



The Rose Learning Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year ended 31 August 2022

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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Reference and Administrative Details

MEMBERS 2021-2022

Name-	Appointed by	Term of Office from	Date of Resignation
David Holland	Trust	13/01/2017	
Damien Page	Trust	13/01/2017	
David Thewlis	Trust	13/01/2017	
Philip Crawley	Trust	13/01/2017	09/12/21
Sami Mirza	Trust	26/03/2021	
Anne Elliott	Trust	05/07/2022	

TRUSTEES 2021-2022

Name	Appointed by	Term of Office from	Term of Office to	Date of Resignation
Peter Haynes (Chair)	Trust	01/02/2021	31/01/2025	
Sarah Page	Trust	28/06/2018	27/06/2026	
Darren Holmes	Trust	28/06/2018	27/06/2026	
Ellen Walker	Trust	13/01/2021	12/01/2025	31/08/2022
Helen Bellinger	Trust	26/03/2021	25/03/2025	
Josh Greaves	Trust	26/03/2021	25/03/2025	
Jeffrey Hudson	Trust	26/03/2021	25/03/2025	02/12/2021
Tracy Pepper	Trust	26/03/2021	25/03/2025	02/01/2022
Jane Marriott	Trust	26/03/2021	25/03/2025	
Paul Davies	Trust	14/07/2022	13/07/2026	

Governor Professional to the Board of Trustees and Local Governing Bodies

AMF Clerking Service

01/03/2019

Senior Management Team

Chief Executive Officer/ Accounting Officer	Helen Harrison
Deputy Chief Executive Officer	Jeremy Harris
Chief Finance Officer	Amy Skelton
Chief Projects Officer	Deborah Temperton
Head Teacher	Debbie Eyvbowho-Secker
Head Teacher	Kate Hope
Head Teacher	Emma Cooke
Head Teacher	Jeremy Harris
Head Teacher	Rhonda Blakemore
Head Teacher	Victoria Stinson
Head Teacher	James Bullock

Registered Office

Central Office
Stevens Road
Balby
Doncaster
DN4 0LT

Company Registration Number

8820308

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Auditors

Duncan & Toplis Limited
15 Chequergate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 0LJ

Bankers

The Co-Operative Bank PLC
Business Direct
P.O.Box 250
Skelmersdale
WN8 6WT

Solicitors

Stone King LLP
One Park Row
Leeds
LS1 5HN

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

The Rose Learning Trust (TRLT) operates a number of primary academies for pupils aged 3 to 11. Six schools are based within Doncaster and a seventh school in neighbouring North Lincolnshire. It has a pupil capacity of 2,981 and recorded a roll of 2,747 at the May 2022 school census.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited was incorporated on 19 December 2013 and opened as a stand-alone Academy on 1 February 2014. The Academy converted to a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) set up by a Memorandum and Articles of Association dated 1st November 2016. The Trust began trading under the name of The Rose Learning Trust (TRLT) on the 1st November 2016. Woodfield Primary School converted 1st December 2016 and Balby Central Primary 1st February 2017. Hatchell Wood Primary and Crowle Primary Academy joined the Trust on the 1st October 2017. Owston Park Primary joined the Trust on the 1st December 2018 and Lakeside Primary joined the Trust on the 1st November 2019.

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of TRLT are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The Rose Learning Trust.

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

Trustees Indemnities

As required by Chapter 7, Section 236 of the Companies Act, we disclose that every Trustee or other officer or auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default breach or duty of breach in trust in relation to affairs of the Academy Trust.

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust protects Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. This is provided through the DfE's Risk Pooling Arrangement and provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

TRLT has an independent community spirited and skill centered approach to the appointment of Trustees. The Trustees, where possible using skill set analysis and through careful appointment, look to compliment and extend the skill set of existing Board of Trustees.

The Members may appoint up to ten Trustees and via this method of member appointment TRLT ensures a diverse and broad balance of Trustees.

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The Trust allows for up to two Parent Local Governors to be elected by parents of registered pupils at each Academy. A Parent Governor must be a parent (or registered carer) of a pupil at the Academy at the time when he/she is elected. The term of office of a parent governor should end when he or she ceases to be the parent (or registered carer) of a registered pupil.

The term of office for any Trustee shall be four years, save that this time limit shall not apply to any post which is held ex officio. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee may be re-appointed or re-elected at a General Meeting.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary, induction will provide training on charity and education, legal and financial matters. All new Trustees and Governors are given the opportunity for a tour of the Academies and the chance to meet with staff and pupils.

All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budget plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role of Trustee. As there are normally few new Trustees each year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

Organisational Structure

Subject to the mandates imposed by the Companies Act 2006, the Articles of Association ensure that the activities of the Academy Trust are managed by the Trustees who exercise all the powers of the Academy Trust. The Trustees scheme of delegation provides for decisions to be taken at the most appropriate level by the individual school governing bodies, sub-committees and staff through the management structure. The key responsibilities reserved by the Trustees include: the responsibility to ensure that adequate operational systems and controls are in place and implemented to meet the Academy's regulatory and funding obligations; the Academy's accounting policies; approval of the annual consolidated budget; determine financial matters of a high value not delegated to its governing bodies, sub-committees or school staff; the appointment of its auditors; the security of the schools' assets and appointment of the Chief Executive and Chief Financial Officers.

An aim of the Trust's management structure is to distribute responsibility and accountability and to encourage involvement in decision making at all levels so that the Academy nurtures the talents of its entire staff to support continual improvement and excellence. The various aspects of the Trust's management structure and an outline of their roles are as follows:

The Board of Trustees has strategic oversight and ultimate responsibility for all management decisions within the Trust Academies. It is responsible for setting the Academy's policies, adopting the Developing Excellence Plan and budget plan, monitoring performance against these plans and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust including its curriculum, the achievement and welfare of students and staffing.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible for school improvement across the Trust, producing the Trust's Developing Excellence Plan and formulating policies and appropriate targets to achieve the Trust's vision, aims and objectives. The CEO is also the accounting officer linking the accountability and governance structures of the Academy Trust. The CEO is responsible for making the day to day decisions in the running of the central trust team.

The Senior Leadership Team at central trust level comprises of the Chief Executive Officer, Deputy CEO, Principals of each academy, Chief Finance Officer and Chief Projects Officer. The team are responsible for implementing the Developing Excellence Plan across the central functions of the Trust and at individual school level. The Senior Leadership Team at individual school level comprises of the Principal, Deputy Head Teacher(s), Assistant Head Teacher(s) and School Business Managers who are responsible for the implementation of individual School Development Plans and will lead each school towards their agreed targets.

Local Governing Bodies

The LGB's role is to exercise leadership on behalf of the Trust in the running of each individual Academy and to provide information to the Trust on the operation and performance of the Academy and to exercise its responsibilities and powers in partnership with the Headteacher, staff and the Trustees.

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The LGB and the Headteacher at each Academy have delegated responsibility, within the Trusts Scheme of Delegation, for the strategic direction and day-to-day leadership and management of the Academy.

Network Groups are established for Chairs of Governors, Advanced Leaders, Business Leads and subject leads to enable senior and middle leaders to contribute to the decision-making process and to engage them in the implementation of key policies.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Academy Trustees are volunteers who give their time and expertise without charge on a voluntary basis. None of the Academy's Trustees have been paid any remuneration or received any other benefits from any employment with the Academy Trust or a related activity.

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel is determined by a variety of factors as set out in the School Teacher's Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD), such as, the school group size, ISR, and the pay scales for each role. The Pay and Remuneration of members of the Senior Leadership Team who are not subject to the STPCD will be arranged in accordance with National Joint Council terms and conditions. Most pay decisions at the academy are made by the Local Governing Body which has delegated certain responsibilities and decision-making powers to the Pay Committee as set out in Academy's Pay Policy.

On appointment, the starting salary of a successful candidate will be paid within the range set by the Local Governing Body taking into consideration; the nature of the post, the level of qualifications, skills and experience required, market conditions, the needs of the school, the school staffing profile, the Developing Excellence Plan.

The Headteacher shall make recommendations based on performance regarding teachers' pay, including the Deputy Headteacher and other members of the Senior Leadership Team, to the Pay Committee on an annual basis.

