Company Registration Number: 08130468 (England & Wales)

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Bishop Fleming

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

N Rees
M Christopher
E Gregory (on behalf of Bath & Wells Diocese Board of Education)
P McGuigan
J Dwyer (resigned 1 January 2022)
A Cooke (appointed 1 January 2022)
J Triffit

Trustees

N Rees, Chair[1,4]
C Plewes[2,3,4]
R Davey[2]
R Sullivan[2]
J Ponsonby (deceased 21 October 2022)[1,3]
A Cooke (resigned 12 January 2022)[1,3]
C Bedding (appointed 27 September 2021)[2]
G Colls (appointed 23 September 2021)[1]
I Macfarlane (appointed 13 January 2022)[1]
J Triffit (appointed 14 February 2022)[2]
S Jones (appointed 11 November 2021)[2]
S Lusher (appointed 23 September 2021)[4]
T Bartley (appointed 23 September 2021)[1,3]
P Tait (resigned 20 December 2021)[2]

[1] Finance & Resources Committee
[2] Teaching, Learning & Improvement Committee
[3] Pay & Remuneration Committee
[4] Audit & Risk

Company registered number 08130468

Company name Sherborne Area Schools' Trust

Principal and registered office

The Gryphon School
Bristol Road
Sherborne
Dorset
United Kingdom
DT9 4EQ

Company secretary P Knell

Accounting officer Colin Sinclair (appointed 1 September 2021)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Trust management team	C Sinclair, CEO S Smith, Deputy CEO/Director of School Improvement C Watson, Director of Human Resources P Knell, Director of Finance & Operations R Stacey, Director of Business Operations
Independent auditors	Bishop Fleming LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors 2nd Floor Stratus House Emperor Way Exeter Business Park Exeter EX1 3QS
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 9 High Street Yeovil Somerset BA20 1RN
Solicitors	Veale Wasbrough Vizards Narrow Quay House Narrow Way Bristol BS1 4QA

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the Charitable Company for the year ended 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

Sherborne Area School's Trust (SAST, the Trust) operates 13 primary and four secondary academies in the North Dorset, West Dorset and South Somerset area. The Trust has a pupil capacity of 6,169 and had a roll of 5,057 in the school census on 1st October 2022.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The 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 Trust. The Trustees of SAST are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the year, and to the date the accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details.

Trustees' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the Trust's expense to cover the 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 Trust, 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 of a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees in their capacity as Directors of the Trust.

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has opted in to the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

There were 12 Trustees including five Foundation Trustees as at 31st August 2022. The Articles of Association (45-80) of the Trust detail the following arrangements for Trustees:

- The number of Trustees shall not be less than five
- The Members shall appoint no fewer than three Trustees
- The Members will ensure that the number of Foundation Trustees appointed does not exceed 50% of the total number of Trustees
- The Members will ensure that the total number of Trustees employed by the Trust is no more than one third of the total

The Diocese of Salisbury Board of Education, and the Diocese of Bath & Wells Board of Education, as corporate members, may appoint Trustees under article 50A to ensure Foundation Trustees represent 50% of the total number of Trustees.

New Trustees are appointed under the requirements of the Articles of Association. The Trustees are appointed on the basis of the skills balance required for the Trust including strategic leadership, business management, finance, law or educational improvement. There is a full selection process including interviews and meetings with prospective Trustees.

All Trustees, Governors and professionals working for the Trust accept and embrace their professional responsibility to care for every child and young person within the Trust. They are open to change, treating all within the wider SAST community with dignity and respect at all times. They will follow the seven principles of public life (the Nolan principles).

The term of office for Trustees is four years. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee can be re-appointed or re-elected. Trustees elect a Chair and Vice Chair annually.

Tribute to John Ponsonby OBE

The Trustees would like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to Air Vice Marshall John Ponsonby OBE, Vice Chair of the Trust during the year, at the incredibly sad news of his death, prior to the completion of this annual report and accounts. John was a much-loved colleague within the Trust, having joined the Board in February 2019 and had been instrumental in the ongoing success and development of the Trust ever since. He will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

Policies and Procedures adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The Trust is committed to ensuring that all Trustees and Local Governors are given the induction, training and information required to support their role to provide challenge and support to the Executive Leadership, the headteachers and the school leadership teams.

All Trustees have access to policies, plans, evaluation reports, all external performance information, agendas, reports, minutes and accompanying papers. Trustees are welcome to visit each School in liaison with the headteachers.

Trustees have access to Dorset Governors Services and are members of the National Governance Association (NGA) including training courses. There is an annual schedule of training. The Trustees meet annually for a full day Conference.

Organisational Structure

The Sherborne Area Schools' Trust (SAST) is the corporate body for running the affairs of all the schools in the Trust. The Secretary of State for Education has entered into an agreement with the Sherborne Area Schools' Trust to run the schools in the Trust and therefore the Trust Board is responsible for the standards and operation of all schools in the Trust.

There is a balance as to the responsibilities delegated to schools and those that remain the direct responsibility of the Trust. We aim to continually evaluate, improve and develop through strong, effective and accountable leadership at all levels. The aim is to establish clear, simple and effective accountability including slim and streamlined governance. The Scheme of Delegation details the roles and responsibilities of the Members, the Trustees, the Local Governing Bodies, the CEO (who is the Accounting Officer) and the school headteachers. All Schools are accountable to the Board of Trustees for standards and achievement.

There are three levels of governance:

1. Members:- Members appoint the Trustees to run the Trust, and are the only people able to amend the Articles of Association of the SAST. There are six members of which one is the Diocese of Salisbury Board of Education in a corporate capacity, one is the Diocese of Bath & Wells Board of Education in a corporate capacity, and two others have foundation status. Members have a strategic vision, with a range of skills such as academic/education, financial, legal, corporate business and creative/cultural.

2. Board of Trustees:- Trustees determine policy, and make decisions for the Trust. The Trust Board is the statutory Governing Body of each School. There were 12 Trustees as at 31st August 2022, including six with foundation status. The Trustees are appointed on the basis of the skills balance required for the Trust including finance, legal, HR, project/business management, education, estates etc. The Board of Trustees meets at least four times per year. The Board establishes an overall framework for the governance of the Trust and determines membership, terms of reference and procedures of Committees and other groups. It receives reports including policies from its committees for ratification. It monitors the activities of the Committees through the minutes of their meetings.

3. Local Governing Body (LGB):- Each school has a LGB with agreed delegation to respond to the context, status, needs and resources of its school community and its connections to the wider world. The LGB will focus on teaching and learning, standards and achievement, community and safeguarding. There are up to 12 Local Governors in each School and its composition reflects its previous VC, VA or community status.

The Board of Trustees has three central Trust Committees: one for Teaching, Learning and Improvement, one for Finance and Resources, and one for Audit & Risk.

- The Teaching, Learning and Improvement Committee terms of reference focus on performance and standards, educational development, staffing, safeguarding and other compliance
- The Finance and Resources Committee terms of reference focus on finance and the management of resources
- The Audit & Risk Committee terms of reference focus on audit, risk and compliance

In addition, there are two sub-committees, being a Pay and Remuneration Committee, and a School Condition Allocation Committee as well as Trust panels for Staff Discipline, Student Discipline and the CEO Appraisal.

There is an Executive Team which runs SAST in accordance with Board's strategy, objectives and policies. This includes the CEO, School Improvement Director, HR Director, Business Director and Finance and Operations Director, who are appointed by the Board of Trustees. The Headteacher Group chaired by the CEO meets at least every two weeks. The CEO is the Accounting Officer.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Trustees consider that the Board of Trustees and the Trust Executive Team collectively provide the direction, control and operation of the Trust on a day-to-day basis. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee received remuneration in the year in respect of their role as a Trustee.

Details of Trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The pay of key management personnel is reviewed annually. The SAST Pay and Remuneration Committee has the following responsibilities:

1. To determine the Pay Policy for the Trust.
2. To ratify appropriate salary ranges and starting salaries for lead practitioners, and members of the leadership group.
3. To ratify annual pay progress for teachers as set out in the Pay Policy, taking account of any recommendations made by the school headteachers in accordance with the approved pay policy and appraisal evidence.
4. To approve applications to be paid on the Upper Pay Range.
5. To approve annual pay progression for the CEO, taking account of the recommendation made by the CEO Appraisal Panel, following the annual review.
6. To determine the application of national inflationary increases as required.
7. To monitor and report to the Local Governing Bodies on the annual pattern of performance pay progression at each level and the correlation between pay progression, quality of teaching and outcomes for pupils.
8. To monitor and review the performance and pay of all headteachers in the Trust.

The annual appraisal of the CEO is conducted by a minimum of three Trustees with an independent external advisor. The annual appraisals of the school headteachers are conducted by the CEO and two members of the LGB. The Trustees benchmark against pay levels in other Academies of a similar size.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
1	0.87 FTE

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	£3,190
Provide the total pay bill	£27,688,628
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time / total pay bill) x 100	0%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period / total paid facility time hours) x 100	100%

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

SASTCO Limited and the Gryphon Sports Centre

The Sherborne Area Schools' Trust Company Limited (the Company) (a trading subsidiary company of SAST limited by guarantee) took over the management of the Gryphon Sports Centre from West Dorset District Council for community access in November 2017.

The Company's objects are to carry on business by providing or assisting in the services for recreation, sporting or other leisure time activities in order to improve the conditions of life for the public at large and such other activities as the directors shall in their absolute discretion determine. There are six directors including one independent director who is not an employee or Trustee of SAST.

