

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees	G L McGregor, Chairman P M Abrahams D M Fletcher J R Hind M T McCarthy (appointed 14 December 2022) J D Richardson (appointed 14 December 2022) J D Deville (resigned 14 December 2022) C L Graham-Brown (resigned 29 March 2023) A A Thom (resigned 20 July 2023) J B Chapman (appointed 29 March 2023, resigned 12 April 2023)
Company registered number	10700526
Company name	Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit
Principal and registered office	Innovation Centre Vienna Court Kirkleatham Business Park Redcar TS10 5SH
Company secretary	Company Secretary not required by Articles of Association. Clerking and Governance support services were provided by North Yorkshire County Council
Senior management team	J C Spence, Chief Executive Officer & Accounting Officer S Hindmarch, Chief Financial & Operating Officer
Independent auditors	Waltons Business Advisers Limited Chartered Accountants Maritime House Harbour Walk The Marina Haerlepool TS24 0UX

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
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Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc 83-85 Linthorpe Road Middlesbrough North Yorkshire TS1 5BU
Solicitors	Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council Redcar & Cleveland House Kirkleatham Street Redcar North Yorkshire TS10 1RT

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The Academy Trust operates ten primary schools in the Redcar and Cleveland area for pupils aged 2 to 11. The Trust has a pupil capacity of 3,249 and had a roll of 3,093 in the school census on 19 January 2022.

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 Trustees of Galileo Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Galileo Multi Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

● **Members' liability**

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

● **Trustees' indemnities**

A trustee may benefit from any indemnity insurance purchased at the academy trust's expense to cover liability of the trustees, which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the academy trust. This is provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the trustees knew to be a breach of trust, or breach of duty or which was committed by the trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not, and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as directors of the academy trust.

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The Trust joined the Government's 'Risk Protection Arrangement' (RPA) Scheme on 1st September 2021 and this provides Trustee Indemnity cover up to £10,000,000. This arrangement remained in place throughout the reporting period.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

● **Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees**

The number of Trustees shall be not less than three nor more than nine.

Subject to Articles 48-49 and 53, the Company shall have the following Trustees:

- a) No fewer than 8 Trustees, appointed under Articles 50 and 50AA combined.
- b) The Chief Executive Officer, if appointed; and
- c) Parent Trustees if appointed under Article 53-56 in the event that no provision is made for parent representatives on Local Governing Bodies under Article 101A.

The Company may also have any Co-opted Trustee appointed under Article 58.

The first Trustees shall be those persons named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006.

Future Trustees shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under the Articles. Where it is not possible for such a Trustee to be appointed or elected due to the fact that an Academy has not yet been established, then the relevant Article or part thereof shall not apply.

APPOINTMENT OF TRUSTEES

The Members shall appoint up to 6 Trustees less the number of Parent Trustees and Co-opted Trustees (if any) appointed or elected under the articles.

The Diocesan Board of Education shall appoint no fewer than 2 Trustees provided that the total number of Trustees appointed under this Article would not thereby exceed 25% of the total number of Trustees.

The Board carries out an annual evaluation of skills and effectiveness, this is used to identify development priorities and inform the recruitment process.

During the reporting period, three Trustee resignations were received, and two appointments were made. The newly appointed Trustees have been appointed based on their skills and experience. One being an experienced educationalist, and CEO of another Trust, and the other being a chartered accountant with experience of working in the public sector. The Trust is proactively seeking to recruit to the remaining vacancies.

An open, transparent, and accountable system of recruitment, and appointment process has been put in place to ensure consistency of process accompanies the appointment of Trustees. The appointment of highly skilled and experienced Trustees means that the Trust is well governed and that accountability, at all levels of the Trust, is at the heart of Trusts future journey. All usual compliance protocols, with regards to safeguarding and recruitment have been used to appoint the new Trustees.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

● **Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees**

The Academy Trust conducted a tender exercise and appointed Redcar & Cleveland Borough Council from 1st January 2022 to provide external support for both Governor and Trustee training which is linked to the aforementioned self-review of performance, and findings of the skills' audit.

All new Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, management accounts, budgets, and other documents they need to undertake their role as Trustees, along with a copy of the latest Academies Financial Handbook.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

• **Organisational structure**

The Academy Trust has established a management structure to enable efficient and effective running of the organisation. The structure consists of four levels: Members, the Board of Trustees, the Executive team (CEO and CFOO) who are the senior leadership team of the Academy Trust, and the Local School Boards. Decision making across the Trust is outlined in the Academy Trust's scheme of delegation.

Members have an important role in oversight of Multi Academy Trust. Members are required to have an overview of the governance arrangements of the Academy Trust and provide independent oversight and challenge to the Board of Trustees. Members are "eyes on and hands off." They are responsible for (amongst other things) appointment of (Member appointed) Trustees, appointing the external Auditor and amending (subject to necessary consents) the articles of association.

Trustees are responsible for directing the Academy Trust's operations and are responsible for making key strategic decisions and providing strategic leadership, oversight and assurance for educational and financial performance. Their core functions include:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
- Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the effective and efficient performance management of staff; and
- Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure it's money well spent.

The Board's responsibilities include setting the policy and delegation framework for the Academy Trust, adopting an annual plan and budget approval, monitoring the impact of the Trust on educational outcomes, making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, oversight of capital expenditure and making/approval of certain key leadership appointments.

The Executive Team, each being members of the Academy Trust's senior Leadership team, consists of the following.

- **The Chief Executive** - Responsible for setting the overall direction of the Academy Trust; leading the development and execution of long-term strategies, managing resources, risk management and communicating, on behalf of the Trust, with both internal and external stakeholders.
- **Chief Financial & Operating Officer** – Responsible for leading and managing the Financial and operational aspects of the Academy Trust. Providing strategic and operational leadership in all aspects of business activities within the Academy Trust's schools, and being accountable for the operation, maintenance and development of systems, processes and procedures relating to budget, finance, administration, HR, premises, including ICT and health and safety.

The Head Teachers are responsible for the day-to-day running of their school (assisted by the school's senior leadership team).

Each academy has its own Local School Board. The LSB are sub-committees of the main Trust Board. The Board of Trustees have delegated certain of its functions to the LSB to ensure that there is scrutiny, and accountability, at the local level. The delegations made by the Board of Trustees are contained within the Trust Scheme of Delegation that was approved by the Trust Board on 14th July 2020.

Further details of the delegations in place can be found in the key information section of the Trust's website.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

• **Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel**

The Board's approach to setting the pay of the senior leadership team must be transparent, proportionate and justifiable.

The Executive Team at the end of the reporting period comprised the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Financial & Operating Officer. Neither Trustees nor Members receive remuneration for executing their role.

Both members of the Executive Team are subject to an individual performance review, which is carried out in accordance with the relevant policies. This policy is used to determine the pay and remuneration.

Any future review of pay and remuneration will be considered alongside the factors set out in the then relevant Academies Financial Handbook. For 2023 the requirements are as follows:

- Process - that the procedure for determining executive pay and benefits is agreed by the board in advance and documented
- Independence - decisions about executive pay reflect independent and objective scrutiny by the board and that conflicts of interest are avoided
- Robust decision-making - factors in determining pay and benefits are clear, including whether educational and financial considerations, and the degree of challenge in the role, have been considered
- Proportionality – Pay and benefits represent good value for money and are defensible relative to the public sector market
- Commercial Interests – Ensure the board is sighted on broader business interests held by senior executives, and is satisfied that any payments made by the trust to executives in relation to such interests do not undermine the transparency requirements for disclosing pay in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction
- Documentation - the rationale behind the decision-making process, including whether the level of pay reflects value for money, is recorded and retained
- A basic presumption that non-teaching pay should not increase at a faster rate than that of teachers, in individual years and over the longer term
- Understanding that inappropriate pay can be challenged by ESFA, particularly in any instance of poor financial management of the trust

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

● **Trade union facility time**

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	4
Full-time equivalent employee number	4

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	4
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
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Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	13,476,148
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	- %
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

● **Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)**

As an employer of over 250 employees the Academy Trust has introduced and developed its provision of information and consultation with employees through staff meetings and briefings, as well as formal correspondence to inform staff of developments. Through these arrangements, staff are provided with information relating to the performance of the Academy Trust and the school.

Furthermore, Superfast broadband has been successfully implemented within all schools. This has facilitated the implementation of a 'staff portal' which can be accessed by all Trust employees, Governors and Trustees through the new Trust website. The Trust portal allows colleagues to securely share policies, meeting notes, best working practice and any Trust wide communication.

The Trust has also facilitated the migration of a new internet telephony system across all sites. The Trust views the facilitation of the new telephony system important progression as call charges are expected to reduce significantly with school-to-school calls now free.

Led by the CEO, Trust representatives meet termly with the JCC (Joint Consultative Committee) which is represented by both teaching and support staff unions. The committee reviews relevant policies prior to full consultation with staff, and all policies are available to staff via the Trust's new portal.

The Academy Trust complies with the requirements of the Equality Act 2010. Each school has disabled toilet facilities and ensures access to the main areas of each school are accessible to wheelchair users. The Academy Trust's application form underpins the trust's diversity values whereby the Academy Trust encourages positivity in respect of disability and welcomes applications from disabled people. The Academy Trust will make reasonable adjustments to the recruitment process if the applicant makes the Academy Trust aware they have a disability, while our recruitment policy ensures the recruitment of all staff is conducted in a fair manner, in accordance with statutory requirements and good practice. Training opportunities, career development and promotion opportunities apply to all staff equally.

