	-	8,107,090	672,345	8,779,435
Total	8	140,032	8,126,581	672,345	8,938,958
Net income/(expenditure)		5 <u>,4</u> 06	(307,266)	(644,808)	(946,668)
Transfers between funds	17		14,000	(14,000)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19		739,000	-	739,000
Net movement in funds		5,406	445,734	(658,808)	(207,668)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		228,235	(1,254,670)	5,230,581	4,204,146
Total funds carried forward		233,641	(808,936)	4,571,773	3,996,478

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					•
Tangible assets	13		3,917,305		4,571,773
Current assets					
Debtors	14	346,138		125,158	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,078,502		723,399	
		1,424,640	•	848,557	
Current liabilities		, ,		·	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one	15	(785,932)		(454,852)	
year	13	(705,952)		(434,032)	
Net current assets			638,708		393,705
Net assets excluding pension liability			4,556,013		4,965,478
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	19		(2,325,000)		(969,000)
Total net assets			2,231,013		3,996,478
Fronds of the seadons to the					
Funds of the academy trust: Restricted funds	17				
- Fixed asset funds	.,	· -·	3,967,481		4,571,773
- Restricted income funds			292,406		160,064
- Pension reserve			(2,325,000)		(969,000)
Total restricted funds			1,934,887		3,762,837
Unrestricted income funds	17		296,126		233,641
Total funds			2,231,013		3,996,478

The accounts on pages 26 to 48 were approved by the governors and authorised for issue on 16 December 2019 and are signed on their behalf by:

S L Ban

Chair of the Governors

Company Number 07729766

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		2019		2018	
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities Net cash provided by/(used in) operating					
activities	20		227,476		(30,267)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investment	nts	487		2,129	
Capital grants from DfE Group		133,940		27,537	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(6,800)		(14,000)	
Net cash provided by investing activities	i		127,627		15,666
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period	1		355,103		(14,601)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of t	the year		723,399		738,000
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the	year		1,078,502		723,399

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Whickham School and Sports College meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The governors 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 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.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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'.

Donated fixed assets

Donated fixed assets are measured at fair value unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor is used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

1.4 Expenditure

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

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £2,500 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 buildings25 yearsComputer equipment5 yearsFixtures, fittings & equipment5 yearsMotor vehicles5 years

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.

1.6 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.

1.7 Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

1.8 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.

1.9 Taxation

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 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 so as 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 on the basis of 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.

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 operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

1.11 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 governors.

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.

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.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

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 19, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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.

McCloud

In 2015 the government introduced reforms to public sector pensions resulting in most public sector workers being transferred to a new scheme. In December 2018, the Court of Appeal ruled that the 'transitional protections' offered to some members of the judges and firefighter schemes as part of the reforms amounted to unlawful discrimination. While the judgement was not in relation to the LGPS it is reasonable to expect that it will need to be applied to this scheme by the government. Actuaries have estimated that the additional liabilities associated with this to be around 3-4% of active liabilities. As this has been considered to be potentially material to the financial statements the year end valuation performed by the actuary has included an approximate calculation of the McCloud valuation. This has increased the LGPS liability by £172,000 as at 31 August 2019.

GMP

This case related to the equalisation for men and women of guaranteed minimum pension (GMP) for those who were contracted out of the State Second Pension between 6 April 1978 and 6 April 1997. In October 2018 the High Court ruled that equalisation of GMP was required. This case was in relation to Lloyds Bank and HM Treasury have since gone on record to state public sector schemes have a method to equalise GMP already. Although there is some judgement in how this equalisation works and is reflected in the LGPS valuations, actuaries have estimated that the impact of GMP indexation to be around 0.3% of total liabilities and they have included an approximate calculation of the GMP valuation. This has increased the LGPS liability by £8,000 as at 31 August 2019.

3 General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was subject to limits at 31 August 2019 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% of GAG could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes.

The academy trust has not exceeded these limits during the year ended 31 August 2019.