Other Networks

The Trust is a member of a number of wider networks, organisations and other schools but has no direct role in their governance or management. A core objective is for the Trust to be outward looking and future focused. We are explicit about using the best ideas from around the country and beyond to help improve the experiences and opportunities of our children, students and staff. We also share our expertise and excellence by school-to-school support with others through a host of groups:

The Jubilee CEO Group brings together CEOs of eight multi-academy trusts from across the South West and Midlands. At its core it aims to address current and emerging strategic problems, to provide a safe place for reflection and mutual support, to support each other's efforts to improve at the leading edge and to provide opportunities for further collaboration by other staff.

The Prince's Teaching Institute (PTI) launched the Schools Programme in 2007 to recognise and reward School departments that develop inspirational ideas and activities which enhance teaching. The English, Geography and Languages Departments at The Gryphon School have once again been awarded the Prince's Teaching Institute Mark.

The Gryphon Foundation (the Charity) (also known as The Digby and Newland and Foster Educational Foundations) was established in 2011. Its objects are:

1. The advancement of the education of pupils of The Gryphon School, Sherborne, Dorset (the School) by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities and special benefits for education at the School (not normally provided by the local education authority).
2. To fund prizes for the pupils at Prize Giving and Celebration of Achievement events at the School.
3. The provision of grants, exhibitions or bursaries for the further or higher education of present or past pupils of the School up to and including the age of 25 (save in exceptional circumstances), including assistance to enable them to enter a profession, trade or calling.
4. Otherwise promoting the education of the beneficiaries of the Charity.

The objects of the Charity shall be furthered in such manner as the Trustees determine and the selection of beneficiaries of the Charity shall be at the Trustees' discretion.

There are no related parties nor sponsors which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of Sherborne Area Schools' Trust.

Engagement with employees

The Trust engages with their employees through many means and methods, including:

- A termly meeting of the SAST Joint Consultative and Negotiation Committee (JCNC)
- Regular updates to all staff via briefings, the staff intranet and newsletters
- Employee Forums including EDI and Wellbeing
- Undertaking a Staff Experience Survey every two years

Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Trust

The Trust plays a major role in the local community including its relationship with local businesses. This includes school transport, catering, maintenance, improved facilities and suppliers. The relationship seeks to ensure value for money and the provision of services and goods.

OBJECTIVES

Objects

The Trust's main object is to advance education, for the public benefit in the United Kingdom, in particular by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Academies which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum. This includes all Academies regardless of faith.

Church of England Academies shall 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 and in having regard to the advice and following any directives of the Diocesan Board of Education.

Our mission

- To be a special collaboration of high performing Primary, Secondary and Alternative Provision Schools seeking to ensure an excellent and sustainable 0-19 education for children within our community across North Dorset, West Dorset and South Somerset.
- To build upon the existing relationships across partnerships and clusters to develop as a family of schools working together to strengthen each School and inspire our young people and their families
- To have a shared commitment to creative and innovative learning opportunities, high aspirations and leadership, and academic success with inspiring Schools, alongside developing the personal attributes for everyone (children and staff) to thrive at every stage of their learning journey.

Our ethos

- Our partnership is an inclusive learning community in which children and adults together are committed to, and inspired by, a love of lifelong learning. The partnership focus is to enhance the whole of a child's learning journey from 0-19
- All Schools are equal partners and are committed to the principles of collaboration, sharing expertise and resources to enable all partner Schools to deliver excellent education for all young people in their care
- Opportunities for greater consistency and coherence will be actively sought for the benefit of all children and staff
- We will celebrate each school's unique and individual characteristics in the community it serves. Each school will retain its individual identity, uniform, ethos and, where relevant, Christian distinctiveness but will be working together for the benefit of the children, families and communities that they serve
- There will be a rigorous focus on the key areas for improvement in order to achieve the highest standards of academic and personal achievement - nurturing our students' spiritual, moral, social, physical and cultural development
- All the Trust leaders will act impartially in the best interest of the Trust and will work in the best interest of all the schools in the Trust
- The Trust will recognise, prepare for and act upon the national and local changes taking place across education and that face the Trust
- The Trust will seek to pre-empt issues of performance (educational, financial, compliance etc). Where a school is experiencing or at risk of experiencing issues, the Trust will take the appropriate action to support the school to resolve those issues in a timely manner and for the benefit of those within the Trust
- All schools value all of our staff and the contribution they bring to our schools and for our young people. All partner schools are committed to supporting the development of all staff, to fostering leadership and succession planning as well as offering staff greater opportunities within the Trust and its academies. We will engage with our staff in shaping the provision across the Trust.

Our values

1. **Partnership and Collaboration**. Our schools support each other, by sharing expertise and resources, to ensure improvement.
2. **Pursuit of Excellence.** We provide a high-quality education to enable all students and staff to aspire, thrive and succeed.
3. **Holistic Lifelong Learning.** We promote the personal development of every child and a love of lifelong learning for our students and staff.
4. **Equality** and Distinctiveness. We celebrate the individuality of each school and all in it. We are proud to be at the heart of our local communities.

Aims

At SAST we aim to achieve the best for, and from, each child. We intend to enable each child to realise his or her full academic, creative and physical potential and to develop positive social and moral values. Our MAT is a community in which children, staff and parents should be part of a happy and caring environment.

The aims of the Trust during the period ended 31 August 2022 are summarised below:

- to continue to raise the standard of educational attainment and achievement of all pupils and demonstrate improvement in every school
- to provide a broad and balanced curriculum and extra-curricular activities
- to develop students as more effective learners
- to enhance the opportunities for tertiary education
- to develop school sites so that they enable students to achieve their full potential
- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high-quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care
- to improve the effectiveness of the MAT by keeping curriculum and organisational structures under continual review
- to establish and use internal capacity to enact effective school improvement
- to meet government-set attainment and progress thresholds in primary and secondary schools
- to provide value for money for the funds expended
- to develop the curriculum, staffing structure and premises at Harbour Vale School to meet the needs of pupils unable to attend mainstream school for different reasons
- to develop greater coherence, clarity and effectiveness in school systems
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements
- to maintain close links with industry and commerce
- to develop the MAT's capacity to manage change, and
- to conduct the MAT's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness

Strategic Priorities

Key priorities for the year are contained in the MAT Strategic Priorities document which is available from the MAT Office. Improvement focuses identified for this year to achieve the Trust's aims were to:

- Create a SAST School Improvement Framework with a differentiated degree of support and challenge
- Optimise the delivery of central services
- Develop a SAST digital teaching and learning programme
- Review and improve governance
- Establish a SAST People Strategy and CPD Programme
- Ensure long term financial sustainability and apply resources to maximise educational value for money
- Review the Trust's estates management and facilities
- Develop the marketing and communications strategy
- Structure the Trust to prepare for future growth, to enable educational value added to new partner schools

Activities and Targets

Key activities and targets were identified in the MAT Strategic Priorities document. They were partly influenced by the challenges and opportunities arising from national changes in education policy and funding, in addition to internal plans and aspirations. The activities included the following:

- Schools' adoption of curriculum-led financial planning (CLFP) budgeting principles. This was particularly challenging for the primary schools.
- The interim merging of Okeford Primary School with Shillingstone Primary School.
- Ongoing negotiations with schools interested in joining the Trust.
- Rapidly growing school improvement capacity

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commissioner's general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Trust's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

The Trust aims to advance for the public benefit, education in North Dorset, West Dorset, South Somerset and the surrounding area, in particular by maintaining, managing and developing schools and offering a broad curriculum.

The Trust received funding for 4,975 children for the 2021-22 academic year. An average of 758 staff were employed throughout the year. There are:

- Three large town primary schools
- Ten small village primary schools
- Two 11-18 secondary schools with sixth forms
- One small 11-16 secondary school
- One 11-16 alternative provision school
- Two nursery schools

The schools serve a large rural catchment area across North Dorset, West Dorset and South Somerset. Significant numbers apply and join the schools from outside the catchment areas.

Each school offers considerable public benefit through its role as a provider of education and the links it has developed with the local community. This includes pre-school and after-school provision as well as holiday childcare provision. Community groups hire school facilities.

STRATEGIC REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Throughout the 2021-22 academic year, the Trust was responsible for 17 schools. 14 of these schools are currently judged as good or better. One school requires improvement. Two schools were judged as inadequate at their previous inspection and are still awaiting inspection.

2022 was the first year since 2019 that pupils sat tests and examinations in both primary and secondary phases. The Government is not publishing these results given that Covid still had a significant impact on staff and pupil absence during the year.

Although exam data is still to be validated, post-16 outcomes were strong in both The Gryphon and Shaftesbury School. In both schools, the number of students taking 'A' level exams increased since 2019, and outcomes were also higher than 2019 results. The average grade was 'B' at The Gryphon and 'B-' at Shaftesbury School. Over a third of students achieved A*-A grades at The Gryphon. At Shaftesbury School, 29% of students achieved A*-A grades.

At GCSE, all three mainstream secondary schools improved their attainment on 2019. However, comparative achievement against the national average varied among the schools. For example, for the 5x 4-9 GCSE measure, two schools were above the national average, but one was below. For the 4x 5-9 GCSE measure, one school was above the average but two schools below.

Progress data is yet to be validated. Nevertheless, initial figures indicate that the overall Progress 8 figure for each mainstream secondary school will be at least in line with average, and possibly above average. There is still work to do across the schools to close the gap between disadvantaged pupils and their peers. Progress for disadvantaged pupils was not as strong as their peers. Harbour Vale School, a non-mainstream learning centre, achieved positive outcomes to secure students' next steps in education, employment or training.

