
WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Mr J Battle
Mr G Larder (resigned 7 October 2022)
Mrs V Key
Mr L Peachy (appointed 7 October 2022)
Mrs E Foster (appointed 7 October 2022)

Trustees

Mr J Battle, Chair
Mr J Corcoran
Mrs E Foster, Vice Chair (resigned 7 October 2022)
Mr K Innes
Miss S Wilkinson
Mr R Fayette
Ms H Fisher
Miss S Sturgeon (appointed 8 July 2021, resigned 4 October 2022)
Mr J Mason (appointed 28 September 2022)
Ms A Quadri (appointed 7 October 2022)

Company registered number

8053288

Company name

Wise Owl Trust

Principal and registered office

Briscoe Lane Academy
Briscoe Lane
Manchester
M40 2TB

Senior management team

Mrs S Murfin, Executive Principal/Chief Executive Officer
Mrs C Hall, Principal (Briscoe Lane Academy)
Miss D Frater, Principal (Seymour Road Academy)
Mrs H Brooker, Principal (Old Hall Drive)
Mrs D Ollerenshaw, Trust Finance Director
Mr J Timpson, Director of Education
Mr M Carson, Chief Finance and Operations Officer

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

Independent auditor

Crowe U.K. LLP
3rd floor
The Lexicon
Mount Street
Manchester
M2 5NT

WISE OWL TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The trustees, who are also directors for the purposes of company law, present their report and the audited financial statements of Wise Owl Trust ('the Company', 'Charitable Company' or 'the Trust') for the period from 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The Academy Trust operates 3 primary school academies in East Manchester. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 1,652 and had a roll of 1,534 in the schools' census in October 2022. The pupils are admitted on the basis of distance (closest) from each particular school. The schools feed a diverse area which includes extensive social housing and private owner occupier housing. A significant proportion of families are in the top 10% most deprived nationally at all 3 schools. It should be noted that the initial allocation of new pupils at the start of each academic year is administered by Manchester City Council.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Wise Owl Trust is a company limited by guarantee (No. 8053288) and an exempt charity in accordance with the Academies Act 2010. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association, dated 1st May 2012, are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The charitable company was incorporated on 1st May 2012, and the fully transitioned operations of Briscoe Lane School commenced on 1st September 2012 following a decision by the governing body of the School and acceptance by the Secretary of State for Education that the School become an academy as of this date.

Seymour Road Primary School became part of Wise Owl Trust on 1st February 2014, Old Hall Drive Primary School became part of Wise Owl Trust 1st February 2016 and the three Academies now form Wise Owl Trust. Briscoe Lane is a converter Academy, Seymour Road is a Sponsored Academy and Old Hall Drive Academy joined the Trust. All academies are for age 3-11 years.

The trustees of Wise Owl Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

b. Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member. The Secretary of State for Education can direct the trustees of the Trust in certain circumstances where the quality of education is deemed unsatisfactory.

c. Trustees' indemnities

There are no qualifying third party indemnity provisions. The Trust has purchased insurance to cover trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. Details of the costs can be found in note 11 of the accounts.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Members of the Trust are responsible for the appointment of Trust Directors except a minimum of two Parent Governors who will be appointed through an election process directed by the Local Governing Body. In the event that these positions are not filled, the members of the Trust are able to appoint to these positions.

The number of Directors shall be not less than three and shall not be subject to any maximum.

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

No formal policy has been adopted. Training requirements are discussed at directors' board meetings. During the year 2021-22, Trustees worked with a National Leader of Governance who carried out a full induction for Trustees and Governors. Training included: Safeguarding, Safer Recruitment, Health and Safety, Risk Management.

f. Organisational structure

The governance of the Trust is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the funding agreements with the Department of Education. In addition to the trustees (see above), Local Governing Bodies (LGB) have been appointed for each school within the Trust. These bodies will report to the Board of Trustees. The Trust receives regular reports from the Trust Finance Director on finance and related issues.

The Board of Trustees meets on at least three occasions per year.

The Trust board has determined that is it able to convene on a termly basis and maintain effective oversight, particularly as the Chair of the Board meets regularly with the CEO (Chief Executive Officer) to monitor progress and is kept informed of any pertinent matters which may arise from time to time. Trustees receive monthly reports via an online portal relating to the financial position and, from time to time, are provided with other relevant reports relating to matters at the schools which has continued to prove to be an effective way in which to keep Trustees informed between meetings, although it has been necessary previously for the board to hold meetings outside of its prescribed schedule. In these circumstances arrangements have been coordinated by the Clerk. Trustees are also encouraged to visit the academies at any time to meet with the Principals and other employees or simply to observe aspects of the school day.

The day to day running of the Trust is delegated by the trustees to management under the leadership of the Chief Executive Officer, who is the Accounting Officer.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

This falls within the remit of both, the Appraisal and Pay policies, the key management personnel are listed in the Reference and Administrative Information section.

The key management personnel will be appraised by the Trust, supported by a suitably skilled and/or experienced external advisor who has been appointed by the Trust for that purpose. The task of appraising the key management personnel will be delegated to a sub group consisting of at least two members of the Trust including the Chair of the LGB as appropriate. The Trust Chief Financial Officer is appraised by the CEO. The Trust determines the salary arrangements for the key management personnel and these are reviewed annually as part of the performance management process. Trustees including Chairs of LGBs, as appropriate, review performance against targets for any contractual bonus payments. This review has regard to the specific responsibilities of the role, the challenges that are specific to the role, sustained performance, the growth of capacity within the Trust and all other relevant considerations.

Trade union facility time

No time was spent on Trade Union Facilities Time.

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Although there are a number of professional links to other schools and third party organisations, the Trust is an independent company with no affiliation to outside bodies. The Trust also works closely with a wide variety of other bodies in the field of education. None of these organisations are considered to constitute formal related parties. The Trust declared three related party transactions in 21/22, these are detailed in note 27 of the Financial Statements.

Conflicts of interest

The Trust has a number of processes in place to manage conflicts of interest within the Trust. Firstly, at the start of each Board meeting, each participant is required to declare any conflicts of interests that they may have in relation to the meeting. Also, the Trust has a policy in place that sets out how the Trust manages conflicts of interest. Finally, the Trust requires all persons who has influence/control within the organisation to complete an annual declaration of interests and this is posted on the Trusts website.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Trust's objective is to give opportunity to all children irrespective of their background by providing them with a high quality, inclusive education combined with the life skills required to flourish in later life.