● **Related parties and other connected charities and organisations**

As an Academy Trust that includes Church of England schools in the Diocese of York, the Diocese of York Educational Trust is included as one of the Academy Trust Members. The York Diocesan Board of Education (YDBE) is also entitled to appoint a limited number of Trustees (please see above).

The York Diocesan Board of Finance Limited (company number 00225234) provides services to Church of England schools in the Academy Trust, being in relation to essential functions fundamental to the religious character and ethos of those schools, under the YDBE Service Level Agreement (SLA). Payments under the SLA for the relevant period total £1,790 (2022: £1,790).

Objectives and activities

● **Objects and aims**

The principal object and activity of the Academy Trust is to advance education in the UK for the public benefit, in particular by maintaining, evolving, managing and developing academies which offer a broad and balanced curriculum.

In doing this, the Academy Trust is responsible for the operation of ten primary schools across the Redcar and Cleveland area.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities (continued)

This includes two Church of England academies, which are required to be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship. The York Diocesan Board of Education (YDBE) works closely with the Church of England schools in the Academy Trust, supported by the Board of Trustees, to ensure that the Church of England foundation of the schools' Christian foundations are preserved and developed. The YDBE, through its work, seeks to build flourishing communities in its schools, parishes and homes where every child, young person and those who care for them has a transforming encounter with the Christian faith and the person of Jesus Christ. This takes as its starting point the words of Jesus, who said that he came so that all may have 'life in all its fullness' (John 10:10). The YDBE is committed to Church schools working in partnership with Community schools for the benefit of the localities they serve.

The Academy Trust seeks to be a leading provider of education, recognised for its core values, ensuring each and every pupil thrives, develops a love for learning, and is prepared to take their next steps in life. The Academy Trust's newly defined values are: Ambition, Inclusion and Integrity.

It is expected that all leaders, teachers, staff, parents and children alike embrace the Trust's values to complement each individual school's values and visions.

The Academy Trust embraces school to school support and the sharing of good practice throughout the Trust. Each school and each individual is included in the vision. The Academy Trust actively encourages collaboration and seeks to work as one team to create and deliver the best possible education experiences for each pupil within the Trust. We aim to work together to benefit the communities which we serve.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

● **Objectives, strategies and activities**

The Trust is committed to improving educational outcomes, and life chances for its pupils. School improvement is at the heart of the Trust and was a priority for the 2022-23 reporting period.

To achieve the Trust's priority, the Board put in place the following in-year objectives:

1. GMAT will have an established shared vision, set of values, and an agreed strategic plan.
2. Schools will have clear targeted recovery objectives, to ensure every child can catch up with lost learning and the impact of the pandemic more widely.
3. GMAT will prioritise the below Trust wide school improvement objectives:
 - a. To ensure writing progress and attainment recovers at pace in line with the other core subjects to pre-pandemic levels.
 - b. To raise standards in core subjects to increase the proportion of children attaining greater depth.
 - c. To improve progress and ensure consistency and equity of provision for children with SEND.
 - d. To ensure children eligible for Pupil Premium progress and achieve as well as those that are not.
 - e. To ensure all subjects have leaders at trust and school level, and the curriculum for each is well developed with effective and consistent implementation from EYFS to Y6.
4. Schools will be rated good or better and will be well prepared for OFSTED inspections against the EIF. Furthermore, Church schools will be prepared and meet the requirements of the SIAMs framework.
5. School improvement will be forensic and systematic with clear priorities for each school. Support and intervention (where appropriate) will be targeted working with external partners.
6. An Executive Headteacher model will be trialled across two schools and reviewed in the spring term.
7. A skills audit will be carried out for all Trustees and Governors, mandatory training will be completed and there will be a full training plan in place.
8. Staff professional development and training priorities will be identified, and a development plan put in place.
9. Now that the Trust wide assessment strategy is embedded, pupil progress and attainment are recorded and reported consistently on Arbor. LSBs and Trust Board receive consistent and timely reports using the MIS to present live data.
10. A review of senior and middle leader responsibilities with a view to achieving alignment and equity across the Trust's schools
11. A review of budget forecasts in light of external challenges, prepare options analysis to mitigate potential deficit situations in specific schools.
12. Development of Capital / Reserves forecast, incorporating a 5-year IT plan.
13. Centralisation of IT procurement.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

Progress against each of the objectives is detailed below, along with the strategies for achieving them.

1. GMAT will have an established shared vision, set of values, and an agreed strategic plan.

The CEO presented a strategic plan to the Trust Board at a Trustee Strategy Day in May 2021 and was subsequently agreed by the Trust Board in September 2021. There are a number of delivery plans which are regularly monitored to check progress including school development plans which share common strategic objectives.

The plan has now been updated to include 2023-24 strategic goals following a strategic planning session with Trustees and Governors during the 2023 Summer term.

2. Schools will have clear targeted recovery objectives, to ensure every child can catch up with lost learning and the impact of the pandemic more widely.

A post-pandemic impact analysis has been carried out with recovery interventions being an integral part of school development plans, which include remote and blended learning. School development plans continue to be monitored by the CEO, Local School Board members, and our external school improvement partners. Data overall is showing progress and a narrowing of gaps from pre-pandemic performance. All schools are prepared for further disruption as far as possible and continue to be prepared for remote learning through the school development plan.

3. GMAT will prioritise the below Trust wide school improvement objectives.

Initial Trust wide school improvement priorities have been successfully delivered and a consistent quality assurance and review system is in place to drive and provide structure the wider raising standards plan. School improvement will continue to be a strategic priority in 2022-23 and will be delivered through the Rising Standards and School Development plans (SDPs).

4. Schools will be rated good or better and will be well prepared for OFSTED inspections against the EIF. Furthermore, Church schools will be prepared and meet the requirements of the SIAMs framework.

All in-year inspections have been positive. Schools continue to work toward their SDPs, and this is monitored by the CEO, LSBs, ESICC and external school improvement partners. All Ofsted inspections to date (8 of 10 schools) have been graded 'good' and SIAMs (1 of 2) 'excellent'.

5. School improvement will be forensic and systematic with clear priorities for each school. Support and intervention (where appropriate) will be targeted working with external partners.

The Trust's school improvement model is becoming well embedded, and we have re-commissioned Tees Valley Education Trust (TVED) to continue to work alongside us in their capacity as the Trust's school improvement partner.

School improvement is far more systematic than in prior years. Capacity and resource dictate the amount of support available, however progress is now monitored more carefully and forensically. Headteacher's report impact to LSBs and through stringent performance management with the CEO.

6. An Executive Headteacher model will be trialled across two schools and reviewed in the spring term.

An executive headteacher was trialled across two schools during the reporting period. This was reviewed in the Spring term and a decision was taken to appoint a substantive headteacher for 2023-24. While the trial had its successes, it was felt that the particular school in question (Lakes Primary School) despite its recent good OFSTED inspection needed the attention of a substantive HT.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

7. A skills audit will be carried out for all Trustees and Governors, mandatory training will be completed and there will be a full training plan in place.

A skills audit has been carried out for all Trustees and Governors, mandatory training is complete, and development plans have been put in place. A review of Trust Board and LSB roles and responsibilities was completed to avoid duplication and confusion.
A 2023-24 training schedule is currently being drawn up.

8. Staff professional development and training priorities will be identified, and a development plan put in place.

Middle leadership training priorities have been identified and a development plan put in place with timebound objectives. Professional development plans are currently being revised for academic year 2023-24 and will focus on aspiring leaders, work to support subject leaders.
A Trust wide professional development (PD) day was arranged in the summer term where for the first time all teachers across the Trust met at the venue for leadership and all levels training. The PD Day received over 90% positive feedback.

9. Now that the Trust wide assessment strategy is embedded, pupil progress and attainment are recorded and reported consistently on Arbor. LSBs and Trust Board receive consistent and timely reports using the MIS to present live data.

The assessment cycle was further embedded during the reporting period. Using data consistently will drive standards will remain a priority in 2023-24.

10. A review of senior and middle leader responsibilities with a view to achieving alignment and equity across the Trust's schools

This objective is ongoing. The CEO and CFOO have scheduled to progress work in this area with support from our HR partners in the 2023-24 Autumn term.

11. A review of budget forecasts in light of external challenges, prepare options analysis to mitigate potential deficit situations in specific schools.

Immediate mitigations were implemented during the reporting period. These included: a trust-wide recruitment freeze, and introduction of the central scrutiny of all staff vacancies. Longer term option appraisals prepared by the CEO and CFOO were reviewed by Trustees in September 2023 and one of the 2023-24 priorities is to fully review operating models to ensure sustainability of the Trust in the context of increased costs and falling pupil numbers.

12. Development of Capital / Reserves forecast, incorporating a 5-year IT plan.

The CFOO has completed a Trust wide IT review which examines the current infrastructure at each school and notes all requirements, along with timebound recommendations.
The 5-year IT plan will be assessed alongside 5-year our Estates management plan, through our ambition is significantly limited due to external financial pressures.

13. Centralisation of IT procurement.

A fully transparent tender exercise was completed in year to standardise all IT kit across the Trust which will help to ensure value for money.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities (continued)

● **Public benefit**

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to, and complied with, general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

The Trust's aims and activities are specifically for the public benefit.

The direct beneficiaries for the reporting period were mainly pupils and families living within the administrative boundary of Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council, which is the catchment area of member schools. Admission to member schools is determined by pre-determined criteria of eligibility, which is primarily based on location of residence. The admission process does not allow for selection by ability.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

● **Key performance indicators**

The Trust has progressed toward all of its strategic objectives 2021-2024 as summarised on pages 9-10, a delivery plan citing the immediate priorities in 2022/23 was monitored by the Trust Board.