At Key Stage 2, nearly all schools met or exceeded the national average (59%) for the expected standard in reading, writing and maths combined. This was also true for reading, the national average being 74%. The issue to work on for SAST schools in the primary phase is writing, which presented a much more variable picture across the Trust.

SAST's capacity to provide improvement support and quality assurance has grown significantly over the course of the 2021-22 academic year. The SAST school improvement framework is designed to provide a graduated level of support for schools across three tiers, so that every school is a good and improving school. The level of support is determined by an internal judgement based on the following factors - current Ofsted judgement, internal trends (using quantitative and qualitative data analysis) and leadership capability/capacity. The School Improvement Team has processes in place to gather intelligence about the support schools require, to work with local governing bodies and to implement support. Support includes a staff CPD programme, school improvement projects, bespoke brokered partnerships, inclusion & SEND guidance and key resources.

Seven schools were inspected during the last academic year. Outcomes were as follows:

School	Previous inspection date	Previous inspection judgement	Inspection date	Current inspection judgement
St Andrew's CE Primary, Yetminster	2016 (joined SAST in 2017)	Requires Improvement	September 2021	Good
Sherborne CE Primary School	2012 (joined SAST in 2017)	Good	October 2021	Good
Buckland Newton CE Primary School	2017 (joined SAST in 2017)	Good	November 2021	Good
Sherborne Abbey CE Primary School	2015 (joined SAST in 2017)	Good	November 2021	Good
St Mary's, Bradford Abbas	September 2006	Outstanding	February 2022	Good
Shaftesbury Primary School	February 2018	Requires Improvement	February 2022	Good
St Andrew's, Fontmell Magna	January 2017	Inadequate	April 2022	Requires Improvement

Going Concern

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.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

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 during the year ended 31 August 2022 and the associated expenditure are shown as Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE which 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 useful life of the assets concerned, as defined in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, excluding restricted fixed asset and pension reserves, the Trust received total income of £32,209,144 and incurred total expenditure of £32,380,057. The excess of income over expenditure for the year (excluding restricted fixed asset and pension reserves but after a transfer of £182,195 from restricted fixed asset funds) was £11,282. This has resulted in an increase in funds (excluding restricted fixed asset and pension reserves) from £475,821 to £487,103 as detailed in note 21 to the financial statements.

At 31 August 2022 the net book value of fixed assets was £44,118,617 and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 17 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Trust.

Most land, buildings and other assets were transferred to the Trust upon conversion, whereas subsequent additions are recorded at cost. Other assets have been included in the financial statements at a best estimate, taking into account purchase price and remaining useful lives.

The Trust has taken on the deficit in the Local Government Pension Scheme in respect of its non-teaching staff transferred on conversion. The deficit is incorporated within the Statement of Financial Activity with details in note 29 to the financial statements.

Key financial policies adopted or reviewed during the year include the Finance Policy which lays out the framework for financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board, headteachers, managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as delegated authority for spending.

Reserves Policy

The Trust aims to maintain its reserves for a number of purposes, including funding current and future spending on fixed assets, financing schools' working capital and providing a contingency against risks and uncertainties in running a Trust. The Trustees' policy is to hold sufficient reserves to cover these requirements and to use any surpluses generated by each school on improving education and school facilities. The Trust currently intends to maintain financial reserves at a value equivalent to 1.5% (£392,000) to 5% (£1,306,000) of annual GAG funding. At the year end, the Trust held £487,103 of free reserves. This level of reserves is in line with the Trust's policy, albeit at the lower end of the range.

The defined benefit pension scheme reserve has a negative balance. The effect of the deficit position of the pension scheme is that the Trust is paying higher employer's pension contributions over a period of years. The higher employer's pension contributions will be met from the Trust's budgeted annual income. Whilst the deficit will not be immediately eliminated, there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the scheme nor any direct impact on the free reserves of the Trust.

Investment Policy

The Trust's position is currently to only invest in low-risk and easily accessible current bank accounts, aiming to manage its cash balances to provide for the day-to-day working capital requirements of its operations.

In the future, opportunity permitting, the Trust would ensure that any investment instruments are such that there would be minimal risk to the loss of cash funds. The Trust does not consider the possible future investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather it would be the result of good stewardship as and when circumstances allow, and investments would only be made when approved by the Board of Trustees.

Purposes:

- To ensure adequate cash balances are maintained in the current account to cover day to day working capital balances
- To ensure there is minimal risk of loss in the capital value of any cash funds invested
- To seek to protect the capital value of any invested funds against inflation
- To optimise returns on invested funds

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Board of Trustees has a designated Audit & Risk Committee for overseeing the process of risk management. In line with the guidance set out in the Academy Trust Handbook, the Committee meets throughout the year to review the major risks faced by the Trust, alongside the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks.

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

Strategic – to enable the Trust to achieve its strategic vision of 'delivering educational excellence through aspiration and collaboration' it is vital that its values are effectively communicated and enacted throughout each school. A failure to do so will limit the Trust's ability to develop and grow. The Board of Trustees continues to be outward-thinking and ensures that the Trust remains at the heart of the local community; raising the profile of the outstanding work that goes on across the Trust and its schools.

Compliance and regulatory – the Trust continues to evolve its response to meeting regulatory compliance around Safeguarding and Health & Safety within the workplace. Since returning from the pandemic, schools and office spaces across the estate have been back to operating at their physical capacity and, as an employer, the Trust's priority is to ensure that these spaces are warm, safe and dry and that children are given the greatest possible protections. The Board of Trustees has set a priority that any items of expenditure relating to Safeguarding or Health & Safety compliance must remain paramount.

Financial - The Trustees examine the financial health formally every term. They review performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of regular update reports at all Board and Finance and Resources Committee meetings. The Trustees also regularly review cash flow forecasts and ensure sufficient funds are held to cover all known and anticipated commitments. The Trust is reliant on continued Government funding through the ESFA. There is a deficiency between the percentage increase in funding made available to Trusts and the uplift in staff pay awards, which has created a challenging cost pressure. The Trustees consider that, at the time of completion of this report, further budgetary pressures are likely to be applied to the sector as part of the Government's stated fiscal policy of public sector spending reductions. The rising costs of energy continue to be a cause for concern across the sector, and the Trust must seek ways to offset the spiralling costs of heating and lighting our premises. Changes to eligibility for EU pupils to access state-funded education in the UK have significantly impacted the numbers of pupils in the Trust's boarding provision at Shaftesbury School, and this represents a financial risk. The Board of Trustees recognises that the defined benefit pension scheme deficit (Local Government Pension Scheme), which is set out in note 29 to the financial statements, represents a significant potential liability. However, as the Trustees consider that the Trust is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, the risk from this liability is acceptable.

Fraud and mismanagement of funds - The Trust has appointed two separate firms of independent auditors: OneWest to act as internal auditor, and Bishop Fleming to act as external auditor. The auditors carry out checks on financial systems and records as required by the Academy Trust Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area. A separate Trust Audit and Risk Committee has operated from September 2020 taking on the audit functions which were previously reviewed by the Finance and Resources Committee.

Operational – the success of the Trust is reliant upon its ability to recruit, develop, and retain high quality and erudite members of staff. The Board of Trustees monitors and reviews policies and procedures to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning.

External – like any public body, the Trust relies on positive and effective contractual relationships with third party suppliers of goods and services. The supply chains for many essential goods and services have been impacted heavily by the war in Ukraine, the global pandemic, and the UK's withdrawal from the European Union. The Board of Trustees must ensure that its ability to contract goods and services remains flexible and effective without compromising on best value for money.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed and have implemented systems to assess and minimise those risks, including internal controls described elsewhere.

The Trust has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness. A risk register is maintained and reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

The Audit & Risk Committee is responsible for the deployment of the Trust's internal auditors, and at the beginning of the year, a schedule of areas of potential vulnerability were selected. This year, the Board of Trustees has reviewed the work on the auditors in examining the effectiveness of the internal financial controls, the utilisation of ringfenced pupil premium funding, and the Trust's compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook. The Board of Trustees ensures that actions and recommendations are swiftly implemented.

The Board of Trustees has a Finance & Resources Committee which examines the financial health of the Trust formally at least six times per academic year. The Committee reviews performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of regular update reports. At the year end, the Trust had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors that would have a significant effect on liquidity.

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial, and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Trustees are of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing significant risks that have been in place for the year.

FUNDRAISING

The Trust undertakes student fundraising activities for nominated charities on a regular basis. Charities supported during the 2021/22 academic year included Children in Need, Comic Relief, Save the Children, and Macmillan Cancer Support.

No commercial partners or professional fundraisers were involved with fundraising activities. The Finance and Resources Committee monitors fundraising activities. No complaints were received regarding the fundraising activities of the Trust.

The Trust does not undertake major fundraising activities unless they are associated with specific projects. No major fundraising activities were undertaken during the 2021/22 reporting period.

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2022

	Current reporting year 2021/22	Comparison reporting year 2020/21
Energy Consumption used to calculate emissions		
- Electricity	2,312,511	2,267,746
- Gas	2,271,129	2,067,481
- transport fuel	10,583	3,754
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Gas Consumption	414.57	378.68
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Purchased Electricity	447.19	481.51
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	2.88	4.36
Total Gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	818.81	864.55
Intensity ratio Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.91	0.87

Quantification and reporting methodology

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2022 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have increased video conferencing technology for staff meetings, to reduce the need for travel between sites.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The focus for the upcoming academic year will be on continuing to meet the strategic priorities which were agreed and set by the Board of Trustees in September 2021. Following the work undertaken throughout the year, the Trust is now developing its core business functions around meeting the criteria set out in the DfE's MAT Assurance Framework.