The pay structure for the Trust's Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Chief Finance Officer (CFO) and Chief Projects Officer (CPO) were determined through a job evaluation process involving a panel of Trustees and Human Resources professionals. Any incremental increase in pay for the CFO and CPO is subject to a performance review carried out by the CEO and a Trustee. Any pay review for the CEO will be subject to a performance appraisal which is undertaken by two members of the Board of Trustees who specialise in HR and School Improvement.

In addition to this, pay and remuneration may be affected by any nationally agreed pay awards and terms and conditions.

Trade union facility time

During the accounting period no trust employee acted as a union official.

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trust's management and communication structures facilitate employee involvement in decision making at all levels. The Trust network groups are a key part of this to ensure the wider engagement of staff in the implementation of key policies.

Prior to Covid19 restrictions, whole trust events were held to celebrate our key achievements. During the pandemic, promoting awareness of our performance has been facilitated through other platforms including trust managed social media channels.

Some of these ways of working have continued to ensure strong engagement from all stakeholders.

The Trust is passionately committed to equal opportunities for all and embraces diversity and difference. The Trust considers applications from all disabled persons, taking into account the aptitude of the individuals concerned. All reasonable steps are taken to support disabled employees in the workplace, ensuring equal opportunities for career development and promotion. The Trust is firmly committed to removing all barriers for disabled employees.

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

Considerable focus and investment is placed on maintaining and managing relationships with our key stakeholders.

The Trust's school improvement priorities ensure that pupils and their families across all trust academies make a highly positive, tangible contribution to the life of the school, trust and wider community. This is facilitated through a number of Initiatives including parent questionnaires and pupil voice activities.

The Trust maintains strong relationships with local authorities and regional educational bodies through regular attendance at network meetings and representation on a number of local authority working groups including a lead role in managing the Doncaster Initial Teacher Training scheme.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

During the year, The Rose Learning Trust supported a number of other primary schools including Town Field Primary and Saltersgate Junior School. Both have applied to join the Trust.

The Trust also has close links with Hill House Independent School, The Barnsley Doncaster Teaching School, Learners First, Doncaster Initial Teacher Training Partnership as well as Local Authorities and Boards.

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The core purpose of every Academy Trust – as stipulated by the Articles of Association – is to improve the quality of educational provision for children and young people. The principal activity of the charitable company is the operation of The Rose Learning Trust to provide nursery and primary education for pupils between the ages of 3-11. This is the primary object of the Academy Trust as set out in paragraph 4 of the Articles of Association of the Company Limited by Guarantee.

In accordance with the Articles of Association the charitable company has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Secretary of State for Education and Skills. The Scheme of Government specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the Academy, and that the curriculums should comply with the substance of the National Curriculum.

In fulfilling these objects, the Trust Board evaluated its 3-year strategic plan with a more concise focus on 5 objectives as follows:

Increase the quality of education and provision in all academies
Growth of the Trust and development of new partnerships
Increase and develop the Trust academy improvement capacity
An employer of choice
A financially viable and sustainable Trust

These strategic objectives in turn inform the annual planning of the Trust and its constituent academies.

Vision and Values

Vision – Transforming futures collaboratively

Mission – Expecting more than others think possible

Values – The Rose Learning Trust, a local solution where leaders hold each other to account for the collective performance of the Trust:

A Trust in which schools seek to support and productively challenge each other to improve outcomes and life chances for all its children in all its communities.

A Trust which shapes the educational future rather than being shaped by events.

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Public Benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The Rose Learning Trust's principal objective is to provide education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 3 and 11. The Governors and Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commissioner's general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. Furthermore, they have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Academy Trust's aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The Trust supports other schools through the delivery of professional development and the sharing of practice and knowledge to ultimately benefit the wider community.

Strategic Report

From the period September 1st, 2021, to August 31st, 2022, Trustees have overseen the work of the accounting officer in pursuing the ambitions outlined in The Rose learning Trust strategic business plan. Performance has been monitored through the plan and through the performance management of the accounting officer.

The Trust continues to be passionate about improving the life chances of the children, families and the communities it serves. Despite another challenging year with the after effect of the pandemic, the Trust has achieved a number of positive outcomes this business year.

The addition of a Director of Curriculum Effectiveness secondment alongside additional school improvement days from the Deputy CEO has enabled the Trust to drive through new initiatives and ways of working.

There continues to be significant work to be done to get all pupils back on track. There has been unprecedented disruption to their education and the pandemic has negatively impacted the attainment of all pupils, particularly those from socially disadvantaged backgrounds. The scale of response as a Trust will be targeted to mitigate the impact of lost learning.

Strategy, achievement and performance

In the period September 1st, 2021, to August 31st, 2022, Trustees oversaw the continued improvement in performance of the constituent academies reported in the Trust data dashboard. The Key Performance Indicators as monitored by Trustees ensure that there is a clear line of sight between the Board and the performance of academies.

The Trust has continued to establish itself as an employer of choice. It has recognised the need to increase requisite infrastructure ahead of growth to ensure sustainability. This includes capacity at Central Trust level to grow the school improvement team. It also includes the creation and maintenance of consistent and stable leadership in all our academies to act as the primary enabler of sustainable growth.

The school improvement strategy has been refined, ensuring a careful balance of challenge and support customised to each individual school.

The Trust has continued to explore innovative ways to collaborate within and beyond the Trust to improve outcomes and experiences for all its pupils. Trust membership of The Confederation of School Trusts has also provided a number of platforms for the Trust to engage with other MATs and government agencies.

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At the heart of the work of The Rose Learning Trust is its strength in outstanding practice and provision and the sharing of this across all academies and beyond. The ambition is to develop and promote a strong learning culture across the Trust. This investment will result in talented and dedicated staff working effectively within all our academies and across the Trust. The achievements this year include:

- Further development of networks to support leaders, to develop specific areas of the curriculum, to ensure compliance, and for business continuity.
- In October 2021, the Trust undertook its first employee engagement survey with all academies across the Trust. The benchmarks to national comparators were positive.
- Further strengthening and re engagement of a Trust pupil offer though a focus on the Arts. Across the year, pupils had the opportunity to work and perform with Opera North. They were part of the first ever Doncaster Music For Youth Festival and the Trust choir was re-established.
- There were 4 successful Ofsted inspections across the year with positive outcomes in them all, including no transitional statements for the curriculum.
- The Department for Education invited Richmond Hill Primary Academy to be their 9th Decarbonisation Pilot school in England, the only one in Doncaster, which will see the school benefiting from the installation of a ground source heat pump solution, along with other potential improvements to the fabric of the building to support the school in reducing its carbon footprint.
- During the year, the Trust was successful in securing additional resources to support academy improvement and academy building condition improvements. Condition Improvement Funds were secured to replace roofing, heating, fire safety across three academies.
- Ongoing development of a common SharePoint platform for enhanced communication, collaboration and information sharing. This includes the collaboration hub and resource areas with research links to develop effective teaching and learning and share good practice.
- The Trust has achieved the IASME Governance Certification (August 2022) marking another milestone in the Trust's ambitious cyber resilience development plan. It is also one of the first MATs in the country to achieve this accreditation.
- Ongoing development of the Trust data dashboard to establish common reporting mechanisms.
- Further strengthening of governance, with the addition of new members and trustees to the Board.
- Enhanced public profile of the Trust through Twitter, Instagram and the Trust website as an employer of choice.
- The Trust has successfully trained 2 cohorts as part of the Let's Think in English hub driving improvements in English to help pupils develop the higher order skills needed for success.
- The academies continue to foster their own partnerships on a school-by-school basis, alongside the Trust peer partnership model, which in turn provides invaluable advocacy for the Trust. The Trust workforce continues to be its strongest ambassador.
- As civic leaders, the Trust has supported the charity, Young Minds, supporting the mental health of children and young people. Across the year the Trust has raised over £3000. This will make a real and tangible difference to the lives of so many children and young people.

The Trust's growth plan is built around well managed and quality growth expanding where there is a clear benefit to the Trust, its staff and its pupils whilst ensuring the central support functions of the Trust can meet the needs of additional academies. The Trust growth plan outlines the importance of both Trust growth and Trust partnership and across the year the year it has developed strong relationships with other Trusts.

