Company Registration Number: 07667407 (England & Wales)

EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Mr T Fosker Mr J Neal Ms A Rickwood Ms Z Sprake Mr P Hulley
Trustees	Dr L Franks (Chair until 31 August 2022), Chair Mr N Howe Mr S Curzon[1] Ms S Mackenzie (Chair from 1 September 2022) Mr S Shaw[1] Mr T Roberts (appointed 17 November 2021, resigned 6 September 2022) Mr P Lee (appointed 13 September 2022) Ms E Plane (appointed 13 September 2022) Ms S Thorne (appointed 8 January 2022)[1] Mr N Wellington (appointed 13 September 2022) Mr G Swann (resigned 12 November 2021)[1]
	[1] Member of the Finance Committee during the year
Company registered number	07667407
Company name	East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd
Principal and registered office	Framlingham Technology Centre Station Road Framlingham Woodbridge Suffolk IP13 9EZ
Company secretary	Mrs M Roots
Chief executive officer	Mr A Goduti

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

Senior Leadership Team

A Goduti, Accounting Officer and CEO
M Roots, Director of Finance and Operations (Chief Finance Officer)
A Sievewright, Headteacher
J Upton, Headteacher
A Mears, Headteacher
C Oswick, Headteacher
K Carrick, SCITT Director

Independent auditors

Larking Gowen LLP
Chartered Accountants
1 Claydon Business Park
Great Blakenham
Ipswich
IP6 0NL

Bankers

Lloyds Banking Group Plc
8 Thoroughfare
Woodbridge
Suffolk
IP1 1UR

Solicitors

Stone King LLP
Bateman House
82-88 Hills Road
Cambridge
CB2 1LQ

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Board of Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report for the charitable company for the year ended 31st August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Board of Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

For the period of these accounts the Trust operated as East Anglian Schools Trust (EAST), a Multi Academy Trust comprising of three high schools for pupils aged 11 to 18 and one special school serving catchment areas in East Suffolk. It has a pupil capacity of 4,840 and had a roll of 4,787 in the school census in October 2021.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the Academy Trust.

The trustees of East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd since changing its name on 12 July 2019, before when it was known as Farlingaye High School. On 1 September 2019 Kesgrave High School and Bungay High School merged with Farlingaye High School to form the Multi Academy Trust which operates through this company. Castle EAST was opened by East Anglian Schools Trust on 1 September 2021.

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

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy has purchased insurance to protect Board of Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

East Anglian Schools Trust has 5 members.

Members may appoint by ordinary resolution up to 11 Trustees. The Trust has a Board of 9 Trustees and is recruiting more for the new year.

Board of Trustees have appointed Local Governing Bodies in respect of the academies. At least two parent local governors are appointed to each established Local Governing Body.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new trustees will depend upon their experience but will include:

- Members, Chair and CEO meeting with each new Trustee
- Online meeting to introduce logistical arrangements and Trust priorities
- Skills Audit to identify areas of expertise and requirements for development
- Annual 'live' Education Committee meeting to meet Trustees and Headteachers
- Headteacher 'in-person' presentations of results
- Individual conversations with Chair to identify development needs
- Annual tour programme of the academies and meeting students and staff wherever possible
- Formal and informal meetings with Headteachers have taken place in line with the planned schedule.
- Access to key documentation via the Trust SharePoint platform. These include policies, procedures, minutes, budget reports, risk assessments, and improvement plans via SharePoint
- EAST purchases the Governor Training Service from Schools' Choice
- Subscription to Confederation of School Trusts (CST) and The Key

Parent Governors serve at local level and are elected by parents of registered students of one of the schools. A parent governor must be a parent of a student at the time of election. Eligible parents are invited to apply for the position and a secret ballot is carried out for the election process.

f. Organisational structure

Governance of EAST is strong and principled, undertaken by Governors in each school (Local Governing Bodies - LGBs), a Trust Board working across the MAT and an overarching Members Board. The collective knowledge, skills, experience and insight of all these individuals ensures that Governance in our Trust both challenges and supports each school to ensure the best outcome for our learners. Our Board ensures that EAST complies with charity and company law requirements. In accordance with Academy requirements, the Trust follows approved Articles of Association and delegates functions to the LGBs of each academy through a Scheme of Delegation.

EAST's Members hold the Trust Board to account for academy performance, approve changes to the Scheme of Delegation and Articles of Association.

Trustees make up the Board and are responsible under the Articles of Association for controlling the management and administration of EAST. They have responsibility for directing its affairs and for ensuring that it is solvent, well run, and deliver EAST's charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public. The Board is accountable for the performance of all the schools within the MAT.

Local Governing Bodies continue to have a significant role in the governance of the school, involved fully in activities such as approving the local strategic plans, setting measurable targets, overseeing the school budget, holding the Headteacher to account and working closely with the leadership of each school to create and approve local policies.

Trust-wide pay decisions are made by the Trust Board, supported by the Finance and Audit Committee. Staff appointments are made locally by the individual schools supported by their local governing bodies.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The Board of Trustees meets at least six times a year, once every half term. They have an overall framework for the governance of the Trust and determine membership, terms of reference and procedures of committees. It receives reports including policies from its committees for ratification. It monitors the activities of the committees through the minutes of their meetings and the summary of action points. Working groups may be established to perform specific tasks.

The Finance and Audit committee meets at least six times a year and is responsible for the monitoring of the Trust budget, evaluating and reviewing policies in relation to financial management. They have regard to compliance, receiving reports from Internal Audit, drafting the annual budget and the role of the audit committee including determining the internal scrutiny programme. Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) have delegated responsibilities according to the Scheme of Delegation to maintain monitoring and oversight of local budget and resource matters. The LGBs are accountable to the Trust Board.

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Headteachers must demonstrate high quality of performance with regard to leadership, management and student progress at the schools and will be subject to a review by the panel of the Pay Review Committee (LGB) before any performance points are awarded. The pay range for the Headteachers' posts is by the Trust Board in accordance with the School Teachers' Pay Review Body Document. All Deputy and Assistant Headteachers follow a similar procedure with pay determined through a review by the Headteacher and Pay Review Committee (LGB). Support staff are paid following a performance review in line with the national pay scales for support staff.

The CEO and Director of Finance and Operations (DFO) pay scales are set by the Trust Board. The CEO and Director of Finance and Operations respectively must demonstrate high quality of performance with regard to leadership and management (and student progress – CEO). The CEO's performance across the Trust is subject to review by a panel of the HR Committee before any performance points are awarded.

A robust Performance Management process is in place for all staff, including Headteachers, Leadership Teams, the CEO and the DFO.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

h. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

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

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	**3**
1%-50%	**-**
51%-99%	**1**
100%	**1**

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£	
Total cost of facility time	**309**	
Total pay bill	**22,137,478**	
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	**0.001**	%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	**1.780**	%

Structure, governance and management (continued)

i. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

Employees have been consulted on issues of concern to them by means of regular consultive committee and staff meetings and have been kept informed on specific matters directly by management. The Trust carries out exit interviews for all staff leaving the organisation and has adopted a procedure of upward feedback for senior management and the Trustees.

The Academy Trust has implemented a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of personnel matters including:

- Equal opportunities
- Recruitment and Selection
- Staff Development and Retention
- Capability of Staff
- Code of Conduct – Governance
- Code of Conduct - Staff
- Complaints
- Conflicts of Interest (Pecuniary Interests) (Register of Business Interests of Headteachers & Governors)
- Data Protection (GDPR)
- Equality & Diversity - Equality Duty Statement
- Pay Policy - Teachers and Support Staff
- Staff discipline / conduct
- Staff Grievance Procedure
- Statement of Procedures for Dealing with Allegations of Abuse Against Staff

In accordance with the Trust's equal opportunities policy, the schools have long-established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff. Full details of these policies are available from the Trust school's websites.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Company's 'object' is specifically restricted to the following:

a. To advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom in particular without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintain, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum or 16 to 19 Academies offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students or schools specially organised to make special educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs.

We aim to provide an excellent and inclusive education to the children of Suffolk, through developing and maintaining consistently good and outstanding schools, and through identifying, nurturing and spreading good practice.

We aim to secure the financial future of all of the MAT schools through the implementation of effective centralised strategic planning and leadership, and through creating economies of scale and access to funding streams.

We aim to develop our staff and to recruit well, in order to ensure that high professional standards are maintained over time across the MAT. Effective planning means that EAST SCITT launched in September 2021 supporting this aim.

We aim to grow the MAT organically within the local area, including through sponsorship in due course, when the MAT is fully established. Growth was achieved with the launch of a Free School. Castle EAST School is a Special School for children with communication and interaction needs which opened in September 2021.