The Trust will continue to strive to provide outstanding education and improve outcomes for pupils at all levels and will continue to aim to attract high quality teachers and support staff in order to deliver its strategic objectives. The Trust is investing a greater level of funds into a comprehensive offer around staff CPD as the Trustees recognise the importance of developing and retaining high quality individuals. In order to achieve the vision of educational excellence, the Trust must have access to the best teachers and the most modern and comprehensive strategies being developed in the field of teaching and learning.

The Board of Trustees has set out its vision and strategy for growth and expects that the Trust will continue to welcome new converter academies before the end of the 22/23 academic year. An ongoing concern is the level of staffing capacity required to meet the demands of a growing multi-academy Trust, and the Trustees are committed to pursuing sustainable growth without compromising the Trust's strong geographical identity and presence.

A School Improvement Team is being developed and will include specialists who are employed for the benefit of all schools, including practitioners who cover areas such as Inclusion and Safeguarding. Additionally, with support from the Church of England, the Trust is developing a SAST Schools Flourishing Programme, a peer-to-peer review framework focused on ensuring that every child flourishes at school.

AUDITOR

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- There is no relevant audit information of which the charity's auditor is unaware; and
- The Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information

The auditors, Bishop Fleming LLP, are willing to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 22/12/2022 and signed on the Board's behalf by:

Nigel Rees

Chair of Trustees

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer 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 Sherborne Area Schools' Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees and its committees collectively met 23 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
N Rees (Chair)	17	20
J Ponsonby (Vice Chair)	8	16
S Jones	8	11
R Sullivan	7	9
G Colls	12	12
C Bedding	6	7
I Macfarlane	4	4
J Triffit	1	3
R Davey	10	10
C Plewes	12	15
P Tait	4	5
S Lusher	7	8
A Cooke	6	7
T Bartley	16	16

Changes to the Board of Trustee membership during the year are detailed below.

S Jones	Appointed 11.11.21
C Bedding	Appointed 23.9.21
G Colls	Appointed 23.9.21
I Macfarlane	Appointed 13.1.22
J Triffitt	Appointed 14.2.22
S Lusher	Appointed 23.9.21
P Tait	Resigned 20.12.21
A Cooke	Resigned 12.1.22

The main responsibilities of the Trust Board include:

- Strategy: mission, vision, and values
- Governance: monitor performance and provide support
- Finance: planning, budgeting, statutory accounts, and cash flow
- Audit: financial controls and risk management
- Premises: asset management planning
- Health & Safety: monitoring compliance and effectiveness
- ICT: develop and implement an integrated ICT strategy
- Staffing: HR policies, workforce structure, and pay & remuneration
- Appraisal: recruitment and appraisal of headteachers
- Wellbeing: reporting and action
- Teaching & Learning: policies, schemes of work and development
- SEND & PP: compliance, policies, and practice
- Behaviour: exclusions, awards, and sanctions
- Admissions: policy and appeals
- Collective worship: frameworks for monitoring development in faith schools
- Parents & Community: develop strategies for the Trust
- Safeguarding: policies, training, and legal compliance
- School Development: initiative for school improvement
- External review: reporting and action plans
- School organisation: school day, terms dates, and INSET

SAST undertook an external review of governance in February 2021 and, following that review, the Board established nine strategic priorities that set the direction for the accounting officer during the 2021/22 academic year. The review concluded that, whilst the Trust had been successful at achieving its initial goals, rapid growth over the past several years had brought fresh challenges. The Board needed to be flexible and agile to respond to changes within the sector, meeting significant financial pressures within schools, whilst developing a school improvement framework, and a fit-for-purpose approach to talent management. During the current year, the Trust has reviewed its Scheme of Delegation and Trustee committee model.

Progress against each of the strategic priorities is reviewed by the Trustees regularly, within meetings of the full Board and its committees. The CEO, as accounting officer, provides the Board with termly updates on milestones met, and the Trustees offer support and challenge on the performance of the executive team in meeting their targets.

The Board of Trustees is particularly concerned to develop a robust due diligence process for growth, which reflects the vision and values of the Trust, to ensure that future growth opportunities are evaluated effectively, and risks are well managed. Following best practice within the sector, SAST intends to undertake an internal governance review in 2022/23, and a further external review of governance in 2023/24.

The Finance and Resources Committee is a committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to focus on the effectiveness with which the Trust deploys resources to achieve value for money, the budget, finance, site development, and commercial activity. Its role is also to challenge and support leaders and managers, holding them to account for tackling weaknesses and further improving outcomes for all students.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
N Rees	6	8
J Ponsonby	3	8
G Colls	7	7
I Macfarlane	3	3
A Cooke	3	3
T Bartley	8	8

The Teaching, Learning, and Improvement Committee is also a committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to have a strategic overview of;

- Performance and Improvement
- Safeguarding and other compliance
- Christian Distinctiveness

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Jones	2	3
R Sullivan	3	3
C Bedding	2	3
R Davey	3	3
C Plewes	2	3

The Audit and Risk Committee is also a committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to be responsible for the management and identification of risk, and the sound management and control of the Trust's finances and other resources.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
N Rees	3	4
J Ponsonby	1	4
S Jones	2	3
R Davey	1	1
C Plewes	4	4
P Tait	1	1
S Lusher	3	3

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

Under the scheme of delegation, the Chief Executive as Accounting Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- Implementing a robust CLFP for all Trust schools, using the suite of tools created by the Institute of School Business Leadership (ISBL), to ensure that all staffing structures and appointments are made in line with the curriculum intent. This ensures that the Trust can effectively set targets and benchmark the financial performance of each school in the interest of fairness and equality
- Centralising the oversight and management of core back-office services, including Estates, ICT, HR, and Finance, to streamline processes and maximise the financial benefits from economies of scale
- Working with operators in the private sector to outsource back-office financial processing to improve operational efficiencies
- Continuing with a process to rationalise and standardise the range of education and non-educational software licences deployed across Trust schools
- Making use of DfE schemes such as the financial benchmarking tools, and the Schools Buying Service, to identify areas of inefficiency and identify an effective and compliant procurement route, notably around home to school transport
- Procuring Trust-wide contracts for electricity and gas, to reduce the quantity of administration time in the billing process and achieve the best possible rate per kWh of energy

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 Sherborne Area Schools' Trust for the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the 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 Trust's significant risks that have been in place for the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 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:

- A strategic risk register that identifies key concerns and the respective controls that give Trustees assurance that mitigating actions are in place
- 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 & Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works, and expenditure programmes
- Setting executive leaders targets to measure financial and other performance
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties

The Board of Trustees considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has appointed the firm OneWest, part of Bath & North-East Somerset Council, to perform this function.

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

- Compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook
- Financial accounting system and control accounts
- Accounts payable
- Effective use of pupil premium funding
- Cyber security
- Purchasing, procurement, and best value
- Risk management

A schedule of work to be delivered by OneWest is agreed annually by the Audit & Risk Committee. This schedule includes reviews of individual schools, and central functions. Once per year, OneWest reports directly to the Trustees, through the Audit & Risk Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board's financial responsibilities. The executive team report on the progress of the schedule of internal audit to the Audit & Risk committee on a termly basis.

The schedule of works was delivered as planned, and the auditors have reported that it is their opinion that the Trust has provided reasonable, if not substantial, assurance that policies and procedures are robust and compliant. There was a single item of material risk identified that related to the quality of contractual record keeping, which the executive team have taken immediate measures to remedy.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

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

- The work of the internal auditor
- The work of the external auditor
- The work of the executive within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the member of the Board of Trustees on 22/12/22 and signed on its behalf by:

N Rees

Chair of Trustees

C Sinclair

C Sinclair

Accounting Officer

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Sherborne Area Schools' Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2021.

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.

C Sinclair

Colin Sinclair
Accounting Officer
Date: 22/12/2022

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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 2021 to 2022;
- 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.

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

N Rees
Chair of Trustees
Date: 22/12/2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Sherborne Area Schools' Trust (the 'Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (incorporating income and expenditure account), 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 FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 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 Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2022 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 2021 to 2022 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 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 Trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report and financial statements 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report has 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 Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' 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.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the 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 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 Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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 and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the Academy sector, control environment and the Trust's performance;
- results of our enquiries of management and the Trustee board, including the committees charged with governance over the Trust's finance and control, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Trust's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to: identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance; detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or noncompliance with laws and regulations;
- how the Trust ensured it met its obligations arising from it being financed by the ESFA and other funders, and as such material compliance with these obligations is required to ensure the Trust will continue to receive its public funding and be authorised to operate, including around ensuring there is no material unauthorised use of funds and expenditure;
- how the Trust ensured it met its obligations to its principal regulator, the Secretary of State for Education; and
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team and involving relevant internal Academy specialists regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud, which included incorrect recognition of revenue, management override of controls using manual journal entries, procurement and payroll. We identified the greatest potential for fraud as incorrect recognition of revenue and management override using manual journal entries.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Trust operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Academies Accounts Direction, Academies Financial Handbook, UK Companies Act, Charitiers SORP 2019, FRS102 and tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Trust's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included safeguarding regulations, data protection regulations, occupational health and safety regulations, education and inspections legislation, building legislation and employment legislation.