4 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Capital grants	-	133,940	133,940	27,537
Other donations	6,695	63,690	70,385	85,357
	6,695	197,630	204,325	112,894
			=	

Ot Ot Ot	FE / ESFA grants eneral annual grant (GAG) ther DfE group grants ther government grants ocal authority grants	Unrestricted funds £	7,425,643 451,434 7,877,077	7,425,643 451,434 7,877,077	7,136,468 533,942 7,670,410
Ot Ot Ot	eneral annual grant (GAG) ther DfE group grants ther government grants ocal authority grants	£	7,425,643 451,434 7,877,077	7,425,643 451,434	7,136,468 533,942
Ot Ot Ot	eneral annual grant (GAG) ther DfE group grants ther government grants ocal authority grants	- - - -	7,425,643 451,434 7,877,077	7,425,643 451,434	7,136,468 533,942
Ot Ot Ot	eneral annual grant (GAG) ther DfE group grants ther government grants ocal authority grants	- - - -	451,434 7,877,077	451,434 ———	533,942
Ot Lo Ot	ther DfE group grants ther government grants ocal authority grants		451,434 7,877,077	451,434 ———	533,942
Ot Lo Ot	ther government grants ocal authority grants	- -	7,877,077		
Lo Ot Ot	ocal authority grants			7,877,077	7,670,410 ======
Lo Ot Ot	ocal authority grants		111.094		=======================================
Lo Ot Ot	ocal authority grants		111.094		
Ot Ot		-	111.094	444 004	92 700
Ot	ther funding			111,094	82,799 ————
Ot					
	ther incoming resources	97	-	97	8,940
То	J		_		
	otal funding	97	7,988,171 ————	7,988,268	7,762,149 =======
6 01	ther trading activities				
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2019	2018
		£	£	£	£
Hi	ire of facilities	45,136	-	45,136	42,610
Sh	nop and commission income	19,123	-	19,123	24,204
Tri	ip income	171,693	-	171,693	20,408
Ot	ther income	122,762	-	122,762	27,896
		358,714		358,714	115,118
	·	====		======	=====
7 In	vestment income				
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2019	2018
		£	£	£	£
Sh		487			

8	Expenditure					
			Non Pay Exp		Total	Total
		Staff costs £	Premises £	Other £	2019 £	2018 £
		L	£	£	£	L
	Expenditure on raising funds					
	- Direct costs	91,578	-	205,880	297,458	159,523
	Academy's educational operations					
	- Direct costs	5,285,448	-	423,662	5,709,110	6,301,675
	- Allocated support costs	1,665,050 ————	1,254,165 	404,476 ———	3,323,691 ————	2,477,760
		7,042,076	1,254,165	1,034,018	9,330,259	8,938,958
					=	
	Net income/(expenditure) for the	year include	es:		2019	2018
					£	£
	Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit				8,750	10,000
	- Other services				2,300	3,000
	Operating lease rentals				2,300 31,348	43,795
	Depreciation of tangible fixed asset	_			661,268	672,345
	Net interest on defined benefit per					
	Net interest on defined benefit pens	sion nability			25,000 ======	35,000
9	Charitable activities				-	
			Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
			funds	funds	2019	2018
			£	£	£	£
	Direct costs					
	Educational operations		976	5,708,134	5,709,110	6,301,675
	Support costs Educational operations		5,074	3,318,617	3,323,691	2,477,760
	•					·
			6,050	9,026,751 ———	9,032,801 ======	8,779,435 ————
					2019	2018
					£	£
	Analysis of support costs				£	
	Support staff costs				£ 1,673,255	1,050,732
	Support staff costs Depreciation				£ 1,673,255 661,268	1,050,732 672,345
	Support staff costs Depreciation Technology costs				£ 1,673,255 661,268 92,013	1,050,732 672,345 135,970
	Support staff costs Depreciation Technology costs Premises costs				£ 1,673,255 661,268 92,013 592,897	1,050,732 672,345 135,970 527,880
	Support staff costs Depreciation Technology costs Premises costs Other support costs				£ 1,673,255 661,268 92,013 592,897 132,908	1,050,732 672,345 135,970 527,880 316,180
	Support staff costs Depreciation Technology costs Premises costs				£ 1,673,255 661,268 92,013 592,897	1,050,732 672,345 135,970 527,880

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

10 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2019 £	2018 £
Wages and salaries	5,229,266	5,145,831
Social security costs	526,878	514,000
Pension costs	1,147,205	1,036,214
Amounts paid to employees	6,903,349	6,696,045
Agency staff costs	138,727	115,778
Amounts paid to staff	7,042,076	6,811,823
Staff development and other staff costs	40,951	50,272
Total staff expenditure	7,083,027	6,862,095
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Staff numbers

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

The area ago manned or persons ample, ou 2, and account, account	2019	2018
	Number	Number
Teachers	. 92	94
Administration and support	160	144
Management	10	10
	262	248

