

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07848632 (England and Wales)

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024
for
West Town Lane Academy

Sumer AuditCo Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
30 Gay Street
Bath
BA1 2PA

West Town Lane Academy

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for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

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West Town Lane Academy

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

MEMBERS:

L Dixon
A Robbins
M Croft

TRUSTEES

M Croft *
A C Robbins Headteacher *
L K Dixon Chair
C Morgan (resigned 27.9.24) *
N Prosser
M Eldin (resigned 9.2.24)
E M K Wilson (resigned 12.7.24)
J B Coyne (appointed 12.7.24)
A Driscoll (appointed 29.9.23)
K A Nehammer (appointed 12.7.24)
D Rhodes (appointed 29.9.23)
E Whiddington (appointed 29.9.23)
M Young (resigned 27.9.24)

* members of the finance and general purpose committee

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM:

A Crisp (SEnCo)
C J Spittlehouse (School Business Manager)
K Thomas (Assistant Head)
S Franklin (Deputy Headteacher)
E Whiddington (Deputy Headteacher, maternity leave)
A Robbins (Headteacher)

REGISTERED OFFICE

West Town Lane Academy
West Town Lane
Brislington
Bristol
BS4 5DT

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER 07848632 (England and Wales)

AUDITORS

Sumer AuditCo Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
30 Gay Street
Bath
BA1 2PA

West Town Lane Academy

Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

SOLICITORS

Veale Wasborough
Orchard Court
Bristol
BS1 5WS

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 August 2024. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The primary objectives of the Academy are to:

- To advance for the public benefit education in the UK, in particular but without prejudice to the generality the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Bristol and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

This year, has seen a continued focus on our disadvantaged pupils, including those in the Lowest 20%. These children were a subject of staff Performance Management targets and Appraisals. Monitoring highlighted that these pupils receive targeted support through quality first teaching and where appropriate take part in relevant intervention activities. Training has taken place to support staff on improving outcomes for these pupils including external support from Specialist Leaders in Education. This has helped to ensure that pupils are able to access the curriculum and make the appropriate progress.

There has been a focus on improving outcomes in our writing curriculum. A range of training and monitoring activities have taken place to help secure positive outcomes for our pupils. These have including: lesson observations/learning walks, cluster moderation, pupil progress meetings, intervention activities and support from a Specialist Leader in Education. Outcomes for pupils at the end of Key Stage 2 have improved and surpass the national average.

Subject leaders have once again been given opportunities to enhance their areas of responsibilities by engaging with research and training from the National College and external partners. There has been a focus on implementing systems to measure the impact of subjects to enable leaders to improve the curriculum along with outcomes for pupils

A new Oracy Leader was appointed to improve standards of communications and language. A progression of skills has been researched and implemented in all year groups which link directly to medium term planning. Training was rolled out to staff in order to improve the quality of oracy teaching and learning

We engaged with the national Behaviour hub programme in order to improve behaviour for learning and develop robust policies and behaviour management systems. We visited different provisions to learn and share good practice. We were awarded the Behaviour hub accreditation, behaviour throughout the school was deemed to be very positive.

Once again, the National Tutoring Programme has been adopted, as well as extra internal support through the Governments coronavirus catchup funding. There was a focus on reading, writing and maths.

Our new School Development plan focuses on areas for development based on analysis of assessment and various other monitoring activities. Monitoring the performance of the Academy has involved a wide range of stakeholders including the staff as a whole, Senior Leaders and Governors.

This year, we joined the NW24 partnership, this gives us opportunities to share good practice with over 30 schools. Individuals are able to attend relevant training including: meetings for senior leaders and subject leaders, moderation, Governor cluster meetings and general training opportunities.

We continue to be involved with training new teachers as part of the Schools Direct programme, and work closely with our local 'Teaching School'. Leaders have also engaged in NPQML (National Professional Qualification for Middle Leadership) & MPQSL (National Professional Qualification for Senior Leadership) training. Our Deputy headteacher is an Early Years Foundation Stage moderator for the Local Authority and our headteacher is on the steering group for NW24. We also deliver training for ECTs and other teaching staff, as part of our network cluster.

The priority areas for the next academic year have been identified as:

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

- 1) To implement 'Trauma Informed Practice' at West Town Lane.
- 2) To continue to develop reading across the school and further promote the joy of reading.
- 3) To improve outcomes for our disadvantaged (25% SEND) pupils in RWM.
- 4) To further improve the teaching of the Arts and promote creativity.
- 5) To continue to reduce workload and further promote well-being throughout the school.
- 6) To continue to develop subject leadership skills focusing on the impact of the curriculum. Leaders to identify areas for development through assessment and act upon their findings.