The senior leadership team which includes all headteachers has grown in strength and capacity and is driving improvement as a single organisation whilst respecting the individual character of each school. It remains fully committed to the future success of the Galileo MAT with shared vision and values and agreed strategic priorities.

The Trust schools have aligned in several areas ensuring we are more than the sum of our parts, pooling and sharing expertise and resource. We introduced a new live MIS (Arbor) and have adopted a Trust Assessment Strategy including standardised assessments (GL Assessments) which means consistency in recording and reporting progress and attainment across all schools and cohorts.

Cross Trust CPD including a shared PD Day has focussed this year on curriculum and subject leader development. As such curricula across the Trust better meets the needs of our children, and colleagues are supported in their leadership of subjects. External school reviews have focussed on curricula and marked improvements were noted, a Trust wide curriculum statement has been agreed and recent Ofsted deep dives have validated this work.

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Performance against national attainment measures in 2022 and 2023 by school, trust, and national average

		Co	GH	GG	IF	JEB	La	NM	St.P	We	Wh	GMAT	NA
EYFS	2022	62%	69%	55%	70%	73%	77%	64%	69%	79%	87%	72%	-
GLD	2023	83%	79%	63%	71%	76%	77%	63%	50%	78%	83%	73%	68%
Y1	2022	79%	72%	87%	90%	69%	71%	74%	78%	89%	85%	81%	75%
Phonics	2023	82%	80%	76%	87%	81%	68%	96%	83%	91%	97%	86%	80%
Y2	2022	75%	87%	57%	77%	58%	58%	74%	57%	71%	73%	70%	67%
Reading	2023	77%	82%	65%	83%	68%	61%	70%	63%	84%	83%	75%	69%
Y2	2022	64%	85%	54%	74%	50%	56%	39%	51%	71%	71%	64%	58%
Writing	2023	80%	72%	58%	83%	61%	50%	60%	55%	84%	73%	68%	61%
Y2	2022	71%	85%	54%	82%	50%	60%	83%	54%	76%	73%	71%	68%
Maths	2023	83%	82%	66%	86%	57%	61%	65%	63%	86%	88%	76%	72%
Y6	2022	86%	76%	89%	90%	86%	71%	68%	78%	87%	95%	84%	75%
Reading	2023	85%	80%	91%	89%	76%	55%	88%	68%	84%	91%	81%	73%
Y6	2022	90%	86%	79%	79%	68%	76%	55%	72%	83%	82%	77%	69%
Writing	2023	82%	83%	82%	81%	69%	56%	68%	66%	80%	83%	75%	71%
Y6	2022	76%	76%	89%	93%	79%	79%	58%	86%	91%	77%	82%	71%
Maths	2023	86%	90%	91%	84%	66%	44%	84%	85%	89%	96%	83%	73%
Y6	2022	72%	69%	78%	77%	64%	68%	53%	67%	78%	69%	70%	59%
Comb.	2023	71%	73%	82%	72%	48%	27%	64%	62%	78%	76%	67%	59%

Green cell: percentage of children achieving age related expectation is above national average in 2023.

Green digits: percentage of children achieving age related expectation is below national average in 2023 but school has improved attainment since 2022

Red digits: percentage of children achieving age related expectation is below national average in 2023 and the school attainment percentage has declined since 2022.

Overall Performance

2023 is the second year (since 2019) national performance data have been reported following a gap during the pandemic. In 2022 and 2023 academic performance was lower than pre-pandemic rates, this is reflected in the national picture and the Trust fared better than national averages in all comparable measures.

The Trust level performance data is strong when compared to national averages for DfE assessment measures, however there are significant variables between schools and some cohorts. There is concern around overall performance at Lakes Primary School, which performed significantly below national average and dipped below its 2022 attainment scores. School improvement support is being targeted at Lakes to support the incoming Headteacher and the Local School Board has been reviewed and reestablished with a new Chair and Vice Chair.

Writing attainment has been a focus of the Trust's Raising Standards Plan as well as a priority in each school's development plan as it was most significantly affected by the pandemic and has been the slowest to recover. The attainment gap between writing and the other core subject has remained steady and overall attainment, although rising, remains below 2019 levels. There is variability between schools in terms of writing attainment, the range at KS2 being from 50% at Lakes Primary School and 82.5% at Ings Primary School.

The attainment gap between children with SEND and the whole cohort has reduced slightly (except for KS2 writing) and the attainment gap between children eligible for Pupil Premium and the whole cohort has reduced (except for KS1 maths). Ensuring equity for all including those children with SEND and PP continue to be key strategic priorities for the Trust.

Reception GLD has improved in 7/10 schools and 8/10 are higher than the national average. St Peter's is lower, the figure includes the SEND base which impacts this figure. The EYFS network

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continues to work well, colleagues have agreed common assessment criteria, and most are recording in a consistent way onto the MIS. The EYFS groups is also working to ensure each school's curricula are planned with progression from EYFS to Y6

Y1 phonics attainment has recovered to pre-pandemic level at Trust level and is 5.2 percentage points higher than NA. Green Gates is below NA and down 10.7 percentage points on 21/22. This is due to cohort factors, having significant SEND issues. Lakes is below NA and down 4.3 percentage points on 21/22. Cohort factors include two non-attenders and a non-English speaker. The English Hub will focus its support on those schools attaining less than 82%

Y2 reading attainment has not fully recovered to pre-pandemic level at Trust level (2.4 percentage points below) but is in line with pre pandemic NA. There is a 22-percentage point variance between the highest and lowest scoring schools. Green Gates is below Trust average, which is usual for this school at Y2, the gap closes as the children move through the school although there is a greater emphasis on progress in EYFS/KS1 following the inspection in September 2023. Y2 reading in 2023 is 6.4 percentage points below 2019 pre pandemic rate of attainment.

John Batty is below Trust average although up 9.5 percentage points on 21/22 (pre pandemic 2019 score was 71%). Y1 phonics attainment in this cohort was 69%. Lakes is below Trust level and 13 percentage points behind its pre-pandemic 2019 score. Attendance a significant issue in this cohort, their Y1 phonics was 63.2. New Marske is below Trust average and although hovering at pre-pandemic NA, however it is 13 percentage points below its own pre-pandemic attainment.

St Peters is below Trust average, which is usual for this school at Y2, the gap closes as the children move through the school and is in line with its pre-pandemic rates.

Those schools performing at below pre-pandemic NA (75%) continue to prioritise reading in 23/24, phase reading leads working with Trust network. Structured peer reviews are underway.

Y2 writing attainment lags around 5 percentage points below reading and maths this year, this is comparable to the difference pre-pandemic (although attainment levels overall were higher) Lakes PS writing is a particular concern as it has failed to recover from pre-pandemic levels (2019 was 69%) and dropped further this year. The writing curriculum has been rewritten this year as it was not supporting progress sufficiently. New Marske and John Batty, although having made improvements on last year's results, are still behind pre-pandemic levels by around 13 percentage points. KS1 outcomes at Green Gates and St Peter's have historically been lower, the gap closing as children move through the school. These schools service communities with high levels of deprivation and SEND, children often present with delayed development on entry to school. Writing continues to be a Trust priority, an improvement plan including standardised assessment criteria, cross Trust moderation, peer reviews and the writing subject network will all continue.

Y2 maths attainment overall has recovered to pre-pandemic levels, although as with all measures, there is variance between schools. As with the other subjects Green Gates, St Peters and Lakes have a lower starting point so it takes longer for the children to 'catch up' to age related expectations. New Marske has dropped 17.6 percentage points from last year, it should be noted that last year was unusually high at 83% and as a small school each child counts for 5 percentage points. Ofsted's maths lead inspected New Marske in July 22 and commended the curriculum, teaching and learning. Maths leads in those schools falling below 75% attainment are supported, and there is a systematic QA overseen by the Headteacher.

Y6 reading attainment is comparable overall with previous years and has recovered well from the impact of Covid, there is significant variability between schools. 8/10 schools performed better than the national average. Lakes PS and St Peter's PS have shown a decline in attainment this year, St Peter's data includes the SEND and Lakes has had a turbulent year with both Y6 teachers leaving.

Y6 writing attainment continues to be slower in its recovery from the pandemic, 5 schools have slightly dipped from 2021-22. 6/10 schools better than national average. Lakes is concerning showing a 16.6 percentage point dip, as noted in KS1 narrative the writing curriculum has been completed revised this year, the incoming Headteacher will monitor this carefully as a priority.

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Y6 maths attainment is strong with 8/10 schools attaining high than the national average and reporting pre-pandemic rates. Lakes PS outcome is very concerning, and JEB has also dipped by 13.1 percentage points, the maths lead and Y6 teacher has had periods of sick leave this year.

Y6 combined attainment is positive at Trust level and 8/10 school performed above the national average. Lakes is very concerning having dipped 42 percentage points, and JEB has dipped 8.2 percentage points.