In July 2022, Town Field Primary school and Saltersgate Junior School submitted applications to the DfE to join the Trust after a period of partnership working.

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Trust performance

Results Dashboard 2022

EYFS		PHONICS		
	% GLD	Year 1	Year 2 Sum	Year 2 Overall
Trust Average	69%	76%	52%	89%
National 2022	66%	76%		91%

		KEY STAGE 1				KEY STAGE 2				
		Read	Writing	Maths	Combined	Read	Writing	Maths	Combined	SPAG
Trust Average	ARE+	66%	62%	72%	56%	72%	68%	67%	55%	60%
	GD	16%	7%	16%	6%	16%	9%	15%	5%	17%
National 2022	ARE+	67%	58%	68%		74%	69%	71%	59%	72%
	GD	18%	8%	5%						

Disadvantaged ARE+

	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined
Trust Ave	66%	60%	56%	47%
Doncaster LA	57%	54%	51%	39%
National	63%	56%	57%	43%

The Trust's financial performance is monitored by the Trustees through regular financial reporting by the Chief Finance Officer.

The key financial performance indicators set for the year were as follows:

Key Performance Indicator	Outcome
Financial probity: no red flags identified through internal and external audit	not met
Robust financial parameters: retain a level of reserves above 3.5% of Budget	met
Staffing structures maintained within 77% of budget	met
Financial reporting and accountability: timely and accurate completion of all financial returns	met

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has 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 Accounting Policies note of the financial statements.

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Promoting the Success of the Company

During the year, the Board of Trustees have promoted the success of the Trust through their strategic oversight. The Board has ensured that key decision making is underpinned and aligned to long term strategic planning to meet the key objectives of the Trust.

Trustees have continued to show a strong commitment to supporting the good mental health and wellbeing of all employees. Considerable focus and investment has also been placed on maintaining and managing relationships with our key stakeholders as outlined within the report. Due regard has been given to ensuring that the Trust has a positive impact on the wider community through the delivery of professional development and the sharing of best practice with other schools in the area.

The ongoing development and review of trust policy and the further strengthening of governance within the Trust has ensured continued high standards of business conduct.

Financial Review

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31st August 2022 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Despite the continued uncertainties and difficulties in planning and projecting operational activity, the Trust continued to report a sustainable financial position throughout the year.

During the year, the Academy Trust received revenue grant funding of £13,689,849 (2021: £13,309,475) and Capital Grant Funding of £1,950,724 (2021: £996,484)

Further exceptional government funding of £188,454 was received during the year as follows:

- £102,189 Covid Recovery Premium to fund specific activities in supporting pupils making up for lost teaching time.
- £86,265 School Led Tutoring Grant, a 75% subsidy to deliver 1 to 1 tuition as part of the Catch -Up strategy.

Total funds held by the Trust as at 31st August 2022 were £35,270,667 (2021: £26,443,897).

This movement can be summarised as follows:

General Fund Balances

£9,848 increase in unrestricted and restricted general fund balances to £1,431,625.

This minimal movement overall has resulted from the offsetting of a number of factors:

- recommitment to lost activity from last financial year and investment in further catch -up activity
- increased inflationary pressures particularly energy and NJC pay award from April 22
- 3% Increase in funding rates for Pupil premium and introduction of Schools Supplementary Grant from April 22
- Savings from planned building improvement works where schools have struggled to engage contractors to complete the work during the summer.

Pensions Scheme Liability

£7,286,000 decrease in Local Government Pensions Scheme liability to £3,054,000.

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Fixed asset Fund Balances

£1,530,922 increase in restricted fixed asset fund to £36,893,042 resulting from the following:

- £716,881 enhancement of school premises through CIF funded projects
- £201,501 transfer from the L.A of the Childrens Centre at Crowle Primary, to enhance the delivery of extended services
- £215,398 further fixed asset additions during the year including £79,442 laptop and tablet devices donated by the DfE to support remote learning of disadvantaged children.
- Above asset additions are offset by the depreciation of assets £739,431
- £1,182,097 increase in unspent capital funding for completion of current CIF projects and held in reserve
- £45,524 increase in capital loan liabilities from Salix and CIF loans entered into during the year to support re-roofing and fire safety projects across 2 schools

Reserves Policy

The Academy's 'free' reserves are its funds after excluding restricted funds. 'Reserves' are therefore the resources the Academy Trust has or can make available to spend for any or all of the Trust's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. More specifically 'free reserves' represent income to the Academy which is to be spent at the trustee's discretion in furtherance of any of the Academy's objectives, but which is not yet spent, committed or designated.

The Board of Trustees reviews the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually at the year-end and as part of its budget planning Process. The review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of the reserves. Trustees determine what the level of uncommitted reserves should be. The aim is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and the receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. In agreeing a prudent level of reserves Trustees are also mindful of the real term cuts to funding that schools have been experiencing and want to ensure that existing pupils are not disadvantaged through the setting of unrealistic or excessive reserve levels.

As part of its monitoring of in-year financial performance the Board of Trustees reviews the forecasted impact on the reserves and considers this as part of its medium-term financial planning. During 2021-22 the Board of Trustees required each school to plan for a minimum reserves level equating to 3.5% of Budget.

Total free reserves held by the Trust as of the 31st of August 2022 were £1,422,147 (2021: £1,412,687) determined as follows:

Total General Fund Balances	£1,431,625
Less Ringfenced Grants:	
Lottery Grant (Forest School)	<u>-£9,478</u>
Total Free Reserves	<u>£1,422,147</u>

Free reserves equated to 9.5% of budget for the Trust overall, exceeding the Trust's minimum reserves level target of 3.5% by £897,143.

At individual school level each school held free reserves exceeding the 3.5%, with the exception of Lakeside Primary. During the year Lakeside has worked effectively within their deficit recovery plan bringing them into a surplus position this year of £58k (2.5% of budget). During 2021/22 the school offered places to 17 refugee children which required additional resourcing at the school. Funding to support them through the government's Operation Warm Welcome Scheme was initially expected to cover the whole academic year, but unfortunately funding was only paid to the end of March. If this funding had covered the full period up to the end of the academic year, the school would have met it's reserves target.

The Trust will continues to work with its academies to ensure these reserves are recommitted to lost activities where appropriate and to ensure that there is further planned investment to reduce excessive balances through medium term financial planning.

As at the 31st August 2022, the restricted fixed asset fund included £35.5m that can only be realised by disposing of tangible fixed assets.

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Investment Policy

The Board of Trustees may invest any cash balances surplus to the working requirements of its schools to further the Trust's charitable aims as set out in the articles of association. The Trust's investment policy ensures that investment risk is properly managed. During the year the only approved investment activity was the operation of a special interest-bearing sweeping account with the Royal Bank of Scotland up to the end of May 2021.

During the year the Trust took advantage of a government backed business banking switch scheme offered by The Royal Bank of Scotland. The scheme enabled the Trust to move its banking to The Co-Operative Bank in June 2021, benefitting from a £50,000 incentive payment.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trust

Risk management is a central part of our strategic governance and leadership management and culture, and the Trust is committed to minimising risk through a framework of integrated governance supported by a proactive risk management culture.

The Trust risk register is reviewed and updated regularly. Systems and procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Trust faces. Internal risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects. Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed.

Operational risk registers are kept in each academy and are reviewed by LGBs each term. If a risk is identified to have an impact at trust level, this is notified to the central team who will amend the Trust's strategic risk register.

The operational risk register always remains a 'live' document and copies are always made available to the central team and board.

It should also be noted that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with health and safety of staff and pupils through annual Health and Safety and Fire Risk audits carried out by the trust's Health and Safety professional.

Audit and Risk

The Trust has a dedicated Audit and Risk Committee. Based on the strategic plan, trustees undertake a comprehensive review of the risks to which The Rose Learning Trust is exposed. The trustees identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential negative impact on the Trust.

As part of its risk management strategy the Trust uses the 'Risk Protection Arrangements (RPA)' which is designed explicitly for academies as an alternative to commercial insurance to transfer some risks. Under RPA, the UK government covers any losses arising, instead of commercial insurance.

Government Funding

The Trust has considerable reliance on continuing government funding through the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the Local Authority (LA). Whilst the funding is expected to continue, there is no assurance that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.