The Trust believes that all pupils deserve the best education. Pupils' should be enabled to follow the trust motto of **'Together Everyone Achieves More'**. Our mission is to **commit to every child and every family; removing barriers, raising aspirations and building futures.**

The Trust is committed to supporting the local community that each academy serves by putting the school at the heart and ensuring civic leadership is at the core of our strategic vision.

As a Trust we believe that we have a moral duty to our existing school families and staff to ensure that any future growth plan supports and strengthens our existing Trust whilst balancing this with supporting other schools to offer a 'Good' or better education.

The Trust's approach to this strategy includes ensuring the following:

- We provide an inclusive education for all
- Our pupils engage in their learning by offering a broad and inspirational curriculum offer
- Our pupils achieve their potential through high quality teaching and learning provision equipping them with the necessary skills to be successful in the next stages of their learning
- We prepare our children for life to enable them to make positive contributions to society
- We are committed to supporting our parents and families
- We are committed to our staff
- A sustainable future for all with responsible spending
- Impact beyond the reach of Wise Owl into the local community

The Wise Owl Academies Trust Board of Directors will be ultimately responsible for the quality of teaching and learning within the academies and for ensuring that the academies achieves its challenging targets.

The Trust will have representation from the governing bodies and for the Chair of the LGB to sit on the Wise Owl Trust Board. This will ensure that there is regular communication between LGB and Board level so that any issues are dealt with promptly. In line with Appraisal and Pay policies the chair of the LGBs will form part of the pay review committee for the Principal of their Academy with other Trustees and an External Adviser. Governors will formally report back to the Board of Directors every term.

Wise Owl Trust is accountable to the Secretary of State for the performance of any of the schools in its trust and will use its emergency powers and override decisions by the LGB if required to enable more positive outcomes for the pupils' and stakeholders in its stewardship.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities (continued)

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trust's strategic objectives for the period ended 31 August 2022 were:

We provide an inclusive education for all

- To ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education through the development of a clear accountability system across the Trust which develops a collective responsibility for standards across all schools in the Trust.

Our pupils engage in their learning

- To support our children's recovery from COVID through good attendance (96% without impact of COVID) and good attitudes towards learning

Our pupils achieve their potential

- To continue to raise the standard of educational achievement of all students so that outcomes for young people in terms of progress they are making from 'entry to exit' are in line with or better than national averages.

We prepare our children for life

- Further develop the Wise Owl Well-Being offer for all

We are committed to supporting our parents and families

- Further support for parents through our Building Forwards Together Programme

We are committed to our staff

- To develop a Trust wide school improvement strategy which is clearly focused on improving outcomes and uses measurable impact to effectively hold other leaders in the Trust to account.
- To further develop the current succession plans within individual schools to create an effective talent management plan for emerging and senior leaders across the organisation so that the trust can deploy its most talented staff to work across more than one school.

A sustainable future for all with responsible spending

- To ensure that each academy has robust and sound finance including working towards/achievement of baseline reserve figure set by the Trust.
- To ensure where possible that each academy has a balanced or surplus budget (including revenue balances from previous years)
- To ensure that staffing costs as a % of both total income and expenditure does not exceed 78% across the Trust
- To conduct Trust and Academy business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

Impact beyond the reach of Wise Owl

- Have wider impact on the local community, taking forward innovative thinking and being system leaders

The objectives set above have been developed during the current period, a full review of the outcomes will be completed during the next financial year.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Public benefit

The Academy Trust directors have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The schools' catchment areas are as designated in the Admissions Policies and have not changed since academy status. School governors have reviewed the pupil admissions policies' and consider there to be no barriers to entry on the grounds of gender, ethnicity or family circumstances

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The strategic aims of the Trust during the year ended 31st August 2022 are summarised below with progress against each reviewed. Trustees are pleased to report significant progress.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

a. Key performance indicators

Strategic Objectives	Progress and outcome						
<p>We provide an inclusive education for all To ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education through the development of a clear accountability system across the Trust which develops a collective responsibility for standards across all schools in the Trust.</p>	<p>Clear accountability measures established across the Trust with expectations for impact. Wise Owl Trust has a bespoke curriculum for its Trust with a robust monitoring and evaluation schedule to ensure and assure that the pupils are learning more and remembering more.</p> <p>External quality assurance visits support the academies self-evaluation judgements of Good</p>						
<p>Our pupils engage in their learning To support our children's recovery from COVID through good attendance and good attitudes towards learning</p>	<table border="0"> <tr> <td>Briscoe Lane Academy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">93.75%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seymour Road Academy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">93.65%</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Old Hall Drive Academy</td> <td style="text-align: right;">94.04%</td> </tr> </table> <p>Wise Owl is happy with the attendance figures due to a range of challenges in 21/22. However, this remains a focus for improvement in 22/23.</p>	Briscoe Lane Academy	93.75%	Seymour Road Academy	93.65%	Old Hall Drive Academy	94.04%
Briscoe Lane Academy	93.75%						
Seymour Road Academy	93.65%						
Old Hall Drive Academy	94.04%						
<p>Our pupils achieve their potential To continue to raise the standard of educational achievement of all students so that outcomes for young people in terms of progress they are making from 'entry to exit' are in line with or better than national averages.</p>	<p>Outcomes for 2021/22 are in line with national and show good progress from the pupils starting points.</p> <p>Outcomes show that the academies are mitigating the impact of COVID-19.</p> <p>The Trust is pleased to report the data as shown, which has been gathered through a culmination of summative and formative assessment.</p> <p>There is a robust Trust Improvement Plan focussed on driving standards in the forthcoming year grounded in evidence based research.</p>						

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Strategic Objectives	Progress and outcome
<p>We prepare our children for life Further develop the Wise Owl Well-Being offer for all</p>	<p>Programme of study has now been adopted by over 1000 schools nationwide with Wise Owl Trust as a flagship school for Character Education and the CEO awarded Ambassador of Character Education by Birmingham University.</p> <p>Wise Owl Trust is a support hub for other schools nationally.</p>
<p>We are committed to supporting our parents and families Further support for parents through our Building Forwards Together Programme</p>	<p>Wise Owl Trust are committed to supporting the whole school community and has launched a Building Forwards Together programme which supports families and has 3 objectives:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To reduce sources of stress for families 2. To support parents to have responsive relationships with their children 3. To help parents gain basic skills and employment
<p>We are committed to our staff To develop a Trust wide school improvement strategy which is clearly focused on improving outcomes and uses measurable impact to effectively hold other leaders in the Trust to account.</p> <p>To further develop the current succession plans within individual schools to create an effective talent management plan for emerging and senior leaders across the organisation so that the trust can deploy its most talented staff to work across more than one school.</p>	<p>CPD (continued professional development) across the Trust has been well developed over the past year. Each school now has a CPD leader and the Trust have been working with REACH Feltham to develop its offer.</p> <p>Expert in Reading employed across the Trust and staff member working with Manchester Research School.</p> <p>2 new Lead Assistant Heads employed from within the school, along with one new AHT.</p> <p>Succession plans and pipeline of talent is part of the Trusts overarching strategic plan</p>

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Strategic Objectives	Progress and outcome
<p>A sustainable future for all with responsible spending</p> <p>To ensure that each academy has robust and sound finance including working towards/achievement of baseline reserve figure set by the Trust.</p> <p>To ensure where possible that each academy has a balanced or surplus budget (including revenue balances from previous years)</p> <p>To ensure that staffing costs as a % of both total income and expenditure does not exceed 78% across the Trust</p> <p>To conduct Trust and Academy business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.</p>	<p>All academies fully achieved baseline reserve figures set by the Trust for 2021/22.</p> <p>Internal audit visits identified strong working practice and procedures with regards to finance.</p> <p>All academies set surplus budgets using revenue balances from previous years in 2021/22.</p> <p>The staffing costs as a % of income and expenditure for 2021/22 was just below 70%</p> <p>The Central Services team are centralised and offer a variety of support services across the Trust. Leaders and Trustees have a clear understanding of our current levels of capacity and growth plan.</p>
<p>Impact beyond the reach of Wise Owl</p> <p>Have wider impact on the local community, taking forward innovative thinking and being system leaders</p>	<p>Wise Owl Trust is establishing itself as a civic institution through the Building Forwards Together Programme and is a system leader for Character Education.</p> <p>It is the ambition of Wise Owl Trust to now be a system leader for CPD.</p>

Early Years Foundation Stage

	BLA	SRA	OHD
	2022	2022	2022
Good Level of Development	61%	58%	63%
Prime Early Learning Goals	61%	72%	72%
Specific Learning Goals	70%	58%	65%

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Year 1 Phonics

	BLA	SRA	OHD	National	Mcr Average
	2022	2022	2022		
Expected Standard	78%	81%	71%	75%	73.1

KS1 Expected Standard

	BLA	SRA	OHD	National
	2022	2022	2022	
Reading	66%	62%	69%	67%
Writing	56%	58%	59%	58%
Maths	66%	62%	69%	68%
Science	63%	60%	72%	79%
Combined	55%	58%	56%	54%

KS1 Higher Standard

	BLA	SRA	OHD	National from FFT
	2022	2022	2022	
Reading	14%	8%	19%	18%
Writing	5%	8%	5%	8%
Maths	15%	13%	17%	15%
Combined	4%	3%	5%	6%

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

KS2 – 2021 OUTCOMES

	R/W/M Combined		Reading		Writing		Maths		GPS	
	<i>Expected Standard</i>	<i>Higher standard</i>								
BLA	60%	6%	70%	38%	68%	6%	72%	32%	73%	32%
SRA	64%	7%	73%	30%	66%	7%	75%	21%	75%	29%
OHD	62%	5%	78%	42%	67%	5%	75%	35%	80%	43%
National FFT	59%	7%	74%	28%	69%	13%	71%	23%	72%	29%

KS1 to KS2 - 2022 Progress Data

		2022
Briscoe Lane Academy	Reading	+1.2
	Writing	-0.2
	Maths	+0.8
Seymour Road Academy	Reading	+3.3
	Writing	+2
	Maths	+3.1
Old Hall Drive Academy	Reading	+4.1
	Writing	+0.9
	Maths	+3.4
Trust Average	Reading	+2.87
	Writing	+0.9
	Maths	+2.43

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Pupil Premium

Range of evidence to show the improved performance of Pupil Premium cohorts. This is particularly evident in EYFS and KS1 where successful in-class intervention and quality-first teaching has enabled teachers to close the gap and, in some cases, see PP pupils outperform their non-PP peers.

OFSTED Inspections

Seymour Road Academy	12 March 2019. 1-day short inspection - School remains Good
Old Hall Drive Academy	22-23 January 2019. Full Section 5 inspection - Good in all areas
Briscoe Lane Academy	13 September 2018. 1-day short inspection - School remains Good

The pandemic has slowed down the pace of inspection activity from Ofsted, so that the 'four-year re-inspection window' has been extended, initially by two terms. QA activity and subsequent CPD will continue apace in readiness for any inspection.

Attendance Data

Briscoe Lane Academy	93.75%
Seymour Road Academy	93.65%
Old Hall Drive Academy	94.04%

Permanent exclusions

The Trust is committed to an inclusive environment for all and thereby permanent exclusions are only ever used in exceptional circumstances.

During academic year 2021 – 2022 there were 2 x permanent exclusions from Old Hall Drive Primary Academy. Procedures were followed in line with national guidance.

b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies (note 1.2 in the financial statements).

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

a. Financial Review

For the financial period ending 31st August 2022, financial performance has been analysed.

All schools within the Trust finished the year in a healthy financial position that exceeded budget expectations due to committing reserves to a CIF bid that unfortunately was unsuccessful.

The main source of income for the Trust is revenue grant funding for individual academies received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of General Annual Grant and Pupil Premium grant which are shown as Restricted General Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

A number of other grants have been received (from both the ESFA and the Local Authority) with the most significant being as follows:

- Universal Infant Free School Meals – this is a grant to provide all children in Reception to Year 2 with free school meals
- Covid Recovery Funding – this is grant to support pupils whose education has been impacted by coronavirus.
- Supplementary Grant Funding – additional funding to provide support for the costs of the Health & Social Care Levy and wider costs.
- School-led Tutoring Grant – funding to provide financial assistance for tutoring interventions to support catch-up for lost education due to coronavirus pandemic.
- Early Years funding – this partially funds the provision of places for Nursery aged pupils.
- Higher Needs funding – this is specific funding to provide support for pupils who have an Education Health and Care Plan.

Seymour Road Academy have been working on a community project with the main overarching outcome to increase the number of children entering the Reception class showing a range of skills which we have devised to show 'school readiness.' Funding has been sought to run the programme with £100,000 from SHINE over a 3 year project (2021-2024), £12,500 from REACH Feltham who have supported with their leadership and expertise, £3,000 from ACEs and £9,900 from the Violence and Reduction Unit.

