Fioretti Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements Year ended 31 August 2023

Company Registration Number 10347700 (England and Wales)

Feltons Chartered Accountants

> Birmingham B1 3JR

Report and Financial Statements Year ended 31 August 2023

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Fioretti Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Reference and Administrative Details

Members Chair of Trustees: appointed 06.12.22

The Archdeacon of Birmingham: appointed 26.08.16 The Birmingham Diocesan Board of Flnance: appointed

26.08.16

Diocesan Director of Education: appointed 26.08.16

Vicar of Bournville: appointed 01.05.19

Trustees Giles Allen (Chair until 26.09.23): appointed 26.08.16

Philip Wood (Chair from 26.09.23): appointed 06.12.22

Nishat Azmat: appointed 26.02.19

Deidre Leeming (Vice Chair from 27.09.22): appointed

26.08.16

Claire Grainger (CEO/Accounting Officer): appointed

26.08.16

Georgina Edgar: appointed 01.05.19

Karla Mulrain-Gobbinsingh: appointed 08.06.21 Muhammad Qureshi: appointed 21.09.21

Company secretary S4S

Executive Leadership Team

Chief Executive Officer
 Headteacher: St. Barnabas
 Headteacher: St. Francis
 Claire Grainger
 Emma Grice
 Jessica Mattocks

Acting Headteacher: St.
 Emma Jones (until 31.12.22)

Francis

Headteacher: St. Mary's Joanne Booker
 Head of Operations Emma Washbourne

Company name Fioretti Trust

Registered Head Office c/o St Francis C E Primary School and Nursery

Teazel Avenue Bournville Birmingham B30 1LZ

Company registration number 10347700

Independent auditor Feltons

8 Sovereign Court 8 Graham Street Birmingham B1 3JR

Bankers Lloyds Bank PLC

PO BOX 1000 Birmingham B1 1LT

Solicitors Harrison Clark Rickerbys Solicitors

Oveross House Ross Park Ross-on-Wye HR9 7US

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report (incorporating a strategic report) under company law.

The multi academy trust operates three academy schools, all three are primary schools, with a nursery, serving catchment areas in Bournville, Erdington and Handsworth which are:

- St Barnabas CE Primary School
- St Francis CE Primary School and Nursery
- · St Mary's CE Primary Academy

They have a combined pupil capacity of 1128 and had a roll of 1063 in the school census on Thursday 5th October 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The multi academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the multi academy trust. The Trustees of Fioretti Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Fioretti Trust.

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.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the multi academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on multi academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10 million on any one claim.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Trust was incorporated when the Members agreed to create the Fioretti Trust company. The members then appointed a Board of Trustees to oversee the strategy and day to day running of the trust.

The trustees have an effective Scheme of Delegation, which includes delegating a number of their responsibilities to the Local Governing Body (LGB) of each school within the Trust. The membership of the Local Governing Body is also a delegated responsibility from the Trust Board and local governors are drawn from a number of backgrounds including staff and parents/carers and the local parish and diocese.

The trustees ensure that they are compliant with the Trust Handbook and use a skill set matrix to focus on the skills that are required before any new appointment is advertised and appointed. The Fioretti Trust is composed of trustees and governors who bring a diverse range of skills, experiences, qualifications, characteristics and perspectives and who are from different backgrounds. Any vacancy is fulfilled by following our Safer Recruitment Policy.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The Trust has a Service Level Agreement with Birmingham School and Governor Support, which is used for training and ad hoc support as required. Newly elected Trustees and Governors select specific training provided by a range of providers; including Birmingham LA, Birmingham Diocese and SIPs Education, in accordance with their needs.

The Trust's Head of Governance works alongside the CEO to ensure that trustees and governors are provided with opportunities to receive training in accordance with their role on the board or to fulfil any specific duty that they have responsibility for. The Trust uses resources from the National Governance Association to support induction and ongoing training. The Head of Governance provides termly training for trustees and governors along with bespoke training as required during the academic year. Any trustee (irrelevant of their experience of being a trustee) can request to attend training to support them in their role. Newly elected trustees attend induction training for new trustees, and in addition select specific training provided by trustee support in accordance with their needs. Any new trustee or governor is given an induction pack and assigned a mentor to support them through the first few terms in office. The Trust is a member of the Confederation of School Trusts, the National Association of Governance and the National College. These organisations are used to provide support and guidance to executive leaders, central team and governors/trustees as required.

Organisational structure

Decisions relating to the overall running of the Trust are reserved for the board of trustees with written terms of reference that delegate specific powers of authority to the Local Governing Body(s) and its sub-committees. The trustees also employ an external company for financial services, who provides the Trust with expertise, advice and financial scrutiny. The trustees additionally retain the services of an internal audit provider to help trustees assure the problity of their systems and transactions.

The board of trustees has established committees and appoints trustees to serve on each of the committees annually. The committees for the period of the report were:

- Finance, Audit and Risk
- Ethos and Achievement
- CEO Performance Management
- Pay Review
- Appeals
- Staff and Pupil Discipline
- Admissions

The written terms of reference of the committees include the monitoring of the preparation and management of the multi academy's budget and implementation of the multi academy's financial management policies, including risk assessment.

The board of trustees also appoints a responsible officer and this role has been fully implemented in accordance with the multi academy trust's financial procedures.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

All staff receive annual pay reviews following their performance management assessment. The Headteacher salary and performance is reviewed by the CEO, with a panel of governors. The school leadership team's salaries and performance are reviewed by the Headteacher. The Pay Review Committee, meet during the first autumn term (September), in line with the Pay Policy. The Pay Policy is adopted and ratified by the Trust Board on an annual basis.

The trustees have concluded that only the Trust Board are key management for Fioretti Trust; individual schools will have their own leadership teams.