Y6 Progress Scores

	Reading		Writing		Maths	
	2022	2023	2022	2023	2022	2023
Coatham	-0.4	+0.2	+0.3	+0.25	-0.9	+1.4
Green Gates	+3.9	+5.3	+2.2	+3.6	+4.2	+6.5
Galley Hill	+0.5	+0.6	-0.4	-0.1	-0.2	+2.3
Ings Farm	+0.5	+0.5	-0.2	0	+1.1	+0.4
John E Batty	-1.2	-0.4	-1.9	-0.9	-1.1	-0.6
Lakes	-2.7	-4.9	-0.3	-3.2	-0.4	-5.0
New Marske	-1.6	+0.5	-3.3	0	-2.8	+0.1
St Peter's	+1.9	+0.5	+3.0	+1.0	+4.2	+4.6
Westgarth	-0.4	+2.6	+0.1	+0.7	+1.5	+1.2
Wheatlands	+1.9	+2.9	+1.0	-1.3	-0.3	+0.2

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Ofsted Judgements

School	Ofsted date / type	Overall effectiveness	Judgement for quality of education (where applicable)	Behaviour and attitudes (where applicable)	Personal development (where applicable)	EYFS (where applicable)
Coatham	07.09.22 ungraded	Good	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Galley Hill	30.06.22 graded	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good
Green Gates	14.09.22 graded	Good	Good	Outstanding	Outstanding	Good
Ings Farm	Not yet inspected (since joining Trust)					
John E Batty	23.09.22 ungraded	Good	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Lakes	30.09.22 ungraded	Good	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
New Marske	13.07.22 ungraded	Good	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
St Peter's	28.09.22 graded	Good	Good	Outstanding	Outstanding	Good
Westgarth	Not yet inspected (since joining Trust)					
Wheatlands	14.07.22 ungraded	Good	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

SIAM Judgements

St Peter's Church of England Primary School was inspected in May 2022 and received the top judgement of 'Excellent'.

Attendance

School Name	Attendance 2022-23
Coatham	93.78%
Galley Hill	94.93%
Green Gates	95.43%
Ings Farm	94.23%
John Emmerson Batty	93.53%
Lakes	91.42%
New Marske	95.10%
St Peter's	92.63%
Westgarth	94.57%
Wheatlands	94.90%
GMAT Average	94.08%

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Attendance

Attendance overall across the Trust has recovered to pre-pandemic levels but not with all schools, this is variable and attendance and academic performance are clearly linked.

Lakes PS is a concern, the attendance policy has not been followed in this school, the central team has picked this up and small improvements were made toward the end of the academic year. It will have to be a 'new start' priority for the incoming Headteacher. John Batty and Coatham have issues with specific families, they continue to have an impact on the overall attendance of the school and are a priority.

● **Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

Financial review

The Trust uses agreed high level, key performance indicators (KPIs) to monitor the overall financial performance of the Trust. The KPIs used were agreed by the Finance & Resources Committee and reviewed annually following the year end audit. The results are then benchmarked against similar size Trusts and compared to the Kreston Report, and ESFA School Resource Management self-assessment (SRM).

The Trust also submits a detailed report to ESFA each year comparing each school to the SRM tool data. This covers a number of financial KPI metrics, which helps the Trust focus on areas that require further investigation or need addressing from an efficiency standpoint.

On the whole staffing costs across the Trust are managed within recommended ESFA benchmark levels and the staffing to pupil ratios are also within recommended guidelines. Staff costs were higher than planned in 2022-23 which was due to the unfunded teaching and support staff pay awards being significantly higher than forecast, hence heavily inflating the Trust's wage bill. In-year the Trust implemented a number of controls to mitigate inflationary pressures, including: a trust-wide recruitment freeze, introduction of central scrutiny of all staff vacancies; both of which helped support reductions to the financial impact and subsequently reduced staff costs to a more manageable level. The overspend in this area was offset by additional income generation and elimination of any budgetary slack.

Non-staff costs were higher than planned in the reporting period, due to increased agency usage predominately relating to an unprecedented and continually growing number of pupils with complex special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), for whom specialist provision would be more appropriate. There has also been a higher number of colleagues on long term sick, some of whom who underwent surgery and had treatment delayed due to the pandemic restrictions.

Costs are continuously being benchmarked and the best deals sought after. Further efficiency opportunities will be exploited in the next financial year when long-standing contracts end presenting the opportunity to harmonise more services across the Trust. National deals are used where possible.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

● **Reserves policy**

Galileo Multi Academy Trust is expected to create contingency reserves from their annual General Annual Grant (GAG) funding or other income. During the early years of operation of the Trust (with the first schools joining in April 2018), GAG funding levels created little opportunity to achieve a surplus. However, embedding tight financial controls have helped deliver surpluses over time through joint procurement, economies of scale and additional income generation resulting in the Trust generating a healthy reserves position.

The Trust's Reserves policy outlines the requirement for a revenue/capital reserve within the Trust to help ensure development plans and strategic long terms aims are achieved. The reserves held are intended to carry forward a prudent level of resources designed to meet the long-term cyclical needs of renewal and any other unforeseen contingencies.

The Reserves policy sets out how much the Trust seeks to hold in reserve and why, how, and when the reserves can be spent.

Any in year surplus becomes part of the school's reserves and any reserves held by the Trust are considered to be funds deployed at the discretion of the Trust's Executive Team with appropriate Board approval, and within the Trust's scheme of delegation.

Any in year surplus monies can be deployed at the discretion of the Executive Team based on Galileo's Strategic Priorities, and an assessment of local need. A business case can be submitted by the Head Teacher of a school to the Executive Team to request investment which has not been budgeted for; these business cases are for emergency work, or capital investment rather than operational running of the school.

Only in exceptional circumstances will reserves be used to support a short-term deficit. This must be approved by the Trust Board.

The level of reserves held considers the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them with commitments, including future capital projects, and the nature of reserves. The Trust's Strategic aim is to hold reserves equivalent to the sum of one month's payroll by 2024. The Trustees will keep this level of reserves under review and aim to build and maintain the reserves level whilst in keeping with the principal object of the Trust.

Total reserves at the end of the period amounted to £17.8m. This balance includes unrestricted funds (free reserves) of £1.7m which is considered appropriate for the academy trust, and restricted funds of £16m.

Users should note that a surplus or deficit position of the pension scheme would generally result in a cash flow effect of the Trust in the form of an increase or decrease in employers' pension contributions over a period of years. The Trust thus takes this fact into account when reviewing current business plans and budgets and ascertaining how the pension costs might affect budgets in the future. On the basis that increased pension contributions should generally be met from the Trusts budgeted annual income, whilst the deficit may not be eliminated there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the fund or direct impact on the unrestricted reserves of the Trust due to the recognition of the deficit.

● **Investment policy**

The Trust's priority is to avoid high levels of risk by ensuring any investment vehicle has adequate credit rating measured by a reputable credit rating agency. The Trust will avoid volatile investment instruments, ensuring security takes precedence over revenue generation. The Trust, through its Audit and Risk Committee, will review investment of funds to ensure appropriate reflection of risk/reward at least on an annual basis. As of 31 August 2023, no investments, except for bank deposits, were held.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

● **Principal risks and uncertainties**

A Trust risk register has been established and is updated regularly by the Executive Team and reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee on a termly basis. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate all risks the Trust faces. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Trustees have received the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Trust, and its finances.

Some of the main risks currently facing the Trust include central government funding cuts; teacher and support staff pay increases not being adequately subsidised; rising pension contributions; increase to the national minimum wage, and inadequate capital funding to maintain premises.

The Finance and Resources committee review the Trust's 5-year capital planned management report and agree priorities on an annual basis. The CFOO is responsible for agreeing priorities alongside our external estate management partners. Additionally, high-level H&S audits conducted by external H&S professionals are shared with the Audit & Risk committee. This provides Trustees with assurance that the estate is safe, well maintained, and complies with relevant regulations.

In 2020, Trustees appointed a new Internal assurance team who provide a supplementary programme of work in support of the External Audit Team. The Internal Auditors provide assurance to the board in respect of the Trusts' compliance with its financial systems and operational controls. This ensures that risks are quickly identified and managed. The Internal Auditors carry out termly visits to the Central Team and visit individual schools at least once during the academic year.

It should also be noted that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with safeguarding and health and safety of staff and pupils.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

● **Income and expenditure**

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE/ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

In addition, the schools within the Trust receive Early Years funding from the Local Authority based on numbers of pupils at each termly census. A similar grant is received in respect of funding for two-year old children, again, this is based on pupil numbers. Each school receives SEN funding as a notional amount within their GAG allocation, in addition to this additional funding is provided by the Local Authority for children where it has been assessed that their need requires specialist support.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE/ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the year, c.£618k was received in respect of Devolved Capital Formula Grants and schools' capital allowance.

During the year, the Trust received an additional allocation of £110k Government COVID catch-up funding, and £113k National Tutoring Funding (although this was reduced due to clawbacks). The funding was allocated to the Trust to support schools to significantly increase learning time to ensure pupils make up for lost teaching time due to Coronavirus. The Trust also received £365.5k of unbudgeted DfE income relating to the additional supplementary school grant distributed to support with the costs of the Health and Social Care Levy and other wider costs.

All of the expenditure shown in the Statement of Financial Activities is in furtherance of the Trust's objectives. At 31 August 2023 the net book value of fixed assets was £15m. Movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 18 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Trust.

The provisions of FRS 102 have been applied in full in respect of the LGPS. The movements in the year resulted in a surplus, which has been capped at £0. This includes an actuarial gain of £537k in the current year.

The in-year surplus was £787k, excluding movements on the restricted fixed asset funds and the pension reserve there was an in-year surplus of £302k.

Fundraising

The Trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising activity operates at a local level. Most schools have a parent-led group independent of the Trust which engages in fundraising activities on behalf of their respective school. Normally, Head Teachers liaise with the group to agree specific projects within their school to be funded by such activities.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Plans for future periods

The Trust is committed to improving educational outcomes, and life chances for its pupils. School improvement is at the heart of the Trust and is its priority for the next financial year.