Higher paid staff

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

	2019 Number	2018 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	3	2
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £842,840 (2018: £782,015).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

11 Governors' remuneration and expenses

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

The value of governors' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

S Haigh (Head Teacher)

Remuneration £110,001 - £115,000 (2018: £105,001 - £110,000) Employer's Pension Contributions £10,001 - £15,000 (2018: £15,001 - £20,000)

R Hogarth-Willis (Staff Governor)

Remuneration £25,001 - £30,000 (2018: £25,001 - £30,000)

Employer's Pension Contributions £1 - £5,000 (2018: £1 - £5,000)

M Phillipson (Staff Governor)

Remuneration Not a trustee (2018: £50,001 - £55,000) Employer's Pension Contributions Not a trustee (2018: £10,001 - £15,000)

I Turnbull (Staff Governor)

Remuneration Not a trustee (2018: £45,001 - £50,000) Employer's Pension Contributions Not a trustee (2018: £5,001 - £10,000)

C Enlund (Staff Governor)

Remuneration £45,001 - £50,000 (2018: £45,001 - £50,000) Employer's Pension Contributions £5,001 - £10,000 (2018: £5,001 - £10,000)

S Alexander (Faculty Leader)

Remuneration £50,001 - £55,000 (2018: £20,001 - £25,000)

Employer's Pension Contributions £5,001 - £10,000 (2018: £1 - £5,000)

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

12 Governors 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 governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the governors and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

13	Tangible fixed assets	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
		£	£	Equipment	£	£
	Cost	_		_	_	_
	At 1 September 2018 Additions	8,668,745 -	519,788 6,800	89,651 -	91,193 -	9,369,377 6,800
	At 31 August 2019	8,668,745	526,588	89,651	91,193	9,376,177
	Depreciation					
	At 1 September 2018	4,260,625	396,514	79,878	60,587	4,797,604
	Charge for the year	609,771	39,603	3,346	8,548	661,268
	At 31 August 2019	4,870,396	436,117	83,224	69,135	5,458,872
	Net book value					
	At 31 August 2019	3,798,349	90,471	6,427	22,058	3,917,305
	At 31 August 2018	4,408,120	123,274	9,773	30,606	4,571,773
14	Debtors				2019 £	2018 £
	Trade debtors				9,890	3,404
	VAT recoverable				74,470	55,679
	Other debtors				11,049	16,998
	Prepayments and accrued income				250,729	49,077
					346,138	125,158
15	Creditors: amounts falling due withi	in one vear			2019	2018
	·	o., o , o			£	£
	Trade creditors				201,800	21,083
	Other taxation and social security				129,457	142,570
	Other creditors				118,036	172,938
	Accruals and deferred income				336,639	118,261
					785,932	454,852
						

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

16	Deferred income	2019	2018
		£	£
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	52,638	27,344
			
	Deferred income at 1 September 2018	27,344	-
	Released from previous years	(27,344)	_
	Resources deferred in the year	52,638	27,344
	Deferred income at 31 August 2019	52,638	27,344

At 31 August 2019, the Academy was holding trip income for the 2019/20 academic year.

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Restricted general funds	~	~	~	~	~
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(159,034)	7,425,643	(7,417,441)	403,683	252,851
Other DfE / ESFA grants	83,507	451,434	(451,434)	(83,507)	
Other government grants	(22,744)	111,094	(111,019)	22,669	_
Donations	173,229	_		(173,229)	_
Other restricted funds	85,106	63,690	(16,589)	(92,652)	39,555
Pension reserve	(969,000)	, -	(369,000)	(987,000)	(2,325,000)
	(808,936)	8,051,861	(8,365,483)	(910,036)	(2,032,594)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	3,512,773	_	(609,771)	_	2,903,002
DfE group capital grants	1,034,000	133,940	(50,853)	(83,764)	1,033,323
Capital expenditure from GAG	, . -	-	(644)	6,800	6,156
LEA and other grants	25,000	-	· -	-	25,000
	4,571,773	133,940	(661,268)	(76,964)	3,967,481
	=======================================			=======================================	
Total restricted funds	3,762,837	8,185,801	(9,026,751)	(987,000)	1,934,887
Harradailete d'Érrada					
Unrestricted funds	222 644	365 003	(202 509)		206 126
General funds	233,641 ———	365,993 	(303,508)	-	296,126 ————
Total funds	3,996,478	8,551,794	(9,330,259)	(987,000)	2,231,013
			====		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

17 Funds (Continued)

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the academy. 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 2019.