The risk has and will be mitigated in a number of ways:

- Funding is derived through a number of direct and indirect contractual arrangements
- Considerable focus and investment is placed on maintaining and managing key relationships with the various funding bodies

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- Ensuring that the Trust is focused on those priority sectors which will continue to benefit from public funding:

Contingency planning embedded into the Academy budget process

- Maintain medium term financial plans to ensure budget pressures are flagged up at the earliest opportunity
- Ensuring a prudent level of reserves is maintained.

Pupil Numbers

Budget efficiency, sustainability and effective resource allocation relies on consistent and reliable pupil numbers. The impact of Covid19 has resulted in less certainty around pupil numbers particularly in the early years sector. The Trust seeks to maintain the number of current and prospective pupils by:

- Maintaining a positive public profile in the community and good inspection outcomes
- Investing in its teaching staff and resources
- Actively marketing the early years offer across the Trust
- Continued engagement with Local Authority admissions teams

Governance

The governance structure consists of: Members, the board of trustees and local governing bodies. The aim of the governance structure is to devolve responsibility via the Scheme of Delegation and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. The Members meet at least annually to review the performance of the Trust and ensure that the trustees are working within the articles of association.

The trustees, by the use of academic results and budgets, monitor and manage risks and make major decisions about the direction of the Trust.

There are two committee of the Board which undertook wide ranging scrutiny work on behalf of the Board: -

- Audit and Risk
- Educational Standards

The trust board and local governing bodies continue to support and collaborate with executive leaders and ensure that they are still fulfilling their duties regarding the core functions of governance as set out in the DfE Governance Handbook.

Arrangements have been made to facilitate the needs of trustees and governors to enable them to function effectively and in accordance with their legal and other governance requirements. All trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans, NGA handbooks and other document, including the Academy Trust Handbook and any guidance documentation from the DfE/ESFA that they will need to undertake their role. The trust wide use of a cloud based "GovernorHub" has ensured information can be shared securely and in a timely manner.

The governance professional works in partnership with the chair of the trust to keep the board focused on its core strategic priorities, provides independent and expert advice and guidance to the board on its duties and functions.

Data/Cyber security and GDPR compliance

Meeting the requirements of General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and cyber threats has meant that data protection legislation and data subject risk continues to be a principal risk within the trust risk register.

The Trust has invested in a multi layered approach via an online portal and web application that provides the Trust with all the tools and training required to operate a successful cyber security program. In addition, this builds cyber resilience, enabling academies to take a risk-based approach to cyber security with risks identified by Government.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

The associated risks continue to be mitigated in several ways:

- The Trust continues to hold Cyber Essentials accreditation for central operations, and this is reviewed annually
- The Trust was awarded IASME Governance Certification which provides assurance that there are a full range of cyber security privacy and data protection measures in place. The trust works hard to ensure that it aligns practices with recognised security standards certification
- The use of information security software to carry out information security audits at all schools within the Trust
- Staff are trained to recognise cyber threats and prevent them becoming incidents
- Website/application regularly security tested.
- Cyber-attack simulations are performed on schools to test defences in a safe environment.
- The Trust has a Cyber Incident Management Plan which is tested annually
- The Trust is registered with the Police Cyber Alarm
- All employees with access to IT systems have undertaken NCSC training
- All staff complete training in data protection and cyber security via online platforms
- Trust Board and LGBs receive regular audit reports on GDPR compliance from the Data Protection Officer

Fundraising

Fundraising activities within the Trust include school fairs, raffles and donations for non-uniform days. The Trust relies on staff and other stakeholder's voluntary time and does not involve commercial participators or professional fundraisers. The Trust approach to fundraising is to deliver fundraising events in school where parents and pupils are asked to make a voluntary contribution. The Trust does not use intrusive approaches or apply undue pressure on the general public to raise funds.

The Trust supports a charity on an annual basis nominated by all schools.

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022	1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	2,676,566	3,315,594
Gas Emissions in metric tonnes (CO ₂ e)	373	494
Electricity Emissions in metric tonnes (CO ₂ e)	348	338
Intensity Ratio (tCO ₂ e per pupil)	0.27	0.32

- The 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting guidelines, the GHG Reporting Protocol and the 2020 UK Government's conversion Factors for Company Reporting have been followed
- Our chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e per pupil, the standard recommended ratio for the sector

The Rose Learning Trust is committed to reducing the Carbon Footprint of its schools through the upgrading of building fabric, improving insulation levels, u-values of our windows and installation of more energy efficient boilers and lighting:

- Over the last 4 years the Trust secured condition improvement funding to deliver boiler and heating replacements at 3 schools generating 10-15% improved efficiency. A further school has funding approved for gas boiler and heating replacement in 2022/23 with estimated efficiency savings of 15%.

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- Richmond Hill Primary Academy have been fortunate in being accepted onto the DfE's Decarbonisation Pilot Scheme. During 2022/23 the school will be benefiting from the installation of a ground source heat pump solution, along with other potential improvements to the fabric of the building to support the school in reducing its carbon footprint.
- A total of 5 out of 7 schools have now benefitted from CIF funded re-roofing projects, generating efficiencies of between 17-22%.

Plans for Future Periods

The ambition of The Rose Learning Trust is to grow sustainably. This will create both efficiencies and value for money central services, as well as a highly responsive school improvement model to impact positively on the outcomes for all its pupils in the Trust.

The Trust will continue to extend its reach and impact in the local communities it serves by further planned growth over the next year and beyond. This will include 2 further primary schools who have applied to join the Trust next year, alongside the development of a newly formed North Lincolnshire Hub. The growth of the school improvement arm of the Trust will enable it to continue to provide high quality support, development and challenge to all its academies.

In line with the Trust Business Plan and Developing Excellence Plan, it is important to ensure that it knows the individual academy's risks, contexts, strengths and areas for future development. The data dashboard has been further developed, to give trustees a clearer, more summative means of reporting on all academies as the Trust grows.

Summary

The Trust has continued to deliver high-quality education across the 2,747 pupils within its schools.

Despite the current challenges and the impact the pandemic has had, the Trust has continued to plan and deliver strategic change, and in 2022 – 2023 it will continue to demonstrate its commitment to providing a high-quality education to all pupils in all its academies.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The Academy and its Trustees do not act as custodian Trustees of any other charity.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 8th December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:-



Mr J Greaves
Trustee

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
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Governance Statement

Scope of Responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The Rose Learning Trust 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 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

MEMBERS

Members	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
David Holland	0	1
David Thewlis	1	1
Damien Page	1	1
Sami Miraz	1	1
Philip Crawley	0	0
Anne Elliott	0	0

TRUSTEES

	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Peter Haynes	5	6
Sarah Page	6	6
Ellen Walker	6	6
Darren Holmes	3	6
Helen Bellinger	2	6
Josh Greaves	5	6
Jeffrey Hudson	0	2
Tracy Pepper	0	2
Jane Marriott	0	6
Paul Davies	0	0

Audit and Risk Committee

	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Peter Haynes	2	3
Ellen Walker	2	3
Josh Greaves	3	3

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Education Standards Committee

	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Darren Homes	0	0
Sarah Page	1	1
Helen Bellinger	1	1

During the year, the trust has reviewed its governance arrangements as follows:

- The skills and competencies of the Trust Board were reviewed and were deemed to be providing an effective level of representation
- The Trust Scheme of Delegation was revised to improve robustness and to ensure it reflected any changes to the Academy Trust Handbook 2021
- Three Trustees resigned from the board
- One new Trustee appointed to the board
- One new member appointed

Conflicts of Interest

The Trust has the following processes in place to manage conflicts of interest:

- register of interests updated termly via the Trust's online governance portal
- the opportunity to declare a conflict of interest at every governance meeting is facilitated through standing agenda item.
- consolidated register maintained by the Trust cross checked to companies house. Personnel with procurement responsibilities have up to date access.
- Trust financial regulations require schools to contact the CFO before entering into any related party procurement
- Related party list maintained via finance system. System warnings flag where purchase orders raised against a related party
- Related Party transaction report is run monthly by CFO to monitor spend

Review of Value for Money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the 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:

- Continuing to procure key services centrally, including: health and safety, payroll, training, audit and insurances.
- Continued joint negotiating via the Business Leads Network has enabled each school to continue in benefitting from a discount on their Local Authority bought back services.
- Commenced a preliminary review of IT managed services provision in light of contracts end date March 2023

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST **(A company limited by guarantee)**

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Rose Learning Trust for the period of 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- Regular reviews by the finance, audit and risk 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

In light of the revised FRC Ethical Standards, the Finance, Audit and Risk committee appointed Forrester Boyd, to perform internal assurance visits at each of the schools within the Trust during 2021/22.