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

In 2021-22, the Trust set out five key areas for development:

1. Vision, Culture and Ethos

- Redefined EAST's Vision thus building a positive, collaborative culture
- Developed the Trust Board and Members' understanding of our schools needs through 'School Spotlights'
- Developed Trust–wide policies to ensure consistency in practice across schools
- Reviewed the Trust's Committee practices with regards to function and effectiveness
- Embedded EAST's Communication plan, calendared key events and developed a SharePoint platform for the Trust's governance
- Held EAST's Annual Governance conference

2. People

- Developed Headteacher Appraisal process with clear success criteria linked to school improvement
- Provided opportunities for EAST funded courses and other external opportunities
- Recruited to the Current Central Team to increase leadership and operational capacity
- Recruited Members and Trustees to further improve and build capacity and skills in EAST's governance

3. High Quality Education

- Evaluated existing Trust-wide, school-based strategies recovering 'lost learning' as a result of the pandemic

Objectives and activities (continued)

- Focused on our most vulnerable and disadvantaged students
- Developed EAST's Leadership Networks to bring about further sharing of good practice
- Created an Executive Leadership Group which drives the direction and innovation for EAST's schools

4. Quality Assurance and Accountability

- Designed a logical accountability process which outlines key terms and corresponding information needed
- Headteachers presented summer results and provide an overview of actions resulting from the outcomes
- Refined the Education Committee's strategy so that data received allows for a strategic approach to be undertaken
- Worked with Local Governing Bodies to review LGB induction and training for new school Governors
- Reviewed recruitment and retention challenges with LGBs

5. Business Finance and Governance

- Published a financial reporting calendar providing clarity for the Trust Board, LGBs and school Finance Teams
- Developed the benefits of using IRIS / PS Financials with regards to financial reporting and its efficiency for staff
- Organised Governance Training Programme for EAST's Trust Board and LGBs
- Reviewed and enhanced the EAST Risk Assessment process to ensure that it is efficient and robust
- Mapped out EAST's growth strategy, highlighting the vision and proposed developments

c. Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission and the Trustees have followed this guidance in deciding what activates the charitable company should undertake.

d. Future development

For 2022-23, the Trust has created a detailed Strategic Development Plan, which is underpinned by the following:

Strategic Development Area 1: School Improvement

- Launch and monitor initial EAST CPD offer to support 'development journeys' and classroom practice.
- Explore, consider and develop further CPD opportunities to support targeted areas.
- Consolidate people and recruitment strategy to ensure best practice.
- Develop and monitor school Recovery Strategies to support disadvantaged and underachieving students.
- Embed and develop monitoring and accountability measures for school improvement.

Objectives and activities (continued)

Strategic Development Area 2: Growth

- Establish EAST as an 'all-phase' Trust through development of primary expertise and growth
- Develop a model for working effectively across school pyramids to facilitate support, understanding and improvement
- Develop secondary school growth to support facilitate positive impact for all involved.
- Continue to explore opportunities for appropriate growth for EAST.

Strategic Development Area 3: Operations

- Develop an effective approach to monitoring and mitigating risk across EAST.
- Revise the Central Team model and appoint in line with growth strategy requirements.
- Enhancement of financial management and procurement.
- Business infrastructure strategy to be devised with incoming Chief Operating Officer (i.e. Estates, H&S, Risk Management, IT, GDPR).

Strategic Development Area 4: Governance

- Develop Annual Cycle of Business for all EAST governance groups.
- Develop the role of governance in organisation improvement.
- Continue to develop and enhance the role of Members and LGBs in the governance of EAST.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Achievements and performance

Bungay High School

The achievement and performance of Year 11 students in 2021-22 was in line with previous results before the inclusion of Teacher Assessed Grades /Centre Assessed Grades. The provisional Progress 8 result of +0.15 (Oct 22) is currently above national average but slightly under pre-covid results (2018 P8+0.49, 2019 P8+0.3). Those achieving both English and Maths at a grade 4+ was our highest at 68%. We are very pleased our Pupil Premium gap is reducing (0.28) and well below the gap nationally. This demonstrates the high achievement and attainment of students at Bungay High School as well as the consistency in these outcomes over time. However, moving forward, our focus is on improving attainment scores, in particular those in the Open Subjects and increasing the % achieving a 5+ English and Maths.

For A Level, results showed an increase A*-B grades (39%) and brought us back up to pre-covid levels (2018 40%, 2019 32%) and our A*-C (64%) was also in line with previous years (2018 73%, 2019 64%). However, our A*-E has fallen (95%) compared to previous (2018 98%, 2019 97%) and was below the Suffolk average (97.5%). Overall, whilst results were in line with previous years at BHS, disappointingly, in comparison to national and local results, we are not attaining well, and our ALPS is an 8. Action to address this is already underway, with identified subjects on RAP (Raising Achievement Plans) in addition to the new leadership of the Sixth Form.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Intake for 2022 was under that forecast by Suffolk County Council (SCC) back in 2021, attributed to a number of factors such as the impact of Covid on delayed new housing in the area and increased cost of bus fares for those out of catchment. SCC latest forecast also continues to show a fall in numbers for the next 5 years compared to their original document. However, based on their original numbers, we have increased our Pupil Admission Number to 210 from Sept 2023 and are due to complete on a £4million expansion project funded by Suffolk County Council. Early indications from Open Evening 2022 are positive, however with the rapid rising cost of living, we will have to monitor how many out of catchment students will be able to afford the bus fare to join us.

Bungay's extracurricular programme continues to be inclusive, vibrant and popular with many students engaging in a range of activities and the reintroduction of the annual 'activities week'. Pastoral care and teaching and learning are strong, with the highest expectations of all. Bungay is a popular, high achieving school that is well respected in the community.

Farlingaye High School

The Attainment 8 score for the Year 11 cohort in 2021-22 was 50.7. 74% of the cohort achieved 4+ in both English and Maths, while 50% achieved 5+ in both English and Maths. These headline figures are broadly in line with those of previous years, although our 5+ in Maths was slightly lower than in 2019. This is something that has affected our headline figures and is being addressed by the Maths team.

The Year 13 cohort performed very well, with 31.8% of all grades being A*-A and 56% being A*-B. The overall pass rate was 99.4%. Our Alps T-Score was 3 (excellent). Again, these results were broadly in line with the results of previous years.

Progression outcomes continue to be strong: all of our 2021-2022 Year 13 leavers left with a clearly defined pathway to the future, with 70% securing HE places, 14% entering Employment, 12% beginning an Apprenticeship, and 4% starting further education courses. Although final figures for the 2021-22 Y11 leavers are not available, the provisional picture is encouraging.

One significant issue that emerged last year was the 'demographic dip' in our feeder primary schools: with much lower numbers of Year 6 students in these schools than in previous years, we were well below PAN for Year 7 entry in September 2022 (285 entry vs 308 entry for previous years). This dip seems to be less severe for Y6 in 2022-23, but there are future years in which we could see a similar issue. In response to this, our marketing of the school will be more intense than in the past. This will require some investment of time and resources.

Our extra-curricular programme was fully reimplemented during 2021-22, with students having multiple opportunities in the creative arts, sport, outdoor pursuits, charity work and supporting self and peers. Student uptake was very good – in some cases exceeding pre-pandemic norms – and we were able to reinvigorate our interactions with the wider community: for example, our Senior Production of Beauty and the Beast at the Seckford Theatre was watched by more people than any show in the school's history.

Kesgrave High School

The Attainment 8 score for the Year 11 cohort in 2021-22 was 52.81, 80% of the cohort achieved 4+ in both English and Maths, while 59% achieved 5+ in both English and Maths. Progress 8 measure for the whole cohort was 0.32. Both attainment and progress measures place these results in the top 25% of schools for Key Stage 4 performance. These headline figures represent a significant improvement on the last externally validated results of 2019, when it was -0.28. This uplift is the result of curriculum change from 2018/19, changes in assessment since September 2020, new culture and behaviour expectations in the school since 2020 and a relentless focus

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

on COVID recovery and gaps in learning over the last two years.

Within the Key stage 4 measures, different student groups performed well, with gaps significantly closed for gender, prior ability and disadvantaged students. The P8 score for disadvantaged learners was -0.03, an improvement on 2019 levels of -1.12.

Post-16 results were also very pleasing. Using the ALPS progress measures, adjusted for the 2022 national data set, the school has an overall ALPS progress score of Grade 3, placing the school in the top 25% of post-16 providers. An average grade of B- was achieved across all A Level courses and average point score per academic entry was 35.34. Average grade in vocational qualifications was Distinction, with average points per entry of 35.22 in this qualification suite.

We continue to be at PAN in all main school year groups with numbers strong and over-subscription year on year. In the Sixth Form, post-pandemic entry numbers have dropped slightly in Year 12, to be expected from a formal examination series rather than teacher assessed grades. The compliment of students in Year 12 and 13 remains strong and continued recruitment is a focus in 2022-23.

The school continues to offer a rich and varied extra-curricular diet, with trips and visits commonplace, alongside out of hours clubs and activities.

We continue to improve the school site and have a number of projects (both school and Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) Funded) due to complete in 2022-23. This includes roofing and window replacements and improved Sixth Form study facilities and main school outside multi-use games area facility.

Castle EAST School

Castle EAST School had a very successful first year. Our staffing model has continued to grow to reflect the need for subject specialism particularly at Key Stage 4 and both a Lead of Maths and Lead of English were appointed to strengthen our approach. We were also able to secure the appointment of an ECT, who visited us as part of their training year, and was keen to work here. This also allowed us to create our first KEY STAGE4 pathway with the offer of GCSE Maths, English Language, Biology and Geography alongside Arts Award, Creative iMedia and the ASDAN Foodwise course.