Public benefit

WTL Academy fulfils the Public Benefit requirements by the following charitable objectives:

- The advancement of education - we are a 660-place school providing direct education to children between 3- 11 years. We are open for 195 days per year, plus provide additional holiday services for up to a further 40 days.
- The advancement of citizenship or community development- we are a Gold Ambassador School for UNICEF under the Rights Respecting Schools scheme. This promotes good citizenship within a local, national and global framework. This work also impacts on other schools within the Bristol area.
- The advancement of amateur sport- we fulfil this requirement through a number of extra-curricular teams, including Netball, Football, Swimming, Cross Country Running, Tennis, Cricket and Rugby. We are an active member of the Ashton Park Schools Sports Partnership programme.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Headline Good Levels of Development EYFS (Disadvantaged Pupils 14)

	Overall	Boys	Girls	NA	Dis	Dis NA
WTL	76%	72%	81%	65%	56%	

Phonics Screening KS1 (14 disadvantaged in Yr 1 and 17 in Yr 2)

	Overall	NA 23	Dis WTL
Yr1	82%	79%	50%
Yr2	81%	89%	40%

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

KS2 Outcomes

Headline statistics KS2 Attainment (21 Disadvantaged Pupils – 33% SEND), EAL (17 Pupils), SEN (15 pupils)

RWM combined: (EXS) All – 62% NA – 61% Dis- 29% EAL- 71%
Male) – 63% Female – 59% SEND – 20%
(GD) All – 9% NA – 8%

Reading						Writing						Maths						SPaG			
	WTL	NA All	Dis	Gender			WTL	NA	Dis	Gender			WTL	NA	Dis	Gender			WTL	NA	Dis
	All		WTL	F	M		All	All	WTL	F	M		All	All	WTL	F	M		All	All	WTL
EXS +	73%	74%	43%	74	70	EXS +	76%	72%	57%	74	78	EXS +	78%	73%	48%	71	65	EXS +	66%	72%	33%
GD	21%		10%	22	20	GD	18%		0%	25	10	GD	29%		5%	20	40	GD	26%		0%

Average Scaled Scores

	WTL All 24	NA 24 All	WTL Dis 24
Reading	104.2	105	99
Maths	104.2	104	97
SPaG	103.7	105	97.2

EXS – Expected Standard
NA – National Average

SPaG – Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar
EXS - Expected Standard

Dis – Disadvantaged Pupils
GD – Greater Depth

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Financial position

The Academy has a healthy carry forward and closing balance, whilst still managing to have a very good level of resources. The majority of the funding received is spent on staffing, with the remainder on facilities management and delivery of the curriculum. The principal source of funding is direct from the DfE, although other sources of income include a number of services provided to other schools, in addition to the catering provided in-house.

There was a small deficit of £20K in 2023/24 (before depreciation and pension revaluation), This was due to additional costs to support SEN.

Reserves are currently at 15% of total income.

The Academy invested £15K in Fixed assets in 2023/2024, this was split between our new Playpod, Ovens for the kitchen and IT

Investment policy and objectives

The school has a Reserves and Investment policy, all investments are in UK bank accounts.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Reserves Policy

The school has a Reserves and Investment policy which is reviewed annually. When deciding the level of reserves to maintain, the board considers:

The size of the trust.
The trust's estates strategy.
The trust's future plans.
Upcoming risks and opportunities.

The target level of reserves will be informed by:

- o The trust's forecasts for levels of income for the current and future years, taking into account the reliability of each source of income and the prospects for developing new income sources.
- o The trust's forecasts for expenditure for the current and future years on the basis of planned activity.
- o Analysis of any future needs, opportunities, commitments or risks, where future income alone is likely to fall short of the amount of the anticipated costs.
- o An assessment, on the best evidence reasonably available, of the likelihood of a shortfall arising which means that reserves are necessary, and the potential consequences for the trust of not being able to make up the shortfall.

The financial risk to the trust will be balanced alongside our vision to maintain the highest levels of education. Excluding Depreciation and Pension adjustments the Academy has a good level of reserves.

Going concern

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

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRATEGIC REPORT

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risk to the Academy is based on pupil numbers. These are currently positive, but if the figures projected by Bristol City Council for the number of children and families in the area are correct, this could potentially impact on pupil numbers for the Academy. Projections on birth rates over the next 4-5 years indicate a drop, however parent choice for West Town Lane Academy continues to be high and so whilst this needs to be monitored it is not a current issue.