Other DfE/ESFA grants includes pupil premium, universal infant free school meals income, teacher's pay grant, year 7 catch up grant and SLA core cluster funding.

Other government grants include pupil premium received from the local authority.

The pension reserve reflects the LGPS transactions. The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension scheme have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund, including contributions to the LGPS, and the pension liability has therefore been aligned with these funds.

DfE/ESFA capital grants includes a devolved capital grant of £133,940. £83,763 has been spent on non capitalised items and the remaining amount has been carried forward to spend on capital purchases in the 2019/20 academic year.

The inherited fixed asset fund reflects the fixed assets acquired on conversion. Depreciation on these assets is charged against this fund.

Some capital expenditure has been funded by GAG or other funds. Transfers between these funds are reflected in the gains, losses and transfers column.

The trust has reviewed the analysis of funds to be carried forward as at 31 August 2019, and transfers here have been made to ensure that all funds are correct as at the year end.

Unrestricted funds can be used for any purpose at the discretion of the academy trust.

The academy's restricted general and unrestricted funds were £588,532 at 31 August 2019.

17	Funds					(Continued)
	Comparative information in re	espect of the pr	receding perio	d is as follows:		
		Balance at 1 September 2017	Income	Expenditure	Gains, losses and transfers	Balance at 31 August 2018
		£	£	£	£	£
	Restricted general funds					
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	(51,670)	7,136,468	(7,257,832)	14,000	(159,034)
	Other DfE / ESFA grants	80,000	533,942	(530,435)	-	83,507
	Other government grants	(24,000)	82,799	(81,543)	-	(22,744)
	Donations	139,000	54,000	(19,771)	-	173,229
	Other restricted funds	73,000	12,106	-	-	85,106
	Pension reserve	(1,471,000) ————		(237,000)	739,000	(969,000)
		(1,254,670)	7,819,315	(8,126,581)	753,000	(808,936)
			=======================================			
	Restricted fixed asset funds			(
	Transfer on conversion	4,171,581	-	(672,345)	14,000	3,513,236
	DfE group capital grants	1,034,000	27,537	-	(28,000)	1,033,537
	LEA and other grants	25,000				25,000
-		5,230,581 ————	27,537 ————	(672,345)	(14,000) ———	4,571,773
	Total restricted funds	3,975,911	7,846,852 ————	(8,798,926) ———	739,000	3,762,837
	Unrestricted funds					
	General funds	228,235	145,438	(140,032)	_	233,641
	Total funds	4,204,146 ————	7,992,290 	(8,938,958)	739,000	3,996,478
18	Analysis of net assets betwee	en funds				
			Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
			Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
			£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2 represented by:	019 are				
	Tangible fixed assets		_	_	3,917,305	3,917,305
	Current assets		348,765	1,025,699	50,176	1,424,640
	Creditors falling due within one	vear	(52,639)		30,170	(785,932)
	Defined benefit pension liability	yeai	(52,639)	(2,325,000)	-	(2,325,000)
	Total net assets		296,126	(2,032,594)	3,967,481	2,231,013

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

18	Analysis of net assets between funds				(Continued)
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£	£	£	£
	Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	_	4,571,773	4,571,773
	Current assets	233,641	614,916	-	848,557
	Creditors falling due within one year	-	(454,852)	-	(454,852)
	Defined benefit pension liability	-	(969,000)	-	(969,000)
	Total net assets	233,641	(808,936)	4,571,773	3,996,478

19 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 the Tyne and Wear pension fund. 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 2016.

Contributions amounting to £108,037 (2018: £105,156) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2019 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS or scheme) is a statutory, unfunded, defined benefit occupational scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended), and the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales that are maintained by local authorities. In addition, teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools and teachers and lecturers in some establishments of further and higher education may be eligible for membership. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic too for teachers and lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account

Although members may be employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits are set out in regulations made under the Superannuation Act (1972) and Public Service Pensions Act (2013) and are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go 'basis – contributions from members, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Acts.

The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pension increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has now taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers will pay an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.8%). The timing of the implementation is to align its introduction with employers' budget planning cycles. Until then, employers will pay the current rate of 16.48%.

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found by following this link to the Teachers' Pension Scheme website

Scheme Changes

The arrangements for a reformed Teachers' Pension Scheme, in line with the recommendations made by Lord Hutton, in particular the introduction of a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, were implemented from 1 April 2015.