Pupil numbers grew over the academic year with 9 in-year admissions bringing our number to 31 by the end of the summer term. Transition for new pupils starting in September took place over a week in July and was attended by all 12 of our new pupils. It was great opportunity for our existing pupils to talk about the positive experiences they have had a Castle EAST, since they started with us.

There have been many highlights of our first year, too many to mention them all in detail, but the two that stand out are our residency visit from Pro Corda, a youth music organisation that provides a continuous and progressive programme of education through the medium of chamber music and ensemble training. Over the course of 4 days all of our pupils took part in prop design and creation, musical instrument, Key Stagehops and vocal training to put on a spectacular performance of Disney's 'The Lion King'. It was so wonderful to see our pupils engage in activities that for so many of them would have been their first experience of a music and drama production. The second highlight was our first Parent's Evening which had a brilliant 70% turn out. To listen to the feedback given to parents and carers about the progress that our pupils had made, over the academic year, was fantastic and showcased Castle EAST School's inclusive and nurturing approach to the teaching and learning of all our pupils.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Staff training

Bungay High School - The school has been fortunate to sign up 3 staff members to the fully funded NPQSL (National Professional Qualification), 2 who are undertaking the Leading Teaching qualification and 1 on the Leading Teacher Development. The school also sent 4 members of SLT out across the UK to visit other schools to look at aspects linked to their roles and responsibilities, covering Maths, Teaching and Learning and Personal Development and has also been supported by the EAST funds towards the costs of these external visits. Furthermore, £2000 was spent supporting staff to purchase educational resources, attend training conferences, exam board support and moderation and leadership conferences. These visits have resulted in the introduction of several whole school initiatives in line with the areas identified in the SEF (school Evaluation Form) and planned for in the SDP (School Development Plan).

Farlingaye High School - Our in-school CPD in 2021-22 provided a mix of online sessions and in the later part of the year, face-to-face sessions. We ran 22 sessions on a wide range of topics. A key focus of our in-house work and our exchange of ideas with other schools was preparation for Ofsted in the Autumn term. 2021-2 was the second year of the new Early Career Teacher framework, and Lucy Cornell – our Professional Tutor – and those staff mentoring ECTs received training designed to help them to successfully support those staff. Our PD day in January was focussed on embedding the new PSHE strategy with staff, with follow up CPD sessions to look at developing this area. We moved the safeguarding briefings online so all staff could access these live or at a later date through the recording. Two members of staff completed the ALPS “Leading on Data” course that ran through the academic year to give Senior Staff a greater understanding of the role of data in schools. The T&L book group was successfully launched and will be extended to be offered as a wider MAT group for 2022-3.

Kesgrave High School - In 2021/22 training expenditure totalled about a third of our historic spend (and budget) at £11,043. This is in line with spending in the last two COVID-affected years. CPD has sustained as a virtual offer in the main for national courses and this continues to limit the spending associated with trip travel (and the greater time efficiency for cover of the virtual offer). Given the trend in costs the budget for training has been reduced for 2022/23.

The Pastoral Team completed Mental Health First Aid and Positive Handling training delivered at school. ELSA training was also sourced for a further three teaching assistants given the growth in need in this area. A further two staff were training as alternate safeguarding leads and other staff completed updates (as leads and as staff) as needed. This now gives a compliment of seven trained safeguarding leads (two SLT).

All teaching staff undertake a research project as part of the school CPD offer. The contribution of in-school research leads to this creates enquiry and professional development for all teachers at a school level.

Government funded NPQ courses continue to be the most significant route for staff embarking on leadership training at all levels.

Castle EAST School – In 2021/22 training expenditure was £10,000. Being a brand new school, this included set up training for all staff – First Aid training, Fire Marshall training, Fire Safety training and Food Hygiene Level 2 training for all staff. All staff competed the Norfolk Steps training with a focus on positive behaviour management techniques and de-escalation. All staff also completed Trauma Informed Practice training with Trauma Informed Schools UK over a period of two PD days. One teacher completed the Forest School Leader training with the Greenlight Trust. The Headteacher completed her Level 3 Designated Safeguarding Lead training.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future having reviewed and approved the Trust's medium term budget plan covering up to the end of August 2025. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

d. Section 172 Statement

As the Academy Trust is deemed to be a large company, we fall within the threshold to include a Section 172 Statement arising from a requirement of the Companies (Miscellaneous Reporting) Regulations 2018 and Companies Act (2006).

Our Board of Trustees (who are our Company Directors) must act in the way they consider to be in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its stakeholders as a whole, and in doing so have regard (amongst other matters) to —

(a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term
- all our directors' decisions are fully considered and openly discussed and minuted in committee and board meetings, reviewing the short term and long term outcomes of their decisions taking the advice of officers when it is appropriate to do so
- we operate a strategic risk register to review and address potential risks which could arise from those decisions.

(b) the interests of the company's employees
- we include our employees in consultations and regularly involve them in leadership recruitment processes
- we value staff and have staff wellbeing facilities
- we implemented employee networks to cover specialist areas, share information and reduce isolation

(c) the need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others
- we have high expectations of our suppliers on whom we rely for essential curriculum and support service delivery and maintain relationships with them by promptly settling invoices and having open communication with them if there are any challenges
- we require all employees to be respectful in their dealings with students and their families and carers

(d) the impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment
- as community schools, our schools have a significant impact on their local communities and provide vital facilities and fundraising for local and national charities through our student's activities
- we consider the impact on our environment, for example reducing printing volumes and we are including low carbon as a requirement for future energy tenders.

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

(e) the desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct

- we expect all employees, governors, Board of Trustees and members to abide by a code of conduct in all dealings with stakeholders and wider organisations.
- we engender high standards for employees by having performance appraisals and embedding a high achieving culture to help our students reach their potential.
- we have policies that set out our expectations including a financial policy which covers how we should conduct our business for operational financial transactions and strategic procurements and planning, ensuring that there are sufficient controls in line with the Academies Handbook and principles of public life.

(f) the need to act fairly as between members of the company.

- as a charity we do not have shareholders but everything we do is with our students' interests at our very heart and in accordance with our charitable objects.

a. Financial review

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) via the ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The funding received from the DfE during the year end 31st August 2022 and the associated expenditure are shown as Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities and summarised in note 19, Statement of Funds.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE and 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 Academy's accounting policies.

The Trust had an in-year surplus of £1,025,580 calculated as the change in balance of restricted funds (excluding the pension reserve) plus unrestricted funds. The revenue reserves position excluding the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) is a surplus of £4,621,913 which include £2,707,511 restricted reserves and £1,914,402 unrestricted reserves.

The schools' individual revenue balances are shown in Note 19, Statement of Funds. Our schools received £177,288 Covid Recovery Premium and Covid School led Tutoring to support students with their learning and wellbeing but have plans to spend remaining balances amounting to £93,194 early on in 2022-23.

At the year end, the Trust had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be significant effect on liquidity.

The Board of Trustees recognise that the defined benefit scheme deficit as shown in last year's accounts for 2020-21 (Local Government Pension Scheme) represented a significant potential liability. For the first time, the liability is shown as zero on the balance sheet for 2021-22 compared to £10m liability in 2020-21. The Trust is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future so the risk is minimised and the UK Government guarantees that in the event the Trust is wound up, that it would meet any gap between assets and liabilities.

b. Reserves policy

The Board of Trustees review the level of reserves requirement for the Trust annually and monitor the forecast reserves shown in the financial reports. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

For the year ended 31 August 2022, Board of Trustees agreed that the minimum appropriate level of reserves to operate in the current financial climate should equate to 3.5% income for schools and 15% income for Central MAT. This equated to £1.2m revenue reserves. The actual revenue reserves excluding pension, were £4.6m (£4,621,913) exceeding the minimum level set by Board of Trustees by over £3.4m. Of this, £1.9m reserves are classed as free reserves whereas the remaining funds are restricted and designated reserves. The Trust will consider whether to revise the reserves levels at the next budget planning period and in light of all the inflationary pressures facing all schools nationally.

Moving forward, the Board of Trustees reviewed the minimum levels of reserves required as part of the medium-term budget planning process which started in the Spring term of 2022. It was agreed that the minimum cumulative target reserves should equate to 1/12th of annual staff costs for schools and for Central MAT, 10-15% of income. This was achieved for the medium term plan with expected reduction of reserves to allow for additional energy costs, allowing a further £1.2m over the three year period being added to existing energy budgets.

It was agreed by Board of Trustees that some non-recurring projects could be funded from schools' reserves during 2021-22 for items not previously planned and implemented an "Unplanned Expenditure" approval process. This facilitated property improvements at Kesgrave for pastoral care, sixth form, learning support and in 2022-23, the creation of a new multi games area, which will be installed in the Autumn term of 2022. Farlingaye installed improved ventilation in their PE area and Bungay used reserves for additional premises compliance costs. These projects were a valuable and rare opportunity to use historical reserves.

