(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, ITS MEMBERS, TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Members	Mrs S Cran (appointed 16 October 2017) Mr J Hurd Mr B Neill Mr G Young Mrs N Brown (resigned 16 July 2018) Mr M Hooker
Trustees	Mr B Neill, Parent Mr J Hurd, Parent (resigned 26 March 2018) Mr R Newman, Community (resigned 9 July 2018) Mr G Young, Community (resigned 1 December 2017) Mrs V Smith, Parent Mrs C Waltham, Community Mrs J Tanner, Headteacher Mrs N Brown, Parent (resigned 16 July 2018) Mrs S Cran, Chair of Trustees Mrs B Long, Community (resigned 24 September 2018) Mrs C Bull, Staff (appointed 16 October 2017) Mrs L Dormandy, Community (appointed 16 October 2017) Mr D Clarke, Community (appointed 13 November 2017) Mrs T Eaton, Staff (appointed 4 December 2017) Mr L Foote, Community (appointed 6 December 2017)
Company registered number	08128432
Company name	Northgate Primary School Trust
Registered and principal office	Northgate Primary School Trust Cricketfield Lane Bishop's Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 2RL
Company Secretary	Mrs J Lane
Chief Executive Officer	Mrs J Tanner
Senior Leadership Team	Mrs J Tanner, Headteacher Mrs J Lane, Business Manager Miss K Greaves, Deputy Head Mrs C Clynes, Assistant Head Mrs R Gavin, Lower KS2 Leader Mrs S Pratt, KS1 Leader Mrs G Aziz, Foundation Stage Leader Mrs H Harding, SENDCo Miss F Jones, Upper KS2 Leader Mr J Glozier, Upper KS2 Leader
Independent Auditors	Price Bailey LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Causeway House 1 Dane Street Bishop's Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 3BT
Bankers	National Westminster Bank Plc 7 North Street Bishops Stortford CM23 2LE

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditor's Report of Northgate Primary School Trust (the Academy, The Trust or the Charitable Company) for the year ended 31 August 2018. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report, and a Directors' Report under company law.

The Trust operates a School for pupils aged 3 – 11 serving a catchment area in Bishop's Stortford, Hertfordshire. It has a pupil capacity of 480 and had a roll of 457 in the 2017 school census.

Structure, Governance and Management

The Academy is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents. The Trustees of The Charitable Company are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. The terms Trustee, Director and Governor are interchangeable. The Charitable Company is known as Northgate Primary School Trust (the School).

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details section.

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 and Officers' Indemnities

The 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 covers 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.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The Members of the Academy may appoint up to seven Trustees in addition to the Headteacher and Local Authority Trustees. The Members also appoint Staff Trustees who are nominated by the Academy staff together with a minimum of two Parent Trustees who have been elected by the parents of the registered pupils at the School. Trustees are subject to retirement after 4 years of service but are eligible for re-appointment or re-election at the end of their term of office.

The arrangements are as set out in the Articles and Funding Agreement.

Trustees are appointed for a fixed term. The Headteacher is an ex officio member of the Governing Body. Parent Trustees and the staff Trustees are elected to office or appointed if there are insufficient candidates offering themselves for election.

The Articles of Association make provision for at least 17 Trustees including 8 Parents, 2 Staff (Teaching, 1 Staff (Non-Teaching) plus 6 others including the Headteacher.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

All Trustees are given the opportunity to attend training sessions. During the 2017/18 academic year the Trustees have been provided with literature covering the main elements of the position, including the legal framework and Trustee responsibilities. Each year all members of the Board of Trustees (the Governing Body) are offered updates on relevant issues and changes in legislation etc. The topics covered are regularly reviewed to ensure that Trustees are kept up to date as far as possible. Access to training is available through Hertfordshire County Council through a service agreement, The National Governors Association and more recently the School has appointed Balance Educational Consultancy.

Trustees are appointed based on the skills that they bring to the Governing Body or based on a proposal to them by representative groups. On appointment, Trustees receive an induction pack on the role and responsibilities of Trustees.

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend upon their existing experience but would always include a tour of the School and a chance to meet staff and pupils. All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documentation that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees. One Trustee is designated as The Trustee Development Coordinator and they are responsible for overseeing training and development needs. Trustees also undertake to make regular visits to the School to improve their understanding and to offer guidance and support.

The Charitable Company is committed to providing adequate opportunities for Trustees to undertake and receive suitable training so as to enable them to perform their role effectively. To this end the Trust provides an internal programme of continued professional development led by School staff and links with a number of local training providers.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

All new Trustees are entitled to an induction to the role, according to their need, which may include, introductory sessions, mentoring and formal courses. This process will involve a meeting with the Chairman of Trustees and Headteacher or Deputy Headteacher. All Trustees are provided with a handbook plus copies of policies and procedures documents that are appropriate to the role they undertake as Trustees with particular emphasis on the committee work that they will undertake.