The reserves of the academy allow us to absorb the significant pay grade increase proposed for both Support and Teaching staff. However, the trustees are aware that currently the pay rises are unfunded and that unless additional funding is received in the future, costs savings will have to be investigated

West Town Lane Academy has a building built from 1950's onwards, an additional risk would be the condition of the Building, there was an external condition survey completed in June 2023, The only issues identified is the flat roof of the school which will need replacing with 5 years. The Academy has engaged professional support to apply for CIF funding for this. This was unsuccessful in the last round so the school will be re applying.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The number of pupils joining us in 19/20 was lower than usual, with 65 places filled out of a possible 90. However, since then the reception classes have increased and we are back at full capacity. The average number of pupils in each class across the school stands at 25, which is in the middle 20% of similar schools. Pupil numbers in Nursery continue to be strong with our 30 places full, a total of 39 pupils take up the spaces available throughout the week. We are heavily oversubscribed in Nursery.

Projections from Bristol City Council suggest pupil numbers are decreasing over the coming years due to lower birth rates, this needs to be monitored. Pupil numbers for this year were expected to be low, however are still full in reception which highlights the popularity of the school.

Cashflow is currently very good, with a monthly income from the DfE plus payments from Bristol City Council for nursery pupils plus children with High Needs. We pay all invoices within their stated periods, and have no significant invoices outstanding. Similarly, we receive all monies due to us in a timely fashion.

The School Business Manager is a qualified accountant which reduces the financial risk to the Academy.

There is a pension deficit for the scheme administered by BANES which was identified before conversion and is common to all Academies. This amount incurs an additional cost to us each year to offset this deficit which is reflected in the annual accounts.

Future plans

Plans for the future include:

- o To apply for CIF funding in the 2025/2026 round of funding
- o To work with NW24 a large Bristol Cluster of schools which includes other standalone academy's in order to improve outcomes and to further support SLT.
- o Continue to provide services to other schools in order to supplement income in order to provide the best possible resources for children attending the Academy.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of West Town Lane Academy are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the governors who served throughout the period except as noted are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the 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 cease to be a member.

Principal activities

WTL Academy provides education for children aged 3-11 years. Our Academy is particularly proud of the sporting and enrichment opportunities we offer children, providing a rich and broad curriculum. We also offer enhanced learning opportunities using modern technology, with tablets and mobile devices used extensively by pupils and staff. Our last Ofsted Inspection was in Feb19 where we were graded as Good.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of governors

New Governors are recruited in different ways, depending on the type of vacancy available. Parent governor vacancies are always advertised to the whole parent body, with options for ballot if the number of interested parties exceeds the places available. These places have to be proposed and seconded by other parents/ carers. Community governors are sourced through the local authority or from our local community. The Members may elect up to three additional governors who may bring skills or knowledge to the FGB that would benefit the Academy.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Teachers pay and conditions document is the reference point for setting pay for the academy's key management personnel/leadership team. Head Teachers pay is approved by Governing Body. All other leadership post pay is approved by the governor personnel committee.

Organisational structure

The Academy has very clear procedures in place for delegating powers to the Headteacher or to the sub committees of the Full Governing Body (FGB), and these are detailed in Terms of Reference for each committee. The Headteacher leads the day to day running of the Academy, which also includes the recruitment of staff apart from senior leadership team appointments. The FGB is responsible for the strategic vision of the Academy, including the development plan and budget.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of governors

We have good procedures for the training of governors. These include using the Bristol Governor Development Service, governor Clerk network meetings and access to a suite of training programmes run online. Individual Governors can also access courses run by other Local Authorities.

Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Related parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

WTL Academy is an independent converter Academy and is not affiliated to any other. However, it does have links with the Bristol Primary Teaching School Alliance, NW24 , University of the West of England and Bath Spa University.

Risk management

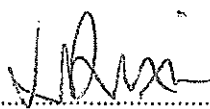
There are several areas of risk to the Academy, including financial, governance, teaching and use of IT. These are detailed in a strategic risk document which is updated annually. The budget is well controlled, with regular independent checks by our Responsible Officer as well as sub committee meetings. Annual audits are carried out in accordance with Policy, with an external company (Delegated Services) available for advice and guidance.

AUDITORS

In so far as the governors are aware:

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

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 31/12/24 and signed on the board's behalf by:


.....
L K Dixon - Trustee

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

The governing body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 West Town Lane Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the governing body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities. The full board of trustees has formally met six times during the year, subcommittees have also met. The Finance and Audit committee met six times. The Curriculum, Achievement and Pastoral Care committee met three times. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Name of Governor	Start of Governor Term	Type of Governor	Date left	FGB's Attended
Marianne Croft	24/06/2018	Community	31/08/2024	6
Adrian Robbins	01/01/2016	Headteacher	N/A	6
Louisa Dixon	22/05/2019	Community	N/A	6
Ellie Whiddington	04/11/2020	Staff	N/A	4
Catherine Morgan	11/12/2020	Community	27/09/2024	3
Matthew Eldin	24/03/2022	Parent	09/02/2024	0
Neil Prosser	07/06/2022	Community	N/A	6
Michelle Young	19/05/2023	Community	29/09/2024	5
Elaine Wilson	04/09/2023	Parent	12/07/2024	2
Dan Rhodes	29/09/2023	Community	N/A	3
Joe Coyne	12/07/2024	Parent	N/A	1
Angela Driscoll	29/09/2023	Staff	N/A	4
Katy Nehammer	12/07/2024	Parent	N/A	1