The future management of reserves will continue to consider:

- longer term Covid recovery and school improvement
- significant financial pressures arising from pay and energy inflation
- support for capital projects not covered by Condition Improvement Fund Grants once the Trust becomes eligible for the Schools Condition Allocation which will be at a much lower level than the CIF grants received in recent years.

c. Funds

In total funds amount to £50,460,073 as shown in the Statement of Funds Note 19 section and in the balance sheet, broken down as follows:

	£
Restricted income funds	2,707,511
Unrestricted income funds	1,914,402
Total revenue reserves excl. fixed assets and pension	4,621,913
Restricted fixed asset fund: tangible assets	46,026,250
Restricted fixed asset fund: unspent grants	308,039
Restricted fixed asset fund: Condition Improvement Fund Loans	(496,129)
Total restricted fixed asset fund	45,838,160
Total before pension fund	50,460,073
Local Government Pension Scheme	-
Grand Total	**50,460,073**

£50,460,073 also represents the total net assets of the Trust.

d. Investment policy

The Board of Trustees are committed to ensuring all funds under their control are managed in order to maximise return whilst minimising risk. Any cash not required for operating expenses is placed on deposit at the most favourable rate available from Lloyds Bank Plc. Day to day management of the surplus funds is delegated to the Director of Finance and Operations within the guidelines of the Finance policy. A review of the balances held will take place in the new year to increase returns as well as reviewing alternative savings arrangements.

e. Principal risks and uncertainties

Board of Trustees assessed strategic risks at every committee and full Trust Board meeting. We are conscious of the need to ensure that this continues to be robust and will be continuing to develop our approach to this in 2022-23. The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy Trust were assessed as follows:

Financial – The main risks are that the pay awards announced for teachers (from September 2022) and support staff (from April 2022) representing significant additional costs above those budgeted that are not funded by government grants. This is mitigated in part by the Trust's financial position but reserves once used, are not there for recurring financial issues. This is also being addressed by a Trust Action Plan for financial pressures. Similarly, additional pressure arising from increased energy prices as contracts come up for renewal are contributing towards the overall financial risks from pay and price inflation. The Government has promised some temporary support which will help in the immediate short term.

Covid -19 - It is important to acknowledge the ongoing impact of 'lost learning' and the recovery strategies in schools presenting another great challenge and risk. The Trust has invested its own funds in addition to Government funds to address the short term and longer term effects of the Covid-19 disruption to supplement the learning approaches that were used.

Student number instability - all schools are very popular, intake is usually consistent at Kesgrave and Farlingaye although there has been a recent dip in Year 7 intake at Farlingaye this year. Numbers are increasing at Bungay albeit more slowly than Suffolk County Council had previously forecast so Bungay is looking at increasing their local presence via higher profile marketing. Bungay has a small Sixth Form and being of a rural nature (where transport is an issue) incurs risks which are closely monitored. Student numbers are monitored by the schools and Trustees, with the schools completing more marketing initiatives.

Information Security – With the increase in “ransomware” and “hacking” with many other schools we face increasing challenges from unauthorised access to our data or attack from viruses, phishing and cyber fraud. This is mitigated with firewalls, filtering, back up and close monitoring by our network staff as well as general security vigilance by all staff when using online systems and following the security and GDPR policies.

Staffing - The success of the Trust is reliant on the quality of its staff. The main risks are in recruitment and being able to have a quality depth of field to recruit from especially when the areas of Suffolk and East Anglia are generally geographically challenging for new and subject specialists teachers. The Trust’s investment in its EAST SCITT (School Centered Initial Teacher Training) will be a sustained source of new teachers for the region. For existing staff, there is a programme of professional development in place, and subject specialist are used in most areas of teaching. The development of middle leaders continues and we have networks developing to support subject areas. Post pandemic, the recruitment and retention of teaching assistants over the last year has been more challenging, competing with private sector retail so the schools are working together to review strategies to increase retention and effective recruitment.

Premises Compliance – The Trust took steps to monitor in detail, that the requirements for premises and health and safety compliance in schools were being met and addressed. Whilst there were no significant issues this continues to be an area of potential high risk with high impact. This will be reviewed by the Chief Operations Officer when they start at the Trust in January 2023.

Fundraising

The Trust is funded mainly by government grants but we encourage students to participate in fundraising activities for recognised charities. No one is obliged to contribute towards Parent Teacher Association activities, but parents and carers are encouraged to take part in several ways in order to support their schools. The Board of Trustees believe this adds to the school community and therefore are acting in the best interest of the charity and do not use any professional fundraisers to act on their behalf. This builds a sense of community and strong links with local families. The Trust has not received any complaints about fundraising.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

The Academy Trust's greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are as follows:

	2022	*2021*
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	**4,283,154**	*2,936,338*
Energy consumption breakdown (kWh):		
Gas	**3,047,297**	*2,332,221*
Electricity	**1,256,145**	*535,736*
Electricity - Renewables	**61,744**	*57,106*
Transport fuel	**40,890**	*11,285*
Scope 1 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Gas consumption	**558.14**	*427.17*
Owned transport	**8.01**	*2.27*
Total scope 1	**566.15**	*429.44*
Scope 2 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Purchased electricity	**266.72**	*113.75*
Scope 3 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Business travel in employee-owned or rental vehicles	**2.25**	*0.47*
Total gross emissions (in tonnes of C02 equivalent):	**835.12**	*543.66*
Intensity ratio:		
Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil	**0.18**	*0.12*

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 intensity measure we are using as a Trust assessed the Tonnes of CO2e emitted per pupil and in our accounts for 2021 - 2022 the intensity ration was 0.18.

Measures planned to improve energy efficiency in the next 12 months

We have appointed a Chief Operations Officer who will start in January 2023. One of their tasks will be to review energy consumption in our academies and understand the actions we need to take to reduce our carbon footprint.

We have a new electricity green tariff at one of our academies and will be looking to procure greener electricity when the remaining contracts expire.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting (continued)

All our academies are actively looking at ways to reduce energy consumption to reduce costs and improve their carbon footprint.

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

The Academy and its Board of Trustees do not act as the Custodian Board of Trustees of any other Charity.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

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

Auditors

The Members and Board of Trustees will review the appointment of auditors for the next period

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 13 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Stella Mackenzie

.....

S Mackenzie
Chair of Board of Trustees

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive 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 East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 7 times during the year.

The work of the Trust Board continues to evolve in line with the Trust risk register and the demands of the ESFA. The established Local Governing Bodies and other Trust Board Committees monitor student progress, assessment, attendance and curriculum provision, which includes pupil premium students. The data used is from the exam boards for progress and outcomes which is stored on the individual school management systems and we also have access to ALPS (DfE). 4 matrix Fusion software is used centrally for the Trust drawing information from the school data systems, comparing internal data across the Trust and against national data sets. This gives Board of Trustees and governors a clear picture of performance against others; there are clear reports for Trust Boards and Local Governing Boards.

Attendance at Trust Board meetings in the year 2021-22 was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr L Franks (Chair until 31 August 2022), Chair	7	7
Mr N Howe	6	7
*Mr S Curzon	6	7
Ms S Mackenzie (Chair from 1 September 2022)	7	7
*Mr S Shaw	7	7
*Mr T Roberts	4	5
*Mr G Swann	0	1
*Ms S Thorne	5	5

* Finance and Audit Committee

The CEO A Goduti attended all the Finance and Audit Committees.

The Trust Board undertook a skills self-assessment and determined that whilst the necessary skills are available, that further Board of Trustees are required to balance the responsibilities. Members underwent a recruitment process for additional Board of Trustees and members with additions in the year.

The CEO, Chair of Trustees, Governance Professional and DFO drew up an extensive Trust Governance Handbook which was issued to all Members, Trustees and Local Governors. An external review of the Trust Board is planned for 2023 as part of the strategic development plan.

Governance (continued)

The Local Governing Bodies have conducted skills audits and self-review and their makeup has evolved as terms of office have come to an end.

Conflicts of interests for Members, Trustees, Local Governors and staff are managed in the following ways:

- annual declaration form is completed, summary is published on the Trust's website and on schools' websites for local governors
- meetings have declaration of interests on the agenda at the beginning of meetings
- the individual is expected to remove themselves (or instructed to) from the meeting for the item declared or stand down if the interest is over a longer term in nature
- the Trust has a Conflict of Interests Policy which is reviewed regularly

The Finance and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Board of Trustees, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Board of Trustees' responsibility to ensure sound management of Trust's finance and resources including staffing, through proper planning, monitoring and probity. The committee met six times, The CEO Angelo Goduti, attended all meetings.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Shaw	6	6
S Curzon	6	6
T Roberts	3	4
G Swann	1	1
L Franks (invited)	1	1
S Mackenzie (invited)	1	1

Review of value for money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy Trust's use of 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.

In addition to financial considerations, the Trust considered service quality, aims, effectiveness and timeliness bringing together the combined knowledge and experience of the schools to get the best overall arrangements.

Improving Educational Outcomes

Targeted improvement

The schools work very hard to improve educational outcomes for all students. The curriculum is well supported by a robust staffing structure, and a recruitment policy to employ subject specialists. The schools are fully staffed and have good contacts when additional expertise is needed.

Collaboration

Through the EAST SCITT the Trust collaborates closely with local schools in training new teachers. Farlingaye is a Leading Edge School and works with its feeder primary schools encouraging students to participate in maths, computing and sports. All of these partnerships lead to a sharing of good practice and excellent continuous professional development opportunities for staff. EAST is a Teaching School Hub partner.