Organisational Structure

The governance of the Academy is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the Funding Agreement with the Department of Education.

The Governing Body, which meets on at least 5 occasions per year and each individual committee at least 6 times per year, is responsible for the strategic direction of the Academy. The Governing Body reviews progress towards educational objectives and results; approves major expenditure requests; sets the budget for the following year; sets the organisational staffing structure; agrees the performance objectives of the Headteacher with the School Improvement Partner, and reviews them.

All Trustees are members of the Governing Body. In addition Trustees are members of at least one sub-committee.

Throughout the year the Resources Committee (Finance and Property) has met on 6 occasions and is responsible for monitoring, evaluating and reviewing policy and performance in relation to financial management, compliance with reporting and regulatory requirements, receiving reports from the Internal Auditor and drafting the annual budget following input from the other-sub-committees. During this financial year it also assumed the role of Audit Committee.

The Headteacher is the designated Accounting Officer and has overall responsibility for the day to day financial management of the Charitable Company. The Headteacher has delegated responsibility for low values of expenditure to specific budget holders who are each responsible for managing their own departments within the constraints of their allocated budgets. A system of financial controls is in place to manage this process.

The Headteacher manages the Academy on a daily basis supported by a Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The SLT meets frequently (usually weekly) to discuss emerging matters and to help to develop strategies for future development to be put to the Headteacher and the Governing Body as required for approval. Each member of the SLT has specific responsibilities to assist the Headteacher to manage certain aspects of the Academy.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel include Trustees and those staff to whom the Trustees have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day-to-day running of the Trust.

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel is decided by a variety of contributory factors, such as the school group size, ISR, the pay scales for each role and the level of experience of each staff member. In addition, pay levels may be affected by nationally agreed pay awards, the ability to recruit and retain in post, all of which are in accordance with the Trust's appointment and pay policies.

All amendments to key management's pay and remuneration is approved initially by the HR and Resources Committees and ratified by the Governing Body.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the Governing Body being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time to time transactions will take place with organisations in which Members or Trustees may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where the Trustee may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academies Financial Handbook.

The Trust cooperated with the following organisations during the academic year in pursuit of its charitable activities:

- Birchwood Sports Partnership.
- Birchwood High School (Accelerated Maths).
- Herts and Essex High School (Building a Primary / Secondary Partnership).
- Catalyst Teaching Alliance.
- Bishop's Stortford Primary consortium

The Trust does not have a formal sponsor.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The principal object and aim of the Charitable Company is the operation of the School to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 3 and 11, focusing on the ethos of the school, 'Every Child, Every Chance, Every Day'.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

During the year the School has worked towards these aims by:

- Developing ways in which best practice is shared internally and externally.
- Raising the attainment of SEN pupils in English and maths by the end of Key Stage 1.
- Improving the progress of low attaining pupils, in maths and writing.
- Increasing the proportions of children reaching greater depth (GD) in KS2. Reducing the gender gap particular for specific cohorts.
- Increasing the proportions exceeding age related expectations in other subjects.
- Continuing to focus on quality of teaching so 100% is consistently good and more shows outstanding features or outstanding.
- Further developing high quality science and computing throughout the School.
- Enhancing learning through the development of outdoor learning.
- Continuing to embed a positive behaviour culture.
- Developing strong self-evaluation and actions for improvement in the Early Years.
- Ensuring good progress in literacy and maths in the Early Years, particularly in Nursery.

Our success in fulfilling our aims can be measured by:

- Staff reflecting on best practise with colleagues from other schools.
- Most teachers successfully implementing strategies.
- The percentage of Year 2 SEN children achieving ARE in reading, writing, maths now being in line with national figures and year 1 slightly above in reading and maths.
- SEN children making similar or better progress in maths.
- Most PPG pupils meeting their given targets.
- The percentage of greater depth in reading and maths significantly increasing in KS2.
- Tthe gender gap has been reduced in both classes in year 4 and year 6.
- The percentage of children who are GD for science, computing, history and geography has increased.
- Quality of teaching improving across the year with the strongest teaching in EYFS and KS1.
- Staff feeling more confident to deliver high quality science lessons.
- The quality of science work improving, particularly as a result of Science Week.
- The School being on track to gain the National Science award.
- Teacher knowledge increasing in ICT.
- The outdoor area being developed and outdoor learning being especially well developed in the Foundation stage.
- The development of play leaders.
- EYFS gaining The National Quality Mark with excellent feedback.
- Progress for literacy and maths in Nursery being at least 80% and in Reception around 90%.

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that by working towards the objects and aims of the School as detailed above, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

The Trust continues to ensure all pupil achieve their potential, attain highly in national examinations, and have the opportunities to be immersed in an inspiring curriculum, while encouraging a wide range of extra-curricular activities.

The School has a range of evidence to support the judgement that all year groups make good progress, develop secure knowledge and understanding and skills. Leaders set challenging targets for pupils considering their different starting points and monitor and evaluate the impact of actions taken.

Children in EYFS achieve highly and make strong progress. Pupils in year 1 achieve highly in the national phonics check and in 2018 achieved the highest ever score at 92%.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

By the end of year 2, attainment is well above national averages for the proportions of pupils working at the expected standards in reading, writing, mathematics and science.

By the end of year 6, attainment is well above national averages for the proportions of children working at the expected standard and greater depth in reading, writing, mathematics and grammar, punctuation and spelling. Progress is above the national average in reading, writing and mathematics.

There are very small numbers of disadvantaged pupils across the School, who's progress does vary. In Key Stage 2, last year the pupil premium pupils preformed particularly well in reading, performing better than other pupils nationally.

Key Performance Indicators

The Trustees receive regular information at each committee meeting to enable them to monitor the performance of the School compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.

As funding is based on pupil numbers this is a key performance indicator. Pupil numbers for 2017/18 were 457 against a forecast of 467.

Another key financial performance indicator is staffing costs as a percentage of total income. For 2017/18 this was 78.80% against set parameters of 80 - 85%. The Trustees are confident that staffing levels are closely monitored to agreed Full Time Equivalent and staffing structures which are all approved by the Governing Body.

The Resources Committee also monitor premises costs to General Annual Grant (GAG) income, capitation spend for curriculum departments to GAG income, total income less grants and cash flow on a regular basis to ensure that the budget is set and managed appropriately.

Going Concern

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

Financial Review

The principal source of funding for the Trust is the GAG and other grants that it receives from the Education and Skills Funding agency (ESFA). For the year ended 31 August 2018 the Trust received £1,745,605 of GAG and other income (excluding capital funding). A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Academy's primary objective of the provision of education. During the year the Trust spent £1,783,536 on general running costs (excluding depreciation) and transferred £1,184 to support Pupil premium grant overspend. The Academy brought forward from 16/17, £2,259 restricted funds and £111,224 unrestricted funding. The carry forward for 17/18 is £7,780 restricted funding and £67,698 unrestricted funding.

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the Academy is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £380,000. This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises and such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs and always aim to set a balanced budget with annual income balancing annual expenditure or to cover any shortfall from cash reserves. The Trustees monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures via the monthly reports from the Business Manager. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

The current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £67,698. This has been built up from a mixture of locally raised income and balances transferred from the Predecessor School.

The Trust's balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds at 31 August 2018 was £75,478.

The cash balance has been very healthy all year, ending the year with a balance of £137,133. A significant proportion of this cash is held against specific projects and is not available to meet normal recurring expenditure. The Trustees monitor cash flow as part of the committee Business Manager reports and attempt to hold a minimum of £100,000 to cover short term cash flow variances.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Investment Policy

Investment policy and procedure form part of the Academies Financial Regulations (section 10.2) which was approved by the Governing Body on 16th October 2017. The aim of the procedures is to ensure funds that the Academy does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure with are invested in such a way as to maximise the Academy's income but with minimal risk. The aim is to research and monitor where funds may be deposited applying prudency in ensuring there is minimum risk. The Trustees do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather as good stewardship and as and when circumstances allow.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees maintain a risk register identifying the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. A formal review of the risk register process is undertaken on an annual basis and the internal control systems and the exposure to said risks are monitored on behalf of the Trustees at each Resources Committee meeting. The principal risks facing the Trust are outlined below; those facing the Academy at an operational level are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls.

The Trustees report that the Trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

As an academy school, the level of financial risk is low. Cash flows can be reliably forecast, monitored and reported. Staff costs make up the majority of expenditure and are relatively stable with contingencies in place to cover such items as sickness and maternity.

The Trustees assess the other principal risks and uncertainties facing the Trust as follows:

- The Academy has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the EFA and there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms;
- failures in governance and/or management the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Academy's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, etc. The Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks;
- reputational the continuing success of the Academy is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk Trustees ensure that student progress and outcomes are closely monitored and reviewed;
- safeguarding and child protection the Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline;
- staffing the success of the Academy is reliant on the quality of its staff and the Trustees monitor and review policies and procedures and recruitment to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning;
- fraud and mismanagement of funds The Academy has appointed Price Bailey (external Auditors) and Essex Financial Services (Internal Controls) to carry out independent and external checks on financial systems and records as required by the Academy Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area;
- financial instruments the Academy only deals with bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. The risk in this area is considered to be low; and
- defined benefit pension liability as the Government has agreed to meet the defined benefit pension liability of any school ceasing to exist the main risk to the Academy is an annual cash flow funding of part of the deficit. Trustees take these payments into account when setting the annual budget plan.

The Academy has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Plans for Future Periods

Effective of Leadership

- To embed ways in which best practice is shared both within School and with other schools locally.
- To work with local schools to continue to develop a local collaborative and start developing strong working relationships.
- To improve effectiveness and impact of monitoring, accountability and feedback from SLT and MLT to ensure it is targeted at teaching and learning of pupils who are not making enough progress.

Outcomes for Pupils

- To improve KS2 attainment and progress data in reading, writing and maths.
- To improve KS2 progress in maths and writing to close the gap with other pupils including SEN and Pupil Premium pupils.

Quality of teaching, learning and assessment

- To continue a focus on quality of teaching so 100% is consistently good and more shows outstanding or outstanding features to ensure progress in all Key stages is strong.
- To develop high quality cross curricular writing to support good progress in all Key stages.
- To further develop high quality computing within the creative curriculum.
- To enhance learning through the development of outdoor learning across the curriculum.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare

- To further develop children's understanding of British values and how this impacts them.
- To further develop children's understanding of diversity.

Effectiveness of Early Years Provision

- To strengthen links with the pre-school to enhance learning.
- To embed the consistency of assessments with all staff across the phase.

Internal building developments

- To continue our building re-organisation programme we will be investigating further internal alteration possibilities to enable the creation of one further group room for the teaching of intervention programmes for our SEN and disadvantaged pupils.
- A current storage cupboard, accessed through toilets to be converted into secure archive room with secure access, ensuring GDPR regulations on secure storage is adhered to.
- Opportunities to create further storage for resources are also being discussed and the implementation of a decoration programme to help improve the internal look of the School, creating a more pleasant and efficient working environment for both staff and pupils.

Outdoor developments

- Segregated outdoor learning spaces for KS1 to ensure safe play during the day and open up outdoor learning experiences.
- External storage to be investigated for PTA events and equipment.
- New fencing in some areas is to be investigated to ensure the Schools boundary is maintained and continues to be secure.

Fundraising

The Trust has a Parent Association that hold small fundraising events during the year. This year events and activities included School Disco's, Fireworks Night, Cake Sales, Christmas Fayre, Happy Bag Recycling Collections, Summer Fayre, Post Sports Day Water Fun and BBQ, Christmas Card Fundraising Scheme, Film Night, Mothers Day Gift Shop, Second Hand Uniform Sales and Ice Cream Sales. The Trust does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

The Trust does not currently hold funds on behalf of others.

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 the Governing Body on 3 December 2018 and signed on the Governing Body's behalf by:

Mrs S Cran Chair of Trustees

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

The Governing Body has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Northgate Primary School Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Governing Body has formally met 5 times during the period. Attendance during the period at meetings of the Governing Body was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr B Neill, Parent	2	5
Mr J Hurd, Parent	1	2
Mr R Newman, Community	4	5
Mr G Young, Community	0	1
Mrs V Smith, Parent	4	5
Mrs C Waltham, Community	5	5
Mrs J Tanner, Headteacher	5	5
Mrs N Brown, Parent	4	5
Mrs S Cran, Chair of Trustees	4	5
Mrs B Long, Community	3	5
Mrs C Bull, Staff	5	5
Mrs L Dormandy, Community	2	5
Mr D Clarke, Community	4	4
Mrs T Eaton, Staff , Staff	3	4
Mr L Foote, Community	4	4

During the period 1 September 2017 and 31 August 2018 the following changes took place in the governing body

Governors that have resigned

- Nana Brown
- Barbara Long

New Governors

- Catherine Bull, (Staff Governor)
- Tracey Eaton, (Staff Governor)
- David Clarke, (Community Governor)
- Laurence Foote, (Community Governor)

Sarah Cran became a Member. Nana Brown resigned as a Member.

There has been a breach of the Code of Conduct for Governors in the year. Advice was sort and this has now been resolved.

The purpose of the Resources Committee is to provide critique and support to the SLT & Governing Body in the setting and execution of the School financial plan and associated risk management. Ensuring sound budgeting practises are deployed to enable execution of the School development plan.

The Resources Committee has delegated responsibility on behalf of the full governing body.

The greatest impact of change within this Committee has been the recruitment of a Governor with a financial background. They are able to provide more support to the School and also analyse financial documents more efficiently. We would like to recruit more Governors with finance skills to help continue to strengthen this area.

Key challenges have continued to be delivering a balanced budget, income has a continued trend of remaining stable, however, costs such as salaries, pensions, general supplies and utilities are increasing. We have taken action to look at utility contracts, new lighting and over the forthcoming year Trustees, in conjunction with the SLT, will look at staffing costs and whether we replace staff who leave.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

The Resources Committee, via a sub-committee acts as an Audit Committee. When sitting as an Audit Committee, the Audit committee meeting is chaired by the Audit Committee Chair, who is not the Resources Committee Chair.

Attendance at meetings in the period was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs J Tanner, Headteacher	6	6
Mrs V Smith, Parent	5	6
Mrs S Cran, Chair of Trustees	5	6
Mrs N Brown, Parent	3	6
Mr J Hurd, Parent	0	4
Mr G Young, Community	0	2
Mr B Neill, Parent	4	6
Mr D Clarke, Community	5	5
Mr R Newman, Community	3	6
Mr L Foote, Community	4	4
Mrs T Eaton, Staff	4	4

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Governing Body where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Continuing to use internal support where possible for sickness / absence by diverting current staff where necessary thus limiting the cost of external supply.
- Always getting 3 quotes for goods and services above the limit stipulated in our financial regulations (£5,000) but also regularly looking at more than one avenue for general spending on day to day purchases to keep costs down.
- Increasing the use of the School premises by extending room provision to our out of hour's providers to enable them to offer children places on their waiting list. This in turn has increased the amount of revenue through hiring's.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy 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 Northgate Primary School Trust for the period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and financial statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Governing Body has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Governing Body is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy's significant risks, that has been in place for the period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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

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

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

The Governing Body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint Essex County Council as Internal Auditor.

The Internal Auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

Visit 1

Governance and Financial Management:

Financial Oversight, Financial Planning and Monitoring, Transparency, Gifts (received and given), Expenses, Risk Management, Internal Scrutiny, Data Protection and VAT.

Banking:

Internal Control, Cash Management.

Payroll and Expenses:

Payroll Processing, Mileage and Subsistence Payments.

Visit 2

Governance and Financial Reporting:

Budget Monitoring, Reporting to Trustees, Internal Control, Internal Scrutiny.

Income:

Receipt of Payments from Students and Parents, Generated Income, Internal Control – (Income Sample). Assets:

Fixed Assets, Inventory.

Payroll:

Payments for Additional Hours Worked, Payroll Processing.

Visit 3

Governance and Financial Accounting:

Internal Scrutiny, Internal Control.

Expenditure:

Internal Procedure, Proper and Regular Use of Public Funds, Internal Control, Connected Parties, Tax Implications, Persons with Significant Control.

Payroll:

Payroll Processing, Special Payments.

On a termly basis, the Internal Auditor reports to the Governing Body through the Audit Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Governing Body' financial responsibilities.

All visits were carried out as planned.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

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

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

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

Approved by the Governing Body on

and signed on their behalf, by:

Mrs S Cran Chairman Mrs J Tanner Accounting Officer

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Northgate Primary School Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

I confirm that I and the Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

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

Mrs J Tanner Accounting Officer

Date: 3 December 2018

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

The Trustees (who act as Governors of Northgate Primary School and 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 Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; 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 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 the Governing Body on 3 December 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs S Cran Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of Northgate Primary School Trust (the 'Trust') for the period ended 31 August 2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2018 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

BASIS FOR OPINION

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our Report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast
 significant doubt about the Trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at
 least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

OTHER INFORMATION

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our Report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST

OPINION ON OTHER MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

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

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

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

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

AUDITORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST

USE OF OUR REPORT

This Report is made solely to the 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 Trust's Members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trust and the Trust's Members, as a body, for our audit work, for this Report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Gary Miller (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of **Price Bailey LLP** Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Causeway House 1 Dane Street Bishop's Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 3BT 4 December 2018

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 7th November 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Northgate Primary School Trust during the period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 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 Northgate Primary School Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Northgate Primary School Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Northgate Primary School Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST'S ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Northgate Primary School Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1st August 2012, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2017, 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 2017 to 2018. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

APPROACH

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Trust, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, propriety and compliance in particular checking that selected items were appropriately authorised, and appropriate.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL 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 period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants

4 December 2018

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

INCOME FROM:	Note	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities Other trading activities Investments	2 3 4 5	27,788 53,746 25,518 92	27,723 1,610,664 - -	9,074 - - -	64,585 1,664,410 25,518 92	122,500 1,718,546 27,948 134
TOTAL INCOME		107,144	1,638,387	9,074	1,754,605	1,869,128
EXPENDITURE ON: Charitable activities		149,486	1,710,050	96,850	1,956,386	1,951,059
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	149,486	1,710,050	96,850	1,956,386	1,951,059
NET EXPENDITURE BEFORE TRANSFERS Transfers between funds	15	(42,342) (1,184)	(71,663) 1,184	(87,776) -	(201,781) -	(81,931) -
NET EXPENDITURE BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		(43,526)	(70,479)	(87,776)	(201,781)	(81,931)
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	125,000	-	125,000	227,000
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		(43,526)	54,521	(87,776)	(76,781)	145,069
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:		111 224	(426 741)	2 004 641	2 670 124	2 524 055
Total funds brought forward TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		67,698	(426,741) (372,220)	3,994,641 3,906,865	3,679,124 3,602,343	3,534,055 3,679,124

NORTHGATE PRIMARY SCHOOL TRUST REGISTERED NUMBER: 08128432

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2018

	Note	£	2018 £	£	2017 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12		3,906,865		3,994,641
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	67,013		86,137	
Cash at bank and in hand	18	137,133		193,524	
		204,146		279,661	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one					
year	14	(128,668)		(166,178)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			75,478		113,483
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		-	3,982,343		4,108,124
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		(380,000)		(429,000)
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION SCHEME LIABILITIES			3,602,343		3,679,124
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY					
Restricted income funds:					
Restricted income funds	15	7,780		2,259	
Restricted fixed asset funds	15	3,906,865		3,994,641	
Restricted income funds excluding pension liability		3,914,645		3,996,900	
Pension reserve		(380,000)		(429,000)	
Total restricted income funds			3,534,645		3,567,900
Unrestricted income funds	15		67,698		111,224
TOTAL FUNDS			3,602,343		3,679,124

The financial statements on pages 19 to 38 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 3 December 2018 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Mrs S Cran Chair of Trustees

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

	Note	2018 £	2017 £
Cash flows from operating activities	NOLE	L	L
Net cash used in operating activities	17	(49,952)	(9,900)
Cash flows from investing activities: Interest received Purchase of tangible fixed assets		92 (6,531)	134 (45,200)
Net cash used in investing activities		(6,439)	(45,066)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the period Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		(56,391) 193,524	(54,966) 248,490
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		137,133	193,524

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Accademies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Northgate Primary School Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

The Trust's function and presentational currency is Pounds Sterling.

1.2 Company status

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee. The Members are named on page 1. In the event of the Trust being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per Member. The Trust's registered office is Northgate Primary School, 23 Cricketfield Lane, Bishop's Stortford, CM23 2SR.

1.3 Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the 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 Department for Education Group.

1.4 Income

All income is recognised once the Trust has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 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 Trust to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Trust ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Long term leasehold land Long term leasehold property Office equipment Computer equipment	- - -	Straight line basis over the duration of the lease 50 years straight line 5 years straight line 3 years straight line
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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 incorporating Income and Expenditure Account.

1.8 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 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.

1.12 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities and provisions 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 Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

1.13 Financial instruments

The Trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the 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 as detailed in note 13. 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 costs as detailed in note 14. 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 instruments.

1.14 Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 20, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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

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

1.15 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Trustees make 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 20, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2018. 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.

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Donations Capital grants	27,788 -	27,723 -	- 9,074	55,511 9,074	57,480 65,020
	27,788	27,723	9,074	64,585	122,500
Total 2017	25,597	31,883	65,020	122,500	

3. FUNDING FOR ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

4.

5.

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DfE / ESFA grants	Ī	1,380,081 114,465	1,380,081 114,465	1,389,566 105,519
	-	1,494,546	1,494,546	1,495,085
Other government grants				
Local Authority grants	-	116,118	116,118	170,356
	-	116,118	116,118	170,356
Other funding				
Catering income	53,746	-	53,746	53,105
	53,746	-	53,746	53,105
	53,746	1,610,664	1,664,410	1,718,546
Total 2017	53,105	1,665,441	1,718,546	
OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES				
		Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Rental income Other income		25,394 124	25,394 124	12,524 15,424
		25,518	25,518	27,948
Total 2017		27,948	27,948	
INVESTMENT INCOME				
		Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
Bank Interest		92	92	134
Total 2017		134	134	

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6. EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs 2018 £	Premises 2018 £	Other costs 2018 £	Total 2018 £	Total 2017 £
Provision of education: Direct costs Support costs	1,287,996 158,372	- 173,773	139,766 196,479	1,427,762 528,624	1,351,718 599,341
	1,446,368	173,773	336,245	1,956,386	1,951,059
Total 2017	1,354,614	223,532	372,913	1,951,059	

In 2017, expenditure was split as follows; Unrestricted funds of £81,334, Restricted funds of £1,721,737, and Restricted fixed assets funds of £147,988.

7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

8.

	2018 £	2017 £
Direct costs Support costs	1,427,762 528,624	1,351,718 599,341
Total	1,956,386	1,951,059
Analysis of support costs	2018 £	2017 £
Support staff costs Depreciation Technology costs Premises costs (excluding depreciation) Other support costs Govenance costs	158,372 94,307 19,896 79,466 152,494 24,089	139,127 91,891 5,418 131,641 197,403 33,861
Total	528,624	599,341
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		
This is stated after charging:		

	2018	2017
Depresiation of tangible fixed assets:	Ľ.	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned or leased by the Trust	94.307	91,891
Auditors' remuneration - audit	4,380	4,250
Auditors' remuneration - other services	4,880	4,700
Operating lease rentals	11,166	4,539

9. STAFF COSTS

a. Staff costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2018 £	2017 £
Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	1,076,658 88,729 269,576	1,026,690 84,492 236,686
Agency staff costs	1,434,963 11,405	1,347,868 6,746
	1,446,368	1,354,614

b. Staff numbers

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

	2018 No.	2017 No.
Teachers Administration and support	17 31	23 32
Management	9	4
	57	59
Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent:		
	2018	2017
	2018 No.	2017 No.
Teachers Administration and support Management	12 17 9	18 18 3
	38	39

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2018	2017
	No.	No.
In the band £ 60,001 - £ 70,000	1	0

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £503,129 (2017: £461,223).

Included in the above are employer pension contributions of £68,543 (2017: £61,030) and employer National Insurance contributions of £41,886 (2017: £39,057).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Trust. The Principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Principal and other staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2018 £	2017 £
Mrs L Hotson	Remuneration	Nil	20,000-25,000
	Pension contributions paid	Nil	0-5,000
Mrs J Tanner	Remuneration	60,000-65,000	50,000-55,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000-15,000	5,000-10,000
Mr J Glozier	Remuneration	Nil	35,000-40,000
	Pension contributions paid	Nil	5,000-10,000
Mrs C Bull	Remuneration	35,000-40,000	0-5,000
	Pension contributions paid	5,000-10,000	0-5,000
Mrs T Eaton	Remuneration	5,000-10,000	0-5,000
	Pension contributions paid	0-5,000	0-5,000

During the period, no Trustees received reimbursement of expenses (2016 - £NIL).

11. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

The 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 Trust business, and provides cover up to $\pounds10,000,000$. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and Officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Long term leasehold property £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2017 Additions	4,261,000 -	132,097 1,140	100,685 5,391	4,493,782 6,531
At 31 August 2018	4,261,000	133,237	106,076	4,500,313
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2017 Charge for the period	362,198 71,252	54,345 16,592	82,598 6,463	499,141 94,307
At 31 August 2018	433,450	70,937	89,061	593,448
Net book value				
At 31 August 2018	3,827,550	62,300	17,015	3,906,865
At 31 August 2017	3,898,802	77,752	18,087	3,994,641

13. DEBTORS

14.

VAT recoverable 15,525 30,	832 150 155 137
	137
67,013 86,	_
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	
2018 2 f	2017 £
-	~
	604 820
	188
	566
128,668 166,	178
	2017
£ Deferred income	£
	004
Deferred income at 1 September 2017 49,922 113, Becautree deferred during the year 40	
Resources deferred during the year41,87449,Amounts released from previous years(49,922)(113,	922 394)
	007)
Deferred income at 31 August 2018 41,874 49,	922

Resources deferred at the year ended 31 August 2018 relate to contributions towards future educational visits and Universal free School Meal income for the 2019 academic year.

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Income £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	111,224	107,144	(149,486)	(1,184)	-	67,698
Restricted funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	1,380,081	(1,380,081)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	2,259	25,783	(29,226)	1,184	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	68,502	(68,502)	-	-	-
Restricted trip donations	-	27,723	(27,723)	-	-	-
Other Government grants	-	116,118	(116,118)	-	-	-
Sports Grant	-	20,180	(12,400)	-	-	7,780
Pension reserve	(429,000)	-	(76,000)	-	125,000	(380,000)
	(426,741)	1,638,387	(1,710,050)	1,184	125,000	(372,220)
Restricted fixed asset funds	i -					
Restricted Fixed Asset						
Funds - all funds Devolved Formula Capital	3,994,641	-	(94,307)	6,531	-	3,906,865
(DFC)	-	9,074	(2,543)	(6,531)	-	-
	3,994,641	9,074	(96,850)	-	-	3,906,865
Total restricted funds	3,567,900	1,647,461	(1,806,900)	1,184	125,000	3,534,645
Total of funds	3,679,124	1,754,605	(1,956,386)	-	125,000	3,602,343
	:		:			

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE PERIOD ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

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

Pupil Premium

This funding is to be used to raise achievement and improve outcomes for pupils from low income families who are eligible for free school meals.

Sports Grant

This represents funds received from ESFA for the support of Sport activities within the School.

Other Government grants

This represents various small grants from local and national government bodies for the provision of specific services to pupils of the School including SEN, SEYFF and UIFSM.

Restricted trips donations

This represents contributions made by parents to the running of educational visits for the pupils of the School and the associated costs of running the trips.

Other restricted Funds

This represents income from the School Association for specific purposes.

Pension reserve

This fund represents the Trustee's share of the defecit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) transferred to the Trust on conversion from a state controlled school.

Restricted fixed assets fund

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

Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)

The Trust is to use the DFC allocation to maintain and improve its buildings & facilities.

General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2018.

15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Income £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
Unrestricted funds	85,774	106,784	(81,334)	-	-	111,224
Restricted funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG) Pupil Premium Other DfE/ESFA Grants Restricted trip donations Other Government grants Sports Grant Pension reserve	- 10,949 - - - (604,000) (593,051)	1,389,566 26,885 65,314 31,883 173,886 9,790 - 1,697,324	(1,353,289) (35,575) (65,314) (31,883) (173,886) (9,790) (52,000) (1,721,737)	(36,277) - - - - - - - - (36,277)	- - - 227,000 227,000	2,259 - - - (429,000) (426,741)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted fixed asset funds Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)	4,041,332 -	- 8,923	(91,891) -	45,200 (8,923)	-	3,994,641 -
Condition Improvement Funding (CIF)	-	56,097	(56,097)	-	-	-
	4,041,332	65,020	(147,988)	36,277	-	3,994,641
Total restricted funds	3,448,281	1,762,344	(1,869,725)	-	227,000	3,567,900
Total of funds	3,534,055	1,869,128	(1,951,059)	-	227,000	3,679,124

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £
Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors due within one year Provisions for liabilities and charges	67,698 - -	136,448 (128,668) (380,000)	3,906,865 - - -	3,906,865 204,146 (128,668) (380,000)
	67,698	(372,220)	3,906,865	3,602,343

16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
	2017 £	2017 £	2017 £	2017 £
Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors due within one year Provisions for liabilities and charges	212,836 (101,612) -	66,825 (64,566) (429,000)	3,994,641 - - -	3,994,641 279,661 (166,178) (429,000)
	111,224	(426,741)	3,994,641	3,679,124

17. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2018 £	2017 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(201,781)	(81,931)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges Interest	94,307 (92)	91,891 (134)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	19,124	(31,085)
Decrease in creditors	(37,510)	(40,641)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	76,000	52,000
Net cash used in operating activities	(49,952)	(9,900)
ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
	2018	2017
	£	£
Cash in hand	137,133	193,524
Total	137,133	193,524

19. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

18.

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.

20. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teacher's Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Hertfordshire County Council. Both are Multi-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to \pounds 32,201 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2018 (2017 - \pounds 24,092) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

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. 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 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% 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 £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million;
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations; and
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £ 117,024 (2017 - £111,371).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx).

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

20. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the period ended 31 August 2018 was £113,000 (2017 - £105,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £92,000 (2017 - £86,000) and employees' contributions totalled £21,000 (2017 - £19,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.3% for employers and 5.5 - 12.5% for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions:

	2018	2017
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.80 %	2.50 %
Rate of increase in salaries	2.50 %	2.50 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.40 %	2.40 %

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

	2018	2017
Retiring today Males Females	22.5 24.9	22.5 24.9
Retiring in 20 years	24.9	24.9
Males Females	24.1 26.7	24.1 26.7

As at 31st August 2018 the Trust had a pension liability of £380,000 (2017 - £429,000). The sensitivity analysis detailed below would increase/(decrease) the closing defined obligation in the following way;

Sensitivity analysis	At 31 August 2018 £	At 31 August 2017 £
Discount rate +0.1%	(33,000)	(30,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	33,000	30,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	68,000	63,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(68,000)	(63,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	27,000	25,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(27,000)	(25,000)

20. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2018 £	Fair value at 31 August 2017 £
Equities Other bonds Property Cash and other liquid assets	523,000 344,000 79,000 41,000	544,700 209,500 58,660 25,140
Total market value of assets	987,000	838,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £48,000 (2017 - £209,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account are as follows:

	2018 £	2017 £
Current service cost Interest income Interest cost	(156,000) 22,000 (34,000)	(126,000) 12,000 (24,000)
Total	(168,000)	(138,000)

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

	2018 £	2017 £
Opening defined benefit obligation Current service cost Interest cost Employee contributions Actuarial gains Benefits paid	1,267,000 156,000 34,000 21,000 (99,000) (12,000)	1,141,000 126,000 24,000 19,000 (30,000) (13,000)
Closing defined benefit obligation	1,367,000	1,267,000
Movements in the fair value of the Trust's share of scheme assets:		
	2018 £	2017 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets Interest income Actuarial losses Employer contributions Employee contributions	838,000 22,000 26,000 92,000 21,000	537,000 12,000 197,000 86,000 19,000

21. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2018 the total of the Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2018 £	2017 £
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	5,092	12,999
Between 1 and 5 years	45,369	22,047
After more than 5 years	25,459	-
Total	75,920	35,046

22. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the Trust and the composition of the Governing Body being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which Trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook and with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The partner of Member Mr M Hooker is employed by the Trust as a Teaching Assistant. The remuneration package is in line with the standard payscales for the role undertaken and their employment contract is subject to normal terms and conditions.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10 (2017 - £Nil).