The Finance and Premises Committee is a sub-committee of the main governing body. Its purposes are to approve expenditure between £2.5K-£10K, to approve the main budget, monitor expenditure and balances, to oversee maintenance of the buildings and to ensure the Academy complies with H&S requirements.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows

Governor	Meeting attended	Out of a Possible
A Robbins	6	6
M Croft	4	6
C Morgan	1	6
M Eldin	0	4
L Dixon	2	6
E Wilson	3	6

The committee is also attended by the following staff:

Carrie Spittlehouse (Business Manager)	6	6
--	---	---

The academy maintains a register of interests for all Governors and key management personnel. This is considered at every board and committee meeting. The register is readily available for the finance team to consider when utilising suppliers.

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

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

The accounting officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by ensuring that all resources are secured with the best possible outcome for pupils, in mind and in the most efficient way. The Value for Money statement sets out the detail of how this is achieved and is this is monitored by the governors.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in West Town Lane Academy Trust for the period ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The governing body has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The governing body is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period ending 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the governing body.

THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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

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

The governing body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the governors have appointed an independent Responsible Officer ('RO'). Bishop Fleming have been appointed to this role

The RO's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. As Bishop Fleming were newly appointed in this year, they conducted a full review of the internal controls. The governors have focused 24/25 on payroll and strategic planning

Finances are audited annually by Sumer AuditCo Limited.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

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

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

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

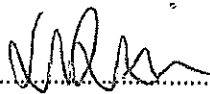
West Town Lane Academy

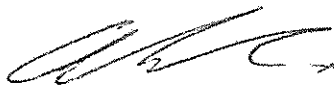
Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

CONCLUSION

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the charity has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on6/12/24..... and signed on its behalf by:


.....
L K Dixon - Trustee


.....
A Robbins - Accounting Officer

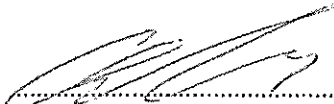
West Town Lane Academy

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

As accounting officer of West Town Lane Academy I have considered my responsibility to notify the charitable company board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the charitable company and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the charitable company board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the charitable company, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the charitable company's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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 Robbins - Accounting Officer

Date: 06/12/24.....

West Town Lane Academy

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees (who act as governors of West Town Lane Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction issued 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 to 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 the ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 6/12/24 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
L K Dixon - Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
West Town Lane Academy

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of West Town Lane Academy (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, 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) and the Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.

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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the charitable company'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.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
West Town Lane Academy

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

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.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, 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 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the company.

Our approach was as follows:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, UK Financial Reporting Standards and UK taxation legislation.

We obtained an understanding of how the company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.

We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.

We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

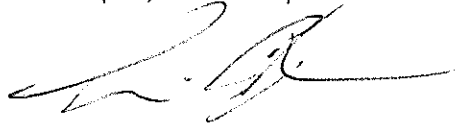
Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of
West Town Lane Academy

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Simon Cunningham (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Sumer AuditCo Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditor
30 Gay Street
Bath
BA1 2PA

Date:11/12/24.....

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to
West Town Lane Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by West Town Lane Academy during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 West Town Lane Academy and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to West Town Lane Academy and the 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 West Town Lane Academy and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of West Town Lane Academy's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of West Town Lane Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the 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 charitable company's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes but not limited to the following:

- Reviewing minutes of meetings, management accounts and making enquiries of management;
- Performing sample testing of expenditure ensuring items are for the School's purposes and are appropriately authorised;
- Sample testing on credit card expenditure, review for any indication of purchase for personal use by Staff, Headteacher or Governors;
- Reviewing the procedures for identifying and declaring related parties and other business interests;

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to
West Town Lane Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

- Obtaining formal representation from the Governing Body and Accounting Officer acknowledging their responsibilities;
- Scrutinising journals, and other adjustments posted during the year for evidence of unusual entries and making further enquiries into any such items where relevant;
- Performing an evaluation of the general control environment of the School;
- Reviewing nominal ledger accounts for any large or unusual entries, obtaining supporting documentation and making further enquiries into any such items where relevant.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Sumer AuditCo Ltd

Sumer AuditCo Limited
Chartered Accountants
Reporting Accountant
30 Gay Street
Bath
BA1 2PA