Financial Oversight

Governance

The Board of Trustees' Finance and Audit Committee met six times during the year to consider finance reports, budget setting, agreement of central fee, updated finance policy and procedures as well as reviewing financial risks, areas for scrutiny and procurement.

The Board of Trustees review the financial reports and receive minutes from the Local Governing Body Resource Committee and SCITT meetings. All Board of Trustees have access via SharePoint, to monthly financial management reports which show income and expenditure against budget, amounts per school and the consolidated financial position including forecast reserves, balance sheet and cashflow trends. The Trust Chair and Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee have monthly emailed reports.

The Trust has a community of over 5000 people so its purchasing power is considerable, it also takes advantage of purchasing consortiums and a rigorous process of procurement and contract negotiation to ensure best value.

The Internal Audit Service on financial areas was purchased from Schools' Choice. The report has outlined areas for potential improvement in our control of income and assessment of fraud risks.

The Trust has a Risk Register which is reviewed by Board of Trustees at each Trust Board and committee meeting.

Maximising Income Generation

The Trust explores every opportunity to generate income through the hire of facilities and bids for targeted grants. Condition Improvement Fund grants were used to invest in replacement roofing and windows helping to reduce expenditure in the longer term.

Kesgrave and Farlingaye made successful Condition Improvement bids for new roofing projects and received the first grant installments in the summer term. Bungay secured further funding from Suffolk County Council for completing capital improvements to the Hearing Impaired facility within school and installing ramps.

Financial Oversight (continued)

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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.

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 has the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report. 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:

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance and Audit Committee and Local Governing Bodies of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- rigorous recruitment procedures for staff with financial responsibility
- adherence to the Trust Finance Policy, including delegation of responsibility for all purchasing
- identification and management of risks
- finance induction for finance staff and Board of Trustees
- attendance for relevant staff to the trust's Business Network to reinforce financial procedures

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ Schools' Choice as internal auditor for financial matters.

The results of their report are discussed and acted upon accordingly. The internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees, through the Finance and Audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters, best practice and performing a range of checks on the academy Trust's financial systems. The Internal Auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned, covering the operation of income controls and fraud risk management. There were no significant control issues identified as a result of their work. On an annual basis, the auditor prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

Future plans include a review of pay contracts (a different provider will be used as Schools' Choice provide the payroll service), invoices and charge cards in the new year.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;
- correspondence from ESFA e.g. FNtI/NtI and 'minded to' letters.

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

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

Stella Mackenzie
.....
S Mackenzie
Chair of Board of Trustees
Date: 13 December 2022

.....
A Goduti
Accounting Officer

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of East Anglian Schools Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education.

As accounting officer of East Anglian Schools Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education.

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

.....
A Goduti
Accounting Officer
Date: 13 December 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:

Stella Mackenzie

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S Mackenzie
Chair of Board of Trustees
Date: 13 December 2022

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 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 Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report and the Strategic report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

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:

Due to the field in which the Company operates, we identified the areas most likely to have a direct material impact on the financial statements as compliance with tax legislation, accounting standards and requirements, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, the Companies Act 2006 and charity law. In addition, we considered the provisions of other laws and regulations which whilst not having a direct impact on the financial statements, are fundamental to the Company's ability to operate, including Academies Financial Handbook 2021, funding agreements, safeguarding requirements, health and safety, employment law, data protection and compliance with various other regulations relevant to the conduct of the Company's operations.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risk of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, included the following:

- Enquiries with management, the Accounting Officer and the Trustees about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations, accidents in the workplace, safeguarding breaches, data breaches, potential litigation or claims and fraud;
- Considering the conclusion of our assurance report on regularity to the Company and the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Reviewing the Accounting Officer's Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance;
- Review the findings of the Company's internal scrutiny;
- Reviewing legal and professional fees to confirm matters where the Company engaged lawyers during the year;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Reviewing board and finance committee minutes and any relevant correspondence with external authorities,

including regulators;

- Challenging assumptions and judgments made by management in their significant accounting estimates, particularly around the actuarial assumptions used to estimate the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit obligation; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Due to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Larking Gowen

Giles Kerkham FCA DChA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
Larking Gowen LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Ipswich

Date: 14 December 2022

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 24 September 2020 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 East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd 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 East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd 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 East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 21 March 2011 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.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

Approach

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

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

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

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

In planning and conducting our work we had due regard to professional guidance, including the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. The work undertaken to draw our conclusion, includes, but is not limited to:

- Enquiry of senior management and the Academy Trust's Trustees;
- Review of the results of the Academy Trust's process of independent checking of financial controls, systems, transactions and risks;
- Inspection and review of the accounting records, meeting minutes, internal control procedures, management representations and declarations of interest;
- Observation and re-performance of the financial controls; and
- Review of governance arrangements.

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.

Larking Gowen

Larking Gowen LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Date: 14 December 2022

EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD

(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					
		45,819	**16,256**	**9,175,837**	**9,237,912**	*1,224,576*
Other trading activities	6	**159,572**	**-**	**-**	**159,572**	*47,509*
Investments	7	**2,474**	**-**	**-**	**2,474**	*997*
Charitable activities:	4					
Academy Trust educational operations		**729,234**	**28,544,712**	**-**	**29,273,946**	*27,116,673*
School Centred Initial Teacher Training		**-**	**246,200**	**-**	**246,200**	*-*
Teaching schools		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	*80,946*
Total income		**937,099**	**28,807,168**	**9,175,837**	**38,920,104**	*28,470,701*
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	*7,161*
Charitable activities:						
Academy Trust educational operations		**720,050**	**29,895,233**	**1,689,071**	**32,304,354**	*27,839,971*
School Centred Initial Teacher Training		**-**	**246,200**	**-**	**246,200**	*-*
Teaching schools		**-**	**-**	**-**	**-**	*137,551*
Total expenditure		**720,050**	**30,141,433**	**1,689,071**	**32,550,554**	*27,984,683*

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) (CONTINUED)
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 £*
Net income/(expenditure) before taxation brought forward		**217,049**	**(1,334,265)**	**7,486,766**	**6,369,550**	*486,018*
Net income/(expenditure)		**217,049**	**(1,334,265)**	**7,486,766**	**6,369,550**	*486,018*
Transfers between funds	20	**(138,438)**	**789,233**	**(650,795)**	**-**	*-*
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		**78,611**	**(545,032)**	**6,835,971**	**6,369,550**	*486,018*
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	28	**-**	**11,519,000**	**-**	**11,519,000**	*(2,003,000)*
Net movement in funds		**78,611**	**10,973,968**	**6,835,971**	**17,888,550**	*(1,516,982)*
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		**1,835,791**	**(8,266,457)**	**39,002,189**	**32,571,523**	*34,088,505*
Net movement in funds		**78,611**	**10,973,968**	**6,835,971**	**17,888,550**	*(1,516,982)*
Total funds carried forward		**1,914,402**	**2,707,511**	**45,838,160**	**50,460,073**	*32,571,523*

EAST ANGLIAN SCHOOLS TRUST LTD

(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07667407

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note		2022 £		*2021 £*
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		**46,023,530**		*38,566,663*
			46,023,530		*38,566,663*
Current assets					
Stocks	16	**5,024**		*4,226*	
Debtors	17	**1,041,408**		*1,433,766*	
Cash at bank and in hand		**6,738,847**		*5,093,391*	
		7,785,279		*6,531,383*	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	**(2,932,335)**		*(2,053,428)*	
Net current assets			**4,852,944**		*4,477,955*
Total assets less current liabilities			**50,876,474**		*43,044,618*
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19		**(416,401)**		*(446,095)*
Net assets excluding pension asset / liability			**50,460,073**		*42,598,523*
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	28		**-**		*(10,027,000)*
Total net assets			**50,460,073**		*32,571,523*

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note		2022 £		*2021 £*
Funds of the Academy Trust					
Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	20	**45,838,160**		*39,002,189*	
Restricted income funds	20	**2,707,511**		*1,760,543*	
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	20	**48,545,671**		*40,762,732*	
Pension reserve	20	**-**		*(10,027,000)*	
Total restricted funds	20		**48,545,671**		*30,735,732*
Unrestricted income funds	20		**1,914,402**		*1,835,791*
Total funds			**50,460,073**		*32,571,523*

The financial statements on pages 34 to 73 were approved and authorised for issue by the trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

Stella Mackenzie
.....
S Mackenzie
Chair of Board of Trustees
Date: 13 December 2022

The notes on pages 39 to 73 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	*2021 £*
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	22	**2,228,912**	*3,238,922*
Cash flows from investing activities	24	**(558,762)**	*(784,177)*
Cash flows from financing activities	23	**(24,694)**	*49,053*
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		**1,645,456**	*2,503,798*
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		**5,093,391**	*2,589,593*
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	25, 26	**6,738,847**	*5,093,391*

The notes on pages 39 to 73 form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 07667407. The registered office is Framlingham Technology Centre, Station Road, Framlingham, Woodbridge, Suffolk, IP13 9EZ.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

East Anglian Schools Trust Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling (£) and rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going concern

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

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

  General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of financial activities in the 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.