The performance of the CEO is reviewed annually by the trustees. The trustees are supported in this role by an external advisor who is independent and whose services are paid for. Following the CEO's Performance

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

review the trustees will review the CEO pay. Annually, the trustees are diligent in a benchmarking activity, which is presented to the Board and minuted. This task is to ensure that the leadership scale for the CEO is fair and consistent in line with their duties and scale of pupils within the Trust.

Trade union facility time

Information in accordance with Schedule 2 of the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2018 is as follows:

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	
0	0

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There was one related party (or other connected organisation) during this period:

• Birmingham Diocese

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The strategic goal of Fioretti Trust is to embed the core PEACE values to develop efficient and effective systems to enhance the performance of all stakeholders. The focus is on the importance of each and every child in the trust; developing the whole child and providing a broad and balanced curriculum to all pupils in accordance with the funding agreement between the Trust and the Department for Education.

Objectives, strategies and activities

Fioretti Trust 2022/23						
Area for goal	Strategic objective	Action				
Strategic Objective 1: High-Quality and Inclusive Education	To further embed the culture of education equity; to provide all 1100 children in our schools, the same ambitious standards and to engage in high level attainment learning. This means that there will be no stereotyping or labelling disadvantaged	Head of School Improvement to commission external SEND reviews SEND Champion to facilitate network and liaise with IDEA working group Anti-racism policy and unconscious training to develop understanding of all groups of learners				
Strategic Objective 2: School Improvement	To raise attainment and continually improve pupil progress through increasing the quality of provision in all our schools; with a particular focus in Mathematics.	Head of School Improvement to work closely with the Action Plan led by the Maths Champion Maths initiatives across the Trust to support Maths leaders with Y4 Times Tables, EY number work, fractions and problem solving.				
Strategic Objective 3: Workforce/Leadership	Strategic Objective 3: To implement our bespoke Engagement Strategy as a tool for connecting with all stakeholders to enhance and improve our working and learning environments; with a particular focus on Sustainability and Climate Change.	Head of Operations to network with other colleagues (MATs) to develop connections and knowledge in this area. CEO and Head of Operations to work closely with trustees to embed the Engagement Strategy and update the Board on notable achievements.				

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Strategic Objective 4:	Strategic Objective 4:	· CFO to complete Level 7 CIPFA
i	To build a strong infrastructure which	Qualification
Finance & Operations	is financially viable, sustainable and	· Develop a strategy plan to ensure
	ethical.	processes and systems are in place as
l l		part of any growth in the Trust.
		Continue to provide relevant training for
		staff (finance responsibilities) and robust
		induction

Significant activities linked to the trust's charitable activities, and how they further its aims, have been:

The Trust aims to continuously improve all schools through:

- · ensuring that all teaching is at least good and often better
- ensuring that pupils meet their academic targets in reading, writing, maths and SPaG in line with the national expectations for progress and attainment
- · ensuring that behaviour and safeguarding is always good or better
- providing Value for Money from all expenditure of the school budget(s) conducting business openly, fairly and to a high standard complying with all statutory curriculum requirements ensuring that pupils leave Fioretti Trust as well-rounded global citizens and understand their responsibilities to each other and to those less fortunate through a thorough understanding of our values.
- The Inclusion, Diversity, Equity and Accessibility Toolkit has been developed to evaluate the learning
 opportunities across all schools in the trust:

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Fioretti Trust is an equal opportunity employer, and strives to give full and fair consideration to all applicants for employment, training and promotions, irrespective of disability, gender, race, colour or sexual orientation.

Strategic Report

The CEO has worked closely with the Headteachers to ensure that any changes made at individual school level or Trust wide have been implemented at a sensible and measured pace. The CEO, in her role as Accounting Officer, continued to manage the key financial risks to the sustainability of the Trust effectively and sensitively and has continued to develop the capacity and capability of key members of staff, who are becoming an increasingly effective resource for all of the schools to draw upon.

Where necessary, the Trust's Central Team has intervened quickly to support individual schools where operational challenges have arisen or where there has been a need for additional skills and expertise.

Through extensive work with the Local Governing Board's (LGB), the CEO and Head of Governance have continued to establish and nurture highly effective working relationships with the governors at each of the three schools, and this has helped to ensure that governors have an increased understanding of the strengths and areas for development within their schools. Each LGB has completed a review and these demonstrate the 'effective' work that these stakeholders undertake for their community. A consultation took place and as a result one of the schools has trialled a 'circle model' of governance (one LGB meeting each half term, with no sub-committees).

[&]quot;A working party driving Fioretti Trust to provide learning environments that are inclusive, diverse, equitable and accessible so that every child is heard. To provide consistency for each child to reach their potential"

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Achievements and Performance Statutory Data 2022-2023

	StBarnabas	StFrancis	St Mary's	Fioretti
Early Years				
% Achieving GLD	69%	79%	65%	71%
Phonics				
Year 1				
% Working At	82%	81%	79%	81%
End Of KS1 (retakes)				
% Working At	98%	97%	69%	88%
KS1				
% At Least Expected Reading(National 67%)	63%	77%	69%	70%
% Greater Depth Reading (National 10%)	20%	30%	24%	25%
% At Least Expected Writing (National 58%)	65%	67%	67%	63%
% Greater Depth Writing (National8%)	3%	10%	10%	8%
% At Least Expected Maths (National 68%)	78%	80%	81%	80%
% Greater Depth Maths (National 15%)	20%	27%	14%	20%
% At Least Expected R,W,M (National 53%)	53%	63%	67%	61%
% Greater Depth R,W,M (National 6%)	2%	10%	9%	7%
MTC				
% scored 25/25	27%	37%	27%	30%
% scored 20/25	64%	66%	64%	65%
Average score (out of 25)	20.6	21.1	20.6	21