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in the reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, gave rise to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. The Supreme Court, in a decision made in June 2019, have rejected the Government's application for permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling. The case will now be referred to an Employment Tribunal for a decision regarding the remedy which will need to be offered to those members of the two schemes who were subject of the age discrimination.

HM Treasury are clear that the ruling has implications for the other public service schemes, including the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Those implications are currently being considered and any impact on scheme costs is expected to be looked at within the next scheme valuation, which is currently scheduled to be based on April 2020 data and implemented in April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £602,417 (2018: £599,000).

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 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 16.5% for employers and 5.5 - 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of 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	2019	2018	
5	£	£	
Employer's contributions	199,000	202,000	
Employees' contributions	75,000	77,000	
Total contributions	274,000	279,000	
	====		

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

19	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
	Principal actuarial assumptions	2019 %	2018 %
	Rate of increase in salaries	3.5	3.5
	Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.0	2.0
	Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.9	2.8
	Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.0	2.0
	The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future impro The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:	vements in m	nortality rates.
		2019	2018
		Years	Years
	Retiring today		
	- Males	21.9	22.9
	- Females	25.1	26.4
	Retiring in 20 years		
	- Males	23.6	25.1
	- Females	26.9	28.7
	Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:	2019 £	2018 £
	Discount rate + 0.1%	8,440,000	6,235,000
	Discount rate - 0.1%	8,860,000	6,640,000
	Mortality assumption + 1 year	8,362,000	6,298,000
	Mortality assumption - 1 year	8,935,000	6,664,000
	CPI rate + 0.1%	8,775,000	6,543,000
	CPI rate - 0.1%	8,521,000	6,420,000
	The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2019 Fair value £	2018 Fair value £
	Equities	4,140,910	3,720,600
	Government bonds	259,202	220,480
	Corporate bonds	720,708	617,344
	Cash	132,762	121,264
	Property	543,692	468,520
	Other assets	524,726	363,792
	Total market value of assets	6,322,000	5,512,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £460,000 (2018: £418,000).

19	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
	Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	2019 £	2018 £
	Current service cost	363,000	404,000
	Past service cost	180,000	-
	Interest income	(159,000)	(124,000)
	Interest cost	184,000	159,000
	Total operating charge	568,000	439,000
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2019	2018
		£	£
	At 1 September 2018	6,481,000	6,322,000
	Current service cost	363,000	404,000
	Interest cost	184,000	159,000
	Employee contributions	75,000	77,000
	Actuarial loss/(gain)	1,288,000	(445,000)
	Benefits paid	76,000	(36,000)
	Past service cost	180,000	
	At 31 August 2019	8,647,000	6,481,000
	Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2019	2018
		£	£
	At 1 September 2018	5,512,000	4,851,000
	Interest income	159,000	124,000
	Actuarial gain	301,000	294,000
	Employer contributions	199,000	202,000
	Employee contributions	75,000	77,000
	Benefits paid	76,000	(36,000)
	At 31 August 2019	6,322,000	5,512,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

20	Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities		
		2019 £	2018 £
	Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(778,465)	(947,640)
	Adjusted for:		
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(133,940)	(27,537)
	Investment income receivable	(487)	(2,129)
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	344,000	202,000
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	25,000	35,000
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	661,268	672,345
	(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(220,980)	29,842
	Increase in creditors	331,080	7,852
	Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	227,476	(30,267)

21 Contingent liabilities

During the period of the funding agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a government capital grant was received, the Academy is required either to reinvest the proceeds or to repay to the relevant Secretary of State the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the funding agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the Academy serving notice, the Academy shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- a) the value at the time of the Academy's site and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Academy; and
- b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the funding agreement.

22 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 August 2019 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2019 £	2018 £
Amounts due within one year	15,745	14,000
Amounts due in two and five years	13,403	54,000
	29,148	68,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

23	Capital commitments		
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	113,856	-

24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the governors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the AFH and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account.

25 Post balance sheet events

The trust is in the process of moving part of its operations to a new building on the existing site. The move is expected to take place in 2020 once the building work is completed and ownership passed to the Trust. This transaction will be recognised in the financial statements when the new premises are handed over to the trust.

26 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.

27 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2019 the trust brought forward £nil from previous years, received £27,053 and disbursed £25,464 from the fund. An amount of £1,589 is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.