  The Academy Trust is benefiting from the ESFA's Free School Building Programme. The funding for the programme is not recognised as a capital grant until there is unconditional entitlement from costs being incurred, and the development occurring on a site where the Academy Trust controls through lease the site where a development is occurring. The expenditure is capitalised in assets under construction until the project is complete.

- **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 year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy 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 Academy Trust's accounting policies.

1. Accounting policies (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.

- **Charitable activities**
  These are costs incurred on the Academy Trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy Trust apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £3,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Leasehold buildings	- 10 - 50 years
Leasehold land	- 125 years
Furniture and equipment	- 10 years
Plant and equipment	- 5 years
Computer equipment	- 3 years
Motor vehicles	- 10 years

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Interest receivable

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

1.7 Operating leases

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

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

1.9 Liabilities

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

1.10 Provisions

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

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

1.11 Financial instruments

The Academy Trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy Trust and their measurement bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. 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 18 and 19. 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. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.13 Pensions

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

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

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

If the present value of the LGPS defined benefit obligation at the reporting date is less than the fair value of plan assets, the plan has a surplus. A defined benefit plan surplus is recognised as an asset to the extent that the Academy Trust is able to recover the surplus either through reduced future contributions or through refunds from the plan.

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

1.14 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. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 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 95 days or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.16 Fund accounting

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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.

1.17 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in the administering of 16-19 Bursary Funds from ESFA. Related payments received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities to the extent that the Academy Trust does not have a beneficial interest in the individual transactions. The allowance of 5% as a contribution to administration costs is however recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Where funds have not been fully applied in the year then an amount will be included in amounts due to the ESFA.

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 28, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 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.

Donated leasehold premises at Castle East (note 3) has been included at an estimate of fair value based on professional valuations received in 2021 of land and buildings at other academies within the Trust considered by the trustees to be of similar value per square metre.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	45,819	16,256	8,587,178	**8,649,253**
Grants	-	-	588,659	**588,659**
	45,819	16,256	9,175,837	**9,237,912**

Donations of £8,587,178 into Restricted fixed asset funds consist of the leasehold of the Castle East site valued at £8,469,478 and building works carried out by Suffolk County Council at Bungay High School at a cost to them of £117,700.

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	*Restricted funds 2021 £*	*Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Donations				
Donations	*6,446*	*35,284*	*144,230*	*185,960*
Grants	-	-	*1,038,616*	*1,038,616*
	6,446	*35,284*	*1,182,846*	*1,224,576*

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Educational operations	729,234	28,544,712	**29,273,946**
School Centred Initial Teacher Training	-	246,200	**246,200**
	729,234	28,790,912	**29,520,146**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	*Restricted funds 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Educational operations	*490,354*	*26,626,319*	*27,116,673*

5. Funding for the Academy Trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Educational operations			
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant	-	25,365,000	**25,365,000**
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Pupil Premium	-	723,844	**723,844**
Rates Relief	-	127,874	**127,874**
Other DFE Grants	-	967,233	**967,233**
	-	27,183,951	**27,183,951**
Other Government grants			
LA Grants - Special Educational Needs	-	1,034,938	**1,034,938**
LA Grants - Start-up Grants	-	86,209	**86,209**
	-	1,121,147	**1,121,147**
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations			
Other income	243,895	15,369	**259,264**
Catering income	110,231	-	**110,231**
Trips and visits	375,108	-	**375,108**
	729,234	15,369	**744,603**
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	118,326	**118,326**
Other DFE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	105,919	**105,919**
	-	224,245	**224,245**
Total 2022	729,234	28,544,712	**29,273,946**

The Trust received £118,326 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totaled £187,404.

Other DFE/ESFA COVID-19 funding related to ESFA payments supporting the provision of COVID-19 testing facilities for students and staff. The funding included additional support to cover expenditure on school-led tutoring.

5. Funding for the Academy Trust's charitable activities (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	*Restricted funds 2021* £	*Total funds 2021* £
Educational operations			
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant	-	*23,018,630*	*23,018,630*
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Pupil Premium	-	*732,939*	*732,939*
Rates Relief	-	*151,105*	*151,105*
Teachers Pay & Teachers Pension	-	*1,241,694*	*1,241,694*
Other DFE Grants	-	*254,785*	*254,785*
	-	*25,399,153*	*25,399,153*
Other Government grants			
LA Grants - Special Educational Needs	-	*377,110*	*377,110*
Other Government grants	-	*64,966*	*64,966*
LA Grants - Start-up Grants	-	*350,250*	*350,250*
	-	*792,326*	*792,326*
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations			
Other income	*199,643*	-	*199,643*
Catering income	*79,203*	-	*79,203*
Trips and visits	*211,508*	-	*211,508*
	490,354	-	*490,354*
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	*311,970*	*311,970*
Other DFE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	*122,870*	*122,870*
	-	*434,840*	*434,840*
Total 2021	*490,354*	*26,626,319*	*27,116,673*

The Trust received £311,970 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totaled £152,341, with the remaining £159,629 to be spent in 2021/22.

6. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Items sold	32,877	**32,877**	*12,729*
Hire of facilities	126,695	**126,695**	*34,780*
	159,572	**159,572**	*47,509*

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Investment income	2,474	**2,474**	*997*

8. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	-	-	-	**-**
Educational operations:				
Direct costs	20,737,940	1,555,165	2,337,321	**24,630,426**
Allocated support costs	3,614,696	3,246,112	813,120	**7,673,928**
School Centred Initial Teacher Training	-	-	246,200	**246,200**
Teaching school	-	-	-	**-**
	24,352,636	4,801,277	3,396,641	**32,550,554**

8. Expenditure (continued)

	Staff Costs 2021 £	*Premises 2021 £*	*Other 2021 £*	*Total 2021 £*
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	-	-	*7,161*	*7,161*
Educational operations:				
Direct costs	*19,039,049*	*1,456,446*	*1,475,985*	*21,971,480*
Allocated support costs	*3,267,279*	*1,874,162*	*727,050*	*5,868,491*
Teaching school	*71,998*	-	*65,553*	*137,551*
	22,378,326	*3,330,608*	*2,275,749*	*27,984,683*

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	**Support costs 2022 £**	**Total funds 2022 £**
Educational operations	24,630,426	7,673,928	**32,304,354**
School Centred Initial Teacher Training	246,200	-	**246,200**
	24,876,626	7,673,928	**32,550,554**

	Activities undertaken directly 2021 £	*Support costs 2021 £*	*Total funds 2021 £*
Educational operations	*21,971,480*	*5,868,491*	*27,839,971*

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2022 £	*Total funds 2021 £*
Staff costs	**3,614,696**	*3,267,279*
Staff recruitment and support	**157,700**	*116,598*
Maintenance of premises and equipment	**1,871,622**	*721,054*
Other support costs	**174,910**	*166,837*
General premises expenses	**1,374,490**	*1,153,108*
Supplies, printing and telephone	**268,448**	*231,619*
Legal costs - conversion	**103,477**	*156,826*
Legal costs - other	**50,017**	*24,776*
Governance costs	**58,568**	*30,394*
	7,673,928	*5,868,491*

Maintenance of premises and equipment includes £1,069,709 *(2021 - £228,750)* of costs of re-roofing works and replacement windows.

10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	**1,555,165**	*1,456,445*
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	**18,750**	*17,500*
- other services	**8,700**	*9,991*

11. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Wages and salaries	**17,298,811**	*16,238,747*
Social security costs	**1,705,040**	*1,567,837*
Pension costs	**5,181,445**	*4,458,196*
	24,185,296	*22,264,780*
Agency supply teacher costs	**167,340**	*113,546*
	24,352,636	*22,378,326*

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2022 £	*2021* *£*
Severance payments	**28,278**	-
Other restructuring costs	**-**	-
	28,278	-

b. Severance payments

The Academy Trust paid 3 severance payments in the year *(2021 - Nil)*, disclosed in the following bands:

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

c. Special staff severance payments

Included in wages and salaries are non-statutory severance payment amounting to £18,900 *(2021 - £Nil)*. Individually, the payments were: £2,500, £6,000 and £10,400.

11. Staff (continued)

d. Staff numbers

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

	2022 No.	*2021* *No.*
Teachers	**311**	*299*
Administration and support	**243**	*233*
Management	**30**	*27*
Casual staff	**63**	*63*
	647	*622*

e. 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	**2**	*1*
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	**4**	*3*
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	**-**	*1*
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	**2**	*2*
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	**1**	*-*

f. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on pages 1 and 2. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £859,418 *(2021 - £630,641)*.

12. Central services

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

- Payroll
- Finance
- Human Resources
- Pensions
- Recruitment
- Union facilities
- Insurance
- Legal
- Governance and policies
- Audit (internal & external)
- Data systems
- Central staff & leadership
- Central subscriptions

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

3.6% of GAG topslice was charged to the academies.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Bungay High School	**179,742**	*156,466*
Farlingaye High School	**366,500**	*329,109*
Kesgrave High School	**353,565**	*319,569*
Castle East	**27,360**	*-*
Total	**927,167**	*805,144*

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no trustees received any remuneration or other benefits *(2021 - £NIL)*.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no trustee expenses have been incurred *(2021 - £147)*.

14. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim. The cost of this cover is included within the general cover provided to the Academy and it is not possible to separate the specific amount paid in respect of Trustees' indemnity for the years ended 31 August 2021 and 31 August 2022.

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold property £	Plant and machinery £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2021	**42,120,727**	**309,763**	**828,981**	**1,236,566**	**72,638**	**44,568,675**
Additions	**8,686,491**	**61,836**	**209,744**	**165,574**	**22,295**	**9,145,940**
At 31 August 2022	**50,807,218**	**371,599**	**1,038,725**	**1,402,140**	**94,933**	**53,714,615**
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2021	**4,670,766**	**207,257**	**365,635**	**711,230**	**47,124**	**6,002,012**
Charge for the year	**1,287,574**	**19,093**	**96,302**	**277,372**	**8,732**	**1,689,073**
At 31 August 2022	**5,958,340**	**226,350**	**461,937**	**988,602**	**55,856**	**7,691,085**
Net book value						
At 31 August 2022	**44,848,878**	**145,249**	**576,788**	**413,538**	**39,077**	**46,023,530**
At 31 August 2021	*37,449,961*	*102,506*	*463,346*	*525,336*	*25,514*	*38,566,663*

16. Stocks

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Finished goods and goods for resale	**5,024**	*4,226*

17. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	**51,174**	*80,385*
Other debtors	**121,267**	*153,282*
Prepayments and accrued income	**868,967**	*1,200,099*
	1,041,408	*1,433,766*

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	**79,726**	*74,726*
Trade creditors	**493,037**	*621,105*
Other taxation and social security	**419,556**	*389,238*
Other creditors	**559,680**	*496,772*
Accruals and deferred income	**1,380,336**	*471,587*
	2,932,335	*2,053,428*

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	**383,442**	*270,247*
Resources deferred during the year	**647,641**	*383,442*
Amounts released from previous periods	**(383,442)**	*(270,247)*
	647,641	*383,442*

At the balance sheet date the academy Trust was holding funds received in advance in respect of grants where the academy Trust does not yet have entitlement to the income, music tuition taking place in the Autumn Term 2022 and trips taking place in the 22/23 school year.

See note 18 for details of the loan balance.

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

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Other loans	**416,401**	*446,095*

Loans of £496,106 are from the Condition Improvement Fund which are provided on the following terms.

A loan of £247,521 is being repaid in equal installments over ten years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2029. Interest is being charged at 1.85%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £173,265 *(2021 - £198,017)*.

A loan of £175,000 is being repaid in equal installments over ten years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2030. Interest is being charged at 2.29%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £140,000 *(2021 - £157,500)*.

A loan of £30,000 is being repaid in equal installments over five years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2023. Interest is being charged at 1.15%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £6,000 *(2021 - £12,000)*.

A loan of £70,000 is being repaid in equal installments over five years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2024. Interest is being charged at 1.15%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £28,000 *(2021 - £42,000)*.

A loan of £52,000 is being repaid in equal installments over ten years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2031. Interest is being charged at 2.22%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £46,800 *(2021 - £52,000)*.

A loan of £27,990 is being repaid in equal installments over 10 years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2031. Interest is being charged at 1.15%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £25,200 *(2021 - £27,990)*.

A loan of £35,789 is being repaid in equal installments over 8 years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2028. No interest is being charged. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2021 is £26,842 *(2021 - £31,315)*.

A loan of £50,000 is being repaid in equal installments over 10 years and will be fully repaid in the year to 31 August 2032. Interest is being charged at 2.07%. The loan outstanding at 31 August 2022 is £50,000 (2021 - £nil).

20. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
AGP Fund	**95,936**	**-**	**-**	**10,000**	**-**	**105,936**
General funds						
General Funds	**1,739,855**	**937,099**	**(720,050)**	**(148,438)**	**-**	**1,808,466**
Total Unrestricted funds	**1,835,791**	**937,099**	**(720,050)**	**(138,438)**	**-**	**1,914,402**
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	**934,235**	**25,364,999**	**(24,222,519)**	**(179,975)**	**-**	**1,896,740**
Pupil Premium	**89,805**	**723,844**	**(732,812)**	**-**	**-**	**80,837**
Rates Relief	**19,632**	**127,874**	**(129,342)**	**-**	**-**	**18,164**
Special Educational Needs	**95,860**	**1,034,936**	**(940,520)**	**-**	**-**	**190,276**
Other	**488,516**	**638,161**	**(1,812,040)**	**969,208**	**-**	**283,845**
Supplementary funding	**-**	**284,548**	**(208,653)**	**-**	**-**	**75,895**
Donations	**75,449**	**16,256**	**(47,262)**	**-**	**-**	**44,443**
Teaching school	**57,046**	**370,350**	**(310,085)**	**-**	**-**	**117,311**
SCITT	**-**	**246,200**	**(246,200)**	**-**	**-**	**-**
Pension reserve	**(10,027,000)**	**-**	**(1,492,000)**	**-**	**11,519,000**	**-**
	(8,266,457)	**28,807,168**	**(30,141,433)**	**789,233**	**11,519,000**	**2,707,511**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted fixed asset funds						
Transfer from local authority on conversion	**7,856,273**	**-**	**(394,681)**	**-**	**-**	**7,461,592**
Donated assets	**29,545,572**	**8,587,178**	**(1,241,637)**	**-**	**-**	**36,891,113**
Capital expenditure post conversion	**2,121,165**	**588,659**	**(52,753)**	**(675,487)**	**-**	**1,981,584**
CIF loan	**(520,821)**	**-**	**-**	**24,692**	**-**	**(496,129)**
	39,002,189	**9,175,837**	**(1,689,071)**	**(650,795)**	**-**	**45,838,160**
Total Restricted funds	**30,735,732**	**37,983,005**	**(31,830,504)**	**138,438**	**11,519,000**	**48,545,671**
Total funds	**32,571,523**	**38,920,104**	**(32,550,554)**	**-**	**11,519,000**	**50,460,073**

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State the academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

The Pension reserve represents the Academy's net liability/asset in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The Pupil Premium income represents an additional grant to support those students on free school meals and who are from service families. Costs incurred for this purpose such as additional teaching and support staff expenses have been set off against this income.

Special Educational Needs funding is High Needs Tariff funding received to support students with significant special educational needs beyond mainstream schooling.

Rates Relief represents funding received via the ESFA to cover a proportion of the Academy Trust's expenditure on rates.

Other restricted funds represents other grants for restricted purposes.

Teaching school funds represents grants received for the teaching school.

SCITT represents funds for School Centred Initial Teacher Training.

Donations represents donations received for restricted purposes.

Supplementary funding represents grants received to support the costs of the Health and Social Care

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Levy and wider costs.

CIF loan represents the balance owing to the DfE on the CIF loan. The loan will be repaid from the General Annual Grant (GAG).

Assets transferred from the local authority on conversion represent the net book value of leasehold land and buildings and other assets transferred from the predecessor school upon becoming an academy.

Donated assets represents the restricted fixed asset funds of Bungay High School and Kesgrave High School on transfer the the MAT and any other donated fixed assets.

Capital expenditure post-conversion represents fixed assets purchased from that grant funding.

AGP Fund represents a fund designated by the Trustees out of unrestricted funds to fund replacement of the artificial grass pitch.

Transfers

£10,000 was transferred from unrestricted funds to designated funds to go towards replacement of the Artificial Grass Pitch.

£50,000 was transferred from CIF loan to GAG in relation to the loan received to assist with roof repairs.

£25,308 was transferred from GAG to CIF loan in relation to the loan repayments.

£155,283 was transferred out of GAG funds to fixed asset funds to represent tangible fixed assets acquired out of GAG funds.

£98,501 was transferred from other restricted funds to fixed asset funds to represent tangible fixed assets acquired out of other restricted funds.

£929,271 was transferred from fixed asset funds to other restricted funds to represent revenue expenditure spent from capital grants.

£138,438 was transferred from unrestricted funds to other restricted funds to represent the Trust's contribution to CIF projects.