This internal assurance role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. Checks carried out in the current period covered governance, internal controls, income, procurement, related parties, inventory and payroll.

An internal assurance report was produced for the Trust which highlighted some areas on which controls could be improved. No material control issues were identified. The report findings are presented to the Board of Trustees, and at Local Governing Body level.

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Review of Effectiveness

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

- The findings from the internal assurance visits
- 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 has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The Accounting Officer has been advised on the implications of the result of their review of the system on internal control by the Finance Audit and Resources Committee at each school 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 on 8th December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr J Greaves
Trustee



.....
Mrs H Harrison
Accounting Officer

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of The Rose Learning 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 ESFA terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

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

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the board of trustees and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of trustees and ESFA:

Non-financial issues – non-compliance

- As reported in Note 28 to the financial statements, breaches of the Academy Trust Handbook requirements occurred in connection with a Related Party Transaction during the period. A transaction took place with a Related Party which was not appropriately disclosed to ESFA in advance and a statement of assurance regarding the at cost requirements was not available. The related party resigned from the board on 31 August 2022.



.....
Mrs H Harrison
Accounting Officer
8th December 2022

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education & 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 in 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 on 8th December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr J Greaves
Trustee

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Rose Learning Trust

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of The Rose Learning Trust for the Period ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 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's affairs as of 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the Period 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 OF OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy 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.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST **(A company limited by guarantee)**

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 Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the 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 there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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 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 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' remunerations specified by law 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 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'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's or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST

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AUDITOR'S 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 noncompliance 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:

We have identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our general commercial experience, knowledge of the sector, a review of regulatory and legal correspondence and through discussions with Trustees and other management obtained as part of the work required by auditing standards. We have also discussed with the Trustees and other management the policies and procedures relating to compliance with laws and regulations. We communicated laws and regulations throughout the team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit.

The potential impact of different laws and regulations varies considerably. Firstly, the company is subject to laws and regulations that directly impact the financial statements (for example financial reporting legislation) and we have assessed the extent of compliance with such laws as part of our financial statements audit. This included the identification and testing of unusual material journal entries and challenging management on key estimates, assumptions and judgements made in the preparation of the financial statements. These key areas of uncertainty are disclosed in the accounting policies.

Secondly, the academy is subject to other laws and regulations where the consequence for non-compliance could have a material effect on the amounts or disclosures in the financial statements. We identified the following areas as those most likely to have such an effect: Ofsted rating, Health & Safety Law, HR & minimum wage law, Company Law, compliance with the Funding agreement, compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook and the completion of DBS checks.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection. We have performed audit work through enquiries with management regarding any non-compliance and reviewed all available information to assess whether any breaches have been found. Through these procedures, if we became aware of any non-compliance, we considered the impact on the procedures performed on the related financial statement items.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. The further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it. As with any audit, there is a greater risk of non-detection of irregularities as these may involve collusion, intentional omissions of the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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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'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'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 and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Timothy Godson FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Duncan & Toplis Limited

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

15 Chequergate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 0LJ

Date:

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Rose Learning Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1st August 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Rose Learning Trust during the Period 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 The Rose Learning Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Rose Learning Trust 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 The Rose Learning Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST'S ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING AUDITORS

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Rose Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 August 2012, 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 2020 to 2021. 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 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

APPROACH

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

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

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

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

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONCLUSION

In the course of our work, one instance of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance has been identified and notified to the board of trustees and ESFA:

Non-financial issues – non-compliance

- As reported in Note 28 to the financial statements, breaches of the Academy Trust Handbook requirements occurred in connection with a Related Party Transaction during the period. A transaction took place with a Related Party which was not appropriately disclosed to ESFA in advance and a statement of assurance regarding the at cost requirements was not available. The related party resigned from the board on 31 August 2022.

Timothy Godson FCA

Duncan & Toplis Limited

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

15 Chequergate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 0LJ

Date:

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31st August 2022
(including Income & Expenditure Account)

		Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
	Notes					
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	17,252	-	2,231,667	2,248,919	1,013,721
Transfer from local authority on conversion	28	-	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities	3	436,793	14,000,660	-	14,437,453	13,886,105
Other trading activities	4	545,005	-	-	545,005	280,160
Investments	5	410	-	-	410	228
Total income		<u>999,460</u>	<u>14,000,660</u>	<u>2,231,667</u>	<u>17,231,787</u>	<u>15,180,214</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising Funds	6	9,693	-	-	9,693	4,870
Charitable activities	6,7	-	15,737,369	784,955	16,522,324	14,782,529
Other		-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		<u>9,693</u>	<u>15,737,369</u>	<u>784,955</u>	<u>16,532,017</u>	<u>14,787,399</u>
Net income / (expenditure)		989,767	(1,736,709)	1,446,712	699,770	392,815
Transfers between Funds	16	(807,041)	722,831	84,210	-	-
Net income / (expenditure) for the year		182,726	(1,013,878)	1,530,922	699,770	392,815
Other recognised gains and losses:						
Actuarial (losses) gains on defined benefit pensions scheme	16, 27	-	8,127,000	-	8,127,000	(701,000)
Net movement in funds		182,726	7,113,122	1,530,922	8,826,770	(308,185)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		1,133,676	(10,051,899)	35,362,120	26,443,897	26,752,082
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,316,402</u>	<u>(2,938,777)</u>	<u>36,893,042</u>	<u>35,270,667</u>	<u>26,443,897</u>

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2022

Company Number 08820308

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed Assets					
Tangible assets	12		35,478,565		35,084,216
Current assets					
Debtors	13	2,436,530		1,064,638	
Cash at bank and in hand	24	<u>1,958,611</u>		<u>1,746,336</u>	
		4,395,141		2,810,974	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(1,443,691)</u>		<u>(1,045,497)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>2,951,450</u>		<u>1,765,477</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			38,430,015		36,849,693
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15		<u>(105,348)</u>		<u>(65,796)</u>
Total assets excluding pension			<u>38,324,667</u>		<u>36,783,897</u>
Defined benefit pensions scheme	27		<u>(3,054,000)</u>		<u>(10,340,000)</u>
Net assets			<u>35,270,667</u>		<u>26,443,897</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	16	36,893,042		35,362,120	
General fund	16	115,223		288,101	
Pensions reserve	16	<u>(3,054,000)</u>		<u>(10,340,000)</u>	
Total restricted funds			33,954,265		25,310,221
Unrestricted income funds	16		<u>1,316,402</u>		<u>1,133,676</u>
Total funds	16		<u>35,270,667</u>		<u>26,443,897</u>

The financial statements on pages 28 to 54 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 8th December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr J Greaves
Trustee

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31st August 2022

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2022

Cash flows from operating activities		2022	2021
		£	£
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	Notes 20	(1,132,227)	235,800
Cash flows from investing activities	22	1,298,978	86,233
Cash flows from finance activities	21	45,524	(15,423)
Cash transferred on conversion to an academy trust	23	-	-
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		212,275	306,610
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2021		1,746,336	1,439,726
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2022	24	1,958,611	1,746,336

1 Statement of Accounting Policies

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Rose Learning Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by 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 one year from the date of approval 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 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 year for which it is receivable and any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general fund.

Pupil Premium is recognised in the period of entitlement. Where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued.

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

- **Sponsorship Income**

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there is no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

- **Donations**

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

- **Other Income**

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

- **Transfer on conversion**

Where assets and liabilities are received by the Academy Trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Academy Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within Donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.

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

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

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion/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 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.

Expenditure

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

- **Expenditure on Raising Funds**

This includes all expenditure incurred by the Academy Trust to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

- **Charitable Activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

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

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

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

Long leasehold buildings	50 years
Furniture and equipment	3-5 years
Information technology hardware	3-5 years

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

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

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.

Leased Assets

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term.