To achieve the Trust priority, the Board has set the agreed strategic priorities for financial year 2023-24:

1. Writing progress and attainment continues to improve and the gap between writing and the other core subjects continues to narrow.
2. Raising standards in core subjects to increase attainment and provide challenge to more able children.
3. Review provision for children with SEND ensuring consistency and equity for all children.
4. Ensuring children eligible for Pupil Premium progress have equality of opportunity and achieve as well as those that are not.
5. All subjects have leaders at trust and school level and the curriculum for each is well developed with effective and consistent implementation from EYFS to Y6 – a focus on less well-developed subjects (e.g., DT, computing)
6. Review operating models to ensure sustainability of the Trust in the context of increased costs and falling pupil numbers.
7. Improve business operation compliance in each school.
8. Staff professional development and training priorities have been identified and a development plan is in place for 2023/24.
9. A review of senior and middle leader responsibilities with a view to achieving alignment and equity across the Trust's schools.
10. Standardise and increase the use of data to improve outcomes for all children.
11. Review the practice and impact of current summative assessment strategy and make recommendations to improve and standardise across the Trust.
12. Establish a focussed strategy to support the wellbeing of staff.
13. Improve recruitment, retention, and succession planning, ensure more a strategic approach and consistent practice.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities (CONTINUED)

Disclosure of information to auditors

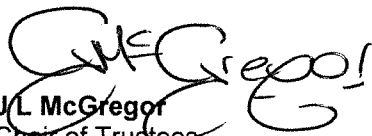
Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

The auditors, Waltons Business Advisers Limited, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 13 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:


J/L McGregor
Chair of Trustees

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the chief executive, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G L McGregor, Chairman	4	4
P M Abrahams (appointed 1 January 2022)	4	4
D M Fletcher	4	4
J R Hind	3	4
M T McCarthy (appointed 14 December 2022)	1	2
J D Richardson (appointed 14 December 2022)	1	2
J D Deville (resigned 14 December 2022)	2	2
C L Graham-Brown (resigned 29 March 2023)	2	2
A A Thom (resigned 20 July 2023)	4	4
J B Chapman (appointed 29 March 2023, resigned 12 April 2023)	0	0

The Board of Trustees formally met four times during the reporting period, however the Trust operate sub-committees to which some decision-making is delegated. As well as the four main meetings the Trust Board and each of the three sub-committees meet termly to help maintain effective governance. Additionally, each school has a Local school Board which meets termly, and the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) holds a termly Chair's Liaison meeting, which offers the opportunity to share best practice and raise any pertinent points with the CEO.

The Trust Board maintains an up to date and complete register of interest and this is considered in the day-to-day management and governance of the Trust.

Trustees are regularly reminded of the importance of avoiding any conflicts of interest. All Trustees are required to report, ownership or control over subsidiaries, joint ventures, or associates.

Audit and risk committee

The role of the Audit and Risk Committee is to address the adequacy and effectiveness of the Trust's systems of internal control, and its arrangements for risk management, control, and governance purposes.

The advice of the committee is primarily formed through the consideration of reports presented by the Trust's internal and external auditors. The role of the Audit & Risk Committee is to maintain oversight of the Trust's governance, risk management, internal control framework.

Following the resignation of the Chairman in July 2023, the Trust seek to appoint a new Trustee with relevant experience in this area.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A A Thom (Chairman resigned 20 July 2023)	4	4
D M Fletcher	3	4

Finance & Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (CONTINUED)

- To consider/approve both Trust and School annual budgets and three-year plans making recommendations where necessary
- To consider/approve Trust capital funding
- To hold Headteachers and Chairs of Local School Boards to account for financial planning and performance
- To recommend to the Trust Board, the adoption of a three-year business plan and annual budgets
- To review arrangements for securing value for money, solvency and safeguarding of assets
- To investigate, or commission investigations into, variations in financial performance from budgeted targets. To consider in detail reports from the Executive Team on issues related to assets, liabilities, and capital.
- To review HR/staffing matters, including monitoring staff attendance and welfare

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G L McGregor (chairman)	3	3
D M Fletcher	3	3
P M Abrahams	3	3

Education Standards, Inclusion and Church Committee (ESICC)

The role of the Education Standards, Inclusion and Church Committee is as follows:

- To analyse Key Performance Indicators set by the Trust and to hold the Leadership Team to account
- To analyse the academic attainment and progress of students over time
- To assess evidence relating to Church of England schools in the Trust about the distinctiveness and effectiveness of the schools as church schools
- To analyse the attendance and behaviour of students
- To review the quality of teaching and learning provided to students
- To evaluate the impact of specific and/or additional funding streams relevant to ESICC
- To evaluate the range and quality of extra-curricular provision experienced by students
- To have oversight of the Trust's talent management strategy
- To consider the views of parents and students about the quality of provision
- To consider and approve the curriculum and extra curriculum provision and the teaching and support staff resources required to deliver the entitlement curriculum in the schools
- To consider and approve Schools Improvement Plans – short and medium term

Educationalist, Mr M McCarthy joined the Committee and took on the role of Chairman mid-year to add further experience and expertise.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J D Deville (Chairperson resigned 14 December 2022)	1	1
C L Graham-Brown (resigned 29 March 2023)	1	2
M T McCarthy (Chairman appointed 14 December 2022)	3	3
J R Hind	4	4

Conflicts of Interest

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (CONTINUED)

The Trust Board maintains an up to date and complete register of interest and this is considered in the day-to-day management and governance of the Trust.

Trustees are regularly reminded of the importance of avoiding any conflicts of interest. All Trustees are required to report, ownership or control over subsidiaries, joint ventures, or associates.

Governance Reviews

Trustees are continuously reviewing practice as a Board and therefore self-assessment is constant.

An audit of skills is carried out on a regular basis and is used to inform recruitment and improvement opportunities. Recent recruitment activities have been targeted as a result of self-assessment findings and training has been directed to increase the effectiveness of the Board. The Board is also in the process of developing a governance action plan with key areas of focus for the forthcoming year. Trustees demonstrate a commitment to individual assessment and development.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

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

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

- Implementing monthly finance reporting at both Trust and school level which analysed financial performance vs agreed budgets, along with clear reasons for variances, and actions to mitigate any potential adverse variances going forward
- Re-tendering the following Trust level contracts:
 - o IT equipment
 - o Catering
 - o MIS Solution
 - o School Improvement
 - o Internal Audit
- Rolling out a Trust-wide high-speed internet solution
- Implementing a Trust-wide telephony service
- Streamlining support in schools
- Development of an estates management 5-year plan, and investment in a robust H&S support package which includes termly audits at each of our schools.
- Encouraging a more collaborative approach when organising staff training events
- Sharing of office space/facilities amongst schools for meetings and events
- Rolling out a programme of Trust-wide CPD

Furthermore, the Trust has acted to support suppliers by ensuring that all eligible invoices were paid within 30-day payment terms, and sooner where feasible, recognising that suppliers (particularly small businesses) have been adversely affected by inflationary pressures.

As a Trust we have taken care to reduce risk, by engaging in fixed term contracts for most services. The focus for next financial year will be around streamlining processes and looking to make further savings through both collaborative working and maximising economies of scale. The Trust also aims to introduce curriculum-led financial planning to drive decision-making about resources at school-level.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ Armstrong Watson Audit Limited as internal auditor.

This option has been chosen to add an extra layer of security.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial and other 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:

- Testing of compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook
- Testing of Internal Controls & Process Reviews (including Income, Financial reporting, and Management Accounts)
- Review of Monthly management accounts to ensure the ESFA 'schedule of musts' is being adhered to
- Testing of payroll and bank payment processes
- Review of VAT accounting procedures

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

During the reporting period no significant control issues arose as a result of the internal auditor's work.

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

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

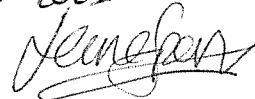
- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the Trust's Chief Financial and Operating Officer who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- the work of the external auditors;
- correspondence from ESFA e.g. FNTI/NtI and 'minded to' letters.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on and signed on their behalf by:

13 December 2023


G L McGregor
Chair of Trustees


J C Spence
Accounting Officer

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022 including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

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



J C Spence

Accounting Officer

Date: 13 December 2023

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT**

UNQUALIFIED OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

BASIS FOR OPINION

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

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

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

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

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

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT (CONTINUED)**

OTHER INFORMATION

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the 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 our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT (CONTINUED)**

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

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

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

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT (CONTINUED)**

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- Obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the Trust operates in and how they are complying with the legal and regulatory framework
- Inquired of management and those charged with governance about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities including any known, actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud,
- Discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements might be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we considered the most significant laws and regulations which have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), ESFA accounting requirements (including the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook and the Academies Accounts Direction), Companies Act 2006 and the Academies's governing document. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliance which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the director's report and remaining alert to new or unusual transactions which may not be in accordance with the governing documents.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls and income recognition as the areas where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. We designed audit procedures to respond to the risk, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Audit procedures performed included, but were not limited to:

- testing manual journal entries and other adjustments
- evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant or unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business
- challenging judgments and estimates
- reviewing income transactions around the year end to look for potential "window dressing".

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

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT (CONTINUED)**

USE OF OUR REPORT

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



H O'Driscoll (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Waltons Business Advisers Limited

Chartered Accountants

Registered Auditors

Maritime House

Harbour Walk

The Marina

Hartlepool

TS24 0UX

13 December 2023

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO GALILEO
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 20 July 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit 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 Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST'S ACCOUNTING
OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Galileo Multi Academy Trust - Audit's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 12 September 2018 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO GALILEO
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

APPROACH

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes a review of the design and implementation of the academy's internal controls and review processes on regularity, supported by detailed tests on samples of costs incurred by the academy and specific transactions identified from our review.