KS2	National	St B	St F	St M	Fioretti
	Average				
% At Least Expected Reading	72.6	82	72	70	75
% Greater Depth Reading	29	27	52	26	35
Average Scaled Score	105.1		107	104	
% At Least Expected Writing	71.5	75	69	75	73
% Greater Depth Writing	13.3	0	10	0	3

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

% At Least Expected Maths	72.9	77	66	72	72
% Greater Depth Maths	23.8	32	21	21	25
Average Scaled Score	104.2		103	103	
% At Least Expected GPS	72.3	77	83	87	82
% Greater Depth GPS	30	32	31	49	37
Average Scaled Score	104.9		105	109	
% At Least Expected R,W,M	59.4	62	52	55	56
% Greater Depth R,W,M	7.9	0	10	0	3

Key performance indicators

Safeguarding KPIs	Fioretti	St Barnabas	St Francis	St Mary's
Single Central Record annual external audit is compliant.	RAG: Green Sept 2023	RAG: Green Sept 2023	RAG: Green Sept 2023	RAG: Green Sept 2023
Designated Safeguarding Leaders are fully trained every 2 years and regular refreshers are undertaken. DSLs deliver regular safeguarding & prevent training for all school staff.	n/a	RAG: Green	RAG: Green	RAG: Green
Section 175 audit to be completed within the specified timeframe, with no red action points. The action plan should be swiftly addressed and involve SLT + safeguarding governor.	n/a	RAG: Green	RAG: Green	RAG: Green
Termly (or more frequent if needed) Supervision meetings to held.	n/a	RAG: Green	RAG: Green	RAG: Green
Updated Safeguarding Policy is ratified by the Trust Board and uploaded on websites (schools and trust websites)	RAG: Green	RAG: Green	RAG: Green	RAG: Green
All schools will undertake an annual Fioretti Trust Safeguarding Audit; includes website compliance, policy procedures & training, behaviour, attendance, curriculum, e-safety, remote learning, health & safety and fire safety.	n/a	RAG: Green March 2023	RAG: Green March 2023	RAG: Green March 2023
Attendance figures should be at least in line with National or better. Permanent and fixed exclusions should be below national figures.	National: 95%	95% RAG: Green	96% RAG: Green	93% RAG: Amber

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

School Improvement KPIs	Fioretti	St Barnabas	St Francis	St Mary's
Schools are at least 'Good' or better (Ofsted)	External Review	Good October 2023	RI November 2022	Good July 2018
All teachers meet the Teacher Standards (but, if they are not, there is a package of support in place to support them, which can be evidenced)	n/a	Yes	Yes	Yes
Pupil Premium focus: monitoring, (of how additional funding is being used to support disadvantaged pupils) and an annual evaluation of the Pupil Premium strategy (evidence of impact).	External Review	RAG: Green December 2022	RAG: Green December 2022	RAG: Green December 2022
A SEND external review to be implemented on a 3 Year cycle.	External review	RAG: Green 3 rd July 2023	RAG: Amber 24 th May 2023	RAG: Amber 15 th June 2023
An annual evaluation of the Sports Premium strategy (evidence of impact).	n/a	Yes	Yes	Yes

- Direct costs as a percentage of total costs were 66.6% (2022 : 62.4%)
- Support costs as a percentage of total costs were 33.4% (2022 : 37.6%)
- Total payroll costs as a percentage of recurring income were 80.7% (2022: 83.4%)

Going concern

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

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Financial Review

The financial results of Fioretti (Multi Academy Trust) are detailed in the following pages. It is considered that the finances are sound and well established. The principal financial management policies adopted are laid down by the Academy Trust Handbook published by the ESFA and requirements as laid down by the Multi Academy's Financial Handbook.

The principal funding source is grant income from the ESFA. All expenditure of this grant income is planned to fulfil the objectives and strategies of the multi academy.

During the year ended 31 August 2023 total resources expended were £7,172,413 and the deficit of expenditure over income was £712,958 which included depreciation of £453,308

Reserves policy

The trustees continually monitor the reserves of the charitable company. This process encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams and the need to match commitments with income and nature of reserves.

It is the board of trustees' general policy to continue to build reserves which can be used for future educational purposes.

The multi academy had total funds at 31 August 2023 of £10,200,501 which included £328,986 restricted funds not available for general purposes of the multi academy trust, £516,715 of free reserves defined as unrestricted funds available for general purposes and £10,523,800 which can only be realised by the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

The balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds was a surplus of £845,701

In addition, the deficit on the restricted pension fund of £1,169,000 arises from an actuarial deficit on the local government pension scheme which will be dealt with as advised by the actuary. This will result in a cash flow effect for the academy trust in the form of an increase in employers' pension contributions over a period of years.

The trustees regularly review the level of reserves and aim to maintain them at a minimum of one month's expenditure. Budgeted expenditure for 2023/24 is £7,087,386 and hence the minimum target is £590,616.

Investment policy

Any surplus funds are invested with Lloyds Bank in a deposit account.

These investments are carried out in accordance with the powers vested in the board of trustees.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The trustees have considered the major risks and uncertainties facing the charitable company which include changes in legislation and regulations and cash flow management and have put in place procedures to deal with these matters.

Attention has also been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies in place, and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas. The Trust has purchased and is in the process of implementing an electronic MAT management system that will assist in recording and monitoring compliance and with reporting to trustees.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Principal risks and uncertainties (continued)

Monthly meetings to monitor the risk register take place. Headteachers have regular meetings with S4S to monitor income and expenditure. S4S consolidate their findings and during the monthly Accounting Officer Checklist Meeting, the CEO has an overview of the Trust's financial position. FAR Committee receive updates, both verbal and in writing, from S4S which reflect the work of the Headteachers, alongside the finance consultant as they strive to ensure value for money, maximising income.