Funding is based largely on pupil numbers, and the key risk moving forward is a reduction in the number of pupils at schools within the Trust. It should be noted that the age demographic in East Manchester is likely to result in sustained pupil numbers in the two primaries in the short to medium term. The Briscoe Lane Academy has been on a rolling programme to increase PAN and became a 3 form entry by September 2021.

Expenditure across the Trust is typical for the education sector with the main area of expenditure being staff costs. The Trust had a large expenditure on supply costs due to staff absence, recruitment issues and catch up programmes. Some supply costs were also strategic in nature to cover short term vacancies/absences in order to evaluate future long term staffing levels.

Financial Strategy

The finance strategy of the Trust is to outline the factors to be considered, and the drivers which should inform spending decisions within the Trust. All expenditure should be directed towards furtherance of the educational aims of the Trust. In order to support these aims, funds will be directed as appropriate to the following areas:

- Maintenance

The trustees' policy on reserves is to strike a balance between financial prudence and achieving the Trust's objectives. It is acknowledged both that available assets should remain at a financially secure level and that current year government funding is to meet the educational needs of current year pupils.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The Trust has developed risk management procedures as outlined above and a formal review of the Trust's risk management process will be undertaken on an annual basis.

The Trust uses a variety of financial instruments, including cash and items such as trade debtors and trade creditors that arise directly from day to day activities. The main purpose of these financial instruments is to ensure liquidity for the Trust's operations.

b. Reserves policy

The level of reserves held at 31st August 2022 total £2,279,977 (excluding the fixed asset and pension liability reserves.)

Wise Owl Trust is committed to ensuring that the reserves that each academy holds gives a buffer to safeguard against unplanned events including uncertainty over future funding whilst ensuring that the majority of the income received is spent to meet the needs of the pupils of today to maximize their learning opportunities, to improve attainment and to provide educational environments that are stimulating and fit for purpose. The Trust recognises that these are aspirational reserves and will monitor each individual academy's reserves annually as part of the budget planning process. An individual academy may choose to build up higher reserves over a longer period of time in order to facilitate a larger project e.g. major refurbishment project or to safeguard over future uncertainties.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust has a comprehensive risk register and risk review process. The objectives will be to determine an approach, and where it is considered necessary put in place measures of control and mitigation in order to manage risk.

The principal risks are the loss of reputation, through falling standards, falling student rolls and failure to safeguard the students or a poor OFSTED report.

Key controls in place are:

- an organisational structure with defined roles, responsibilities and authorisation levels;
- terms of reference for the committees of the Governing Body;
- financial planning, budgeting and regular management reporting highlighting areas of financial risk;
- formal written and published policies for employees; and
- vetting procedures as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

The Trust's employees are members of two defined benefit pension schemes, the Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). The Trust has recognised its share of the LGPS assets and liabilities in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 102 Section 28. A deficit has been recognised at 31 August 2022. The TPS has been accounted for as a defined contribution scheme. Further details of the accounting policy adopted for each scheme are included in note 1 to the financial statements.

Due to the nature of the two pension schemes there is an underlying risk to the Trust which relates primarily to the uncertainty of the future funding requirements of each scheme, the results of which impact on the contribution rates for future employer contributions to each scheme. The Trustees have given due consideration to this risk.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

d. Investment Policy

A formal investment policy has been adopted by Wise Owl Trust and will be reviewed annually.

The aim of the policy will be to ensure funds that the Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested in such a way as to maximise the Trust's income but with minimal risk. The aim is to research where funds may be deposited applying prudence in ensuring there is minimum risk. The Trust does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather as a result of good stewardship and as and when circumstances allow.

The Trust will, after constructing and reporting forecasts versus budgets, consider whether it is prudent to deposit funds into an account where improved terms are offered. As improved terms are generally only offered where funds are invested for a fixed term, it may be prudent for the Trust not to invest funds in this manner.

Financial Oversight

As the Trust Board meets less than 6 times a year, the Trust has to ensure it has sufficient mechanisms in place to ensure robust governance and effective financial management is maintained. This is achieved by the management accounts being issued on a monthly basis to all members of the Trust Board. This ensures there is full transparency over the financial position of the Trust.

Fundraising

The charity had no fundraising activities requiring disclosure under the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016.

Plans for future periods

The Trust plans include:

- To provide a structure for continuous improvement and achievement at all key stages and the results to demonstrate year on year improvements.
- To continue to develop the wellbeing on offer for our pupils and expand even further to support staff and families
- To continue to strengthen the Trust board to ensure breadth of skills and no gaps in skill set.
- To seek opportunities for growth
- To review the capital spend across the Trust to ensure high quality learning spaces for all
- To identify professional development opportunities through the apprenticeship levy to upskill the existing workforce and make effective use of levy contributions.
- To develop the career pathways for all across the Trust
- To continue to develop the central services offer in readiness for growth

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Auditor

Crowe U.K. LLP, having expressed their willingness to continue in office, will be deemed reappointed for the next financial year in accordance with section 487(2) of the Companies Act 2006 unless the charitable company receives notice under section 488(1) of the Companies Act 2006.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on

14/11/22

and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Battle



WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of Responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Wise Owl 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.

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

The board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive 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 Wise Owl 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.

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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 3 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr J Battle, Chair	3	3
Mr J Corcoran	2	3
Mrs E Foster, Vice Chair	1	3
Mr K Innes	2	3
Miss S Wilkinson	2	3
Mr R Fayette	1	3
Ms H Fisher	3	3
Miss S Sturgeon	1	3
Mr J Mason	0	0
Ms A Quadri	0	0

In order to ensure greater rigour the Trust have undertaken a comprehensive internal audit programme through an external provider which focused on Audit arrangements; internal control; governance; budget planning, monitoring & reporting; purchasing; income; payroll and personnel management; cash control; risk management; assets; pupil premium and website compliance. The Trust is responsible for all strategic financial related issues.

All trustees receive monthly reports via Trust Governor website relating to the financial position and, from time to time, are provided with other relevant reports relating to matters at the schools which has continued to prove to be an effective way in which to keep Trustees informed between meetings, although it has been necessary previously for the board to hold meetings outside of its prescribed schedule.