This work included:

- Review minutes of meetings of Trustees
- Review Internal Assurance reports
- Review payroll for evidence of authorisation and review any extra contractual payments
- Review a sample of purchases and expense claims
- Review of a sample of contracts entered into and procurement procedures
- Review a sample of credit card transactions
- Review lines of delegation and limits set
- Review register of interests
- Review related party transactions
- Review other income to ensure in line with funding agreement
- Review risk register and business continuity plans

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO GALILEO
MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

CONCLUSION

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



Reporting Accountant
Waltons Business Advisers Limited
Chartered Accountants
Registered Auditors
Maritime House
Harbour Walk
The Marina
Haerlepool
TS24 0UX

Date: 13 December 2023

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations and capital grants	4	32,113	-	627,876	659,989	489,352
Other trading activities	6	724,347	-	-	724,347	1,264,231
Investments	7	356	-	-	356	347
Charitable activities		25,526	17,188,754	-	17,214,280	16,183,349
TOTAL INCOME		782,342	17,188,754	627,876	18,598,972	17,937,279
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds	9	187,886	-	-	187,886	191,247
Charitable activities	8	375,314	17,294,473	491,147	18,160,934	18,769,355
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		563,200	17,294,473	491,147	18,348,820	18,960,602
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		219,142	(105,719)	136,729	250,152	(1,023,323)
Transfers between funds	22	-	(147,531)	147,531	-	-
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		219,142	(253,250)	284,260	250,152	(1,023,323)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	29	-	2,796,000	-	2,796,000	10,787,000
Pension surplus not recognised	29	-	(2,259,000)	-	(2,259,000)	-
Net movement in funds		219,142	283,750	284,260	787,152	9,763,677

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Note					
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:					
Total funds brought forward	1,492,515	46,106	15,406,038	16,944,659	7,180,982
Net movement in funds	219,142	283,750	284,260	787,152	9,763,677
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	1,711,657	329,856	15,690,298	17,731,811	16,944,659

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 47 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10700526

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

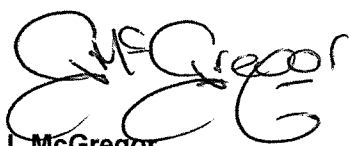
	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	18	14,961,923	14,725,113
		14,961,923	14,725,113
CURRENT ASSETS			
Stocks	19	-	5,250
Debtors	20	348,330	328,013
Cash at bank and in hand		3,670,305	3,341,021
		4,018,635	3,674,284
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	21	(1,248,747)	(1,255,738)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		2,769,888	2,418,546
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		17,731,811	17,143,659
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	29	-	(199,000)
TOTAL NET ASSETS		17,731,811	16,944,659

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10700526

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	22	15,690,298	15,406,038
Restricted income funds	22	329,856	245,106
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	22	16,020,154	15,651,144
Pension reserve	22	-	(199,000)
RESTRICTED FUNDS	22	16,020,154	15,452,144
UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS	22	1,711,657	1,492,515
TOTAL FUNDS		17,731,811	16,944,659

The financial statements on pages 42 to 80 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 13 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf, by:


G L McGregor
 (Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 47 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash provided by operating activities	24	401,651	424,489
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	25	(72,367)	(348,895)
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		329,284	75,594
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		3,341,021	3,265,427
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF THE YEAR	26, 27	<u>3,670,305</u>	<u>3,341,021</u>

The notes on pages 47 to 80 form part of these financial statements

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

1.2 Going concern

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

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the 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.

There is nothing in any post balance sheet events that may impact the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern.

Given the above the Trustees continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the 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.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

GALILEO MULTI ACADEMY TRUST - AUDIT
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.4 Income

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

- **Grants**

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year 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.

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

Other income is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity.

- **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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.6 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 Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable, and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.

The estimated useful lives are as follows:

Computer software	- 4 years straight line
-------------------	-------------------------

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Long-term leasehold property	- 125 years
Leasehold improvements	- 10 years
Plant and machinery	- 8 years
Computer equipment	- 4 years

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

1.9 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 bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 20. 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 as detailed in note 21. 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.

1.10 Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to 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.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGEMENT

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit 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 29, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

As explained in note 29, the actuarial valuation report as at 31 August 2023 produced an estimated asset. In the opinion of the Trustees this asset is unlikely to be realised and therefore the Trust has not recognised this in the financial statements. This has reduced the value of scheme assets and an adjustment has been included in the SOFA to reflect this.

Had the asset been recognised this would result in an increase in restricted funds of £2,259,000.

3. COMPANY STATUS

The academy is a company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. In the event of the academy being wound up the liability is limited to £1 per member of the academy.

The registered office address is:

Innovation Centre
Vienna Court
Kirkleatham Business Park
Redcar
TS10 5SH

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	32,113	-	32,113	34,375
Grants	-	627,876	627,876	454,977
	<u>32,113</u>	<u>627,876</u>	<u>659,989</u>	<u>489,352</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>34,375</u>	<u>454,977</u>	<u>489,352</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

5. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant	-	12,195,659	12,195,659	12,004,469
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Rates reclaim	-	30,793	30,793	54,711
English hub	-	566,965	566,965	172,324
Pupil premium	-	1,043,959	1,043,959	1,035,146
Universal infant free school meals	-	343,659	343,659	350,671
Teacher pay grant	-	48,585	48,585	79,510
Other ESFA grant funding	-	196,214	196,214	145,607
PE and sports Grant	-	183,160	183,160	183,020
Supplementary grant	-	365,563	365,563	152,319
	-	14,974,557	14,974,557	14,177,777
Other Government grants				
Early years	-	1,250,918	1,250,918	1,244,638
Special educational needs	-	624,240	624,240	568,006
Other revenue grants	-	67,438	67,438	49,053
Pupil premium local authority	-	95,284	95,284	33,382
	-	2,037,880	2,037,880	1,895,079
Other income from charitable activities	25,526	-	25,526	31,661
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Covid recovery premium & Tutoring income	-	176,317	176,317	78,832
	-	176,317	176,317	78,832
	25,526	17,188,754	17,214,280	16,183,349
Total 2023	25,526	17,188,754	17,214,280	16,183,349
Total 2022	31,661	16,151,688	16,183,349	

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

6. INCOME FROM OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Catering	185,689	185,689	808,425
Breakfast club	76,321	76,321	70,924
Other income self generated	142,609	142,609	114,735
Lettings income	29,939	29,939	14,719
Uniforms	2,290	2,290	2,382
Trip income	118,599	118,599	115,719
Staff services consultancy	21,446	21,446	3,779
Staff absence insurance	5,581	5,581	38,220
After school club	141,873	141,873	95,328
Total 2023	724,347	724,347	1,264,231
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>1,264,231</i>	<i>1,264,231</i>	

7. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Investment income	356	356	347
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>347</i>	<i>347</i>	

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8. EXPENDITURE

	Staff Costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other 2023 £	Total 2023 £	<i>Total</i> <i>2022</i> £
Expenditure on raising funds					
Direct costs	-	-	187,886	187,886	191,247
Educational operations					
Direct costs	6,945,574	-	1,081,521	8,027,095	7,556,646
Allocated support costs	7,170,986	873,789	2,089,064	10,133,839	11,212,709
	<u>14,116,560</u>	<u>873,789</u>	<u>3,358,471</u>	<u>18,348,820</u>	<u>18,960,602</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>14,772,259</u>	<u>1,009,213</u>	<u>3,179,130</u>	<u>18,960,602</u>	

9. EXPENDITURE ON RAISING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total</i> <i>funds</i> <i>2022</i> £
Uniforms	5,922	5,922	5,209
Trips	176,281	176,281	185,858
Lettings	5,683	5,683	180
	<u>187,886</u>	<u>187,886</u>	<u>191,247</u>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<u>191,247</u>	<u>191,247</u>	

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Educational activities	8,027,095	10,133,839	18,160,934	18,769,355
<i>Total 2022</i>	7,556,646	11,212,709	18,769,355	

ANALYSIS OF DIRECT COSTS

	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	6,945,574	6,882,276
Staff expenses	19,997	20,056
Educational supplies	257,293	73,156
Technology costs	10,610	8,182
Educational consultancy	633,784	440,404
Other costs	159,837	132,572
	8,027,095	7,556,646

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS

	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Staff costs	7,170,986	7,889,983
Depreciation	463,789	397,591
Other staff costs	43,472	45,241
Amortisation	-	7,167
Legal & professional fees	44,482	48,871
Technology costs	265,454	207,911
Other costs	339,982	468,765
Maintenance of premises	137,379	356,573
Other premises costs	162,850	166,580
Cleaning and caretaking	45,914	74,704
Governance costs	56,628	43,164
Rates	59,116	55,832
Energy	435,927	275,365
Security	11,351	17,996
Transport	30,902	29,210
Catering	829,355	941,237
Pension interest charge	15,000	172,000
Rent	21,252	14,519
	10,133,839	11,212,709

In line with the clarified guidance in the 2022-23 accounts direction the salaries of teaching assistants are now included within support costs rather than direct costs. In total this has meant £2,719,178 of the prior year direct costs are now included within support.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

11. GOVERNANCE COSTS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Auditors remuneration	13,700	12,075
Auditors non audit costs	4,900	4,785
Internal audit costs	11,940	7,960
Other governance costs	26,088	18,344
	<u>56,628</u>	<u>43,164</u>

12. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	33,263	23,159
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	463,789	397,591
Amortisation of intangible assets	-	7,167
Internal audit costs	11,940	7,960
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	13,700	12,075
- other services	4,900	4,785
	<u></u>	<u></u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