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess the recognition of revenue;
- enquiring of Trustees and management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing procedures to confirm material compliance with the requirements of its regulators;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing internal control reports; and
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; and assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members, and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from an error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

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.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the 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 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 Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Bishop Fleming LLP

Tim Borton FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
Bishop Fleming LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

2nd Floor Stratus House

Emperor Way

Exeter Business Park

Exeter

EX1 3QS

Date: 23 December 2022

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 9 August 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Sherborne Area Schools' Trust during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 Sherborne Area Schools' Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Sherborne Area Schools' Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Sherborne Area Schools' Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Sherborne Area Schools' Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Sherborne Area Schools' Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 2017 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. 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 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

Our work on regularity included a review of the internal controls policies and procedures that have been implemented and an assessment of their design and effectiveness to understand how the Trust complied with the framework of authorities. We also reviewed the reports commissioned by the Trustees to access the internal controls throughout the year.

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 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Bishop Fleming LLP

Bishop Fleming LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
2nd Floor Stratus House
Emperor Way
Exeter Business Park
Exeter
EX1 3QS

Date: 23 December 2022

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants:	3					
Other donations and capital grants		156,116	533,144	898,603	1,587,863	1,902,360
Other trading activities		836,892	-	-	836,892	659,434
Investments	7	392	-	-	392	414
Charitable activities	4	773,397	29,909,203	-	30,682,600	29,656,344
Teaching schools		-	-	-	-	101,080
Total income		1,766,797	30,442,347	898,603	33,107,747	32,319,632
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		242,221	-	-	242,221	240,609
Charitable activities	9	1,690,300	33,163,536	1,266,333	36,120,169	34,358,939
Teaching schools		-	-	-	-	91,893
Total expenditure		1,932,521	33,163,536	1,266,333	36,362,390	34,691,441
Net expenditure		(165,724)	(2,721,189)	(367,730)	(3,254,643)	(2,371,809)
Transfers between funds	21	-	182,195	(182,195)	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(165,724)	(2,538,994)	(549,925)	(3,254,643)	(2,371,809)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	29	-	20,967,000	-	20,967,000	(2,239,000)
Net movement in funds		(165,724)	18,428,006	(549,925)	17,712,357	(4,610,809)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		680,990	(25,118,169)	45,643,471	21,206,292	25,817,101
Net movement in funds		(165,724)	18,428,006	(549,925)	17,712,357	(4,610,809)
Total funds carried forward		515,266	(6,690,163)	45,093,546	38,918,649	21,206,292

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

The notes on pages 35 to 71 form part of these financial statements.

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REGISTERED NUMBER:08130468

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note		2022 £		2021 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	16		**11,500**		23,002
Tangible assets	17		**44,118,617**		44,568,243
			44,130,117		44,591,245
Current assets					
Stocks		**-**		4,209	
Debtors	18	**1,402,168**		1,353,676	
Cash at bank and in hand		**2,690,107**		3,011,254	
		4,092,275		4,369,139	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	**(2,641,743)**		(2,771,493)	
Net current assets			**1,450,532**		1,597,646
Total assets less current liabilities			**45,580,649**		46,188,891
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20		**-**		(69,599)
Net assets excluding pension liability			**45,580,649**		46,119,292
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	29		**(6,662,000)**		(24,913,000)
Total net assets			**38,918,649**		21,206,292
Funds of the Trust					
Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	21	**45,093,546**		45,643,471	
Restricted income funds	21	**(28,163)**		(205,169)	
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	21	**45,065,383**		45,438,302	
Pension reserve	21	**(6,662,000)**		(24,913,000)	
Total restricted funds	21		**38,403,383**		20,525,302
Unrestricted income funds	21		**515,266**		680,990
Total funds			**38,918,649**		21,206,292

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

The financial statements on pages 30 to 71 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

N Rees
Chair of Trustees

Date: 22/12/2022

The notes on pages 35 to 71 form part of these financial statements.

SHERBORNE AREA SCHOOLS' TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	23	**(514,702)**	892,316
Cash flows from investing activities	25	**271,854**	(426,690)
Cash flows from financing activities	24	**(78,299)**	78,299
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**(321,147)**	543,925
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		**3,011,254**	2,467,329
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	26, 27	**2,690,107**	3,011,254

The notes on pages 35 to 71 form part of these financial statements

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 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 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Sherborne Area Schools' Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements include the results of a registered charity, The Gryphon Foundation. The objects of the Foundation are to provide benefits of any kind to The Gryphon School in order to further the education of past or present pupils or young people resident in the beneficial area. No amount was due to or from The Gryphon Foundation at the year-end (2021: £nil).

A wholly owned subsidiary company, SASTCO Limited, was incorporated on the 7th September 2017 with the intention of providing sports facilities for the Trust. However, having regard to the level and the nature of activity and balances in SASTCO Limited up to 31 August 2022, it is considered that not consolidating SASTCO Limited does not materially impact the transactions and balances reported in the financial stataments of the Trust. Accordingly consolidated financial statements have not been prepared.

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 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 Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the 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.

In making the above assessment, the Trustees have considered the small operating surplus and change in reserves during the year ended 31 August 2022, which was in line with the budgeted operating surplus. The budgets set for the year to 31 August 2023 also predict a small surplus which is being closely monitored, and the Trustees expect the Trust will be able to manage with the limited reserves it has brought forward. One particular challenge that the Trust continues to face at the present time is in respect of the boarding provision at Shaftesbury School. With the impact of Brexit and COVID, followed by a public consultation on possible closure in the summer term of the year, pupil numbers are not at the level originally budgeted for 2022-2023, with a number of pupils leaving the boarding house during this period of uncertainty on its future. The Trust has approval from the ESFA to utilise up to £100,000 of Trust reserves on the boarding house whilst the process of restructuring is completed and the operation is restored to a surplus-generating position. Restructuring has been completed and the cost base has been reduced by approximately £170,000 per annum. Whilst pupil numbers have yet to return to 2021-2022 levels, the number of pupils required to operate sustainably has been reduced to two-thirds of 2021-2022 numbers and the Trustees do not envisage that the further boarding deficits predicted before pupil numbers, are restored will have an impact on their assessment surrounding the adoption of the going concern basis.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 INCOME

All incoming resources are recognised when the 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.

- **Sponsorship income**

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

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

- **Transfer on conversion**

  Where assets and liabilities are received by the Trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets received.

- **Transfer of existing academies into the Trust**

  Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the Trust, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the Trust within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets acquired.

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Trust)**

  Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Trust's accounting policies.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 INCOME (CONTINUED)

1.4 EXPENDITURE

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

- **Expenditure on raising funds**
  This includes all expenditure incurred by the 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 Trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Trust apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.6 TAXATION

The 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 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 £500 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:

Website	-	4 years straight line

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 INTANGIBLE ASSETS (CONTINUED)

1.8 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Assets costing £500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding 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.

Depreciation is not provided for on freehold land as any provision (annual or cumulative) would not be material due to the very long expected remaining useful economic life and because the expected residual value is not materially less than the carrying amount.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 50 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	- 5 years straight line
Plant and machinery	- 7 years straight line
Motor vehicles	- 4 years straight line

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

Where the Trust has been granted use of the school buildings from the Diocese under Supplemental Agreements, the Academies Accounts Direction prescribes that under this agreement the risks and rewards of ownership remain with the Diocese. A donation from the Diocese has been recognised equal to the deemed rental expense, based on the rateable value of the buildings.

1.9 INVESTMENTS

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

Investments in subsidiaries are valued at cost less provision for impairment.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 STOCKS

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.11 DEBTORS

Trade and other debtors are recognised with no stated interest rate and due within one year are recorded at the amount of the cash or other considerations expected to be received. Prepayments are valued at the amount paid.

1.12 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account and cash on deposit that has a notice period of less than 30 days.

1.13 LIABILITIES

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

1.14 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The 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 18. 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 notes 19 and 20. 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.

1.15 OPERATING LEASES

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.16 PENSIONS

Retirement benefits to employees of the 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 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 Trust in separate Trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

1.17 AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received, paid and any balances held at period end are disclosed in Note 33.

1.18 FUND ACCOUNTING

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

Transfers are made between restricted funds and restricted fixed asset funds where restricted funds are used to purchase fixed assets.

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGMENT

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 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 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgment:

The Trust obtains use of fixed assets as a lessee. The classification of such leases as operating or finance lease requires the Trust to determine, based on an evaluation of the terms and conditions of the arrangements, whether it retains or acquires the significant risks and rewards of ownership of these assets and accordingly whether the lease requires an asset and liability to be recognised in the Balance Sheet.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Other donations	156,116	533,144	60,480	**749,740**	911,952
Capital grants	-	-	838,123	**838,123**	990,408
	156,116	533,144	898,603	**1,587,863**	1,902,360
TOTAL 2021	188,153	539,299	1,174,908	1,902,360	

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Education	773,397	29,240,303	**30,013,700**	28,846,016
Boarding	-	668,900	**668,900**	810,328
	773,397	29,909,203	**30,682,600**	29,656,344
TOTAL 2021	481,079	29,175,265	29,656,344	

5. Funding for the Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
EDUCATION				
DFE/ESFA GRANTS				
General Annual Grant	-	25,664,913	**25,664,913**	23,623,262
OTHER DFE/ESFA GRANTS				
Start up Grants	-	-	-	24,010
Teachers' pay and pension grants	-	191,418	**191,418**	1,236,005
Pupil Premium	-	1,118,192	**1,118,192**	1,070,317
UIFSM	-	278,499	**278,499**	324,919
Other DfE grants	-	684,042	**684,042**	195,960
PE and Sports	-	225,610	**225,610**	300,642
	-	28,162,674	**28,162,674**	26,775,115
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS				
High Needs	-	447,859	**447,859**	426,804
Other government grants	-	423,661	**423,661**	667,552
	-	871,520	**871,520**	1,094,356
OTHER INCOME FROM THE TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS	773,397	15,104	**788,501**	503,157
COVID-19 ADDITIONAL FUNDING (DFE/ESFA)				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	419,696
Recovery Premium	-	142,735	**142,735**	-
	-	142,735	**142,735**	419,696
COVID-19 ADDITIONAL FUNDING (NON-DFE/ESFA)				
Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grant	-	-	-	53,692
COVID-19 Mass Testing	-	48,270	**48,270**	-
	-	48,270	**48,270**	53,692
	773,397	29,240,303	**30,013,700**	28,846,016
	773,397	29,240,303	**30,013,700**	28,846,016

The Trust has been eligible to claim additional funding in year from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. the funding received is shown above under "COVID-19 Additional Funding (DFE/ESFA)".