Date: *11/12/24*

West Town Lane Academy

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

				31.8.24	31.8.23
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	
	Notes	fund	funds	fixed	
		£	£	asset	
				funds	
				£	
				Total	Total
				funds	funds
				£	£
INCOME AND					
ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and capital grants	2	31,099	-	11,216	42,315
Charitable activities					
Funding for the academy's					
educational operations	3	-	3,469,021	-	3,469,021
Other trading activities	4	62,713	157,561	-	220,274
Investment income	5	1,799	-	-	1,799
Total		<u>95,611</u>	<u>3,626,582</u>	<u>11,216</u>	<u>3,733,409</u>
EXPENDITURE ON					
Raising funds	7	489	149,901	-	150,390
Charitable activities					
Academy's educational					
operations	8	-	3,543,137	146,265	3,689,402
Total		<u>489</u>	<u>3,693,038</u>	<u>146,265</u>	<u>3,839,792</u>
NET					
INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		95,122	(66,456)	(135,049)	(106,383)
Transfers between funds	19	-	(3,600)	3,600	-
Other recognised					
gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined					
benefit schemes		-	15,000	-	15,000
Net movement in funds		95,122	(55,056)	(131,449)	(91,383)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS					
Total funds brought forward		263,072	(155,225)	5,893,758	6,001,605
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED					
FORWARD		<u>358,194</u>	<u>(210,281)</u>	<u>5,762,309</u>	<u>6,001,605</u>

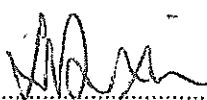
Balance Sheet
31 August 2024

				31.8.24	31.8.23
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	
	Notes	fund	funds	fixed	
		£	£	asset	Total
				funds	funds
		£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	14	-	-	5,762,308	5,762,308
					5,893,758
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	15	-	788	-	788
Debtors	16	-	129,870	-	129,870
Cash at bank		358,194	355,637	-	713,831
					757,324
		358,194	486,295	-	844,489
					854,627
CREDITORS					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	-	(247,575)	-	(247,575)
					(233,780)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		358,194	238,720	-	596,914
					620,847
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		358,194	238,720	5,762,308	6,359,222
					6,514,605
PENSION LIABILITY	20	-	(449,000)	-	(449,000)
					(513,000)
NET ASSETS		358,194	(210,280)	5,762,308	5,910,222
					6,001,605

Balance Sheet - continued
31 August 2024

FUNDS	19		
Restricted funds:			
General Annual Grant		238,720	357,775
Pension Reserve		(449,000)	(513,000)
Transfer on Conversion - Fixed assets		5,082,007	5,204,654
Capital Expenditure from GAG		653,675	673,693
Other Capital Grants		<u>26,627</u>	<u>15,411</u>
		<u>5,552,028</u>	<u>5,738,533</u>
Unrestricted funds:			
Academy Reserves Private		<u>358,194</u>	<u>263,072</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>5,910,222</u>	<u>6,001,605</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 6/12/24 and were signed on its behalf by:


.....
L K Dixon - Trustee

West Town Lane Academy

Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	31.8.24 £	31.8.23 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	1	(38,312)	54,810
Interest paid		<u>(1,581)</u>	<u>(2,720)</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(39,893)</u>	<u>52,090</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(14,816)	(15,430)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA		<u>11,216</u>	<u>33,642</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(3,600)</u>	<u>18,212</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		(43,493)	70,302
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>757,324</u>	<u>687,022</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u>713,831</u>	<u>757,324</u>

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	31.8.24 £	31.8.23 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(106,383)	(101,241)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	146,265	160,572
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(11,216)	(33,642)
Interest paid	1,581	2,720
Decrease in stocks	-	2,894
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(33,354)	10,099
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	13,795	(17,592)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>(49,000)</u>	<u>31,000</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by operations	<u>(38,312)</u>	<u>54,810</u>

2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	At 1.9.23 £	Cash flow £	At 31.8.24 £
Net cash			
Cash at bank	<u>757,324</u>	<u>(43,493)</u>	<u>713,831</u>
	<u>757,324</u>	<u>(43,493)</u>	<u>713,831</u>
Total	<u>757,324</u>	<u>(43,493)</u>	<u>713,831</u>

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

West Town Lane Academy meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

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 company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the 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.

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Other income

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

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Tangible fixed assets

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. 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 such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy's depreciation policy.

Land and buildings transferred to the Academy on conversion from the Local Authority have been included at their depreciated replacement cost.

Depreciation

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

Freehold buildings	50 years
ICT equipment	3 years
Classroom fittings	5 years
Office Equipment	5 years

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Tangible fixed assets

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.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

Taxation

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

Fund accounting

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

Restricted funds comprise grants from the ESFA and other donors which are to be used for specific purposes, imposed by the donors.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the ESFA, DfE and other donors where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

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.