Other key financial implications for the Trust include:

- Low birth rates in Birmingham continue to present a challenge for two of the schools. Each school has continued with its marketing efforts, particularly for nursery and reception cohorts and training has been increased to make all staff aware of the link between pupil numbers and funding.
- Energy costs have been challenging in a volatile market and have had a negative impact on budgets.
 The Trust's Head of Operation has worked with a DfE preferred framework to secure energy through a flexible basket for all three schools.
- The Trust's Central Team has expanded to ensure strength and close any potential succession risks

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the period was monitored by the Trustees. Each school within Fioretti prepares a termly report of all fundraising activities and this is presented to the Board within the CEO termly report.

Plans for Future Periods

The board of trustees have discussed, in detail, how they are now ready to develop and expand the Trust. They plan is to extend to reach a total of 3000 pupils over a period of 5 years. The trustees have invested in time to explore and develop centralised systems. Although, this is still on-going, the board has the confidence in their skill set and the operational systems now in place to embark on the expansion plan.

- Trust Board: Succession planning. To support and induct trustees in any new role within the Board and relevant committees; and to include trustee recruitment and new Chair of Trustees.
- Leadership structures to ensure that each school has a Headteacher; to enable the CEO to have greater time to develop the Trust, instead of leading an individual school.
- CEO to be networking, preparing key documents and developing the website to be ready for prospective schools.
- Developing the central team: roles and responsibilities of the Executive Leadership Team, to
 include further refining the School Improvement Offer (working in close collaboration with our
 Head of School Improvement and Head of Governance). Head of Safeguarding and Head of
 Ethos to be created and rolled out during 2023/24.
- Work towards completing any actions that have been identified by external advisors: to include internal and external audit, School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA) and Trust Reviews.

Trustees' report for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Whole Trust Key Priorities 2023/24

Following external reviews, for all schools, during Summer Term 2023, the common recommendations across the Trust have formulated our Trust Key Priorities:

- All learners with SEND across the Trust make good progress due to accurate identification and systems; high quality teaching and intervention; and excellent professional development.
- All to have high expectations for all learners to ensure that they reach their potential.



Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

Fioretti Trust does not hold any such funds.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 5th December 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Philip Wood - Chair of Trustees

Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2023

Scope of Responsibility

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Fioretti 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 Fioretti Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The **board of trustees** has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Giles Allen (Chair until 26.09.23): appointed 26.08.16	6	6
Philip Wood (Chair from 26.09.23): appointed 06.12.22	4	5
Nishat Azmat: appointed 26.02.19	6	6
Deidre Leeming (Vice Chair): appointed 26.08.16	6	6
Claire Grainger (CEO/Accounting Officer): appointed 26.08.16	6	6
Georgina Edgar: appointed 01.05.19	4	6
Karla Mulrain-Gobbinsingh: appointed 08.06.21	4	6
Muhammad Qureshi: appointed 21.09.21	3	6

The trustees are pleased to have welcomed Philip Wood to the board of trustees in 2022/23. Philip is a solicitor specialising in education law and the board of trustees is pleased to bring these skills to the Board.

The Board has considered its size and scope over the period. The Board has worked to establish itself and operate at an appropriate size and complexity considering both the actual size of the Trust and its ambitions for the future. The Board aims to balance the desire for an agile structure with an appropriate depth of knowledge and experience. Trustees recognise the need for further skilled individuals on the board and are actively recruiting.

The board of trustees has taken the opportunity over the last year to scrutinise reports and question senior staff over the collection and validation of data. Staff have been interviewed about data collection techniques and quality assurance. The Board has satisfied itself, as best it can, that staff are compliant with the data collection procedures within the Trust.

The Trust intends to complete its next self-evaluation /external review in Autumn 2023.

Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Review of governance

A review of governance was undertaken during the year (focus areas: NGA 21 Questions for a MAT board Q1 and Q9). As a result the trustees explored options to strengthen their relationships with the local governors of each school. This includes beginning a termly Chair Forum (LGB and Trustees), introducing termly governance newsletters and providing a bridge version of Board minutes.

The Finance, Risk and Audit committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to scrutinise and monitor financial procedures, policies and internal audit reports. The committee adheres to an annual schedule to ensure that they fulfil their duties as set out in the terms of reference.

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Nishat Azmat (Chair FAR committee): appointed 26.02.19	2	3
Claire Grainger (CEO/Accounting Officer): appointed 26.08.16	3	3
Georgina Edgar: appointed 01.05.19	3	3
Muhammad Qureshi: appointed 21.09.21	3	3

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the Multi Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Introducing a new business management system to track contracts, assets and other business activities.
- Using a DfE approved framework to procure the bulk of the Trust's energy supplies in a volatile market.
- Continuing to review external professional services with a view to bringing in house, alongside the Trust's growth strategy.
- Employing a new business manager at one of the larger primaries to drive efficiencies.

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 the multi academy trust's 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 Fioretti Trust for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 multi academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the multi academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees;
- regular reviews by the finance, audit and resources 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.

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint an internal auditor. The trustees have entered into a Service Level Agreement with an internal audit service from Services 4 Schools (S4S).

The internal audit role performed by S4S includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on Fioretti Trust's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- testing of the fixed asset inventory
- testing of purchases and contracts
- testing of procurement systems
- testing of personnel files

The internal audits completed by S4S in February and June were reported to the board of trustees via the Trust's Finance, Audit and Risk Committee. The 'Internal Scrutiny Report of Key Financial Systems' clearly identifies the areas of testing and employs a RAG rated system for clarity, alongside a more detailed commentary on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

During the 2022/23 period, all actions in the 'Summary of Findings' have been addressed and all red actions have been reassessed and achieved (June 2023).