The funding received for coronavirus exceptional support covers £142,735 (2021:£419,696) of costs.

5. Funding for the Trust's educational operations (continued)

These costs are included in notes 8,9, and 10.

The Trust received £48,270 in relation to Mass Testing, this income was fully spent in year. These costs are included within notes 8, 9 and 10.

6. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Lettings, leisure and other income	432,517	**432,517**	317,589
School transport income	404,375	**404,375**	341,845
	836,892	**836,892**	659,434
TOTAL 2021	659,434	659,434	

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Bank interest	392	**392**	414
TOTAL 2021	414	414	

8. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:					
Direct costs	217,172	-	25,049	**242,221**	240,609
Education:					
Direct costs	23,447,943	714,026	2,659,486	**26,821,455**	25,514,201
Allocated support costs	3,778,485	2,147,660	2,590,311	**8,516,456**	8,011,741
Boarding:					
Direct costs	12,380	-	1,422	**13,802**	35,906
Allocated support costs	410,877	121,331	236,248	**768,456**	797,091
Teaching school	-	-	-	-	91,893
	27,866,857	2,983,017	5,512,516	**36,362,390**	34,691,441
TOTAL 2021	26,931,291	3,216,561	4,543,589	34,691,441	

9. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Education	1,690,300	33,647,611	**35,337,911**	33,525,942
Boarding	-	782,258	**782,258**	832,997
	1,690,300	34,429,869	**36,120,169**	34,358,939
TOTAL 2021	1,238,214	33,120,725	34,358,939	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Education	26,821,455	8,516,456	**35,337,911**	33,525,942
Boarding	13,802	768,456	**782,258**	832,997
	26,835,257	9,284,912	**36,120,169**	34,358,939
TOTAL 2021	25,550,107	8,808,832	34,358,939	

Analysis of direct costs

	Education 2022 £	Boarding 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Pension finance costs	412,000	-	**412,000**	329,000
Staff costs	23,322,240	12,380	**23,334,620**	22,602,566
Depreciation	1,045,783	-	**1,045,783**	1,018,759
Educational supplies	558,598	-	**558,598**	572,106
Examination fees	352,786	-	**352,786**	203,582
Staff development	71,095	1,422	**72,517**	69,151
Other costs	391,419	-	**391,419**	334,530
Supply teachers	144,331	-	**144,331**	119,266
Technology costs	17,656	-	**17,656**	7,608
Amortisation	12,877	-	**12,877**	13,802
Educational services	492,670	-	**492,670**	279,737
TOTAL 2022	26,821,455	13,802	**26,835,257**	25,550,107
TOTAL 2021	25,514,201	35,906	25,550,107	

10. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Education 2022 £	Boarding 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	3,759,857	410,877	**4,170,734**	3,956,231
Depreciation	207,673	-	**207,673**	178,318
Other costs	38,139	-	**38,139**	23,739
Recruitment and support	84,856	555	**85,411**	64,201
Maintenance of premises and equipment	333,678	17,071	**350,749**	624,600
Cleaning	330,268	7,752	**338,020**	345,547
Rent and rates	793,404	23,499	**816,903**	857,606
Energy costs	693,262	63,584	**756,846**	489,955
Insurance	111,564	861	**112,425**	150,553
Security and transport	333,298	9,425	**342,723**	264,033
Catering	759,096	192,058	**951,154**	797,808
Technology costs	601,120	4,598	**605,718**	525,796
Office overheads	214,567	13,331	**227,898**	243,483
Legal and professional	207,191	24,739	**231,930**	232,619
Bank interest and charges	15,903	106	**16,009**	10,276
Governance	32,580	-	**32,580**	44,067
TOTAL 2022	8,516,456	768,456	**9,284,912**	8,808,832
TOTAL 2021	8,011,741	797,091	8,808,832	

11. Net expenditure

Net expenditure for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals	**52,519**	84,855
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**1,253,456**	1,197,077
Amortisation of intangible assets	**12,877**	13,802
Auditors' remuneration		
- audit	**25,355**	23,050
- other services	**2,930**	13,040

12. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	**19,319,116**	19,132,743
Social security costs	**1,824,598**	1,720,702
Pension costs	**6,544,894**	5,958,580
	27,688,608	26,812,025
Agency staff costs	**144,331**	119,266
Staff restructuring costs	**33,918**	-
	27,866,857	26,931,291

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2022 £	2021 £
Severance payments	**33,918**	-
	33,918	-

b. Severance payments

The Trust paid £33,918 severance payments in the year (2021: £Nil) disclosed in the following bands:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
£0 - £25,000	**3**	-

c. Staff numbers

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	**310**	308
Administration and support	**408**	425
Management	**40**	44
	758	777

12. Staff (continued)

c. Staff numbers (continued)

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	**274**	265
Administration and support	**258**	261
Management	**40**	42
	572	568

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	**11**	10
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	**3**	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	**2**	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	**1**	1

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 2. The composition of the senior management team has been changed since 2020-2021, due to a restructure of leadership and the establishment of a Trust Executive Team. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £463,149 (2021 - £619,876).

13. Central services

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

- Executive leadership
- Human resources and payroll
- Finacial Services
- Legal and governance services
- Health and Safety
- IT Support
- Estates Support
- School improvement
- School admissions and appeals
- General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) services
- Other corportae support services

The Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

4.7-8.0% of GAG funding.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Buckland Newton C of E VC Primary School	**39,629**	21,481
Sherborne Abbey C of E VC Primary School	**112,694**	56,400
Sherborne Primary School	**110,049**	58,977
St Andrew's C of E VC Primary School	**45,660**	26,736
St Mary's C of E VC Primary School	**39,628**	22,445
The Gryphon School	**524,419**	361,821
Thornford CE VA School	**37,344**	20,969
Charlton Horethorne Primary School	**27,438**	14,336
King Arthur's School	**190,994**	91,221
Okeford Fitzpaine Primary School	**21,220**	12,219
St Mary the Virgin Primary School	**66,878**	36,178
Shillingstone Primary School	**38,876**	22,152
Shaftesbury School	**337,225**	341,806
Motcombe C of E Primary School	**61,953**	41,792
Shaftesbury C of E Primary School	**125,277**	88,905
St Andrew's C of E Primary School, Fontmell Magna	**45,660**	26,234
Harbour Vale School	**28,800**	33,451
TOTAL	**1,853,744**	1,277,123

14. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year ended 31 August 2022, expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed or paid directly to Trustees (2021: £NIL).

There were no staff Trustees in 2022. In 2021 the Chief Executive Officer only received remuneration in respect of services provided, undertaking the role of Chief Executive Officer under a contract of employment, and not in respect of services as a Trustee. Other Trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Trust in respect of their role as Trustees. Accordingly, the value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows: S Hillier Trustee: Remuneration 2022 - £nil (2021: £130,001 - £135,000), Employer's pension contributions 2022 - £nil (2021: £30,001 - £35,000).

15. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

16. Intangible assets

	Website £
COST	
At 1 September 2021	**95,965**
Additions	**1,375**
At 31 August 2022	**97,340**
AMORTISATION	
At 1 September 2021	**72,963**
Charge for the year	**12,877**
At 31 August 2022	**85,840**
NET BOOK VALUE	
At 31 August 2022	**11,500**
At 31 August 2021	23,002

17. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Plant and machinery £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION					
At 1 September 2021	**45,403,833**	**2,333,231**	**83,051**	**14,767**	**47,834,882**
Additions	**414,919**	**388,911**	**-**	**-**	**803,830**
At 31 August 2022	**45,818,752**	**2,722,142**	**83,051**	**14,767**	**48,638,712**
DEPRECIATION					
At 1 September 2021	**1,721,300**	**1,507,226**	**23,346**	**14,767**	**3,266,639**
Charge for the year	**840,030**	**403,186**	**10,240**	**-**	**1,253,456**
At 31 August 2022	**2,561,330**	**1,910,412**	**33,586**	**14,767**	**4,520,095**
NET BOOK VALUE					
At 31 August 2022	**43,257,422**	**811,730**	**49,465**	**-**	**44,118,617**
At 31 August 2021	43,682,533	826,005	59,705	-	44,568,243

18. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Trade debtors	**181,535**	258,131
Amounts owed by group undertakings	**19,373**	3,663
Other debtors	**4,062**	4,855
Prepayments and accrued income	**1,054,501**	966,772
VAT recoverable	**142,697**	120,254
	1,402,168	1,353,676

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	-	8,700
Trade creditors	**711,605**	728,752
Other taxation and social security	**446,455**	422,529
Other creditors	**686,528**	641,139
Accruals and deferred income	**797,155**	970,373
	2,641,743	2,771,493

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	**649,192**	801,879
Resources deferred during the year	**436,395**	649,192
Amounts released from previous periods	**(649,192)**	(801,879)
	436,395	649,192

At the balance sheet date the Trust was holding funds received in advance for boarding fees, rates relief, UiFSM, trips and travel deposits.

20. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	-	69,599

21. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
General Funds	680,990	1,766,797	(1,932,521)	-	-	515,266
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(523,943)	25,664,913	(25,323,165)	182,195	-	-
Pupil Premium	17,325	1,118,192	(1,135,517)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	684,042	(684,042)	-	-	-
Other grants	44,979	423,661	(468,640)	-	-	-
High Needs	-	447,859	(447,859)	-	-	-
Teachers' pay & pension grant	-	191,418	(191,418)	-	-	-
Universal free school meals	-	278,499	(278,499)	-	-	-
PE grant	76,746	225,610	(302,356)	-	-	-
Other income	-	14,733	(14,733)	-	-	-
Donated facilities	-	533,144	(533,144)	-	-	-
COVID exceptional funding	55,983	191,005	(246,988)	-	-	-
Boarding	123,741	669,271	(821,175)	-	-	(28,163)
Pension reserve	(24,913,000)	-	(2,716,000)	-	20,967,000	(6,662,000)
	(25,118,169)	30,442,347	(33,163,536)	182,195	20,967,000	(6,690,163)

21. Statement of funds (continued)

RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS						
Fixed assets transferred on conversion	5,674,334	-	(265,026)	-	-	5,409,308
DfE/ESFA capital grants	3,449,566	838,123	(65,564)	(310,782)	-	3,911,343
Capital expenditure from GAG	876,952	-	(184,709)	128,587	-	820,830
Donated fixed assets	4,306,532	60,480	(162,517)	-	-	4,204,495
Other	409,050	-	(9,201)	-	-	399,849
Fixed assets transferred in	30,927,037	-	(579,316)	-	-	30,347,721
	45,643,471	898,603	(1,266,333)	(182,195)	-	45,093,546
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	20,525,302	31,340,950	(34,429,869)	-	20,967,000	38,403,383
TOTAL FUNDS	21,206,292	33,107,747	(36,362,390)	-	20,967,000	38,918,649

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

RESTRICTED FUNDS
General Annual Grant - Income from the ESFA which is to be used for the normal running costs of the Trust, including education and support costs.

Pupil Premium - Pupil premium represents funding received from the ESFA for children that qualify for free school meals to enable the Trust to address the current underlying inequalities between those children and their wealthier peers.

Start up Grant – This represents one off funding received from the ESFA to contribute to the cost of converting from a school to an academy.

Other DfE grants - Represents funding received from other DfE bodies.

Other grants - This fund represents grants made to the school from non-government sources.

High needs - Funding received by the Local Authority to fund further support for students with additional needs.

Teachers' pension grant - Represents grants made to the Trust to support it with the increase in employer contributions to the teachers' pension scheme.

Teachers' pay grant - Represents grants made to the Trust to support it with the increase in teachers' pay awards.

21. Statement of funds (continued)

Universal free school meals - Represents funding to offer free school meals to pupils.

PE grant - Represents funding received to fund additional and sustainable improvements to the provision of PE and sport.

Trust capacity fund - Represents additional funding to support the growth and development of existing Trusts.

Other income - Represents all other incoming resources to the Trust.

Donated facilities - Represents matching donation income and rental expense to/from the Salisbury Diocese for use of the Church School buildings.

Teaching School - This represents funding received in relation to the Trust's teaching school.

COVID grants - additional funding in year from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak.

GAG on conversion - Income from the ESFA which is to be used for the normal running costs of the Trust, including education and support costs, transferred in upon Southern Academy Trust joining the Trust.

Other restricted funds on conversion - Other restricted funding streams transferred in upon Southern Academy Trust joining the Trust.

Boarding - This represents amounts paid by parents to enable a child to board at the Trust.

Pension Reserve – This represents the Trust's share of the assets and liabilities in the Local Government Pension Scheme – As with most pension schemes this is currently in deficit due to an excess of scheme liabilities over scheme assets which was inherited on conversion of schools into its academies.

RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS

Fixed assets transferred on conversion/acquisition of academies - This represent the buildings and equipment donated to the Trust from the Local Authority on conversion or the acquisition of existing academies.

Fixed assets purchased from GAG and other restricted funds - This represents the assets purchased out of restricted funds for the ongoing operations of the Academies.

DfE/ESFA Capital Grants - These funds are received from the DfE/ESFA for direct expenditure on fixed asset projects. The fixed asset fund balance at the year end represents the NBV of assets and any unspent grant amounts.

Other capital donations - These funds are received for direct expenditure on fixed asset projects. The fixed asset fund balance at the year end represents the NBV of assets and any unspent grant amounts.

TRANSFERS BETWEEN FUNDS

Transfers between funds have been made from General Annual Grant (GAG) to Fixed Asset funds, due to fixed asset expenditure from the GAG fund. Transfers between funds have been made from Fixed Asset Funds to GAG due to ESFA capital funding being used to pay for eligible revenue expenditure.

The transfer from teaching school relates to reallocation of funds that has arisen from self generated income.

21. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
General Funds	638,187	1,391,660	(1,469,742)	120,885	-	680,990
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(48,520)	23,648,893	(23,724,190)	(400,126)	-	(523,943)
Pupil Premium	-	1,070,317	(1,052,992)	-	-	17,325
Start Up Grant	-	24,010	(24,010)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	195,960	(195,960)	-	-	-
Other grants	-	425,408	(380,429)	-	-	44,979
High Needs	-	426,804	(426,804)	-	-	-
Teachers' pension grant	-	883,991	(883,991)	-	-	-
Teachers' pay & pension grant	-	339,983	(339,983)	-	-	-
Universal free school meals	-	324,919	(324,919)	-	-	-
PE grant	-	300,642	(223,896)	-	-	76,746
Other income	126,459	21,607	(148,066)	-	-	-
Donated facilities	-	526,399	(526,399)	-	-	-
Teaching School	120,885	38,500	(38,500)	(120,885)	-	-
COVID exceptional funding	-	473,388	(417,405)	-	-	55,983
GAG transferred in	-	219,075	(219,075)	-	-	-
Other restricted funds transferred in	39,519	-	(39,519)	-	-	-
Boarding	197,286	833,168	(891,682)	(15,031)	-	123,741
Pension reserve	(20,521,000)	-	(2,153,000)	-	(2,239,000)	(24,913,000)
	(20,085,371)	29,753,064	(32,010,820)	(536,042)	(2,239,000)	(25,118,169)

21. Statement of funds (continued)

RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS						
Fixed assets transferred on conversion	5,939,360	-	(265,026)	-	-	5,674,334
DfE/ESFA capital grants	2,478,625	990,408	(19,467)	-	-	3,449,566
Capital expenditure from GAG	643,195	-	(181,400)	415,157	-	876,952
Donated fixed assets	4,278,501	184,500	(156,469)	-	-	4,306,532
Other	418,251	-	(9,201)	-	-	409,050
Fixed assets transferred in	31,506,353	-	(579,316)	-	-	30,927,037
	45,264,285	1,174,908	(1,210,879)	415,157	-	45,643,471
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	25,178,914	30,927,972	(33,221,699)	(120,885)	(2,239,000)	20,525,302
TOTAL FUNDS	25,817,101	32,319,632	(34,691,441)	-	(2,239,000)	21,206,292

21. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by Academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Buckland Newton C of E VC Primary School	**132,778**	98,191
Sherborne Abbey C of E VC Primary School	**107,935**	20,906
Sherborne Primary School	**125,092**	111,346
St Andrew's C of E VC Primary School, Yetminster	**84,412**	61,575
St Mary's C of E VC Primary School	**30,166**	64,508
The Gryphon School	**(143,905)**	(186,440)
Thornford CE VA School	**(3,686)**	16,488
Charlton Horethorne Primary School	**21,542**	11,156
King Arthur's School	**156,763**	(57,401)
Okeford Fitzpaine Primary School	**52,749**	53,505
St Mary the Virgin Primary School	**63,793**	6,532
Shillingstone Primary School	**(2,182)**	24,704
Shaftesbury School	**173,844**	580,436
Motcombe C of E Primary School	**74,988**	47,542
Shaftesbury C of E Primary School	**195,008**	202,438
St Andrew's C of E Primary School, Fontmell Magna	**(117,791)**	(41,107)
Harbour Vale School	**(144,843)**	(100,282)
Central	**(319,560)**	(438,276)
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	**487,103**	475,821
Restricted fixed asset fund	**45,093,546**	45,643,471
Pension reserve	**(6,662,000)**	(24,913,000)
TOTAL	**38,918,649**	21,206,292

The following academies are carrying a net deficit on their portion of the funds as follows:

	Deficit £
The Gryphon School	**(143,905)**
Thornford CE VA School	**(3,686)**
Shillingstone Primary School	**(2,182)**
St Andrew's C of E Primary School, Fontmell Magna	**(117,791)**
Harbour Vale School	**(144,843)**
Central	**(319,560)**

21. Statement of funds (continued)

The Trust is taking the following action to address the net deficits carried:

From September 2022 the Trust has adopted the policy of pooling the general annual grant and reserves for Trust schools, replacing individual cumulative deficits and surpluses with an aggregate Trust surplus.