Provisions

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in note 19, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded 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 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 gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

Critical accounting estimates

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

2. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.8.24 Total funds £	31.8.23 Total funds £
Donations	13,020	-	13,020	7,909
Grants	-	11,216	11,216	33,642
Other income	<u>18,079</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>18,079</u>	<u>13,580</u>
	<u>31,099</u>	<u>11,216</u>	<u>42,315</u>	<u>55,131</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.8.24 £	31.8.23 £
Other DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	<u>11,216</u>	<u>33,642</u>

3. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31.8.24 Total funds £	31.8.23 Total funds £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant(GAG)	-	2,656,215	2,656,215	2,546,205
Other DfE / ESFA grants	<u>-</u>	<u>470,717</u>	<u>470,717</u>	<u>416,242</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,126,932</u>	<u>3,126,932</u>	<u>2,962,447</u>
Other Government grant				
Local authority revenue grant	<u>-</u>	<u>342,089</u>	<u>342,089</u>	<u>270,831</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,469,021</u>	<u>3,469,021</u>	<u>3,233,278</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.8.24 Total funds	31.8.23 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Residentials and trips	-	52,307	52,307	56,494
School meals	50,929	-	50,929	53,436
Uniform sales	758	-	758	6,647
Other	<u>11,026</u>	<u>105,254</u>	<u>116,280</u>	<u>110,984</u>
	<u>62,713</u>	<u>157,561</u>	<u>220,274</u>	<u>227,561</u>

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.8.24 Total funds	31.8.23 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Short term deposits	<u>1,799</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,799</u>	<u>83</u>

6. EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs	Non-pay expenditure		31.8.24 Total	31.8.23 Total
	£	Premises	Other costs	£	£
		£	£		
Raising funds					
Costs of fundraising					
Direct costs	-	-	150,390	150,390	168,842
Charitable activities					
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	1,775,666	126,247	149,471	2,051,384	1,927,913
Allocated support costs	<u>1,308,892</u>	<u>112,223</u>	<u>216,903</u>	<u>1,638,018</u>	<u>1,520,540</u>
	<u>3,084,558</u>	<u>238,470</u>	<u>516,764</u>	<u>3,839,792</u>	<u>3,617,295</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

6. EXPENDITURE - continued

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Depreciation - owned assets	146,265	160,572
Auditors' remuneration	8,000	7,600
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	<u>1,300</u>	<u>1,250</u>

7. RAISING FUNDS

Costs of fundraising

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.8.24 Total funds	31.8.23 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Costs of generating funds	<u>489</u>	<u>149,901</u>	<u>150,390</u>	<u>168,842</u>

8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	31.8.24 Total funds	31.8.23 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Direct costs	-	2,051,384	2,051,384	1,927,913
Support costs	<u>-</u>	<u>1,638,018</u>	<u>1,638,018</u>	<u>1,520,540</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,689,402</u>	<u>3,689,402</u>	<u>3,448,453</u>

	31.8.24 Total	31.8.23 Total
	£	£
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	1,308,892	1,190,598
Depreciation	20,018	34,325
Technology costs	1,337	1,172
Premises costs	112,223	118,617
Other support costs	141,118	134,594
Governance costs	<u>54,430</u>	<u>41,234</u>
Total support costs	<u>1,638,018</u>	<u>1,520,540</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

9. SUPPORT COSTS

	Management	Governance costs	Totals
	£	£	£
Academy's educational operations	<u>1,583,588</u>	<u>54,430</u>	<u>1,638,018</u>

10. STAFF COSTS

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	2,310,315	2,116,804
Social security costs	206,979	184,437
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	<u>477,760</u>	<u>462,929</u>
	2,995,054	2,764,170
Supply teacher costs	<u>89,504</u>	<u>95,168</u>
	<u>3,084,558</u>	<u>2,859,338</u>

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

	31.8.24	31.8.23
Teachers	25	25
Administration and support	43	43
Management	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>71</u>	<u>71</u>

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

	31.8.24	31.8.23
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£80,001 - £90,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>2</u>	<u>1</u>

The above employee participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. During the period ended 31 August 2024, pension contributions for this staff member amounted to £22,479 (2023: £18,932).

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

10. STAFF COSTS - continued

Key Management Personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees, the Headteacher, the Deputy Headteachers, the Assistant Headteacher and the SENCO. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £323,790 - inclusive of project work and maternity cover (2023: £272,205).