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee is also a committee of the main board of Trustees and has comprehensive Terms of Reference informed by the Trusts Scheme of Delegation for governance. They meet at least 3 times a year.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
H. Fisher (Chair)	3	3
J Corcoran	1	3
E Foster	1	3
K Innes	2	3
Miss S Sturgeon	0	3

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Performance, Quality & Standards Committee

The Performance, Quality & Standards Committee is also a committee of the main board of Trustees and they meet at least twice a year. It has comprehensive Terms of Reference informed by the Trusts Scheme of Delegation for governance.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr J Battle, Chair	2	2
Mr R Fayette	2	2
Miss S Wilkinson	2	2

Review of value for money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the academy'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 has delivered improved value for money during the year by,

- The Trust has produced detailed financial analysis of how pupil premium funding was spent and its impact on outcomes
- Collaboration across the three academies with regard to sharing good and outstanding practice is an effective and efficient use of staffing resources
- The Trust has secured reduced costs for some SLAs and services through combined purchasing across the Trust and this continues to be a key focus moving forward to ensure value for money
- CPD is coordinated centrally to ensure that we achieve economies of scale and that new initiatives/ideas from training courses are cascaded down across the Trust schools.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy 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 Wise Owl Trust for the year 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 a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees.

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

The academy'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, Risk and Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- identification and management of risks, delegation of authority and segregation of duties

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ Redramber Ltd as internal auditor.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees, ' financial responsibilities

On an annual basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of Trustees through the board of Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities. There have been no material control issues arising from the internal audit and recommendations have been implemented where practicable to further strengthen the Trust's financial systems and procedures.

Review of effectiveness

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

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

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

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

14/12/22

and signed on

Mr J Battle
Chair of Trustees

Mrs S Murfin
Accounting Officer





WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Wise Owl Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy, under the funding agreement in place between the academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Trust Handbook 2021.

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

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



Mrs S Murfin
Accounting Officer

Date: 14.12.2022

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 14/12/22
and signed on its behalf by:

Mr J Battle



WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WISE OWL TRUST

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 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'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.

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WISE OWL TRUST (CONTINUED)

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WISE
OWL TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' responsibilities statement, 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 or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WISE OWL TRUST (CONTINUED)

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

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102). We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context were General Data Protection Regulation, health and safety legislation and employee legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquire of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the timing and completeness of income recognition and the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Board about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the ESFA, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

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. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) 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. In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or 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.

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 Auditor's report.

WISE OWL TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF WISE
OWL TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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 Auditor's 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.



Vicky Szulist (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

3rd floor

The Lexicon

Mount Street

Manchester

M2 5NT

Date: *15th December 2022*

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WISE OWL TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2nd October 2019 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 Wise Owl Trust during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Wise Owl Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Wise Owl Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Wise Owl Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Wise Owl Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Wise Owl Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 21 May 2012 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

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

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WISE OWL TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Crowe UK LLP

Reporting Accountant
Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Date: *15th December 2022*

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	As restated Total funds 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	71,344	71,344	1,397,182
Investments	5	407	-	-	407	2,138
Charitable activities	4	89,526	9,768,901	-	9,858,427	9,268,317
Total income		<u>89,933</u>	<u>9,768,901</u>	<u>71,344</u>	<u>9,930,178</u>	<u>10,667,637</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	6	-	10,231,317	607,541	10,838,858	9,842,205
Total expenditure		<u>-</u>	<u>10,231,317</u>	<u>607,541</u>	<u>10,838,858</u>	<u>9,842,205</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>89,933</u>	<u>(462,416)</u>	<u>(536,197)</u>	<u>(908,680)</u>	<u>825,432</u>
Transfers between funds	18	-	(205,363)	205,363	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		<u>89,933</u>	<u>(667,779)</u>	<u>(330,834)</u>	<u>(908,680)</u>	<u>825,432</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	6,368,000	-	6,368,000	(1,137,000)
Net movement in funds		<u>89,933</u>	<u>5,700,221</u>	<u>(330,834)</u>	<u>5,459,320</u>	<u>(311,568)</u>
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		145,090	(3,490,202)	13,628,196	10,283,084	10,594,652
Net movement in funds		89,933	5,700,221	(330,834)	5,459,320	(311,568)
Total funds carried forward		<u>235,023</u>	<u>2,210,019</u>	<u>13,297,362</u>	<u>15,742,404</u>	<u>10,283,084</u>

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

The notes on pages 36 to 67 form part of these financial statements.

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 8053288

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	As restated 2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	13,374,555	13,420,538
		<u>13,374,555</u>	<u>13,420,538</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	277,820	564,654
Cash at bank and in hand		2,622,103	2,256,259
		<u>2,899,923</u>	<u>2,820,913</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(569,234)	(543,895)
Net current assets		<u>2,330,689</u>	<u>2,277,018</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>15,705,244</u>	<u>15,697,556</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(139,840)	(55,472)
Net assets excluding pension asset / liability		<u>15,565,404</u>	<u>15,642,084</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / (liability)	25	177,000	(5,359,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>15,742,404</u></u>	<u><u>10,283,084</u></u>
Funds of the academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	18	13,297,362	13,628,196
Restricted income funds	18	2,033,019	1,868,798
Restricted funds excluding pension liability / asset	18	<u>15,330,381</u>	<u>15,496,994</u>
Pension reserve	18	177,000	(5,359,000)
Total restricted funds	18	<u>15,507,381</u>	<u>10,137,994</u>
Unrestricted income funds	18	<u>235,023</u>	<u>145,090</u>
Total funds		<u><u>15,742,404</u></u>	<u><u>10,283,084</u></u>

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 8053288

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

The financial statements on pages 32 to 67 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on
and are signed on their behalf, by:

14/12/22

J = Battle

.....
Mr J Battle

The notes on pages 36 to 67 form part of these financial statements.

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	20	682,634	560,422
Cash flows from investing activities	22	(415,424)	(350,114)
Cash flows from financing activities	21	98,634	(8,202)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,256,259	2,054,153
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	23, 24	<u>2,622,103</u>	<u>2,256,259</u>

The notes on pages 36 to 67 form part of these financial statements

WISE OWL TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

1.2 Going concern

The trust prepares three year budget forecasting which is updated and revisited regularly and identifies risks and how these will be mitigated. There is robust monitoring of budgets with regard to tracking income and expenditure against the budget, and monthly cash flow analysis. Strategic planning is performed to ensure that resources are allocated within each individual academies priorities and are affordable. There is collaboration across the Trust particularly with regard to staffing.

The trustees have set an aspirational reserves policy which outlines the Trust's expectations with regards to the building up of adequate reserves within individual academies which is reviewed annually. All of the academies within the Trust have healthy reserves.

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

• **Sponsorship income**

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

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure (continued)

• **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Taxation

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

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 50 years
Temporary property	- 25 years
Playground works	- 10 years
Furniture and equipment	- 5 years
Computer equipment	- 5 years
Long-term leasehold land	- 125 years

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 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.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.9 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the academy 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 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 risk specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

1.10 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 15 and 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Pensions

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy 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.