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 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other financial debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank – is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured as face value.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 14 and 15. 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 no obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

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.

Pensions Benefits

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

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. As stated in note 27, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Fund Accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by 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 Education and Skills Funding Agency/Department for Education.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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 27, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Comparatives

There has been no additional schools join the trust during the reporting period. Both the 2020-2021 and the 2021-2022 figures are representative of 7 schools in the Trust for 12 months.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

2 Donations and Capital Grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Capital Grants	-	1,950,724	1,950,724	934,820
Donated Fixed Assets	-	280,943	280,943	61,664
Other Donations	17,252	-	17,252	17,237
	<u>17,252</u>	<u>2,231,667</u>	<u>2,248,919</u>	<u>1,013,721</u>
2021 total	<u>17,237</u>	<u>996,484</u>		

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's Educational Operations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
DfE / ESFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	10,811,920	10,811,920	10,249,138
UIFSM	-	288,773	288,773	297,886
Pupil Premium	-	988,633	988,633	925,400
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	392,940	392,940	742,622
	-	<u>12,482,266</u>	<u>12,482,266</u>	<u>12,215,046</u>
Other Government grants				
Local Authority grants	-	1,207,583	1,207,583	1,094,429
	-	<u>1,207,583</u>	<u>1,207,583</u>	<u>1,094,429</u>
Exceptional Government Funding				
COVID Recovery Premium	-	102,189	102,189	-
Catch-Up Premium	-	-	-	194,680
Other DfE/ESFA COVID funding	-	86,265	86,265	32,011
	-	<u>188,454</u>	<u>188,454</u>	<u>226,691</u>
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations	436,793	122,357	559,150	349,939
	<u>436,793</u>	<u>14,000,660</u>	<u>14,437,453</u>	<u>13,886,105</u>
2021 total	<u>316,911</u>	<u>13,569,194</u>		

Further exceptional government funding of £188,454 (2021: £226,691) was received and fully spent during the year as follows:

- £102,189 Covid Recovery Premium to fund specific activities in supporting pupils making up for lost teaching time.
- £86,265 School Led Tutoring Grant, a 75% subsidy to deliver 1 to 1 tuition as part of the Catch -Up strategy.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

4 Other Trading Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Hire of Facilities	11,162	-	11,162	9,345
Catering Income	2,484	-	2,484	820
Other Income	531,359	-	531,359	269,995
	<u>545,005</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>545,005</u>	<u>280,160</u>
2021 total	<u>280,160</u>	<u>-</u>		

5 Investment Income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Bank account interest	410	-	410	228
	<u>410</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>410</u>	<u>228</u>
2021 total	<u>228</u>	<u>-</u>		

6 Expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Non Pay Premises £	Expenditure Other £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Expenditure on Raising Funds			9,693	9,693	4,870
Academy Trust's educational operations:					
. Direct costs	9,251,756	597,676	1,108,739	10,958,171	10,285,293
. Allocated support costs	2,675,411	1,387,419	1,501,323	5,564,153	4,497,236
	<u>11,927,167</u>	<u>1,985,095</u>	<u>2,619,755</u>	<u>16,532,017</u>	<u>14,787,399</u>
2021 total	<u>11,201,066</u>	<u>1,551,198</u>	<u>2,035,135</u>		

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Net income / (expenditure) for the period includes:		
Operating Lease Rentals	35,887	40,963
Depreciation	739,431	666,264
Fees payable to Internal Auditor for:		
- Internal Audit Services	4,350	4,200
Fees payable to External Auditor for:		
- Audit of Statutory Accounts	14,838	12,275
- Other Services	3,957	4,120
	<u>798,463</u>	<u>727,822</u>

7 Charitable Activities

8 Staff

b. Staff severance payments

The academy trust paid 2 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands

c. Staff Numbers

	2022	2021
Charitable Activities	No.	No.
Teachers	100	107
Administration and support	199	212
Management	19	20
	318	339

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
£60,001-£70,000	6	7
£70,001-£80,000	2	2
£80,001-£90,000	1	1
£100,001-£110,000	1	1
	10	11

Nine of the above employees participated in the Teachers' Pensions Scheme. During the year ended 31st August 2022, pension contributions for these staff amounted to £160,902. (2021: £167,758)

One employee participated in the Local Government Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31st August 2022, pension contributions for this employee amounted to £9,936. (2021: £9,546)

c. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employer benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £973,494. (2021: £967,311)

9 Central Services

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services during the Year:

Educational Support Services
 Human Resources and Staff Wellbeing
 Governor Support
 Financial Services
 Legal Services
 Health and Safety
 ICT Security

The trust charges for these services on the basis of 4.5% of school's GAG

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Richmond Hill Primary	72,984	64,800
Woodfield Primary	68,928	65,031
Balby Central Primary	80,629	77,540
Hachell Wood Primary	73,356	71,055
Crowle Primary	42,119	40,587
Owston Park Primary	75,635	72,808
Lakeside Primary	72,888	68,054
	486,539	459,875

10 Related Party Transactions – Trustees’ Remuneration and Expenses

For the year ending 31st August 2022 no trustee has been paid remuneration from employment with the Academy Trust. (2021: £NIL)

During the year ended 31st August 2022, no travel and subsistence expenses were reimbursed or paid directly to trustees. (2021: £NIL)

11 Trustees’ and Officers’ Insurance

Insurance cover to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31st August 2022 was included in the DFE’s Risk Pooling Arrangement fee of £48,127 (2021: £49,041). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

12 Tangible Fixed Assets

	Leasehold Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Information Technology Hardware £	Assets Under Construction £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2021	36,291,602	189,591	397,802	657,600	37,536,595
Transfer from L.A	201,501	-	-	-	201,501
Additions	759,445	37,123	135,711		932,279
Reclassification	173,427	-		(173,427)	-
At 31 August 2022	<u>37,425,975</u>	<u>226,714</u>	<u>533,513</u>	<u>484,173</u>	<u>38,670,375</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2021	2,046,154	114,174	292,051	-	2,452,379
Charged in year	597,676	38,238	103,517	-	739,431
At 31 August 2022	<u>2,643,830</u>	<u>152,412</u>	<u>395,568</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,191,810</u>
Net book values					
At 1 September 2021	<u>34,245,448</u>	<u>75,417</u>	<u>105,751</u>	<u>657,600</u>	<u>35,084,216</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>34,782,145</u>	<u>74,302</u>	<u>137,945</u>	<u>484,173</u>	<u>35,478,565</u>

Long Term Leasehold Property

Included in land and buildings is leasehold land valued at £8,852,000 (2021: £8,852,000) which is not depreciated.

The long term lease of Crowle Primary premises was revised during the year to include the onsite Childrens Centre recognised at a fair value of £201,501.

Donated Assets

As part of the Government's Get Help with Technology Programme the Trust received 224 devices to support disadvantaged children learning at home. These assets have been recognised at a fair value of £79,442.

Assets Under Construction

During the year the Trust commenced a further 5 CIF funded capital projects across 3 schools making improvements to roofing, heating and fire safety. Initial costs have also been incurred for Richmond Hill Primary's ground source heating solution funded through the DfE's Decarbonisation pilot scheme. As at the 31st August 2022 the value of work completed was £484,173 and reported as assets under construction.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

13 Debtors

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Trade Debtors	15,216	11,732
VAT Recoverable	194,922	371,466
Grants Receivable	1,756,392	455,933
Prepayments and accrued income	470,000	225,507
	<u>2,436,530</u>	<u>1,064,638</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Trade creditors	187,309	133,804
Taxation and social security	181,815	171,578
Loans	18,275	12,303
Other creditors	319,670	228,618
Accruals and deferred income	736,622	499,194
	<u>1,443,691</u>	<u>1,045,497</u>

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Deferred income		
Deferred Income at 1 September 2021	189,187	198,453
Resources deferred in the year	186,920	189,187
Amounts released from previous years	(189,187)	(198,453)
Deferred Income at 31 August 2022	<u>186,920</u>	<u>189,187</u>

At the balance sheet date, the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for the provision of Universal Infant Free School Meals (£171,356) and parental contributions to school trips and other activities commencing September 2022 (£15,564).