Review of Effectiveness

As accounting officer, Claire Grainger (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 reviewer
- the work of the external auditor:
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process of the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the multi academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

Governance statement for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance, audit and risk 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 5th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Philip Wood Chair of Trustees Claire Grainger Accounting Officer

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance for the period ended 31 August 2023

As accounting officer of Fioretti Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the multi academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the multi academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the multi academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the multi academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the multi academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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

Claire Grainger – Accounting Officer

5th December 2023

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities for the period ended 31 August 2023

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgements 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; and
- 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 the 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 5th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Philip Wood - Chair of Trustees

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Fioretti Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Fioretti Trust (the 'multi academy trust') for the year to 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and 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 2022 to 2023 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 multi academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2023, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period then ended
- · have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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 multi academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

- Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the multi academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.
- Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Fioretti Trust (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees 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 matter 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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Multi Academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' 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
- 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.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Fioretti Trust (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement [set out on page 17], the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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.

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:

- We reviewed the multi academy trust's control and risk management procedures and planned our work based on our assessment of those controls and procedures;
- This review included an assessment of the risk of material misstatement due to errors, fraud and management override of controls for all material areas in the financial statements;
- We made enquiries of management and the multi academy trust's lawyers regarding any actual or potential litigation and/or claims;
- Financial statements disclosures were reviewed and checked for compliance with applicable laws;
- Detailed testing was conducted on balances and transactions including unusual items and those of individual significance to the financial statements;
- Data analytics were used in order to identify unusual or significant trends;
- Communications with management and those charged with governance regarding relevant matters was undertaken throughout the audit and on completion.

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

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or
 error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is
 sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement
 resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery,
 intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are
 appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the
 charitable company's internal control.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Fioretti Trust (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements (continued)

- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

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

Velton,

David W Farnsworth FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Feltons, Statutory Auditor 8 Sovereign Court 8 Graham Street Birmingham B1 3JR

18 December 2023

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 12 March 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Fioretti Trust during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 Fioretti Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Fioretti 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 Fioretti Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Fioretti Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated June 2014 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, 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 2022 to 2023. 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 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.

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 work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- · Consideration of the applicable legislation and the multi academy trust's funding agreement
- Review and evaluation of the Multi Academy Trust's system of internal controls
- Examination and assessment of the Accounting Officer's statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
- Examination, on a test basis, of third party evidence supporting income and expenditure
- Review of exceptional and unusual items

Fioretti Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Fioretti Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

David W Farnsworth FCA (Reporting Accountant)

For and on behalf of Feltons, Statutory Auditor 8 Sovereign Court 8 Graham Street Birmingham B1 3JR

18 December 2023

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 August 2023 (including income and expenditure account)

	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted pension fund	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total 2022/23 £	Total 2021/22 £
Income from :							
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities: Funding for the academy trust's	2	11,486	-	-	76,260	87,746	187,110
educational operations Investments	4	363,084	-	6,004,453	-	6,367,537	6,063,420
myesunents	4	4,172	-	-		4,172	60
Total		378,742		6,004,453	76,260	6,459,455	6,250,590
Expenditure on :							
Charitable activities: Academy trust educational operations	5, 6	273,267	21,000	6,424,838	453,308	7,172,413	6,936,720
Total		273,267	21,000	6,424,838	453,308	7,172,413	6,936,720
Net income/(expenditure) before transfers		105,475	(21,000)	(420,385)	(377,048)	(712,958)	(686,130)
Transfers between funds	14	-	-	(196,731)	196,731	-	•
Net income/(expenditure) after transfers	×	105,475	(21,000)	(617,116)	(180,317)	(712,958)	(686,130)
Other recognised gains/(losses)							
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	14, 22	-	1,365,000	-	-	1,365,000	3,949,000
Net movement in funds	8	105,475	1,344,000	(617,116)	(180,317)	652,042	3,262,870
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward	15	411,240	(2,513,000)	946,102	10,704,117	9,548,459	6,285,589
Total funds carried forward		516,715	(1,169,000)	328,986	10,523,800	10,200,501	9,548,459

The statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

All of the multi academy trust's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

Company number: 10347700 Balance sheet as at 31 August 2023

		20	023	20	22
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		10,523,800		10,572,858
Current assets					•
Debtors	12	424 400			
Cash at bank and in hand	12	431,460 1,201,007		555,028	
odon at Barnt and Itt having		1,632,467	•	1,446,613 2,001,641	i
		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,		2,001,041	
Liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling					
due within one year	13	786,766		513,040	
Net current assets			845,701		1,488,601
					1,100,001
Net assets excluding pension liability			11,369,501	·	12,061,459
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22		(1,169,000)		(2,513,000)
•				_	(-1-1-1-1-1-)
Total net assets		_	10,200,501		9,548,459
		•		•	
Funds of the academy trust :					
Restricted funds		,			
Fixed asset fund	14	10,523,800		10,704,117	
Restricted income fund	14	328,986		946,102	
Pension reserve	14	(1,169,000)		(2,513,000)	
Total restricted funds			9,683,786		9,137,219
Unrestricted income funds	14		516,715		411,240
Total funds		-	10,200,501		9,548,459
		=	10,200,001	-	0,040,408

The financial statements on pages 24 to 46 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 5th December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

Philip Wood - Chair of Trustees

Statement of cash flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	17	78,212	(144,280)
Cash flows from investing activities	18	(323,818)	138,225
		(245,606)	(6,055)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2022		1,446,613	1,452,668
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2023	19	1,201,007	1,446,613

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the multi academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (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 trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the multi academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the multi academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income

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

Grants

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the year 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.