13. STAFF

a. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	10,401,874	10,165,598
Social security costs	969,778	891,574
Pension costs	2,487,707	3,398,847
	<u>13,859,359</u>	<u>14,456,019</u>
Agency staff costs	217,201	299,494
Staff restructuring costs	40,000	16,746
	<u>14,116,560</u>	<u>14,772,259</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2023 £	2022 £
Redundancy payments	-	12,946
Severance payments	40,000	3,800
	<u>40,000</u>	<u>16,746</u>

b. SEVERANCE PAYMENTS

The Academy Trust paid 1 severance payments in the year (2022 - 1), disclosed in the following bands:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
£0 - £25,000	-	1
£25,001 - £50,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

c. SPECIAL STAFF SEVERANCE PAYMENTS

Included in staff restructuring costs is one special severance payments totalling £29,080 (2022: £nil).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

13. STAFF (CONTINUED)

d. STAFF NUMBERS

The average number of persons employed by the Academy Trust during the year was as follows:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Teaching staff	157	147
Admin and support	280	268
Management	20	12
	457	427

e. HIGHER PAID STAFF

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

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	5
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	9	6
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	-
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	-	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	-
	1	-

f. KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £274,638 (2022 - £194,331).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14. CENTRAL SERVICES

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- Strategic Management
- Strategic HR Support
- Financial Management
- Strategic Estates Management
- Expert Safeguarding Support, training, and Audit costs
- Educational Psychologist Services (EPS)
- Data Analysis
- Employee Assistance Scheme
- Trust wide Internet provision & telephony Services
- Annual External Audit & Teachers Pension Audit
- Internal Assurance
- Legal Services
- Health and Safety Support (incl. fire risk assessments)
- Completion of Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) returns costs
- Annual actuary re-valuation fees
- Finance Software Hosting fees
- In-house Leadership & Staff Development Training
- National College CPD subscription
- School Improvement Support
- Governance Support Services and full Clerking services (incl. Local School Boards)
- Comprehensive Governors training package
- Payroll administration and Teacher Pension returns
- Support in training and up-skilling of administration and finance staff to meet trust-wide procedures and standards
- Trust Website design and compliance
- Data Protection Officer Services
- School to School support costs
- Evolve Risk Management system

Outside of the Central Team Top-slice, the trust will work collaboratively and use its purchasing power on those high-value purchases/services to ensure that we provide best value for taxpayers and ensure we target as much money to front-line children.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14. CENTRAL SERVICES (CONTINUED)

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

The services are paid for by each school in the Academy Trust based on a recharge of 6.5% GAG income

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Coatham Church of England Primary School	63,718	60,684
Green Gates Primary School	77,049	70,464
Galley Hill Primary School	68,741	62,763
Ings Farm Primary School	115,529	114,114
J E Batty Primary School	57,021	54,893
Lakes Primary School	88,549	84,979
New Marske Primary School	58,746	57,858
St Peters Church of England Primary School	87,498	84,347
Westgarth Primary School	88,681	82,597
Wheatlands Primary School	111,105	107,593
Total	816,637	780,292

15. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2023, expenses totalling £96 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2022 - £49 to 1 Trustee). Expenses reimbursed were in respect of travel costs.

16. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17. INTANGIBLE ASSETS

	Develop- ment £
Cost	
At 1 September 2022	49,154
At 31 August 2023	<u>49,154</u>
Amortisation	
At 1 September 2022	49,154
At 31 August 2023	<u>49,154</u>
Net book value	
At 31 August 2023	<u><u>-</u></u>
At 31 August 2022	<u><u>-</u></u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Long-term leasehold property £	Short-term leasehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	13,222,370	1,620,558	470,956	461,661	15,775,545
Additions	-	540,503	45,938	114,158	700,599
At 31 August 2023	13,222,370	2,161,061	516,894	575,819	16,476,144
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	467,193	223,195	108,478	251,566	1,050,432
Charge for the year	105,779	182,131	62,800	113,079	463,789
At 31 August 2023	572,972	405,326	171,278	364,645	1,514,221
Net book value					
At 31 August 2023	12,649,398	1,755,735	345,616	211,174	14,961,923
At 31 August 2022	12,755,177	1,397,363	362,478	210,095	14,725,113

The Academy Trust occupies land and buildings which were used by the predecessor local authority schools prior to conversion. These properties were gifted to the Academy Trust on conversion on a 125 year lease by Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council. The council continues to own the freehold and the Academy Trust has the right to occupy the properties for a peppercorn rent. The properties are shown above in long term leasehold property and are written off over the life of the lease.

The Academy Trust also occupies school buildings which are owned by site trustees which have links with the Diocese of York. The site trustees are the providers of the land and buildings on the same basis as when the academy was a maintained school. The Academy Trust occupies the land and buildings under a mere licence. This continuing permission of the site trustees is pursuant to, and subject to, the relevant trust's charitable objects. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land and buildings to the Academy Trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the Academy Trust. The site trustees have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the Academy Trust less than two years written notice to terminate the occupation of the land and buildings. Having considered the facts under which the Academy Trust is occupying the land and buildings the Trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the Academy Trust will not be recognised on the balance sheet of the academy.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

19. STOCKS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Catering supplies	-	5,250
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

20. DEBTORS

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	3,569	4,949
Other debtors	50,184	28,944
Prepayments and accrued income	294,577	294,120
	<u>348,330</u>	<u>328,013</u>

21. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	246,650	154,827
Other taxation and social security	224,313	208,927
Other creditors	247,521	244,394
Accruals and deferred income	530,263	647,590
	<u>1,248,747</u>	<u>1,255,738</u>

	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	238,879	203,465
Resources deferred during the year	235,384	238,879
Amounts released from previous periods	(238,879)	(203,465)
	<u>235,384</u>	<u>238,879</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	1,492,515	782,342	(563,200)	-	-	1,711,657
	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds						
General annual grant (GAG)	210,559	12,195,659	(11,937,778)	(147,531)	-	320,909
Rates reclaim	-	30,793	(30,793)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	-	1,139,243	(1,139,243)	-	-	-
Universal infant free school meals	-	343,659	(343,659)	-	-	-
Early years	-	1,250,918	(1,250,918)	-	-	-
PE & sport grant	-	183,160	(183,160)	-	-	-
Higher educational needs	-	624,240	(624,240)	-	-	-
Teacher pay grant	-	48,585	(48,585)	-	-	-
Other ESFA grants	-	196,214	(196,214)	-	-	-
English hub	34,547	566,965	(592,565)	-	-	8,947
Other revenue grants	-	67,438	(67,438)	-	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	365,563	(365,563)	-	-	-
Covid recovery	-	176,317	(176,317)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(199,000)	-	(338,000)	-	537,000	-
	46,106	17,188,754	(17,294,473)	(147,531)	537,000	329,856

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Capital transferred on conversion	12,809,782	-	(114,609)	-	-	12,695,173
Other capital grants	2,054,401	627,876	(272,771)	-	-	2,409,506
Capital expenditure from GAG	541,855	-	(103,767)	147,531	-	585,619
	<u>15,406,038</u>	<u>627,876</u>	<u>(491,147)</u>	<u>147,531</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,690,298</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>15,452,144</u>	<u>17,816,630</u>	<u>(17,785,620)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>537,000</u>	<u>16,020,154</u>
Total funds	<u>16,944,659</u>	<u>18,598,972</u>	<u>(18,348,820)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>537,000</u>	<u>17,731,811</u>

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

General annual grant - this is the money provided to the academy for normal school running costs.

The pupil premium is paid based upon the number of pupils with service parents or who are entitled to free school meals. This funding has paid for support assistants within classrooms.

The funding for higher educational needs and early years has been used to pay for classroom assistants.

The universal infant free school meals funding was to allow the provision of free school meals to all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2.

The rates reclaim is used to pay rates.

The PE and sport grant has been used on trips and activities and the salaries of support assistants involved in these activities.

The teacher pay and teacher pension grants have been used to help fund the increases in teacher wages and pension contributions.

The English Hub grant is to support Westgarth Primary School to be an English Hub school, providing support to schools throughout the north east region.

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22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

The supplementary grant was towards the costs of the health and social care levy.

The Covid catch up premium has been spent on helping pupils disadvantaged by the Covid pandemic.

The capital transferred on conversion represents the land and buildings and other assets and liabilities transferred to the school at nil consideration from Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council upon conversion to an Academy. This fund is being depreciation in line with the assets represented.