1.12 Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, 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 August 2017 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.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	42,840	42,840
Capital grants	28,504	28,504
Total 2022	<u>71,344</u>	<u>71,344</u>

	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Donations	117,098	117,098
Capital grants	1,280,084	1,280,084
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>1,397,182</u>	<u>1,397,182</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Funding for the academy's funding for educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
DfE/ESFA grants			
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	7,027,697	7,027,697
Other Government Grants	-	679,559	679,559
Pupil Premium	-	1,136,844	1,136,844
	-	8,844,100	8,844,100
Other Government grants			
SEN Income	-	245,526	245,526
Early Years Funding Grant	-	531,478	531,478
Music Grant	-	12,566	12,566
	-	789,570	789,570
Other income from the academy's funding for educational operations	89,526	82,731	172,257
Non-government grants			
SHINE grant	-	40,000	40,000
Other non-government grants	-	12,500	12,500
	-	52,500	52,500
	89,526	9,768,901	9,858,427

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Funding for the academy's funding for educational operations (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
DfE/ESFA grants			
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	6,649,427	6,649,427
Other Government Grants	-	679,964	679,964
Pupil Premium	-	1,048,333	1,048,333
	-	<u>8,377,724</u>	<u>8,377,724</u>
Other Government grants			
SEN Income	-	209,722	209,722
Early Years Funding Grant	-	432,508	432,508
Music Grant	-	10,616	10,616
	-	<u>652,846</u>	<u>652,846</u>
Other income from the academy's funding for educational operations	<u>128,947</u>	-	<u>128,947</u>
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	108,800	108,800
	-	<u>108,800</u>	<u>108,800</u>
	<u>128,947</u>	<u>9,139,370</u>	<u>9,268,317</u>

Following the reclassification in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21 of some grants received from the Department of Education and ESFA, the academy's funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals and Pupil Premium is no longer reported under the Other DfE Group grants heading, but as separate lines under the Other DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

The Trust received £108,800 of funding for catch-up premium which was all spent in the year.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Investment income	407	407	2,138

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Funding for educational operations:				
Direct costs	4,454,145	-	983,350	5,437,495
Allocated support costs	3,297,000	1,109,009	995,354	5,401,363
Total 2022	7,751,145	1,109,009	1,978,704	10,838,858

	Staff Costs 2021 £	As restated Premises 2021 £	Other 2021 £	As restated Total 2021 £
Funding for educational operations:				
Direct costs	4,378,906	-	728,010	5,106,916
Allocated support costs	2,980,505	887,688	867,096	4,735,289
<i>Total 2021 as restated</i>	<i>7,359,411</i>	<i>887,688</i>	<i>1,595,106</i>	<i>9,842,205</i>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Funding for educational operations	<u>5,437,495</u>	<u>5,401,363</u>	<u>10,838,858</u>
	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2021 £</i>	<i>As restated Support costs 2021 £</i>	<i>As restated Total funds 2021 £</i>
Funding for educational operations	<u>5,106,916</u>	<u>4,735,289</u>	<u>9,842,205</u>

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	4,454,145	4,335,466
Educational supplies	747,282	477,259
Staff development	37,840	55,529
Other direct costs	198,228	238,662
Total 2022	<u><u>5,437,495</u></u>	<u><u>5,106,916</u></u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2022 £	<i>As restated Total funds 2021 £</i>
Staff costs	2,559,000	2,521,945
LGPS actuarial valuation pension cost	738,000	502,000
Depreciation	440,057	400,560
School uniform fees	10,939	13,127
Maintenance of premises and equipment	286,928	166,143
Cleaning	81,438	51,173
Light and heat	156,258	94,112
Rent and rates	149,894	162,110
Insurance	66,446	61,652
Communication and administrative costs	72,247	62,956
Catering	504,812	392,060
IT support costs	98,812	89,215
Legal and professional	115,339	127,948
Governance costs	27,193	24,288
LGPS finance costs	94,000	66,000
Total 2022	5,401,363	4,735,289

8. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
Owned by the charity	401,521	394,994
Auditor's remuneration - audit	14,440	13,390
Auditor's remuneration - other services	2,130	5,150

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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9. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	5,095,658	5,044,745
Social security costs	466,907	456,612
Pension costs	1,778,966	1,533,460
	<u>7,341,531</u>	<u>7,034,817</u>
Agency staff costs	409,614	324,594
	<u>7,751,145</u>	<u>7,359,411</u>

b. Non-statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

During the year no settlement agreements were paid.

c. Staff numbers

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	85	90
Educational support	67	72
Clerical and administration	15	14
Premises	21	19
Lunchtime supervision	32	32
Catering	5	-
	<u>225</u>	<u>227</u>

d. Higher paid staff

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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9. Staff (continued)

d. Higher paid staff (continued)

	2022	<i>2021</i>
	No.	<i>No.</i>
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	3
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy was £571,992 (2021 £578,154).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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10. Central services

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

- Leadership support
- Governance
- Financial management
- HR support
- Estates management
- Procurement management
- Health & Safety advisors services

The academy charges for these services on the following basis:

This central service charge for this year was based on 4.5% of the academies GAG and Early Years' income.

The Academy Trust also had an additional optional charge for the following services:

- Staff wellbeing
- School improvement
- Professional services including Educational Psychology
- IT management
- Educational support

This additional charge is based on a charge of £125 per pupil.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Briscoe Lane Academy	219,689	232,885
Old Hall Drive Academy	155,967	167,941
Seymour Road Academy	157,855	170,376
Total	533,511	571,202

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL).

12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Long-term leasehold land £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2021	14,201,680	731,613	695,672	15,628,965
Additions	284,207	109,867	-	394,074
At 31 August 2022	<u>14,485,887</u>	<u>841,480</u>	<u>695,672</u>	<u>16,023,039</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021 (as previously stated)	1,698,162	465,738	-	2,163,900
Prior Year Adjustment	-	-	44,527	44,527
At 1 September 2021 (as restated)	1,698,162	465,738	44,527	2,208,427
Charge for the year	288,803	145,688	5,566	440,057
At 31 August 2022	<u>1,986,965</u>	<u>611,426</u>	<u>50,093</u>	<u>2,648,484</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2022	<u>12,498,922</u>	<u>230,054</u>	<u>645,579</u>	<u>13,374,555</u>
At 31 August 2021 (as restated)	<u>12,503,518</u>	<u>265,875</u>	<u>651,145</u>	<u>13,420,538</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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13. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The Prior Year Adjustment relates to the Long-term leasehold land which had not been depreciated since the start of the lease. This has had the effect of reducing opening reserves and net book value of fixed assets brought forward by £44,527. See note 17 for more details.

14. Debtors

	2022	2021
	£	£
Due within one year		
Other debtors	39,651	135,224
Prepayments and accrued income	238,169	429,430
	<u>277,820</u>	<u>564,654</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Other loans	22,468	8,202
Trade creditors	235,918	34,033
Accruals and deferred income	310,848	501,660
	<u>569,234</u>	<u>543,895</u>

Six Salix loans are due to be repaid semi-annually over the next 8 years. No interest is charged on the capital element of these loans.

One CIF loan is due to be repaid semi-annually over the next 10 years. Interest is charged on this loan of 1.85% on the capital element of this loan.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	<u>139,840</u>	<u>55,472</u>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

Between two and five years

Other loans	<u>79,733</u>	<u>38,100</u>
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Over five years

Other loans	<u>60,107</u>	<u>17,372</u>
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17. Prior year adjustments

An adjustment has been made to the prior year due to the Long-term leasehold land not being depreciated across the life of the lease. This adjustment has been reflected in the following areas:

- Long-term leasehold land depreciation brought forward - £44,527
- Prior year depreciation charge - £5,566
- Restricted fixed asset funds brought forward - £44,527
- Prior year restricted fixed asset funds brought forward - £38,961
- Prior year restricted fixed asset funds expenditure - £5,566

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	145,090	89,933	-	-	-	235,023
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	831,705	7,010,750	(6,478,216)	(353,752)	-	1,010,487
Pupil Premium	-	1,094,248	(1,094,248)	-	-	-
Early Years Funding	-	62,189	(62,189)	-	-	-
Music Grant	-	12,566	(12,566)	-	-	-
SEN Funding	-	245,526	(245,526)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	1,208,391	(1,208,391)	-	-	-
Other school income	-	95,231	(95,231)	-	-	-
School improvement fund	1,037,093	-	(185,482)	(851,611)	-	-
SHINE grant	-	40,000	(17,468)	-	-	22,532
Growth strategy fund	-	-	-	275,000	-	275,000
Climate fund	-	-	-	125,000	-	125,000
IT development fund	-	-	-	75,000	-	75,000
Trust project fund	-	-	-	25,000	-	25,000
Capital development fund	-	-	-	500,000	-	500,000
Pension reserve	(5,359,000)	-	(832,000)	-	6,368,000	177,000
	<u>(3,490,202)</u>	<u>9,768,901</u>	<u>(10,231,317)</u>	<u>(205,363)</u>	<u>6,368,000</u>	<u>2,210,019</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Transfer of land and buildings	13,326,803	-	(429,826)	205,363	-	13,102,340
Capital Maintenance Fund	207,715	-	(117,223)	-	-	90,492
Devolved Formula Capital	-	28,504	(28,504)	-	-	-
Donated assets	93,678	42,840	(31,988)	-	-	104,530
	<u>13,628,196</u>	<u>71,344</u>	<u>(607,541)</u>	<u>205,363</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,297,362</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>10,137,994</u>	<u>9,840,245</u>	<u>(10,838,858)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,368,000</u>	<u>15,507,381</u>
Total funds	<u><u>10,283,084</u></u>	<u><u>9,930,178</u></u>	<u><u>(10,838,858)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>6,368,000</u></u>	<u><u>15,742,404</u></u>

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

Restricted Funds

The General Annual Grant (GAG) is used specifically for the normal running costs incurred in delivering the objects of the Academy as set out in the Company's Articles.

The other funds identified within restricted general funds are spent in line with the criteria attached to them.

In the year there was a transfer from the School improvement fund and GAG fund in order to redesignate these amounts in line with the Trust's long term strategic plan.

Growth strategy fund

The Trust has allocated £275,000 to assist in the growth of the Trust in future years. These costs will include (but not exclusively) items such as legal & professional fees, consultancy advice and communication costs.

Climate fund

The fund has been allocated an amount of £125,000 to be used to promote environmentally sustainable and "green agenda" items projects throughout the Trust.

IT development fund

An amount of £75,000 is allocated to fund both development of existing systems and potential new items. This will include both hardware & software items.

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

Trust project fund

An amount of £25,000 has been allocated to fund Trust projects which will predominantly be aimed at development and support for the employees across the Trust.

Capital development fund

The Trust have designated £500,000 for the various upcoming projects across the Trust.

Restricted fixed asset funds

The transfer of land and buildings represents the value of the land and buildings transferred freehold to the Academy upon conversion, less depreciation.

The other funds identified within restricted fixed asset funds are spent in line with the criteria attached to them.

Unrestricted funds

Unrestricted funds are those other resources which may be used to further the objectives of the Academy.

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2020</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>As restated Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	60,803	131,085	-	(46,798)	-	145,090
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	537,489	6,649,427	(6,355,211)	-	-	831,705
Pupil Premium	-	1,048,333	(1,048,333)	-	-	-
Early Years Funding	-	432,508	(432,508)	-	-	-
Music Grant	-	10,616	(10,616)	-	-	-
SEN Funding	-	209,722	(209,722)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	679,964	(679,964)	-	-	-
School improvement fund	1,142,000	-	-	(104,907)	-	1,037,093
COVID 19 Catch Up Premium	-	108,800	(108,800)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,654,000)	-	(568,000)	-	(1,137,000)	(5,359,000)
	<u>(1,974,511)</u>	<u>9,139,370</u>	<u>(9,413,154)</u>	<u>(104,907)</u>	<u>(1,137,000)</u>	<u>(3,490,202)</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>As restated Balance at 1 September 2020</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>As restated Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>As restated Balance at 31 August 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Transfer of land and buildings	12,448,810	-	(377,141)	1,255,134	-	13,326,803
Capital Maintenance Fund	59,550	1,251,594	-	(1,103,429)	-	207,715
Devolved Formula Capital	-	28,490	(28,490)	-	-	-
Donated assets	-	117,098	(23,420)	-	-	93,678
	<u>12,508,360</u>	<u>1,397,182</u>	<u>(429,051)</u>	<u>151,705</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,628,196</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>10,533,849</u>	<u>10,536,552</u>	<u>(9,842,205)</u>	<u>46,798</u>	<u>(1,137,000)</u>	<u>10,137,994</u>
Total funds	<u><u>10,594,652</u></u>	<u><u>10,667,637</u></u>	<u><u>(9,842,205)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(1,137,000)</u></u>	<u><u>10,283,084</u></u>

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Briscoe Lane Academy	908,445	908,241
Seymour Road Academy	741,466	711,153
Old Hall Drive Academy	405,237	322,985
Wise Owl Trust	212,894	71,509
	<u>2,268,042</u>	<u>2,013,888</u>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	2,268,042	2,013,888
Restricted fixed asset fund	13,297,362	13,628,196
Pension reserve	177,000	(5,359,000)
Total	<u><u>15,742,404</u></u>	<u><u>10,283,084</u></u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £
Briscoe Lane Academy	1,778,483	1,159,716	326,736	730,988	3,995,923
Seymour Road Academy	1,188,555	803,423	148,229	614,593	2,754,800
Old Hall Drive Academy	1,282,556	928,086	126,295	388,710	2,725,647
Academy	4,249,594	2,891,225	601,260	1,734,291	9,476,370

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

	<i>Teaching and educational support staff costs £</i>	<i>Other support staff costs £</i>	<i>Educational supplies £</i>	<i>Other costs excluding depreciation £</i>	<i>Total 2021 £</i>
Briscoe Lane Academy	1,627,971	1,036,517	244,651	496,465	3,405,604
Seymour Road Academy	1,196,938	830,054	81,799	488,164	2,596,955
Old Hall Drive Academy	1,285,536	927,034	104,611	350,250	2,667,431
Academy	4,110,445	2,793,605	431,061	1,334,879	8,669,990

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19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,374,555	13,374,555
Current assets	325,362	2,574,561	-	2,899,923
Creditors due within one year	(90,339)	(401,702)	(77,193)	(569,234)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(139,840)	-	(139,840)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	177,000	-	177,000
Total	235,023	2,210,019	13,297,362	15,742,404

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	As restated Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,420,538	13,420,538
Current assets	145,090	2,468,165	207,658	2,820,913
Creditors due within one year	55,472	(599,367)	-	(543,895)
Creditors due in more than one year	(55,472)	-	-	(55,472)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(5,359,000)	-	(5,359,000)
Total	145,090	(3,490,202)	13,628,196	10,283,084

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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20. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022	<i>As restated</i>
	£	2021 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(908,680)	825,432
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	440,057	400,560
Interest receivable	(407)	(2,138)
(Decrease)/Increase in creditors	11,073	114,417
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	286,834	(325,807)
Capital grants from DfE	21,757	(1,020,042)
Defined benefit pension scheme	832,000	568,000
Net cash provided by operating activities	682,634	560,422

21. Cash flows from financing activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Repayments of borrowings	(10,604)	(8,202)
New Salix and CIF loans	109,238	-
Net cash provided by/(used in) financing activities	98,634	(8,202)

22. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest	407	2,138
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(394,074)	(1,372,294)
Capital grants from DfE Group	(21,757)	1,020,042
Net cash used in investing activities	(415,424)	(350,114)

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash at bank	2,622,103	2,256,259
Total cash and cash equivalents	2,622,103	2,256,259

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	2,256,259	365,844	2,622,103
Debt due within 1 year	(8,202)	(14,266)	(22,468)
Debt due after 1 year	(55,472)	(84,368)	(139,840)
	2,192,585	267,210	2,459,795

25. Pension commitments

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 Tameside MBC. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £703,000 (2021 - £682,000).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £458,000 (2021 - £462,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £339,000 (2021 - £350,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 109,000 (2021 - £112,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.5% per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5% per cent for employees.

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

Greater Manchester Pension Fund

	2022	2021
	%	%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65
Rate of increase in salaries	3.8	3.65
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.05	2.9
Inflation assumption (CPI)	3.05	2.9
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	55	55

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.3	20.5
Females	23.2	23.3
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	21.6	21.9
Females	25.1	25.3

Sensitivity analysis

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Discount rate -0.1%	180	321
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	269	471
CPI rate +0.1%	169	295
Salary increase +0.1%	13	21

Share of scheme assets

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Equities	4,754,100	4,552,520
Corporate bonds	964,600	961,800
Property	620,100	448,840
Cash and other liquid assets	551,200	448,840
Total market value of assets	6,890,000	6,412,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £(21,000) (2021 - £937,000).

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Net interest cost	94,000	66,000
Current service cost	1,077,000	852,000
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	1,171,000	918,000

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	11,771,000	8,622,000
Employee contributions	109,000	112,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(6,389,000)	2,074,000
Current service cost	1,077,000	852,000
Interest cost	203,000	154,000
Benefits paid	(58,000)	(43,000)
At 31 August	6,713,000	11,771,000

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25. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	6,412,000	4,968,000
Employee contributions	109,000	112,000
Contributions by employer	339,000	350,000
Interest income	109,000	88,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(21,000)	937,000
Benefits paid	(58,000)	(43,000)
At 31 August	6,890,000	6,412,000

26. Operating lease commitments

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Within 1 year	9,840	5,560
Between 1 year and not later than 5 years	24,167	16,888
	34,007	22,448

27. 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.

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28. Related party transactions

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

Although there are a number of professional links to other schools and third party organisations, the Trust is an independent company with no affiliation to outside bodies. The Trust also works closely with a wide variety of other bodies in the field of education. None of these organisations are considered to constitute formal related parties.

No other related party transactions have taken place in the period of account other than certain trustees' remuneration already disclosed in note 10.

Connected Parties

The following transactions have taken place between Wise Owl Trust and the following organisations in which a member of the local governing body has an interest. They are not considered to be related parties due to a lack of control at the Trust but are included for transparency.

In the financial year ended 31 August 2021, Wise Owl Trust incurred costs of £13,600 from Commando Joes Fun & Fitness Ltd, a company where a trustee was employed. The Trust had a long standing relationship with this company before the trustee joined the local governing body. There was a nil balance outstanding as at 31/08/2021. The trustee resigned from the local governing body on 26th March 2021 and there were no financial transactions with this company in the year ended 31/08/2022.

During the period, Wise Owl Trust paid £3,408 to CPOMS Systems Ltd (2021: £1,861), of which a local school governor at the Trust is a director. The balance outstanding at year end was £Nil (2021: £NIL).

During the period, a local school governor who is an employee of One Education become a trustee. Wise Owl Trust paid £143,566 (2021 - £107,143) to One Education, of which a trustee is an employee. The balance outstanding at the year end was £Nil (2021: £7,943).