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.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income (continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in 'Stocks' and 'Income from Other Trading Activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from Other Trading Activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from Other Trading Activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from Other Trading Activities'.

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

· Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

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 over its expected useful life as follows:

Freehold buildings

- straight line over 30 years

Leasehold and other property

- straight line over 30 years and 10 years

Furniture and equipment

- 25% reducing balance

Computer hardware

- 33% straight line

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

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

1.6 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered.

1.7 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.

1.8 Liabilities

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.10 Leased assets

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

1.11 Taxation

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

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

1.12 Pension benefits

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

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pension benefits (continued)

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme, and the assets are held separately from those of the multi academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income/(expenditure) 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 year 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.

1.13 Fund accounting

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

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

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

1.14 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

2. Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Capital grants	-	-	76,260	76,260	155,593
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	-	16,888
Other donations	11,486	-	-	11,486	14,629
	11,486	-	76,260	87,746	187,110
2022 total	14,629	-	172,481	187,110	

3. Funding for the multi academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
DfE/ESFA grants					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	4,657,781	-	4,657,781	4,568,659
Other DfE/ESFA grants					
Pupil premium	-	406,602	-	406,602	391,724
Supplementary grant	-	135,586	-	135,586	56,494
UIFSM	-	129,587	-	129,587	133,695
Mainstream schools grant	-	66,811	-	66,811	-
Sports premium	-	56,800	-	56,800	56,770
Others		43,122		43,122	62,692
	- -	5,496,289		5,496,289	5,270,034
Other government grants					
Local authority grants	-	468,093		468,093	477,084
	-	468,093	-	468,093	477,084
Other income from the academy					
trust's educational operations Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA	363,084)	-	-	363,084	275,846
Recovery premium	, 	40,071		40,071	40,456
-	363,084	508,164	-	871,248	793,386
-	363,084	6,004,453		6,367,537	6,063,420
2022 total	275,846	5,787,574		6,063,420	

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

4. Investment income

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Short term deposits		4,172		4,172	60_
2022 total		60		60	
5. Expenditure					
	Staff	Non pay ex	penditure	2022/23	2021/22
	costs	Premises	Other	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	4,194,064	177,965	404,216	4,776,245	4,326,559
Allocated support costs	1,018,599	758,604	618,965	2,396,168	2,610,161
	5,212,663	936,569	1,023,181	7,172,413	6,936,720
2022 total	5,210,440	769,096	957,184	6,936,720	
Net income/(expenditure) for the period	I includes :			2022/23	2021/22
				£	£
Operating leases	 plant and ma 	chinery		14,540	9,560
Depreciation	= =			453,308	443,148
Fees payable to auditor	- audit		,	14,050	12,650

6. Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension fund	Other restricted funds	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Educational operations					
Direct costs					
Educational operations	66,878	-	4,709,367	4,776,245	4,326,559
Support costs					
Educational operations	206,389	21,000	2,168,779	2,396,168	2,610,161
	273,267	21,000	6,878,146	7,172,413	6,936,720
2022 total	233,824	407,000	6,295,896	6,936,720	

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

6. Charitable activities (continued)

	Educational operations £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Support staff costs	1,018,599	1,018,599	1,407,250
Depreciation	275,343	275,343	294,479
Technology costs	68,394	68,394	60,187
Premises costs	497,801	497,801	335,507
Legal costs - other	11,089	11,089	850
Other support costs	503,885	503,885	494,563
Governance costs	21,057	21,057	17,325
Total support costs	2,396,168	2,396,168	2,610,161
2022 total	2,610,161	2,610,161	

7. Staff

a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Wages and salaries	3,448,536	3,329,564
Social security costs	341,892	319,275
Pension costs	871,108	1,278,373
	4,661,536	4,927,212
Agency staff costs	551,127_	283,228
	5,212,663	5,210,440

b) Staff numbers

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

year was as follows:	2022/23 Number	2021/22 Number
Teachers	49	49
Administration and support	82	93
Management	4	4
	135	146

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

7. Staff (continued)

c) Higher paid staff

	2022/23 Number	2021/22 Number
The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension		
costs) exceeded £60,000 on an annualised basis was :		
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1
£70,001 - £80,000	2	2
£80,001 - £90,000	1	_
£90,001 - £100,000	-	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	_

d) Key management personnel

St Mary's C of E Primary and Nursery School, Handsworth

The key management personnel of the multi academy trust 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 multi academy trust was £470,601 (2022: £422,994).

8. Central services

Category

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

Central support costs	5% of general annual grant and early years funding		
The actual amounts charged during the year were as fol	llows : 2022 £	2/23 2021/22 £	<u>?</u>
St Francis Church of England Aided Primary School and	d Nursery 53	3,272 51,9	45
Saint Barnabas Church of England Primary School	100	0,173 95,84	42

Basis

94,636

248,081

97,907

245,694

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

9. Related Party Transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the multi academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

Claire Grainger (Chief Executive Officer and Trustee)

Remuneration £100,000 - £105,000 (2022 : £90,000 - £95,000)
Employer's pension contributions paid £20,000 - £25,000 (2022 : £20,000 - £25,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2023 no trustees were reimbursed or paid travel and subsistence expenses (2022:£50 was paid to two trustees).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 23

10. Trustees' and officers' insurance

The academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects 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.