Other capital grants are government funds received for the purchase of capital equipment and expenditure on repairs projects. The amount carried forward represents assets purchased in the year at their net book value and funding yet to be spent

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	902,030	1,330,614	(740,129)	-	-	1,492,515
Restricted general funds						
General annual grant (GAG)	468,921	12,004,469	(11,877,607)	(385,224)	-	210,559
Rates reclaim	-	54,711	(54,711)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	31,328	1,068,526	(1,099,854)	-	-	-
Universal infant free school meals	-	350,671	(350,671)	-	-	-
Early years	-	1,244,638	(1,244,638)	-	-	-
PE & sport grant	714	183,020	(183,734)	-	-	-
Higher educational needs	-	568,006	(568,006)	-	-	-
Teacher pay grant	-	79,510	(79,510)	-	-	-
Other ESFA grants	-	145,607	(145,607)	-	-	-
English hub	232,088	172,324	(369,865)	-	-	34,547
Other revenue grants	-	49,053	(49,053)	-	-	-
Covid catch up premium	94,983	-	(94,983)	-	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	152,319	(152,319)	-	-	-
Covid recovery	-	78,834	(78,834)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(9,506,000)	-	(1,480,000)	-	10,787,000	(199,000)
	<u>(8,677,966)</u>	<u>16,151,688</u>	<u>(17,829,392)</u>	<u>(385,224)</u>	<u>10,787,000</u>	<u>46,106</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Capital transferred on conversion	12,928,453	-	(118,671)	-	-	12,809,782
Other capital grants	1,810,950	454,977	(211,526)	-	-	2,054,401
Capital expenditure from GAG	217,515	-	(60,884)	385,224	-	541,855
	<u>14,956,918</u>	<u>454,977</u>	<u>(391,081)</u>	<u>385,224</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,406,038</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>6,278,952</u>	<u>16,606,665</u>	<u>(18,220,473)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,787,000</u>	<u>15,452,144</u>
Total funds	<u>7,180,982</u>	<u>17,937,279</u>	<u>(18,960,602)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,787,000</u>	<u>16,944,659</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Coatham Church of England Primary School	99,255	55,850
Ings Farm Primary School	385,395	361,437
John Emmerson Batty Primary School	24,662	50,678
Lakes Primary School	196,754	177,619
Galley Hill Primary School	179,210	173,945
Green Gates Primary School	345,628	264,024
New Marske Primary School	35,970	46,851
St Peters Church of England Primary School	383,305	305,780
Westgarth Primary School	117,210	183,031
Wheatlands Primary School	188,604	168,087
Galileo Trust	85,520	79,968
Central catering	-	(129,649)
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	2,041,513	1,737,621
Restricted fixed asset fund	15,690,298	15,406,038
Pension reserve	-	(199,000)
Total	17,731,811	16,944,659

Included in the balance above for Westgarth Primary School is £8,947 English Hub funding which is held as a restricted fund.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

22. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (CONTINUED)

TOTAL COST ANALYSIS BY ACADEMY

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Coatham Church of England Primary School	453,229	528,545	19,431	211,084	1,212,289	1,156,573
Ings Farm Primary School	1,030,495	754,145	29,203	374,418	2,188,261	2,062,397
John Emmerson Batty Primary School	451,957	455,589	18,185	174,588	1,100,319	1,119,443
Lakes Primary School	731,102	720,695	15,080	281,130	1,748,007	1,701,620
Galley Hill Primary School	593,919	432,574	28,820	325,273	1,380,586	1,257,329
Green Gates Primary School	642,850	585,969	31,630	275,165	1,535,614	1,463,230
New Marske Primary School	484,664	513,198	16,398	240,708	1,254,968	1,211,957
St Peters Church of England Primary School	794,726	917,751	37,986	286,421	2,036,884	1,934,687
Westgarth Primary School	769,580	807,655	22,305	728,230	2,327,770	1,950,718
Wheatlands Primary School	993,052	703,009	38,083	343,673	2,077,817	1,920,578
Galileo Trust	-	751,856	172	272,588	1,024,616	2,158,762
Central catering	-	-	-	(2,100)	(2,100)	625,717
Academy Trust	6,945,574	7,170,986	257,293	3,511,178	17,885,031	18,563,011

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

23. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - CURRENT YEAR

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	14,961,923	14,961,923
Current assets	2,725,020	565,240	728,375	4,018,635
Creditors due within one year	(1,013,363)	(235,384)	-	(1,248,747)
Total	1,711,657	329,856	15,690,298	17,731,811

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	14,725,113	14,725,113
Current assets	2,515,083	478,276	680,925	3,674,284
Creditors due within one year	(1,022,568)	(233,170)	-	(1,255,738)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(199,000)	-	(199,000)
Total	1,492,515	46,106	15,406,038	16,944,659

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per statement of financial activities)	250,152	(1,023,323)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation & amortisation charges	463,789	404,758
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(627,876)	(454,977)
Interest receivable	(356)	(347)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	338,000	1,480,000
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	5,250	(5,250)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(20,317)	61,658
Decrease in creditors	(6,991)	(38,030)
Net cash provided by operating activities	401,651	424,489

25. CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	356	347
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(700,599)	(804,219)
Capital grants from DfE Group	627,876	454,977
Net cash used in investing activities	(72,367)	(348,895)

26. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	3,670,305	3,341,021
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,670,305	3,341,021

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

27. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET DEBT

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	3,341,021	329,284	3,670,305
	<u>3,341,021</u>	<u>329,284</u>	<u>3,670,305</u>

28. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2023 £	2022 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	-	265,800
	<u>-</u>	<u>265,800</u>

29. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Academy Trust 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 Middlesbrough Borough Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £245,406 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £239,665) and are included within creditors.

TEACHERS' PENSION SCHEME

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

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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29. PENSION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

VALUATION OF THE TEACHERS' PENSION SCHEME

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

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

However, the assumptions were considered and set by the Department for Education prior to the ruling in the 'McCloud/Sargeant case'. This case has required the courts to consider cases regarding the implementation of the 2015 reforms to Public Service Pensions including the Teachers' Pensions.

On 27 June 2019 the Supreme Court denied the government permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's judgment that transitional provisions introduced to the reformed pension schemes in 2015 gave rise to unlawful age discrimination. The government is respecting the Court's decision and has said it will engage fully with the Employment Tribunal as well as employer and member representatives to agree how the discriminations will be remedied. The government announced on 4 February 2021 that it intends to proceed with a deferred choice underpin under which members will be able to choose either legacy or reformed scheme benefits in respect of their service during the period between 1 April 2015 and 31 March 2022 at the point they become payable.

The TPS is subject to a cost cap mechanism which was put in place to protect taxpayers against unforeseen changes in scheme costs. The Chief Secretary to the Treasury, having in 2018 announced that there would be a review of this cost cap mechanism, in January 2019 announced a pause to the cost cap mechanism following the Court of Appeal's ruling in the McCloud/Sargeant case and until there is certainty about the value of pensions to employees from April 2015 onwards. The pause was lifted in July 2020, and a consultation was launched on 24 June on proposed changes to the cost control mechanism following a review by the Government Actuary. The consultation closed to response on 19 August 2021 and the Government is currently analysing the responses.

In view of the above rulings and decisions the assumptions used in the 31 March 2016 Actuarial Valuation may become inappropriate. In this scenario, a valuation prepared in accordance with revised benefits and suitably revised assumptions would yield different results than those contained in the Actuarial Valuation.

Until the cost cap mechanism review is completed it is not possible to conclude on any financial impact or future changes to the contribution rates of the TPS. Accordingly no provision for any additional past benefit pension costs is included in these financial statements.

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29. PENSION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £1,198,741 (2022 - £1,154,243).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx>).

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

LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £903,000 (2022 - £869,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £674,000 (2022 - £648,000) and employees' contributions totalled £229,000 (2022 - £221,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.5 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy Trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Academy Trust at the balance sheet date.

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

PRINCIPAL ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.00	4.05
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.00	3.05
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20	4.25
Inflation assumption (CPI)	3.00	3.05

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

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

29. PENSION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

	2023	2022
	Years	Years
<i>RETIRING TODAY</i>		
Males	20.5	21.7
Females	23.5	23.5
<i>RETIRING IN 20 YEARS</i>		
Males	21.3	22.9
Females	25.0	25.3

SENSITIVITY ANALYSIS

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(338)	(366)
Discount rate -0.1%	338	366
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	(567)	(596)
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	567	596
CPI rate +0.1%	298	333
CPI rate -0.1%	(298)	(333)
Salaries + 0.1%	46	36
Salaries -0.1%	(46)	(36)

SHARE OF SCHEME ASSETS

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31	At 31 August
	August 2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	12,000,470	9,999,400
Property	3,780,970	2,646,900
Cash and other liquid assets	657,560	2,058,700
Total market value of assets	16,439,000	14,705,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,003,000 (2022 - £829,000).

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29. PENSION COMMITMENTS (CONTINUED)

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current service cost	(997,000)	(1,956,000)
Interest cost	(15,000)	(172,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	<u>(1,012,000)</u>	<u>(2,128,000)</u>

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September	14,904,000	22,667,000
Current service cost	997,000	1,956,000
Interest cost	655,000	402,000
Employee contributions	229,000	221,000
Actuarial gains	(2,433,000)	(10,188,000)
Benefits paid	(172,000)	(154,000)
At 31 August	<u>14,180,000</u>	<u>14,904,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September	14,705,000	13,161,000
Interest income	640,000	230,000
Actuarial gains	363,000	599,000
Employer contributions	674,000	648,000
Employee contributions	229,000	221,000
Benefits paid	(172,000)	(154,000)
Derecognised gain	(2,259,000)	-
At 31 August	<u>14,180,000</u>	<u>14,705,000</u>

The actuarial valuation report as at 31 August 2023 produced an estimated asset as a result of changes in discount rates used in the valuation. As the asset is unlikely to be realised the Trust has not recognised this in the financial statements. This has reduced the value of scheme assets and an adjustment has been included in the SOFA to reflect this.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

30. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2023 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	20,818	21,375
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	50,310	21,310
	71,128	42,685

31. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

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

As an Academy Trust that includes Church of England schools in the Diocese of York, the Diocese of York Educational Trust is included as one of the Academy Trust Members. The York Diocesan Board of Education (YDBE) is also entitled to appoint a limited number of Trustees (please see above). The York Diocesan Board of Finance Limited (company number 00225234) provides services to Church of England schools in the Academy Trust, being in relation to essential functions fundamental to the religious character and ethos of those schools, under the YDBE Service Level Agreement (SLA).

Expenditure

The Academy Trust purchased services totalling £1,790 (2022- £1,790) from The York Diocesan Board of Finance Limited.