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

20. 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						
Designated funds						
AGP Fund	*85,936*	-	-	*10,000*	-	*95,936*
General funds						
General Funds	*1,284,217*	*545,306*	*(79,668)*	*(10,000)*	-	*1,739,855*
Total Unrestricted funds	1,370,153	*545,306*	(79,668)	-	-	*1,835,791*
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	*342,446*	*23,018,630*	*(22,175,211)*	*(251,630)*	-	*934,235*
Pupil Premium	*65,042*	*732,939*	*(701,888)*	*(6,288)*	-	*89,805*
Rates Relief	*1,178*	*151,105*	*(132,651)*	-	-	*19,632*
Special Educational Needs	-	*377,110*	*(281,250)*	-	-	*95,860*
Other	*67,932*	*2,346,535*	*(2,115,911)*	*189,960*	-	*488,516*
Donations	*53,771*	*35,284*	*(11,106)*	*(2,500)*	-	*75,449*
Teaching school	*113,651*	*80,946*	*(137,551)*	-	-	*57,046*
Pension reserve	*(7,131,000)*	-	*(893,000)*	-	*(2,003,000)*	*(10,027,000)*
	(6,486,980)	*26,742,549*	*(26,448,568)*	*(70,458)*	*(2,003,000)*	*(8,266,457)*
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Transfer from local authority on conversion	*8,251,350*	-	*(395,077)*	-	-	*7,856,273*
Donated assets	*30,416,652*	*144,230*	*(1,026,895)*	*11,585*	-	*29,545,572*

20. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	*Income £*	*Expenditure £*	*Transfers in/out £*	*Gains/ (Losses) £*	*Balance at 31 August 2021 £*
Capital expenditure post conversion	*1,009,099*	*1,069,931*	*(34,475)*	*76,610*	*-*	*2,121,165*
CIF loan	*(471,769)*	*(31,315)*	*-*	*(17,737)*	*-*	*(520,821)*
	39,205,332	*1,182,846*	*(1,456,447)*	*70,458*	*-*	*39,002,189*
Total Restricted funds	*32,718,352*	*27,925,395*	*(27,905,015)*	*-*	*(2,003,000)*	*30,735,732*
Total funds	*34,088,505*	*28,470,701*	*(27,984,683)*	*-*	*(2,003,000)*	*32,571,523*

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Farlingaye High School	**1,481,412**	*1,143,322*
Bungay High School	**549,798**	*415,552*
Kesgrave High School	**1,593,475**	*1,426,540*
Castle EAST School	**417,338**	*194,121*
Teaching School	**117,311**	*57,046*
Central MAT	**462,579**	*359,753*
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	**4,621,913**	*3,596,334*
Restricted fixed asset fund	**45,838,160**	*39,002,189*
Pension reserve	**-**	*(10,027,000)*
Total	**50,460,073**	*32,571,523*

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 £
Farlingaye High School	8,106,039	1,452,648	666,842	1,069,108	**11,294,637**
Bungay High School	3,835,566	837,665	311,004	1,148,768	**6,133,003**
Kesgrave High School	7,800,690	1,057,047	520,617	2,044,352	**11,422,706**
Castle EAST School	565,635	37,165	94,696	118,145	**815,641**
Teaching School	67,526	42,325	103,458	43,747	**257,056**
Central MAT	176,303	187,846	161,111	413,180	**938,440**
Academy Trust	20,551,759	3,614,696	1,857,728	4,837,300	**30,861,483**

20. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	*Other support staff costs* £	*Educational supplies* £	*Other costs excluding depreciation* £	*Total 2021* £
Farlingaye High School	*7,753,353*	*1,372,867*	*574,342*	*968,863*	*10,669,425*
Bungay High School	*3,633,106*	*772,900*	*202,002*	*559,977*	*5,167,985*
Kesgrave High School	*7,463,530*	*975,113*	*408,771*	*1,018,550*	*9,865,964*
Castle EAST School	*63,375*	*2,713*	*8,687*	*57,227*	*132,002*
Teaching School	*40,985*	*31,013*	-	*65,553*	*137,551*
Central MAT	*125,667*	*143,686*	*28,412*	*257,545*	*555,310*
Academy Trust	*19,080,016*	*3,298,292*	*1,222,214*	*2,927,715*	*26,528,237*

21. 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	-	-	46,023,530	**46,023,530**
Current assets	2,681,605	4,792,917	310,757	**7,785,279**
Creditors due within one year	(767,203)	(2,085,406)	(79,726)	**(2,932,335)**
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(416,401)	**(416,401)**
Total	1,914,402	2,707,511	45,838,160	**50,460,073**

21. 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	-	-	*38,566,663*	*38,566,663*
Current assets	*2,469,114*	*3,105,922*	*956,347*	*6,531,383*
Creditors due within one year	*(633,323)*	*(1,345,379)*	*(74,726)*	*(2,053,428)*
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	*(446,095)*	*(446,095)*
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	*(10,027,000)*	-	*(10,027,000)*
Total	*1,835,791*	*(8,266,457)*	*39,002,189*	*32,571,523*

22. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	*2021 £*
Net income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	**6,369,550**	*486,018*
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	**1,689,073**	*1,456,445*
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	**1,316,000**	*765,000*
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	**176,000**	*128,000*
(Increase)/decrease in stocks	**(798)**	*4,416*
Increase in debtors	**392,358**	*(430,262)*
Increase in creditors	**873,907**	*829,305*
Donated assets	**(8,587,178)**	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	**2,228,912**	*3,238,922*

23. Cash flows from financing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash inflows from new borrowing	**50,000**	*115,779*
Repayments of borrowing	**(74,694)**	*(66,726)*
Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities	**(24,694)**	*49,053*

24. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	**(558,762)**	*(784,177)*
Net cash used in investing activities	**(558,762)**	*(784,177)*

25. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand and at bank	**6,738,847**	*5,093,391*
Total cash and cash equivalents	**6,738,847**	*5,093,391*

26. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	**5,093,391**	**1,645,456**	**-**	**6,738,847**
Debt due within 1 year	**(74,726)**	**69,694**	**(74,694)**	**(79,726)**
Debt due after 1 year	**(446,095)**	**(45,000)**	**74,694**	**(416,401)**
	4,572,570	**1,670,150**	**-**	**6,242,720**

27. Capital commitments

	2022 £	*2021* £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	**177,370**	-

28. Pension commitments

The Academy Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Suffolk 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 2022.

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

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.

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2022. 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 2026.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £3,090,445 *(2021 - £2,951,196)*.

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate Trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £995,000 *(2021 - £947,000)*, of which employer's contributions totaled £775,000 *(2021 - £742,000)* and employees' contributions totaled £ 220,000 *(2021 - £205,000)*. The agreed contribution rates for 31 March 2023 are 21.5 per cent reducing in future years to 20.2 per cent for employers and variable per cent for employees.

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

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

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022 %	*2021 %*
Rate of increase in salaries	**3.75**	*3.6*
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	**3.05**	*2.9*
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	**4.25**	*1.65*

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

	2022 Years	*2021 Years*
Retiring today		
Males	**21.9**	*22.1*
Females	**24.3**	*24.5*
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	**22.9**	*23.2*
Females	**26.1**	*26.4*

Sensitivity analysis

	2022 £000	*2021 £000*
Discount rate +0.1%	**(394)**	*(640)*
Discount rate -0.1%	**394**	*640*
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	**713**	*1,139*
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	**(713)**	*(1,139)*
CPI rate +0.1%	**366**	*578*
CPI rate -0.1%	**(366)**	*(578)*

For sensitivity purposes the Actuary has advised that they estimate that a one year increase in life expectancy would increase the Employers Defined Benefit Obligation by 3-5%, but that in practice the actual cost would depend on the structure of the revised assumption. The table above discloses the monetary impact of a 4% change.

28. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022	*At 31 August 2021*
	£	*£*
Equities	**12,921,000**	*12,178,000*
Property	**1,900,000**	*1,292,000*
Cash and other liquid assets	**-**	*368,000*
Debt instruments	**4,180,000**	*4,613,000*
Total market value of assets	**19,001,000**	*18,451,000*

The actual return on scheme assets was £-158,000 *(2021 - £3,118,000)*.

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
Current service cost	**(2,091,000)**	*(1,507,000)*
Interest income	**310,000**	*263,000*
Interest cost	**(486,000)**	*(391,000)*
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	**(2,267,000)**	*(1,635,000)*

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

	2022	*2021*
	£	*£*
At 1 September	**28,478,000**	*22,295,000*
Current service cost	**2,091,000**	*1,507,000*
Interest cost	**486,000**	*391,000*
Employee contributions	**220,000**	*205,000*
Actuarial (gains)/losses	**(13,172,000)**	*4,351,000*
Benefits paid	**(287,000)**	*(271,000)*
At 31 August	**17,816,000**	*28,478,000*

28. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	**18,451,000**	*15,164,000*
Pension asset not recognised	**(1,185,000)**	-
Interest income	**310,000**	*263,000*
Actuarial (losses)/gains	**(468,000)**	*2,348,000*
Employer contributions	**775,000**	*742,000*
Employee contributions	**220,000**	*205,000*
Benefits paid	**(287,000)**	*(271,000)*
At 31 August	**17,816,000**	*18,451,000*

At 31 August 2022 the Academy Trust's LGPS Fund had an excess of £1,185,000 of the fair value of its assets over the present value of its liabilities. However the criteria for recognition of the surplus as an asset as described in accounting policy 1.13 was not met. The scheme's assets have therefore been restricted by £1,185,000 so as to not recognise the surplus.

29. Operating lease commitments

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	**45,063**	*26,621*
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	**121,230**	*53,614*
Later than 5 years	**4,630**	-
	170,923	*80,235*

30. Other financial commitments

At the year end there is a financial commitment of £171,862 *(2021 - £810,247)* in relation to ongoing roof repairs.

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 £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

32. Related party transactions

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

33. Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. In the year it received £72,603 *(2021 - £67,566)*, and disbursed £37,936 *(2021 - £43,662)*. An amount of £34,667 *(2021 - £23,904)* is repayable to ESFA at 31 August 2022 and is included in other creditors. £Nil *(2021 - £Nil)* has been recognised in income and expenditure in the Statement of financial activities.

34. Controlling party

There is no ultimate controlling party.