11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff, and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

A Robbins (Principal and Staff trustee)

Remuneration: £80,000 - £85,000 (2023: £75,000 - £80,000)

Er's Pension: £20,000 - £25,000 (2023: £15,000 - £20,000)

12. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

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

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM				
Donations and capital grants	21,489	-	33,642	55,131
Charitable activities				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	-	3,233,278	-	3,233,278
Other trading activities	87,726	139,836	-	227,562
Investment income	83	-	-	83
Total	109,298	3,373,114	33,642	3,516,054

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

13. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - continued

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Raising funds	9,098	159,744	-	168,842
Charitable activities				
Academy's educational operations	53,437	3,215,954	179,062	3,448,453
Total	<u>62,535</u>	<u>3,375,698</u>	<u>179,062</u>	<u>3,617,295</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	46,763	(2,584)	(145,420)	(101,242)
Transfers between funds	-	(10,410)	10,410	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	<u>-</u>	<u>421,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>421,000</u>
Net movement in funds	46,763	408,006	(135,010)	319,759
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS				
Total funds brought forward	<u>216,308</u>	<u>(563,230)</u>	<u>6,028,768</u>	<u>5,681,846</u>
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u>263,071</u>	<u>(155,224)</u>	<u>5,893,758</u>	<u>6,001,605</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
COST				
At 1 September 2023	7,171,698	522,697	168,510	7,862,905
Additions	-	12,377	2,439	14,816
Disposals	-	(107,553)	(19,089)	(126,642)
At 31 August 2024	<u>7,171,698</u>	<u>427,521</u>	<u>151,860</u>	<u>7,751,079</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 September 2023	1,309,431	506,618	153,099	1,969,148
Charge for year	126,247	9,465	10,553	146,265
Eliminated on disposal	-	(107,553)	(19,089)	(126,642)
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,435,678</u>	<u>408,530</u>	<u>144,563</u>	<u>1,988,771</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 August 2024	<u>5,736,020</u>	<u>18,991</u>	<u>7,297</u>	<u>5,762,308</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>5,862,267</u>	<u>16,079</u>	<u>15,411</u>	<u>5,893,757</u>

15. STOCKS

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Food	<u>788</u>	<u>788</u>

16. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Other debtors	32,420	19,037
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>97,450</u>	<u>77,478</u>
	<u>129,870</u>	<u>96,515</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Trade creditors	36,240	27,926
Other creditors	109,675	94,033
Accruals and deferred income	<u>101,660</u>	<u>111,821</u>
	<u>247,575</u>	<u>233,780</u>

Deferred Income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September	58,086	48,666
Resources deferred in the year	62,158	58,086
Amounts released from previous years	<u>(58,086)</u>	<u>(48,666)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August	<u>62,158</u>	<u>58,086</u>

At the balance sheet date the School was holding funds totalling £50,755 received in advance for the Universal Infant Free School Meal Grant. The remaining deferred income relates to payments received in the year ended 31 August 2024 relating to the 2024/25 academic year.

18. 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 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 cease to be a member.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.23 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.24 £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	357,775	(97,627)	(21,429)	238,719
Trips and activities	-	(17,829)	17,829	-
Pension Reserve	(513,000)	64,000	-	(449,000)
Transfer on Conversion - Fixed assets	5,204,654	(122,647)	-	5,082,007
Capital Expenditure from GAG	673,693	(23,618)	3,600	653,675
Other Capital Grants	15,411	11,216	-	26,627
	<u>5,738,533</u>	<u>(186,505)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,552,028</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Academy Reserves Private	263,072	95,122	-	358,194
	<u>263,072</u>	<u>95,122</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>358,194</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>6,001,605</u>	<u>(91,383)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,910,222</u>

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	2,656,216	(2,753,843)	-	(97,627)
Other DfE/ESFA grants	575,971	(575,971)	-	-
Other Government grants	342,089	(342,089)	-	-
Trips and activities	52,306	(70,135)	-	(17,829)
Pension Reserve	-	49,000	15,000	64,000
Transfer on Conversion - Fixed assets	-	(122,647)	-	(122,647)
Capital Expenditure from GAG	-	(23,618)	-	(23,618)
Other Capital Grants	11,216	-	-	11,216
	<u>3,637,798</u>	<u>(3,839,303)</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>(186,505)</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Academy Reserves Private	95,611	(489)	-	95,122
	<u>95,611</u>	<u>(489)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>95,122</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,733,409</u>	<u>(3,839,792)</u>	<u>15,000</u>	<u>(91,383)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.22 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31.8.23 £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	329,638	58,956	(30,820)	357,774
Other DfE/ESFA grants	10,132	(10,132)	-	-
Trips and activities	-	(20,410)	20,410	-
Pension Reserve	(903,000)	390,000	-	(513,000)
Transfer on Conversion - Fixed assets	5,330,901	(126,247)	-	5,204,654
Capital Expenditure from GAG	697,867	(34,584)	10,410	673,693
Other Capital Grants	-	15,411	-	15,411
	<u>5,465,538</u>	<u>272,995</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,738,533</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Academy Reserves Private	216,308	46,764	-	263,072
	<u>216,308</u>	<u>46,764</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>263,072</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>5,681,846</u>	<u>319,759</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,001,605</u>