21. 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 2022 £**	Total 2021 £
Buckland Newton C of E VC Primary School	430,087	50,306	32,590	79,455	**592,438**	560,833
Sherborne Abbey C of E VC Primary School	1,225,688	134,744	79,035	245,435	**1,684,902**	1,698,102
Sherborne Primary School	1,224,416	174,087	96,696	132,865	**1,628,064**	1,579,075
St Andrew's C of E VC Primary School, Yetminster	455,472	55,283	46,038	103,079	**659,872**	715,056
St Mary's C of E VC Primary School	435,088	38,541	26,417	81,084	**581,130**	571,093
The Gryphon School	6,179,107	963,197	594,037	1,981,578	**9,717,919**	8,961,993
Thornford CE VA School	408,619	82,971	36,250	99,434	**627,274**	600,309
King Arthur's School	1,641,570	252,959	160,089	269,289	**2,323,907**	2,299,101
Charlton Horethorne Primary School	255,066	45,112	26,647	47,275	**374,100**	344,376
St Mary the Virgin Primary School	816,059	78,505	40,801	110,405	**1,045,770**	1,074,821
Okeford Fitzpaine Primary School	198,478	44,206	23,169	50,546	**316,399**	397,142
Shillingstone Primary School	472,440	45,389	23,281	103,822	**644,932**	670,316
Shaftesbury School	4,118,479	373,054	332,326	846,340	**5,670,199**	6,128,024
Motcombe C of E Primary School	634,560	53,971	47,851	154,013	**890,395**	852,280

21. Statement of funds (continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Shaftesbury C of E Primary School	1,331,854	180,285	47,145	371,893	**1,931,177**	1,878,758
St Andrew's C of E Primary School, Fontmell Magna	422,668	26,089	33,395	112,919	**595,071**	542,575
Harbour Vale School	598,201	63,085	58,010	50,923	**770,219**	766,346
Central	544,271	1,188,221	180,447	413,350	**2,326,289**	1,687,362
TRUST	21,392,123	3,850,005	1,884,224	5,253,705	**32,380,057**	31,327,562

The central expenditure of £2,326,289 (2021: £1,687,362), in addition to depreciation, excludes amortisation of £12,977 (2021: £13,802) and pension costs of £2,716,000 (2021: 2,153,000)

22. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	44,118,617	**44,118,617**
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	11,500	**11,500**
Current assets	515,267	2,613,580	963,429	**4,092,276**
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,641,743)	-	**(2,641,743)**
Pension scheme liability	-	(6,662,000)	-	**(6,662,000)**
TOTAL	515,267	(6,690,163)	45,093,546	**38,918,650**

22. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	44,568,243	44,568,243
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	23,002	23,002
Current assets	606,161	2,710,753	1,052,226	4,369,140
Creditors due within one year	74,829	(2,846,322)	-	(2,771,493)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(69,599)	-	(69,599)
Pension scheme liability	-	(24,913,000)	-	(24,913,000)
TOTAL	680,990	(25,118,169)	45,643,471	21,206,292

23. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	**(3,254,643)**	**(2,371,809)**
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Amortisation	**12,877**	13,802
Depreciation	**1,253,456**	1,197,077
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	**(838,123)**	(943,553)
Interest receivable	**(392)**	(414)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	**2,304,000**	1,824,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance and administration costs	**412,000**	329,000
Decrease in stocks	**4,209**	3,482
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	**(48,492)**	988,265
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	**(359,594)**	(147,534)
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	**(514,702)**	892,316

24. Cash flows from financing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash inflows from new borrowing/(repayment of loan borrowings)	**(78,299)**	78,299
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY FINANCING ACTIVITIES	**(78,299)**	78,299

25. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Interest receivable	**392**	414
Purchase of intangible assets	**(1,375)**	(1,100)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(565,286)**	(1,369,557)
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	**838,123**	943,553
NET CASH PROVIDED BY/(USED IN) INVESTING ACTIVITIES	**271,854**	(426,690)

26. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank	**2,690,107**	3,011,254
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	**2,690,107**	3,011,254

27. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	3,011,254	(321,147)	2,690,107
Debt due within 1 year	(8,700)	8,700	-
Debt due after 1 year	(69,599)	69,599	-
	2,932,955	(242,848)	2,690,107

28. Capital commitments

	2022 £	2021 £
CONTRACTED FOR BUT NOT PROVIDED IN THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	**238,544**	25,369

29. Pension commitments

The 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 Dorset County Council and Somerset County 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 2019.

Contributions amounting to £344,553 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021 - £467,769) 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.

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%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

29. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £4,240,894 (2021 - £2,703,359).

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 Trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The 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 2022 was £1,956,000 (2021 - £1,612,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,251,000 (2021 - £1,265,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 344,000 (2021 - £347,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.0 to 22 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 7.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the 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 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 Trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	**3.90-4.40**	3.90-4.34
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	**2.9**	2.85-2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	**4.25**	1.65-1.70
Inflation assumption (CPI)	**2.9**	2.85-2.90

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	**22.1**	23.1
Females	**24.2**	24.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	**23.4**	24.4
Females	**25.6**	26.1

29. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	**(574)**	(1,046)
Discount rate -0.1%	**589**	1,075
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	**666**	1,578
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	**(686)**	(1,653)
CPI rate +0.1%	**537**	940
CPI rate -0.1%	**(511)**	(965)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Equities	**8,881,000**	8,686,000
Gilts	**1,683,000**	1,770,000
Corporate bonds	**786,000**	908,000
Property	**1,647,000**	1,344,000
Cash and other liquid assets	**277,000**	271,000
Investment funds	**1,004,000**	965,000
Asset backed securities	**1,802,000**	1,581,000
TOTAL MARKET VALUE OF ASSETS	**16,080,000**	15,525,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £(663,000) (2021 - £2,606,000).

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	**(3,555,000)**	(3,045,000)
Past service cost	**-**	(44,000)
Interest income	**267,000**	187,000
Interest cost	**(668,000)**	(516,000)
TOTAL AMOUNT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	**(3,956,000)**	(3,418,000)

29. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	**40,438,000**	32,109,000
Current service cost	**3,555,000**	3,045,000
Interest cost	**668,000**	516,000
Employee contributions	**344,000**	347,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	**(21,897,000)**	4,648,000
Benefits paid	**(366,000)**	(271,000)
Past service costs	**-**	44,000
AT 31 AUGUST	**22,742,000**	40,438,000

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	**15,525,000**	11,588,000
Interest income	**267,000**	197,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	**(930,000)**	2,409,000
Employer contributions	**1,251,000**	1,265,000
Employee contribution	**344,000**	347,000
Benefits paid	**(366,000)**	(271,000)
Administration expenses	**(11,000)**	(10,000)
AT 31 AUGUST	**16,080,000**	15,525,000

30. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	**54,967**	35,461
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**50,886**	49,394
	105,853	84,855

31. Members' liability

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

32. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the 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. The Trust seeks to ensure that 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 Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The following related party transactions took place in the year:

During the year an amount of £5,750 (2021: £5,750) was paid to SALED Limited, a subsidiary of the Salisbury Diocesan Board of Education. SDBE is represented as a corporate member of the Trust. The supply of services to the CofE schools in the Trust were deemed fundamental to the schools' ability to deliver their religious ethos. The transaction was conducted 'at cost'.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account other than certain Trustees' remuneration in 2021 already disclosed in note 14.

33. Agency arrangements

The Trust distributes 16-19 Bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2022 the Trust received £59,823 (2021: £49,640) and disbursed £49,131 (2021: £44,193) from the fund. An amount of £40,220 (2021: £30,037) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

34. Boarding school trading account

	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
INCOME				
DIRECT INCOME				
Other boarding income	**668,900**		791,831	
Exceptional government funding	**-**		18,497	
TOTAL DIRECT INCOME	**668,900**		810,328	
OTHER INCOME				
Sales of other goods and services	**346**		446	
Bank Interest	**25**		25	
TOTAL OTHER INCOME	**371**		471	
TOTAL INCOME		**669,271**		810,799
EXPENDITURE				
DIRECT EXPENDITURE				
Other costs	**1,422**		13,452	
Staff costs	**12,380**		22,540	
TOTAL DIRECT EXPENDITURE	**13,802**		35,992	
OTHER EXPENDITURE				
Other costs	**555**		227	
Maintenance of premises and equipment	**17,071**		43,234	
Cleaning	**7,752**		9,408	
Rent and rates	**23,499**		22,232	
Energy costs	**63,584**		35,659	
Insurance	**861**		1,982	
Security and transport	**9,425**		5,170	
Catering	**192,058**		190,290	
Technology costs	**4,598**		4,351	
Office overheads	**13,331**		23,811	
Bank charges	**106**		260	
Legal and professional	**24,739**		19,968	
Staff costs	**410,877**		449,580	
TOTAL OTHER EXPENDITURE	**768,456**		806,172	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		**782,258**		842,164
Transfers between funds excluding depreciation		**-**		7,342
Deficit from all sources		**(112,987)**		(24,023)

34. Boarding school trading account (continued)

Boarding school balances at 1 September 2021	**123,741**	197,282
Central recharges	**(38,917)**	(49,518)
BOARDING SCHOOL BALANCES AT 31 AUGUST 2022	**(28,163)**	123,741

The Academy Trust has been eligible to claim additional funding from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above under "COVID-19 Additional Funding (DFE/ESFA)".