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Leasehold and other property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer hardware £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2022	335,200	11,633,727	186,961	235,312	12,391,200
Additions		145,017	216,886	42,347	404,250
At 31 August 2023	335,200	11,778,744	403,847	277,659	12,795,450
Depreciation At 1 September 2022 Charge for the year At 31 August 2023	54,237 9,167 63,404	1,448,754 370,411 1,819,165	138,190 31,761 169,951	177,161 41,969 219,130	1,818,342 453,308 2,271,650
Net book values					
At 31 August 2023	271,796	9,959,579	233,896	58,529	10,523,800
At 31 August 2022	280,963	10,184,973	48,771	58,151	10,572,858

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

11. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

The school sites are a combination of freehold land and buildings registered in the name of the Fioretti Trust and land and buildings referred to as 'Other Property' which is made available to the trust for an indefinite period under supplemental agreement between the Church of England, the Fioretti Trust and the Department of Education. The trustees have capitalised the value of all the property based on a valuation as at 1 February 2013, 1 October 2016 and 1 October 2019 and of the whole sites by DVS Property Specialists for the public sector, at £2,691,660, £3,128,470 and £5,554,000 respectively which includes £952,000 in respect of land. The buildings are being written off over a period of 30 years.

12. Debtors	2023 £	2022 £
Debtors from operations	240	403
VAT recoverable	58,594	51,379
Prepayments and accrued income	372,626	503,246
,	431,460	555,028
13. Creditors	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts falling due within one year :		
Craditors from aparations	269,729	100 005
Creditors from operations Other taxation and social security	163,331	122,305 166,816
Accruals and deferred income	352,991	223,473
Other creditors	715	446
Stroi distalci	786,766	513,040
		0.10,0.10
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	93,183	89,528
Resources deferred in the year	117,713	93,183
Amounts released from previous years	(93,183)	(89,528)
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	117,713	93,183

At the balance sheet date the multi academy trust was holding funds received in advance for Universal Free School Meals, ESFA rates relief, Educational visits and National Tutoring Programme.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14. Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	946,102	4,657,781	(5,078,166)	(196,731)	328,986
UIFSM	-	129,587	(129,587)	-	_
Pupil premium	-	406,602	(406,602)	-	-
Recovery premium	-	40,071	(40,071)	-	-
Other grants		770,412	(770,412)		-
	946,102	6,004,453	_(6,424,838)	(196,731)	328,986
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	7,746,546		(370,410)		7 070 400
Transfer of existing academy	2,706,457	-	(69,448)	-	7,376,136
	· ·	70.000	, , ,	-	2,637,009
DfE Group capital grants	217,605	76,260	(7,542)	-	286,323
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,685	-	(5,091)	196,731	193,325
Donations	31,824		(817)	-	31,007
	10,704,117	76,260	(453,308)	196,731	10,523,800
Pension reserve	(2,513,000)		(21,000)	1,365,000	(1,169,000)
Total restricted funds	9,137,219	6,080,713	(6,899,146)	1,365,000	9,683,786
Unrestricted funds					
Other income	411,240	378,742	(273,267)		516,715
Total unrestricted funds	411,240	378,742	(273,267)		516,715
Total funds	9,548,459	6,459,455	(7,172,413)	1,365,000	10,200,501

Restricted general funds

These comprise all restricted funds other than restricted fixed asset funds and include grants from The Education and Skills Funding Agency and Birmingham City Council.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the multi academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

Unrestricted funds

These comprise resources that may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the multi academy trust at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted fixed asset funds

These comprise resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the ESFA and Birmingham Diocese of the Church of England where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14. Funds (continued)

Comparative information in respect of the preceding period is as follows :	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	996,944	4,568,659	(4,633,832)	14,331	946,102
UIFSM	-	133,695	(133,695)	-	-
Pupil premium Recovery premium	-	391,724 40,456	(391,724)	-	-
Other grants	-	653,040	(40,456) (653,040)	-	-
	996,944	5,787,574	(5,852,747)	14,331	946,102
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	8,116,159	-	(369,613)	_	7,746,546
Transfer of existing academy	2,776,876	-	(70,419)	_	2,706,457
DfE Group capital grants	78,972	155,593	(2,245)	(14,715)	217,605
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,345	-	(44)	384	1,685
Donations	15,764	16,888	(828)		31,824
	10,989,116	172,481	(443,149)	(14,331)	10,704,117
Pension reserve	(6,055,000)	-	(407,000)	3,949,000	(2,513,000)
Total restricted funds	5,931,060	5,960,055	(6,702,896)	3,949,000	9,137,219
Unrestricted funds					
Other income	354,529	290,535	(233,824)		411,240
Total unrestricted funds	354,529	290,535	(233,824)		411,240
Total funds	6,285,589	6,250,590	(6,936,720)	3,949,000	9,548,459
Total funds analysis by academy					
. , ,				2022/23	2021/22
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were a	llocated as follow	vs:		Total	Total
				£	£
St Francis Church of England Aided Prim		Nursery		37,926	275,547
Saint Barnabas Church of England Prima		_		178,657	216,813
St Mary's C of E Primary and Nursery Sch Trust	iooi, mandswortr	l		583,751 45,367	813,074
Total before fixed assets and pension res	erve			845,701	51,908 1,357,342
				,	.,00.,012
Restricted fixed asset fund				10,523,800	10,704,117
Pension reserve				(1,169,000)	(2,513,000)
Total funds				10,200,501	9,548,459

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14. Funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching & educational support staff costs	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation)	Total 2022/23 £
St Francis Church of England Aided Primary School and Nursery	848,726	269,799	35,181	351.731	1,505,437
Saint Barnabas Church of England Primary School	1.667,250	474.831	80.929	407.570	
St Mary's C of E Primary and Nursery	1,007,230	474,031	60,929	407,570	2,630,580
School, Handsworth	1,492,513	273,969	56,807	492,844	2,316,133
Trust	185,575		1,808	79,572	266,955
Academy trust	4,194,064	1,018,599	174,725	1,331,717	6,719,105
2022 total	3,803,190	1,407,250	174,234	1,108,898	6,493,572
Analysis of net assets between funds					

15.