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant	2,631,143	(2,572,187)	-	58,956
Other DfE/ESFA grants	414,646	(424,778)	-	(10,132)
Other Government grants	270,831	(270,831)	-	-
Trips and activities	56,494	(76,903)	-	(20,410)
Pension Reserve	-	(31,000)	421,000	390,000
Transfer on Conversion - Fixed assets	-	(126,247)	-	(126,247)
Capital Expenditure from GAG	-	(34,584)	-	(34,584)
Other Capital Grants	33,642	(18,231)	-	15,411
	<u>3,406,756</u>	<u>(3,554,761)</u>	<u>421,000</u>	<u>272,995</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Academy Reserves Private	109,298	(62,534)	-	46,764
	<u>109,298</u>	<u>(62,534)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>46,764</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>3,516,053</u>	<u>(3,617,295)</u>	<u>421,000</u>	<u>319,759</u>

19. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Notes

- (i) Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.
- (ii) Includes pupil premium funding.
- (iii) Funding received from the Local Authority specifically for providing education to students with Special Educational Needs.
- (iv) Net assets (including pension deficit) transferred to the Academy School from the Local Authority on conversion, to be used in achieving the objectives of the Trust.
- (v) Private funds consists of various restricted income streams, primarily activities and trips and donations from the Parents and Friends Association.
- (vi) The pension reserve represents the liability for staff pensions under the Local Government Pension Scheme, as discussed at note 20.
- (vii) Designated funds consists mainly of income generated from provision of facilities, including rental income. These funds are to be used for refurbishing facilities in future years.

20. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

The charity'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 Avon Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS to the period ended 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 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.

20. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Valuation of the teachers' pension scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies 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 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million.

The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £241,760 (2023 - £267,685).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The charity 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 2024 was £295,000 (2023 - £255,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £236,000 (2023 - £202,000). and employees' contributions totalled £59,000 (2023 - £53,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 14.10 per cent for employers and 8.30 per cent for employees.

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

20. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(2,934,000)	(2,616,000)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>2,485,000</u>	<u>2,103,000</u>
	(449,000)	(513,000)
Present value of unfunded obligations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deficit	<u>(449,000)</u>	<u>(513,000)</u>
Net liability	<u>(449,000)</u>	<u>(513,000)</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Current service cost	159,000	195,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	22,000	33,000
Past service cost	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>181,000</u>	<u>228,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>181,000</u>	<u>(141,000)</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Opening defined benefit obligation	2,616,000	2,971,000
Current service cost	159,000	195,000
Contributions by scheme participants	59,000	53,000
Interest cost	139,000	126,000
Benefits paid	(88,000)	(74,000)
Remeasurement of obligations	<u>49,000</u>	<u>(655,000)</u>
	<u>2,934,000</u>	<u>2,616,000</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

20. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Opening fair value of scheme assets	2,103,000	2,068,000
Contributions by employer	236,000	202,000
Contributions by scheme participants	59,000	53,000
Admin expenses	(6,000)	(5,000)
Interest on plan assets	117,000	93,000
Remeasurement of assets	64,000	(234,000)
Benefits paid	(88,000)	(74,000)
	<u>2,485,000</u>	<u>2,103,000</u>

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Remeasurement of obligations	<u>(49,000)</u>	<u>655,000</u>
	<u>(49,000)</u>	<u>655,000</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.24	31.8.23
Equities	50.40%	32.80%
Bonds	30.20%	29.00%
Property	5.00%	6.20%
Cash	-14.70%	1.00%
Other	<u>29.10%</u>	<u>31.00%</u>
	<u>100.00%</u>	<u>100.00%</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

20. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	31.8.24	31.8.23
Discount rate	5.00%	5.30%
Future salary increases	4.10%	4.30%
Future pension increases	2.70%	2.90%
Inflation - CPI	2.60%	2.80%

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

Retiring today		
Males	23.1	22
Females	26	24
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.9	23.2
Females	24.1	25.7

Sensitivity analysis

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	179,000	275,000
Discount rate -0.1%	-	-
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	508,000	563,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	-	-
CPI rate +0.1%	594,000	641,000
CPI rate -0.1%	-	-

21. LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS, INCLUDING OPERATING LEASES

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.8.24	31.8.23
	£	£
Within one year	3,074	2,937
Between one and five years	<u>6,245</u>	<u>8,516</u>
	<u>9,319</u>	<u>11,453</u>

22. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

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