15 Creditors: amounts falling due in greater than one year

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Loans	105,348	65,796
	<u>105,348</u>	<u>65,796</u>

As part of the Trust's CIF conditions, the Trust entered into 2 further Salix loans with the ESFA. As at the 31st August 2022 the balance owed was £57,786 to be repaid over 5 to 8 years, with nil interest. The Trust also entered into a further 2 CIF loans. As at the 31st August 2022 the balance owed was £65,837 to be repaid over 6 to 10 years. Each liability has been accounted for within the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	279,011	10,811,920	(11,708,017)	722,831	105,745
Start Up Grant	-	-	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	288,773	(288,773)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	988,633	(988,633)	-	-
COVID Recovery Premium	-	102,189	(102,189)	-	-
Other ESFA COVID Funding	-	86,265	(86,265)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	9,090	392,940	(402,030)	-	-
Other Government Grants	-	1,167,058	(1,167,058)	-	-
Other Restricted Income	-	162,882	(153,404)	-	9,478
Pensions Reserve	(10,340,000)	-	(841,000)	8,127,000	(3,054,000)
	<u>(10,051,899)</u>	<u>14,000,660</u>	<u>(15,737,369)</u>	<u>8,849,831</u>	<u>(2,938,777)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	30,698,098	-	(529,837)	-	30,168,261
Capital Loans	(78,099)	-	(45,524)	-	(123,623)
DfE/ESFA capital grants	4,528,438	2,231,667	(137,477)	-	6,622,628
Capital expenditure from GAG	213,683	-	(72,117)	84,210	225,776
	<u>35,362,120</u>	<u>2,231,667</u>	<u>(784,955)</u>	<u>84,210</u>	<u>36,893,042</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>25,310,221</u>	<u>16,232,327</u>	<u>(16,522,324)</u>	<u>8,934,041</u>	<u>33,954,265</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,133,676</u>	<u>999,460</u>	<u>(9,693)</u>	<u>(807,041)</u>	<u>1,316,402</u>
Total funds	<u>26,443,897</u>	<u>17,231,787</u>	<u>(16,532,017)</u>	<u>8,127,000</u>	<u>35,270,667</u>

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

General Annual Grant (GAG): this is the academy's principal funding stream from the Education Skills Funding Agency. The funding must be used for the running of the school and for the benefit of the pupils. The use of the grant is governed by the terms and conditions set out in the Funding Agreement. The Trust received £10,811,920 of which £105,745 remains unspent.

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 2022.

Other DfE/ESFA Grants: the Trust received additional revenue grant funding from the ESFA including the following:

- Universal Infant Free School Meals grant of £288,773 to fund school meals for reception and key stage 1 pupils.
- PE Sports Grant of £133,130 to help promote sports and physical activity in schools of which all funding was spent.
- Rates Relief funding of £33,882 to fund the cost of National Non Domestic Rates.
- Pupil Premium of £988,633 to help raise attainment amongst pupils considered socially deprived. This funding is allocated on the basis of eligibility for free school meals.

Other ESFA grants included £188,454 Covid Recovery Premium and other Catch-Up related funding. A new Schools Supplementary Grant was introduced from April 2022 to fund the impact of the social care levy and other inflationary budget pressures. The amount received for the period April 22 to August 22 was £137,790.

Local Government grants: The Trust received and fully spent special educational needs top up funding of £325,085, Early Years funding for 3 year old free entitlement of £612,457, Early Years Pupil Premium £14,557, and LAC Pupil Premium £34,249.

Additional funding from the L.A to fund the provision of Free School Meal vouchers to children over the school holidays totalled £136,261.

Other Government grants: 3 schools received £43,092 to support the government's Kickstart Scheme providing new jobs for young people at risk of long term unemployment.

Other Income: comprises of various other receipts including school trip income and non-government grants.

Pension Reserve: arises from the actuarial measurement of the Trust's share of the Local Government Pensions Scheme deficit. This deficit is recorded as a provision and the liability for each school as at 31st August 2022 is valued as follows:

Richmond Hill Primary	-	£791,000
Woodfield Primary	-	£460,000
Balby Central Primary	-	£673,000
Hatchell Wood Primary	-	£653,000
Crowle Primary	-	£8,000
Owston Park Primary	-	£601,000
Lakeside Primary	-	(£132,000)

£841,000 pension finance charges were incurred and actuarial gains of £8,127,000.

DfE/ESFA Capital Grants: the Trust received Devolved Formula Capital funding of £57,235 for building improvements and ICT. Including balances brought forward 1st September 2021, £35,568 remained unspent. The Trust accounted for all CIF Grant receivable as at the 31st August 2022 of which £1,491,219 was unspent. Capital balances form part of the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund Balance.

Unrestricted Funds: the Academy Trust received £999,460 in income generated from catering, lettings, insurance claims and other contractual fees.

£398,604 of this related to the funding of temporary classrooms at Richmond Hill Primary through RPA central heating claim.

These funds may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objectives of the Trust at the discretion of the trustees. A total of £806,041 was transferred to fund expenditure within Restricted Funds.

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

16 Funds (Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	949	10,249,138	(10,165,139)	194,063	279,011
Start Up Grant	-	-	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	297,886	(297,886)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	925,400	(925,400)	-	-
Catch-up Premium	-	194,680	(194,680)	-	-
Funding	-	32,011	(32,011)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	35,721	742,622	(769,253)	-	9,090
Other Government Grants	-	1,097,429	(1,097,429)	-	-
Other Restricted Income	-	30,028	(30,028)	-	-
Pensions Reserve	(9,024,000)	-	(615,000)	(701,000)	(10,340,000)
	<u>(8,987,330)</u>	<u>13,569,194</u>	<u>(14,126,826)</u>	<u>(506,937)</u>	<u>(10,051,899)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	31,206,621	-	(508,523)	-	30,698,098
Capital Loans	(93,522)	-	15,423	-	(78,099)
DfE/ESFA capital grants	3,629,536	996,484	(97,582)	-	4,528,438
Capital expenditure from GAG	119,724	-	(65,021)	158,980	213,683
	<u>34,862,359</u>	<u>996,484</u>	<u>(655,703)</u>	<u>158,980</u>	<u>35,362,120</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>25,875,029</u>	<u>14,565,678</u>	<u>(14,782,529)</u>	<u>(347,957)</u>	<u>25,310,221</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>877,053</u>	<u>614,536</u>	<u>(4,870)</u>	<u>(353,043)</u>	<u>1,133,676</u>
Total funds	<u>26,752,082</u>	<u>15,180,214</u>	<u>(14,787,399)</u>	<u>(701,000)</u>	<u>26,443,897</u>

16 Funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances as at 31st August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
RLT Central Services	180,824	158,566
Richmond Hill Primary	176,741	144,982
Woodfield Primary	233,150	205,612
Balby Central Primary	270,990	321,782
Hatchell Wood Primary	87,066	144,183
Crowle Primary	243,743	221,021
Owston Park Primary	181,605	227,987
Lakeside Primary	57,506	(2,356)
Total before fixed asset and pension reserve	<u>1,431,625</u>	<u>1,421,777</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	36,893,042	35,362,120
Pension reserve	(3,054,000)	(10,340,000)
Total	<u>35,270,667</u>	<u>26,443,897</u>

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

16 Funds (Continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £	Other Support Staff Costs £	Educational Supplies £	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
RLT Central Services	205,215	168,906	8,146	97,633	479,900	455,929
Richmond Hill Primary	1,336,267	440,255	81,791	803,782	2,662,095	2,153,525
Woodfield Primary	1,190,241	321,492	67,755	382,213	1,961,701	1,818,881
Balby Central Primary	1,548,731	447,503	85,801	496,217	2,578,252	2,250,136
Hatchell Wood Primary	1,344,428	305,316	62,428	402,428	2,114,600	2,004,309
Crowle Primary	756,330	274,580	42,097	225,977	1,298,984	1,160,600
Owston Park Primary	1,501,787	384,289	66,478	487,339	2,439,893	2,270,412
Lakeside Primary	1,368,757	333,070	56,451	453,359	2,211,637	2,017,904
Academy Trust	9,251,756	2,675,411	470,947	3,348,948	15,747,062	14,131,696

17 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	35,478,565	35,478,565
Current assets	1,318,692	1,111,310	1,965,139	4,395,141
Current liabilities	(2,290)	(996,087)	(445,314)	(1,443,691)
Long Term Liability	-	-	(105,348)	(105,348)
Pensions scheme liability	-	(3,054,000)	-	(3,054,000)
Total net assets	1,316,402	(2,938,777)	36,893,042	35,270,667

Comparative information in respect of the preceeding period is as follows :

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	35,084,216	35,084,216
Current assets	1,133,676	1,100,369	576,929	2,810,974
Current liabilities	-	(812,268)	(233,229)	(1,045,497)
Long Term Liability	-	-	(65,796)	(65,796)
Pensions scheme liability	-	(10,340,000)	-	(10,340,000)
Total net assets	1,133,676	(10,051,899)	35,362,120	26,443,897

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

	2022	2021
	£	£

18 Capital Commitments

Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	<u>426,156</u>	<u>352,057</u>
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During the year the Trust was awarded a further £511,235 Condition Improvement Funding secured to replace the heating system at Lakeside Primary. Due to the timing of CIF announcements, the Trust has yet to complete the tendering process for this project.