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are

represented by:	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension funds	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	10,523,800	10,523,800
Current assets	516,715	-	1,115,752	-	1,632,467
Current liabilities			(786,766)		(786,766)
	516,715	-	328,986	10,523,800	11,369,501
Pension scheme liability		(1,169,000)		-	(1,169,000)
Total net assets	516,715	(1,169,000)	328,986	10,523,800	10,200,501

Comparative information in respect of

the preceding period is as follows:	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted pension funds	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	10,572,858	10,572,858
Current assets	411,240	-	1,459,142	131,259	2,001,641
Current liabilities		-	(513,040)	-	(513,040)
	411,240	-	946,102	10,704,117	12,061,459
Pension scheme liability		(2,513,000)	-		(2,513,000)
Total net assets	411,240	(2,513,000)	946,102	10,704,117	9,548,459

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16. Commitments under operating leases

	At 31 August 2023 the total of the multi academy		
	trust's future minimum lease payments under non-	Total	Total
	cancellable operating leases was:	2023	2022
		£	£
	Amounts due within one year	11,084	6,708
	Amounts due between one and five years		
	Amounts due between one and live years	24,556	18,400
		35,640	25,108
17.	. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow		
	from operating activities	2022/23	2021/22
	,	Total	Total
		£	£
		~	~
	Net income/(expenditure) for reporting year (as per the SoFA) Adjusted for:	(712,958)	(686,130)
	Depreciation (note 11)	453,308	443,148
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(76,260)	(155,593)
	Donated fixed assets	-	(16,888)
	Interest receivable (note 4)	(4,172)	(60)
	Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 22)	(85,000)	304,000
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (note 22)	106,000	103,000
	Decrease / (increase) in debtors	123,568	(306,967)
	Increase in creditors	273,726	171,210
	Net cash provided by / (used in) operating activities	78,212	(144,280)
		10,212	(11,200)
18.	Cash flows from investing activities		
		2022/23	2021/22
		Total	Total
		£	£
	Interest received	4,172	60
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(404,250)	(17,428)
	Capital grants from DfE Group	76,260	155,593
		,	
	Net cash (used in) / provided by investing activities	(323,818)	138,225
10	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
19.	Analysis of Cash and Cash equivalents	At	At
		31 August	31 August
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,201,007	1,446,613
		1,201,007	1,446,613

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 31 August 2022 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,446,613	(245,606)	-	1,201,007
	1,446,613	(245,606)		1,201,007

21. 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.

22. Pension and similar obligations

The multi academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by West Midlands Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined-benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the year ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every four 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% employer administration charge)
- 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 is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £396,985 (2022: £407,355).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £581,000 (2022 : £529,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £492,000 (2022 : £454,000) and employees' contributions totalled £89,000 (2022 : £75,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 29.5% for employers and between 5.5% and 6.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

The trustees have agreed that the trust will make additional contributions in addition to normal funding levels over the next 22 years.

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31	At 31
·	August 2023	August 2022
Rate of increase in salaries	4.00%	4.10%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	3.00%	3.10%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20%	4.25%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	3.00%	3.10%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00%	50.00%
Sensitivity analysis	At 31	At 31
	August 2023	August 2022
	£'000s	£'000s
Discount rate +0.1%	(105)	(125)
Discount rate -0.1%	`105 [°]	`125 [´]
Mortality assumption 1 year increase	95	108
Mortality assumption 1 year decrease	(95)	(108)
CPI rate +0.1%	197	229
CPI rate -0.1%	(197)	(229)
The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for		
future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations	At 31	At 31
on retirement age 65 are:		August 2022
	,g	
Retiring today		
Males	20.6	21.2
Females	22.9	23.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	20.4	22.9
Females	24.7	25.4
The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:		
	31 August	31 August
	2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	2,559,000	2,155,000
Bonds	790,000	675,000
Property	263,000	257,000
Cash and other liquid assets	151,000	129,000
Total market value of assets	3,763,000	3,216,000
The actual negative return on scheme assets was 1.2% (2022 : negative 3.3%).		
	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities		
Current service cost	407,000	758,000
Interest income	(146,000)	(50,000)
Interest cost	252,000	153,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	513,000	861,000

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

22. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme (continued) Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were		
as follows:	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
At 1 September 2022	5,729,000	8,898,000
Current service cost	407,000	758,000
Interest cost	252,000	153,000
Employee contributions	89,000	75,000
Actuarial gains/(losses) - financial assumptions	(1,226,000)	(4,078,000)
Actuarial gains/(losses) - demographic assumptions	(209,000)	(29,000)
Actuarial gains/(losses) - experience gains/losses	(25,000)	12,000
Benefits paid	(85,000)	(60,000)
At 31 August 2023	4,932,000	5,729,000
Changes in the fair value of academy's share of scheme assets		
were as follows :	2022/23	2021/22
	£	£
At 1 September 2022	3,216,000	2,843,000
Interest income	146,000	50,000
Actuarial gains/(losses) - experience gains/losses	92,000	-
Return on assets less interest	(187,000)	(146,000)
Employer contributions	492,000	454,000
Employee contributions	89,000	75,000
Benefits paid net of transfers in	(85,000)	(60,000)
At 31 August 2023	3,763,000	3,216,000
Net pension scheme liability	(1,169,000)	(2,513,000)

Notes to the financial statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

Income and expenditure related party transactions

The Birmingham Diocesan Board of Finance

A member of Fioretti Trust	2023 £	2022 £
Services recharged by related party during the period	3,575	3,440
Income received from related party during the year	250	

The academy trust made the purchase at arm's length. In entering into the transaction, the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook.

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.