19 Commitments under operating leases

Operating Leases

At 31 August 2022 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other		
Amounts due within one year	30,462	35,348
Amounts due between one and five years	<u>1,082</u>	<u>31,440</u>
	<u>31,544</u>	<u>66,788</u>

THE ROSE LEARNING TRUST (formerly Richmond Hill Primary Academy Limited)
Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31st August 2022

20 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities	2022	2021
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per statement of financial activities)	699,770	392,815
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation charges	739,431	666,264
Capital grants from DfE and other Capital Income	(2,231,667)	(996,484)
Interest receivable	410	228
Net Assets transferred from L.A	(201,501)	-
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	659,000	458,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	182,000	157,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(1,371,892)	(497,521)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	392,222	55,498
Net cash provided by / (used in) Operating Activities	<u>(1,132,227)</u>	<u>235,800</u>
21 Cash flows from financing activities	2022	2021
	£	£
Repayments of borrowing	(13,613)	(15,423)
Cash inflows from new borrowing	59,137	
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities	<u>45,524</u>	<u>(15,423)</u>
22 Cash flows from investing activities	2022	2021
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(410)	(228)
Purchase of Tangible fixed assets	(932,279)	(910,023)
Capital grants from DfE / ESFA	2,231,667	996,484
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	<u>1,298,978</u>	<u>86,233</u>
23 Cash transferred on conversion to an academy trust	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash transferred on conversion	-	-
Net cash flow on conversion to an academy trust	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
24 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	At 31 August 2022	At 31 August 2021
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>1,958,611</u>	<u>1,746,336</u>
	<u>1,958,611</u>	<u>1,746,336</u>

25 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash Flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash	1,746,336	212,275	1,958,611
	<u>1,746,336</u>	<u>212,275</u>	<u>1,958,611</u>
Loans falling due within one year	12,303	5,972	18,275
Loans falling due after more than one year	65,796	39,552	105,348
	<u>78,099</u>	<u>45,524</u>	<u>123,623</u>

26 Members Liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he/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.

27 Pension and Similar Obligations

The Academy'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 South Yorkshire Pension Authority (SYPA) for 6 of the schools and East Riding Pensions Authority (ERPA) for 1 school. Both are multi-employer defined-benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the year ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31st March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £222,528 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021: £209,973) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions 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 and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

27 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 specify the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,124,887 (2021: £1,161,082).

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 a multi-employer pension scheme. The Trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £909,966 (2021: £868,199) of which employer's contributions totalled £736,488 (2021: £704,620) and employees' contributions totalled £173,477 (2021: £163,579). The agreed employer contribution rates for future years range from 14.6% to 18.3% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

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

27 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	ERPA At 31 August 2022	SYPA At 31 August 2022	ERPA At 31 August 2021	SYPA At 31 August 2021
Rate of increase in salaries	4.10%	4.20%	3.80%	3.95%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.20%	3.20%	2.90%	2.80%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25%	4.25%	1.65%	1.70%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	-%	-%	-%	2.70%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	-%	-%	-%	50.00%

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

	ERPA At 31 August 2022	SYPA At 31 August 2022	ERPA At 31 August 2021	SYPA At 31 August 2021
<i>Retiring today</i>				
Males	20.8	22.6	20.9	22.5
Females	23.5	25.4	23.3	25.3
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>				
Males	22.0	24.1	21.8	24.0
Females	25.3	27.3	24.8	27.2

The Academy Trust's share of the assets and liabilities in the schemes and the expected rates of return were:

	ERPA Fair value at 31 August 2022 £000	SYPA Fair value at 31 August 2022 £000	Fair value at 31 August 2021 £000
Equities	918	4,996	3,984
Debt Instruments	172	1,428	1,601
Property	123	641	693
Cash/Liquidity	12	70	89
Other	-	-	1,359
Total market value of assets	1,225	7,135	7,726

The actual return on scheme assets was £139,000 (2021: £1,156,000).

27 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	(659)	(458)
Net interest cost	(182)	(157)
Past service cost	(0)	(0)
Total operating charge	(841)	(615)

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

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
At 1 September	18,066	14,881
Upon conversion	-	-
Current service cost	1,395	1,154
Interest cost	318	268
Employee contributions	171	164
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(8,399)	1,711
Benefits paid	(137)	(112)
Past Service cost	-	-
Curtailments and settlements	-	-
At 31 August	11,414	18,066

Movements in the fair value of Academy Trust's share of scheme assets

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
At 1 September	7,726	5,857
Upon conversion	-	-
Expected return on assets	136	111
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(272)	1,010
Employer contributions	736	710
Employee contributions	171	164
Benefits paid	(137)	(112)
Administrative expenses	-	(14)
At 31 August	8,360	7,726

28 Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trustees have an interest. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Miss Sarah Page (Trustee) is a Managing Director of Learners First Schools Partnership Ltd, a not-for-profit company established to operate school support and improvement activities as a teaching school, originally designated by the National College for Teaching and Leadership.

The Trust procured an annual subscription to Learners First for every school in the Trust to the value of £6,500, (2021: £8,000). SENCO Training to the value of £1,100 was procured in 2021, with £NIL spend in 2022.

As a not-for-profit organisation the Trust has been provided with a statement of assurance that services are provided at cost.

The balance owing to or from the Trust for Learners First as at the balance sheet date was £NIL, (2021: £NIL)

During the year all schools within the Trust continued to procure human resources services to the value of £21,031, (2021: £18,615) from Advanced HR Solutions Limited, a company in which Mrs Ellen Walker (Trustee) is a shareholder. The balance owing to Advanced HR Solutions as at the balance sheet date was £NIL, (2021: £NIL)

The Academy Trust made the purchase at arms' length following a competitive tendering exercise, which Mrs Walker neither participated in, nor influenced.

Services from Advanced HR are not provided 'at cost', however, they remain in line with the fees charged to all other schools in the region, giving Trustees assurance that the company does not unduly benefit from the related party. The nature of the related party is disclosed to the DfE annually. Prior year audits by the DfE have raised no concerns and concluded that conflicts of interest had been managed appropriately.

The initial contract for the year with Advanced HR was for £19,365, however additional safer recruitment training entered into by individual schools, increased total spend for the year above the £20k DfE threshold.

As a result of this, a further disclosure was made to the DfE and supporting evidence provided. The DfE compliance team recognised that the Trust had been transparent regarding the related party transaction, that the transaction was made at arms length and the Trust could demonstrate that Mrs Walker did not unduly benefit from the related party because fees paid for the service were benchmarked against those paid by all other trusts. However, the transaction was deemed to be in breach of Academy Trust Handbook requirements due to the following:

- the disclosure had not been made in advance of the transactions being entered into
- the Trust was unable to provide a statement of assurance regarding the at cost requirement

Mrs Ellen Walker (Trustee) resigned from the trust board on the 31st August 2022.

29 Contingent Liabilities

During the period of the Funding Agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a Government capital grant was received, the Academy is required either to re-invest the proceeds or to repay the Secretary of State for Education the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the Funding Agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the Academy servicing notice, the Academy shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- (a) the value at that time of the Academy's site and premises and other assets held for the Academy: and
- (b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement.