

Company registration number 08364709 (England and Wales)

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 9
Governance statement	10 - 13
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	14
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	15
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	16 - 18
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	19 - 20
Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account	21 - 22
Balance sheet	23
Statement of cash flows	24
Notes to the accounts including accounting policies	25 - 49

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	D Fard M Beckett A Nicholson C Burnett (appointed 15 September 2023) J Corry (resigned 22 January 2023)	
Directors	J Arber (resigned 12 September 2023) M A Gutteridge (Chair) P Orr (resigned 15 September 2023) S Hughes M Horn A Hurley A Whitehead E Williams S Shields (appointed 6 September 2023) B Jones (appointed 13 December 2022, resigned 11 July 2023) P Frew (resigned 12 June 2023)	
Company Secretary	J McCumiskey	
Senior Management Team		
CEO	D Logan	
CFO	J McCumiskey	
Director of Secondary Education	S Cox	
Director of Primary Education	S Bamber	
Director of Education	S Bullen	
Executive Headteacher	R Farley (resigned 31 December 2022)	
Principal and Registered Office	Mereside Academy, Langdale Road, Blackpool, FY4 4RR	
Company Name	Fylde Coast Academy Trust	
Company Registration Number	08364709 (England and Wales)	
Independent Auditor	DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited Bridge House, Ashley Road Hale, Altrincham, WA14 2UT	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc Blackburn, BB2 1JQ	
Solicitors	Wrigleys Solicitors LLP 19 Cookridge Street Leeds, LS2 3AG	
Academies operated	Location	Principal
Unity Academy Blackpool	Blackpool, FY2 0TS	Mr S Cooke
Montgomery Academy	Blackpool, FY2 0AZ	Mr S Careless
Blackpool Aspire Academy	Blackpool, FY3 7LS	Mr J Woods
Hambleton Primary Academy	Poulton-le-Fylde, FY6 9BZ	Mrs H Wood
Westcliff Primary Academy	Blackpool, FY2 9BY	Mrs A Stokes
Blackpool Gateway Academy	Blackpool, FY1 6JH	Mrs S Robinson
Mereside Primary Academy	Blackpool, FY4 4RR	Ms S Upton
Garstang Community Academy	Preston, PR3 1YE	Mr S Singh
Westminster Primary Academy	Blackpool, FY1 2QE	Mrs B Latham
Armfield Academy	Blackpool, FY4 1TL	Mr M Kilmurray

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

The academy trust operates ten academies for pupils aged 2 to 16 across Blackpool and West Lancashire. The academies have a combined pupil capacity of 6,668 and had a roll of 6,463 in the school census from October 2023.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

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

Details of the trustees who served during the year and to the date of these accounts are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The trust has purchased insurance to cover Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on trust business up to a limit of £10,000,000.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The number of Trustees shall be not less than three but, (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution), shall not be subject to any maximum. The articles of association set out the categories of Trustees and this includes the following:

- Up to 9 Trustees, appointed by the members by ordinary resolution
- The Trustees may appoint Co-opted Trustees. A 'Co-opted Trustee' means a person who is appointed to be a Trustee by being Co-opted by Trustees who have not themselves been so appointed.
- The total number of Trustees who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Training and induction will depend on the individual experience of the trustee based on a skills audit at the time of appointment. Each new trustee will receive an induction overseen by the Clerk and Chair of Trustees. Training requirements are discussed at meetings of the Board of Trustees. In 2022/23 all trustees have been given access to the Essential trustee programme provided by the Confederation of Schools Trust.

Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the Trust.

The full trustee board meets a minimum of termly and is responsible for all decisions taken in relation to the activities provided by the trust. The Trustees have established an Audit & Risk Committee that meets termly to ensure the independent checking of financial controls, systems, transactions and risks.

The Trust has delegated some decision making to additional Trustee committees and the local governing bodies of its schools. The Trust has a clear scheme of delegation regarding the delegation of these decisions; this also details the decisions that have been delegated to executive management to ensure the day to day operational capacity of the Trust.

The Trust Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the Accounting Officer.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Board of Trustees has appointed a Resources Committee. This committee has responsibility for the appointment, terms and conditions, compensation, ongoing performance management, disciplinary and grievance procedures of the CEO and to decide on the level of executive remuneration, based on recommendations from annual performance reviews, taking into account the relevant skills and qualifications of the post holder plus advice from the Chief Operating Officer on affordability and results of local and national benchmarks.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
2	1.6

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	1
1%-50%	1
51%-99%	0
100%	0

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	£10,875
Total pay bill	£32,707,133
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	0.03%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	13.33%
---	--------

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Trust no longer has a sponsor and has no financial relationships with related parties or any other charities, companies or organisations (including any subsidiaries, joint ventures or associates) with which it cooperates in the pursuit of charitable activities.

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Board recognises the importance of engaging with its employees. Management regularly provides information to employees through a range of formal and informal channels, including issue of the FCAT Chat newsletter and fortnightly Headteacher bulletins. Headteachers and Executives meet regularly both in person and virtually. Meetings with union representatives and the CEO and Head of HR take place each half term.

In 22/23 the trust held an away day to enable all staff across the trust to come together. This day was used to update staff on trust and sector developments, meet with colleagues in similar roles at other academies and provide CPD opportunities.

The trust SLT consult with employees or their representatives regularly so that the views of employees can be considered in making decisions which are likely to affect their interests, examples of consultations that have taken place in the current year include the pay policies, teacher appraisal policies, disciplinary and special leave policies.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trust conducts and publishes an anonymous employee survey to give an insight into employee views. The SLT use this survey to gain insight into the views of its employees and as a basis for prioritising actions across the year. Feedback from the 21/22 survey led to the introduction of an occupational health package, accessible to all employees. The trust also operated a Work and Wellbeing group which has led to the development of the Work and Wellbeing charter. This charter displayed across the academies and published on the websites demonstrates the trust's commitment to securing the wellbeing of all staff in its employ.

FCAT and the recognised trade unions have a common objective in ensuring that FCAT provides excellence in the delivery of education and services to our students and their relatives/carers and that to enable this, employment practices within FCAT are conducted to the highest possible standard.

To achieve excellence, FCAT and the trade unions are committed to working in partnership to ensure good employee relations and effective and efficient educational delivery and to achieve reasonable solutions in consideration of both factors. The parties undertake to negotiate constructively with a view to reaching joint agreements which are acceptable for staff wherever possible.

FCAT is opposed to any discrimination against a person with disabilities based on assumptions of their ability or otherwise. Where an employee who has a disability is appointed to a post in an academy or a student is admitted, reasonable provision will be made for adjustments to the working conditions or environment where this is practicable.

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

As part of the Board's decision-making process, the Board and its Committees consider the potential impact of decisions on relevant stakeholders whilst also having regard to a number of broader factors, including the impact of the Company's operations on the community and environment, responsible business practices and the likely consequences of decisions in the long term. The trust is continuing to develop a preferred suppliers' register in order to build mutually beneficial relationships with valued suppliers who comply with all relevant legislation, offer value for money, understand and support the trust's values.

More details of how we connect with our stakeholders including our sponsor, members and local community are included throughout the Trustees' Report.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Academy Trust's objects are:

To advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum and to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the Borough of Blackpool and the County of Lancashire and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

FCAT is made up of primary, secondary and all through schools serving communities in the north west of England. Our schools are non-selective and inclusive. We serve urban and rural communities and operate over two local authority boundaries - Lancashire and Blackpool. We believe that through collaboration we can improve the quality of education and the experiences our stakeholders have with our schools. The opportunities for staff to work together, learning from each other and growing their expertise and spreading this across our schools enhances the work we do and the standard of education pupils receive.

FCAT is a partnership of schools formed to benefit from the opportunities of collaboration, to support and enhance the strengths of each school. There is a common desire to share expertise and support school improvement across the organisation.

FCAT also has a strong desire to facilitate inclusion and social integration across our schools and communities.

Three guiding principles drive all of our work and decision-making:

- Children come first, and are at the heart of all we do
- Positive relationships underpin all of our work
- High expectations – everyone can achieve

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives, strategies and activities

We recognise that there are areas of clear strength in the trust and some common aspects where we can continue to improve, such as supporting leaders to improve outcomes for disadvantaged pupils and their families. Our objectives hone in on areas of practice where our self evaluation identifies need, builds further on areas of strength and identifies ambition to widen our scope and provision beyond the boundaries of the school and into the communities we serve and work alongside.

The objectives and aims for 2023/24 are set out in the trust's development plan:

Pupil Outcomes:

- Progress, attainment and attendance goals set at national benchmarks
- Inclusion goals and curriculum design to significantly reduce permanent exclusions, pupil suspensions and alternative provision placements
- Enrichment and personal development goals to support pupils to be active and responsible citizens
- An effective school improvement model that diagnoses need and delivers sustained improvements

Developing our pupils:

- Staff development to provide staff with the knowledge and expertise to address the social, emotional and mental health needs of pupils
- Implementing a trauma informed approach in our schools
- Collaborative staff practices to grow/strengthen professional expertise and reduce workload

Contextualising the curriculum:

- Adjusting the curriculum to address social disadvantage and to provide stronger progression routes to support pupils' success in their next steps or phase of education
- Broad and balanced curriculum goals to secure progression to the next stage of the pupils' education, training or employment

Investing in a positive culture

- Stakeholder engagement to establish parent, pupil and staff forums
- Addressing the mental health and wellbeing of pupils and staff
- Leadership development programmes to develop and embed accountability and an outward mindset
- Well informed and a high level of governance expertise
- Training and development programmes for trustees/governors, staff and pupils - developed from stakeholder voice feedback
- Access to health care services for all staff
- Develop partnerships with good and outstanding schools
- Growth at a sustainable rate, with integrity prioritised over ambition

Effective use of resources

- Long term financial sustainability for the trust whilst ensuring school budgets are used to maximise outcomes for all pupils
- Greater sharing of resources across the trust to assist with the affordability of specialist staff or other resources.
- A defined capital programme policy and plan that utilises the SCA funding to address the needs of pupils.
- Identify efficiencies in procurement to maximise funding.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The trust will deliver a public benefit in the provision of high-quality education to its pupils.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Performance during 2022 to 2023 provided evidence of significant variance in the experiences of families and pupils as a result of the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent impact over the period since March 2020.

School performance has a high correlation to the socio-economic circumstances under which our schools operate. Families in receipt of welfare support such as universal credit for example, have in general not been able to perform and progress as well as families who do not receive/require the support of the welfare state.

This disparity is evident in a number of factors; achievement, attendance and disciplinary actions. The published KS4 national performance tables for 2023 highlighted the widening disadvantage gap which is now at its highest level since 2011 and is highlighted in the KS4 outcomes summarized below:

Key Stage 4 2023 – FCAT academies

Measure	All	PP	Non-PP	Blackpool Average	National Average
Attainment 8	36.2	28.13	41.96	34.9	46.2
% 5+ En & Ma	25.7	11	36.1	26.4	45.3
% 4+ En & Ma	47.3	27.5	61.4	44.9	65.1

Government policy to set KS4 standards at a level close to that achieved by pupils' in 2019, will amplify the inequality experienced by the majority of our pupils over recent years. For example, disadvantaged pupils performed on average one grade lower than non-disadvantaged pupils in our schools in 2023.

Performance at our primary schools has, however, been positive. It has been very interesting to see significant variations in maths and reading within cohorts this year. This is illustrated clearly where one cohort reached 35.8% of pupils at the expected standard in maths compared to another cohort achieving 100%

Key Stage 2 2023 – FCAT academies

Measure	All	PP	Non-PP	Blackpool	National
% RWM EXS	57.3	45.6	74.3	54	59
% Reading EXS	73.5	64.5	86.2	68	73
% Writing (TA) EXS	67.3	57.4	81.8	69	71
% Maths EXS	72.9	66.2	82.6	70	73
Reading Score	104.3	102.6	106.7	104	105
Maths Score	102.7	100.7	105.5	103	104

Secondary school performance is unlikely to see many positive indicators in progress scores using the DfE's measures of performance, this is a strong reflection of the government policy and the experiences of many of our families since 2020. On average pupils grades went down by 0.4 of a grade from 2022. Depending on the subject and examinations board this could mean as little of 4 marks to 15 marks of the total available.

Careful analysis is underway to identify how factors within our control can be addressed to support pupils and families whilst identifying factors beyond our control in order to mitigate and reduce the negative impact on pupils.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Our strategy to support improvement in pupil outcomes is now entering year two, the emphasis is placed on leadership and staff development to enable our workforce to better identify, manage and support pupils and families. This development process requires commitment to a long-term process and will not provide quick or short-term fixes that are not sustainable over the medium to long term. We are committed to working with wider delivery partners such as social care, housing and health, alongside third sector organisations wherever possible to support and mitigate against the challenges our pupils and families face that impact negatively in performance.

A key part of our strategic development is the relevance and appropriateness of the curriculum pupils learn. Planned developments to EYFS and Key Stage 1 curriculum will be implemented during 2023/24 and development of Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 is underway for implementation in 2024/25.

Therefore, the two strands key to our long-term development and improvement in pupil outcomes are staff and curriculum development.

In addition to the expected school improvement work, and despite the sustained improvements made at Montgomery Academy recognised in the improved judgments by Ofsted in 2022, the new 'coasting schools' regulation opened the school up to intervention from the Department for Education. After a protracted process spread over four academic terms a termination warning notice was published in September 2023. As a result the trust now shares an evaluation of the school's progress measured against the development plan with the DfE on termly basis. This process starts in December 2023 and is likely to continue until the school achieves an overall effectiveness rating of good from Ofsted, whom we expect will next inspect the school in 2024.

Key financial performance indicators

Despite ongoing pressure on budgets and the current levels of high inflation and short term funding, all academies within the trust recorded a positive closing reserves position at the financial year end. Available reserves stand at 11% of total non-capital income which is greater than the 5% minimum per the reserves policy.

Going concern

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

Promoting the success of the company

The Board of Trustees, in line with their duties under s172 of the Companies Act 2006, act in a way they consider, in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the trust to achieve its charitable purposes and for the benefit of its members as a whole, and in doing so have regard to a range of matters when making decisions for the long term. Key decisions and matters that are of strategic importance to the Trust are appropriately informed by s172 factors.

Financial review

Most of the trust's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) via the Education and Skills Funding Agency in the form of its General Annual Grant (GAG) and Pupil Premium Funding (PPG), the use of which is restricted to particular purposes, i.e., the object of the trust.

During the financial year total net assets increased by £4.6m to £84.9m, this includes a gain on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) of £5.0m as detailed below. The general restricted fund decreased by £0.5m in the year and at year end shows a closing surplus, before the actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes, of £2.7m. The unrestricted fund had a closing surplus of £2.6m.

The closing fixed asset funds have a reported closing surplus of £78.4m.

The cash position decreased from £11.4m to £10.2m as the trust continues to invest in resources to further our strategic objectives. The closing level of cash and reserves remains in a strong position enabling the Trust to continue with its planned investment in resources and premises across the trust over the next three year budgeting cycle.

The surpluses in the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) are recognised on the balance sheet in accordance with the provision of FRS102. It is noted that the pension liability moved from a £3.8m deficit to a £1.2m surplus at 31 August 2023.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Reserves policy

The amount of reserves held is stated in the Financial Review noted above. The Board of Trustees ensure that reserves held are in accordance with the requirements laid down in the Academies Handbook 2023. The Department for Education expects Trusts to use their allocated funding for the full benefit of current pupils. If Trusts have a substantial surplus, they must have a clear plan for how it will be used to benefit their pupils. It is the policy of the Trust to have reserves which can be used for future education purposes in line with the development plans.

Reserves are required to:

- Ensure sustainability of the school in the event of reductions in funding, reductions in pupil numbers or unexpected increases in expenditure.
- Fund capital projects and the replacement of equipment.
- Enable the trust to respond to opportunities and implement the longer term strategic plan.
- Invest in resources in the short term to continue to support the recovery from closures due to the pandemic

The Academy Trust's total free reserves as at 31 August 2023 are £5.3m. Reserves currently stand at 11% of non-capital income, ahead of the minimum 5% required. The three-year financial budget incorporates using these reserves to offset current inflationary pressures whilst investing in resources in order to meet the objects and aims set out above.

The trust reviews the level of reserves throughout the year as part of management reporting.

Investment policy

The trust considers the investment of surplus funds to reflect good stewardship. A return on working capital should be optimised whilst allowing easy access of the funds. In balancing risk against return, the trust's policy is clearly geared towards avoiding risk rather than to maximising return.

Monies surplus to the working requirements shall be invested in an account in the name of the trust with the approved institutions authorised by the Board of Trustees. This may be a higher interest bearing account operated by the same bank that the Academy operates its current account with, or an alternative approved institution.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the trust is exposed and are satisfied that systems are in place to manage the identified risks effectively. A Risk Register is maintained in which identified risks are recorded and an assessment of risk is a standing item on the agenda of meetings of the Board of Trustees.

Below is a description of the principal risk factors which may affect the academy trust. Not all factors are within the academy trust's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the academy trust:

- Significant cost pressures due to inflation on both pay and non-pay expenditure with uncertainty over the level funding to cover these costs. This is mitigated by the current level of reserves and monitoring of costs.
- Falling pupil numbers within Blackpool primary schools impacting on funding levels.
- Failure to ensure the sufficient teaching staff or resources to deliver services to the appropriate level due to shortages across the sector
- Lack of high quality provision to meet SEND needs
- Risks that impact on trustees' responsibilities to ensure the trust's estate is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations for example:
- Risk from an ageing estate
- Risk from inflationary pressures increasing the cost of planned maintenance and capital projects

Systems and procedures are in place to minimise the risks identified including operational procedures and internal financial controls reviewed by the Audit & Risk Committee on a termly basis.

Fundraising

Under the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 a statement regarding fundraising activities is required.

Although the trust does not undertake widespread fundraising from the general public, in relation to the above we confirm that all fundraising is managed internally, without involvement of external fund-raisers.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The day-to-day management of all income generation is delegated to the CFO and Executive team, who are accountable to the Trustees. The trust has received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022	2022/23	2021/22
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	7,095,581	7,183,854
<u>Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e</u>		
Gas consumption	860	902
Owned transport – minibuses	5.4	7.8
Total Scope 1	866	909
<u>Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e</u>		
Purchased electricity	489	434
<u>Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e</u>		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	5.1	2.7
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO ₂ e	1,359	1,346
Intensity ratio Tonnes CO ₂ e per pupil	0.22	0.22

Quantification and reporting methodology:-

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2022 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have now installed LED lighting across a number of our academies. We actively encourage virtual meetings to reduce the need for travel between sites. Energy saving impacts are a key consideration in determining the use of capital funding and in 22/23 we started work on a three- year programme to replace the boiler and heat distribution system at Gartsang Academy with a more efficient alternative, including the partial use of ASHP.

Plans for future periods

The trust will continue to develop and integrate its family of academies and aims to provide a world class education for local young people. Decisions on growth will be taken on a case by case basis after completing a thorough due diligence process.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

This trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, on 28 November 2023 and signed on the Board's behalf by:



M Gutteridge
Chair of Trustees

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Fylde Coast Academy Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatements or loss. As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, 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 Fylde Coast Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 times during the period. Attendance during the period at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J Arber (resigned 12 September 2023)	4	4
M Gutteridge	4	4
P Frew (resigned 12 June 2023)	2	3
P Orr (resigned 15 September 2023)	3	4
S Hughes	2	4
M Horn	4	4
A Hurley	3	4
A Whitehead	1	4
E Williams	2	4
B Jones (appointed 13 December 2022, resigned 11 July 2023)	1	3

At these meetings, the Board sets and reviews the vision and direction of the trust. Key financial information including budget monitoring reports and reports issued by internal auditors are reviewed and capital spend for individual academies authorised. FCAT policies are regularly reviewed and updated. Financial information provided throughout the year is compared to year end audited accounts to ensure data is acceptable.

The full board of trustees formally met 4 times in 2022/23. As detailed above, detailed financial information is presented at these meetings. The Chair of trustees also receives monthly management accounts with covering information from the CFO which are now saved in the trust's on-line governance system, accessible to all trustees. The establishment of the resources committee, which formally meets three times per year, ensures that there is further scrutiny of financial information with the opportunity to review the finances of the trust in detail and update the full board at the full trust board meetings.

Each year a report on FCAT director's skills is produced following completion of skills audit forms.

Conflicts of interest

Members of the Board of Trustees, Local Governing Bodies, senior management and senior finance personnel are required to disclose interests in FCAT's register of interests maintained by the Clerk to the Governors. They will also be responsible for ensuring that entries in the register relating to them are kept up to date regularly and promptly.

In particular, no person shall be a signatory to an academy contract where he or she also has an interest in the activities of the other party.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Governance reviews

During the year the trust carried out a self-assessment of governance. All trustees were asked to complete a confidential questionnaire covering 5 key areas of governance. Whilst the review broadly showed a positive evaluation of Board culture and practice; Board structure, Risk Management and Statutory Compliance, it indicated that more focus needs to be given to the trustees knowledge of schools, the evaluation of trustee contribution and the evaluation of Board decisions on trust outcomes. These findings will be built into the trustee development plan for 2023/24.

The previous external review was carried out in 2021/22. Self –assessments will be completed again in 2023/24 and governance will form part of the internal audit programme in 2024/25.

Committees

The resources committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to ensure effective management and deployment of finances, staffing and other resources across the Trust and ensure compliance with all relevant regulations. The resources committee reviews the management accounts and capital spend plans to ensure variances to budget are clearly understood. The committee reviews and approves policies relating to financial control, estate management, data compliance, IT and HR.

Attendance at Resources Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Gutteridge	3	3
P Orr (resigned 15 September 2023)	3	3
A Whitehead	2	3

The Audit & Risk committee is also a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. Its purpose is to review the arrangements for securing value for money, solvency and safeguarding of assets, provide assurance as to the effectiveness of the internal control system, consider internal audit reports and external audit reports, review the Annual Report and Financial Statements and to monitor on an ongoing basis the Risk Register and Risk Management Policy.

Attendance at Audit Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Horn	1	3
M Gutteridge	3	3
P Frew	1	2
O Orr (resigned 15 September 2023)	2	2

Review of value for money

As accounting officer the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Expanding the central trust school improvement team to allow education specialists to be deployed across the trust as required
- Introducing a central team of specialist TA's to support children with SEND needs across the trust
- Centrally negotiating contracts on vacancy advertising, occupational Health support and IT licences in addition to those contracts centrally managed from previous years
- The COO, Trust Estates Lead and Trust HSE Lead working with academy staff and external specialists to ensure that the School Condition Allocation funding combined with LA grants and academy reserves is appropriately used to upgrade and improve facilities, increase energy efficiency and ensure HSE compliance across all academies.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Fylde Coast Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

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

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service. During 2022/23 this service was supplied by RSM UK Risk Assurance Services LLP.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Testing of procurement controls
- Testing of pupil attendance monitoring
- Testing of the safeguarding framework

The internal auditor also produces a follow up report detailing actions taken by the trust as a result of matters highlighted in previous years' reports.

Three times a year, the auditor reports to the board of Trustees, through the audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of Trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility of 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 audit committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 28 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
M Gutteridge
Chair of Trustees



.....
D Logan
Accounting Officer

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

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

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



.....
D Logan
Accounting Officer

Date: 28 November 2023

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees (who are also the directors of Fylde Coast Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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 that 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 accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 28 November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
M Gutteridge
Chair of Trustees

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Fylde Coast Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated 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 the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the accounts 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 are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy 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 charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

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

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023


- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Identify and test journal entries, in particular any journal entries posting with unusual account combinations.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).

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

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.


Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Limited
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Bridge House
Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

Date: 28/11/2023

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 October 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Fylde Coast Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Fylde Coast Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Fylde Coast Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 26 August 2021 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- We have confirmed that the activities conform to the academy trust's framework of authorities. As identified by review of minutes, management accounts, discussion with the accounting officer and other key management personnel.
- We have carried out an analytical review as part of the consideration of whether general activities of the academy trust are within the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- We have considered the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and have evaluated the general control environment of the academy trust and extended the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- We have assessed and tested a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity. In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have considered whether the activity is permissible within the academy trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the academy trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the board of trustees, and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the board of trustees and the accounting officer acknowledging their responsibilities including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence is not available.
- In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have reviewed against specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement. We have reviewed the list of suppliers and have considered whether supplies are from related parties and have reviewed minutes for evidence of declaration of interest, and whether or not there was involvement in the decision to order from this supplier.
- We have performed sample testing of other income and tested whether activities are permitted within the academy trust's charitable objects.

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 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

DJH Mitten Clarke Audit Ltd

DJH Mitten Clarke Limited
Reporting Accountant

Date: 28/11/2023

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE
ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	14	12	2,517	2,543	1,214
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	1,756	45,627	-	47,383	42,989
Other trading activities	5	193	-	-	193	174
Investments	6	8	-	-	8	2
Total		<u>1,971</u>	<u>45,639</u>	<u>2,517</u>	<u>50,127</u>	<u>44,379</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	35	-	-	35	29
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	1,613	46,322	2,570	50,505	47,285
Total	7	<u>1,648</u>	<u>46,322</u>	<u>2,570</u>	<u>50,540</u>	<u>47,314</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		323	(683)	(53)	(413)	(2,935)
Transfers between funds	18	-	188	(188)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	4,990	-	4,990	20,616
Net movement in funds		323	4,495	(241)	4,577	17,681
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>2,278</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>78,618</u>	<u>80,296</u>	<u>62,615</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>2,601</u>	<u>3,895</u>	<u>78,377</u>	<u>84,873</u>	<u>80,296</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
Year ended 31 August 2022		funds	General	Fixed asset	2022
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	10	17	1,187	1,214
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	1,332	41,657	-	42,989
Other trading activities	5	174	-	-	174
Investments	6	2	-	-	2
Total		<u>1,518</u>	<u>41,674</u>	<u>1,187</u>	<u>44,379</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	29	-	-	29
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	1,258	43,715	2,312	47,285
Total	7	<u>1,287</u>	<u>43,715</u>	<u>2,312</u>	<u>47,314</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		231	(2,041)	(1,125)	(2,935)
Transfers between funds	18	(1,475)	(1,445)	2,920	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	20,616	-	20,616
Net movement in funds		(1,244)	17,130	1,795	17,681
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		3,522	(17,730)	76,823	62,615
Total funds carried forward		<u>2,278</u>	<u>(600)</u>	<u>78,618</u>	<u>80,296</u>


FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		76,348		76,276
Current assets					
Debtors	14	2,348		1,587	
Cash at bank and in hand		10,237		11,378	
		12,585		12,965	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(5,103)		(4,983)	
Net current assets			7,482		7,982
Total assets less current liabilities			83,830		84,258
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(132)		(184)
Net assets excluding pension asset/(liability)			83,698		84,074
Defined benefit pension scheme asset/(liability)	20		1,175		(3,778)
Total net assets			84,873		80,296
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	18				
- Fixed asset funds			78,377		78,618
- Restricted income funds			2,720		3,178
- Pension reserve			1,175		(3,778)
Total restricted funds			82,272		78,018
Unrestricted income funds	18		2,601		2,278
Total funds			84,873		80,296

The accounts were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 28 November 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:


 M Gutteridge
 Chair of Trustees

Company registration number 08364709 (England and Wales)

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	21	(972)	2,313
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		8	2
Capital grants from DfE Group		2,317	1,187
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		200	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(2,642)	(2,499)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		-	(4)
Net cash used in investing activities		(117)	(1,314)
Cash flows from financing activities			
Repayment of long term bank loan		(52)	(54)
Net cash used in financing activities		(52)	(54)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(1,141)	945
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		11,378	10,433
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year		10,237	11,378

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

Fylde Coast Academy Trust is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations is set out in the trustees' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

Freehold land and buildings	10 to 50 years
Leasehold land and buildings	Buildings 10 to 50 years, Land over the term of the lease
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Motor vehicles	10 years

A full year's amount of depreciation is charged in the year of acquisition.

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

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.9 Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by 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.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high-quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income or expenditure are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the 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.

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, will impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Capital grants	-	2,317	2,317	1,187
Other donations	14	212	226	27
	<u>14</u>	<u>2,529</u>	<u>2,543</u>	<u>1,214</u>

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	36,641	36,641	34,313
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- UIFSM	-	188	188	189
- Pupil premium	-	3,391	3,391	3,130
- Supplementary grant	-	1,753	1,753	478
- Others	-	1,115	1,115	899
	<u>-</u>	<u>43,088</u>	<u>43,088</u>	<u>39,009</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	2,539	2,539	2,566
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,539</u>	<u>2,539</u>	<u>2,566</u>
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	82
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>82</u>
Other incoming resources	<u>1,756</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,756</u>	<u>1,332</u>
Total funding	<u><u>1,756</u></u>	<u><u>45,627</u></u>	<u><u>47,383</u></u>	<u><u>42,989</u></u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations (Continued)

The academy trust received £2,539,000 (2022: £2,566,000) of grant funding from the local authorities in the year. This related to £545,000 of early years funding, £862,000 of high needs funding, £168,000 of pupil premium funding and £964,000 of other funding. The academy trust also received £200,000 of capital grant income from the local authorities which is included within donations in note 3.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies in respect of government grant funding.

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Hire of facilities	154	-	154	137
Catering income	21	-	21	17
Other income	18	-	18	20
	<u>193</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>193</u>	<u>174</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Short term deposits	<u>8</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>2</u>

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
		Premises £'000	Other £'000		
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	35	35	29
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	29,920	2,566	4,530	37,016	33,278
- Allocated support costs	<u>7,133</u>	<u>2,918</u>	<u>3,438</u>	<u>13,489</u>	<u>14,007</u>
	<u>37,053</u>	<u>5,484</u>	<u>8,003</u>	<u>50,540</u>	<u>47,314</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

7	Expenditure	(Continued)	
	Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	Operating lease rentals	85	96
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,570	2,308
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	4
	Fees payable to auditor for:		
	- Audit	25	25
	- Other services	6	6
	Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	123	366
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8 Central services

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

- educational support services
- financial services
- governance and clerking services
- estate management and HSE services
- HR services
- marketing and PR services
- IT services
- data and DPO services

The academy trust charges for these services at a flat percentage of income agreed for the period as a percentage of GAG (3.25%-5.25%). The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Unity Academy Blackpool	320	310
Montgomery Academy	369	350
Blackpool Aspire Academy	286	267
Hambleton Primary Academy	39	28
Westcliff Primary Academy	47	48
Blackpool Gateway Academy	92	93
Mereside Primary Academy	80	79
Garstang Community Academy	195	143
Westminster Primary Academy	107	106
Armfield Academy	327	251
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1,862	1,675
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

9 Charitable activities				
	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Direct costs				
Educational operations	500	36,516	37,016	33,278
Support costs				
Educational operations	1,113	12,376	13,489	14,007
	<u>1,613</u>	<u>48,892</u>	<u>50,505</u>	<u>47,285</u>
			2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Analysis of support costs				
Support staff costs			7,342	8,102
Depreciation			4	4
Technology costs			221	235
Premises costs			2,914	2,723
Legal costs			23	32
Other support costs			2,930	2,866
Governance costs			55	45
			<u>13,489</u>	<u>14,007</u>
10 Staff				
Staff costs				
Staff costs during the year were:			2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Wages and salaries			26,325	23,826
Social security costs			2,541	2,390
Pension costs			5,826	6,794
Staff costs - employees			<u>34,692</u>	<u>33,010</u>
Agency staff costs			2,248	2,034
Staff restructuring costs			113	59
			<u>37,053</u>	<u>35,103</u>
Staff development and other staff costs			371	270
Total staff expenditure			<u>37,424</u>	<u>35,373</u>
Staff restructuring costs comprise:				
Severance payments			<u>113</u>	<u>59</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10 Staff

(Continued)

Severance payments

The academy trust paid 5 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

£0 - £25,000	4
£25,001 - £50,000	1

Special staff severance payments

Special staff severance payments are amounts paid to employees outside of statutory and contractual requirements. Included in staff restructuring costs are special severance payments totalling £92,234 (2022: £51,196). Individually, the payments were: £2,175, £10,196, £11,000, £20,113 & £48,750.

Staff numbers

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teachers	424	385
Administration and support	510	476
Management	16	15
	<u>950</u>	<u>876</u>

The number of persons employed, expressed as a full time equivalent, was as follows:

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teachers	386	364
Administration and support	325	307
Management	14	14
	<u>725</u>	<u>685</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	16	13
£70,001 - £80,000	6	4
£80,001 - £90,000	3	5
£90,001 - £100,000	3	-
£100,001 - £110,000	2	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	1
£120,001 - £130,000		
£130,001 - £140,000		
£140,001 - £150,000		
£150,001 - £160,000		
£160,001 - £170,000		
	<u></u>	<u></u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10 Staff

(Continued)

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £766,000 (2022: £737,000).

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from employment within the academy trust.

During the year ended 31 August 2023 there were no expenses reimbursed to trustees (2022: £nil).

Other transactions with the trustees are set out in the related parties note.

12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Leasehold land and buildings £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Total £'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2022	14,863	72,253	3,086	2,533	44	92,779
Additions	196	1,401	93	952	-	2,642
Disposals	-	-	-	(2)	-	(2)
At 31 August 2023	15,059	73,654	3,179	3,483	44	95,419
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2022	2,455	9,400	2,397	2,222	29	16,503
On disposals	-	-	-	(2)	-	(2)
Charge for the year	275	1,519	232	540	4	2,570
At 31 August 2023	2,730	10,919	2,629	2,760	33	19,071
Net book value						
At 31 August 2023	12,329	62,735	550	723	11	76,348
At 31 August 2022	12,408	62,853	689	311	15	76,276

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		(Continued)	
13	Tangible fixed assets		
The net book value of land and buildings comprises:		2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Freeholds	12,329	12,596
	Long leaseholds (over 50 years)	62,735	62,853
		<u>75,064</u>	<u>75,449</u>
14	Debtors	2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Trade debtors	267	50
	VAT recoverable	447	300
	Other debtors	11	6
	Prepayments and accrued income	1,623	1,231
		<u>2,348</u>	<u>1,587</u>
15	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Government loans	52	52
	Trade creditors	1,765	1,943
	Other taxation and social security	633	558
	ESFA creditors	333	168
	Other creditors	221	174
	Accruals and deferred income	2,099	2,088
		<u>5,103</u>	<u>4,983</u>
16	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Government loans	132	184
		<u>132</u>	<u>184</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year (Continued)

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Analysis of loans		
Wholly repayable within five years	184	236
Less: included in current liabilities	(52)	(52)
Amounts included above	<u>132</u>	<u>184</u>
Loan maturity		
Debt due in one year or less	52	52
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	52	52
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	80	109
Due in more than five years	-	23
	<u>184</u>	<u>236</u>

Government loans include a CIF loan from the ESFA which is provided at 2.04% interest rate repayable over 8 years. Also included are Salix loans provided at 0% interest rate repayable over 8 years.

17 Deferred income

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	<u>392</u>	<u>373</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	373	272
Released from previous years	(373)	(272)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>392</u>	<u>373</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	<u>392</u>	<u>373</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for rates relief, UIFSM, school trips and other grants and income relating to 2023/24.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	3,102	36,641	(37,274)	188	2,657
UIFSM	-	188	(188)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	3,391	(3,391)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	2,868	(2,868)	-	-
Other government grants	15	2,539	(2,552)	-	2
Other restricted funds	61	12	(12)	-	61
Pension reserve	(3,778)	-	(37)	4,990	1,175
	<u>(600)</u>	<u>45,639</u>	<u>(46,322)</u>	<u>5,178</u>	<u>3,895</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	50,847	-	(796)	-	50,051
DfE group capital grants	5,886	2,317	(613)	-	7,590
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,263	-	(492)	(188)	1,583
Transfer of assets from merged academy	17,480	-	(609)	-	16,871
Private sector capital	2,142	200	(60)	-	2,282
	<u>78,618</u>	<u>2,517</u>	<u>(2,570)</u>	<u>(188)</u>	<u>78,377</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>78,018</u>	<u>48,156</u>	<u>(48,892)</u>	<u>4,990</u>	<u>82,272</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>2,278</u>	<u>1,971</u>	<u>(1,648)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,601</u>
Total funds	<u>80,296</u>	<u>50,127</u>	<u>(50,540)</u>	<u>4,990</u>	<u>84,873</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

Restricted general funds are those resources that have been designated restricted by the grant provider in meeting the objects of the academy and are restricted to both the day to day running of the academy and capital expenditure.

The pension values as at 31 August 2023 have been determined by the actuary which is showing the following pension assets within the academy trust as at the balance sheet date:

Unity Academy – pension liability of £388,000
Montgomery Academy – pension asset of £161,000
Blackpool Aspire Academy – pension asset of £100,000
Hambleton Primary Academy – pension asset of £54,000
Westcliff Primary Academy – pension asset of £97,000
Mereside Primary Academy – pension asset of £130,000
Garstang Community Academy – pension asset of £341,000
Westminster Primary Academy – pension asset of £328,000
Armfield Academy – pension asset of £168,000
Fylde Coast Academy Trust – pension asset of £184,000

This results in the academy trust's consolidated position as showing a pension asset and pension fund surplus. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset values in the academy trust have been recognised at the lower of the pension surplus and the asset ceiling value. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objects of the academy. The restricted fixed asset fund represents the net book value of tangible fixed assets of £76,348,000 plus unspent capital grant income of £2,029,000

Unrestricted funds are funds which the board of trustees may use in the pursuance of the academy's objects and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees.

The transfer of £188,000 from the restricted fixed asset fund to the restricted GAG fund relates to maintenance projects funded by capital grants which have not been capitalised.

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	4,148	34,313	(34,457)	(902)	3,102
UIFSM	15	189	(204)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	3,130	(3,130)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	82	(82)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,377	(1,377)	-	-
Other government grants	-	2,566	(2,551)	-	15
Transfer of assets from merged academy	543	-	-	(543)	-
Other restricted funds	61	17	(17)	-	61
Pension reserve	(22,497)	-	(1,897)	20,616	(3,778)
	<u>(17,730)</u>	<u>41,674</u>	<u>(43,715)</u>	<u>19,171</u>	<u>(600)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	51,643	-	(796)	-	50,847
DfE group capital grants	5,012	1,187	(313)	-	5,886
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,874	-	(513)	902	2,263
Transfer of assets from merged academy	17,567	-	(630)	543	17,480
Private sector capital	727	-	(60)	1,475	2,142
	<u>76,823</u>	<u>1,187</u>	<u>(2,312)</u>	<u>2,920</u>	<u>78,618</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>59,093</u>	<u>42,861</u>	<u>(46,027)</u>	<u>22,091</u>	<u>78,018</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>3,522</u>	<u>1,518</u>	<u>(1,287)</u>	<u>(1,475)</u>	<u>2,278</u>
Total funds	<u>62,615</u>	<u>44,379</u>	<u>(47,314)</u>	<u>20,616</u>	<u>80,296</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Funds	(Continued)	
Total funds analysis by academy		
	2023	2022
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:	£'000	£'000
Unity Academy Blackpool	757	672
Montgomery Academy	1,154	826
Blackpool Aspire Academy	537	666
Hambleton Primary Academy	227	240
Westcliff Primary Academy	252	312
Blackpool Gateway Academy	384	562
Mereside Primary Academy	391	391
Garstang Community Academy	269	376
Westminster Primary Academy	512	654
Armfield Academy	131	225
Central services	707	532
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	5,321	5,456
Restricted fixed asset fund	78,377	78,618
Pension reserve	1,175	(3,778)
Total funds	84,873	80,296

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Funds

(Continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs excluding depreciation £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Unity Academy Blackpool	5,105	886	792	932	7,715	7,374
Montgomery Academy	5,460	699	834	882	7,875	7,513
Blackpool Aspire Academy	4,255	542	855	620	6,272	5,860
Hambleton Primary Academy	855	111	126	172	1,264	1,244
Westcliff Primary Academy	805	182	120	123	1,230	1,186
Blackpool Gateway Academy	1,827	259	227	310	2,623	2,627
Mereside Primary Academy	1,532	348	168	280	2,328	2,198
Garstang Community Academy	3,902	448	477	767	5,594	4,988
Westminster Primary Academy	2,182	176	206	358	2,922	2,609
Armfield Academy	5,266	542	810	989	7,607	5,753
Central services	973	783	116	631	2,503	1,759
	<u>32,162</u>	<u>4,976</u>	<u>4,731</u>	<u>6,064</u>	<u>47,933</u>	<u>43,111</u>

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	76,348	76,348
Current assets	2,601	7,955	2,029	12,585
Current liabilities	-	(5,103)	-	(5,103)
Non-current liabilities	-	(132)	-	(132)
Pension scheme asset	-	1,175	-	1,175
Total net assets	<u>2,601</u>	<u>3,895</u>	<u>78,377</u>	<u>84,873</u>

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	76,276	76,276
Current assets	2,278	8,345	2,342	12,965
Current liabilities	-	(4,983)	-	(4,983)
Non-current liabilities	-	(184)	-	(184)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,778)	-	(3,778)
Total net assets	2,278	(600)	78,618	80,296

20 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £212,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £166,000) 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' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academy trusts. All teachers have the option to opt out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £3,986,000 (2022: £3,573,000).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 16.9 to 22.9% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Employer's contributions	1,854	1,732
Employees' contributions	468	410
Total contributions	2,322	2,142
Principal actuarial assumptions	2023 %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.3	4.2 - 4.4
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.7 - 2.9
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.3 - 5.4	4.2 - 4.3

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.0	22.3
- Females	23.4	25.0
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.2	23.7
- Females	25.2	26.8

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

Sensitivity analysis

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are as set out below:

Hambleton Primary Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(15)	(21)
Discount rate -0.1%	15	22
Mortality rate 1 year increase	15	17
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(15)	(17)
CPI rate +0.1%	15	21
CPI rate -0.1%	(15)	(21)

Garstang Community Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(46)	(66)
Discount rate -0.1%	47	67
Mortality rate 1 year increase	62	71
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(61)	(70)
CPI rate +0.1%	47	68
CPI rate -0.1%	(46)	(67)

Westcliff Primary Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(44)	(54)
Discount rate -0.1%	45	55
Mortality rate 1 year increase	38	46
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(37)	(45)
CPI rate +0.1%	45	55
CPI rate -0.1%	(44)	(54)

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Montgomery Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(80)	(115)
Discount rate -0.1%	82	118
Mortality rate 1 year increase	82	104
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(80)	(102)
CPI rate +0.1%	82	118
CPI rate -0.1%	(81)	(115)

Unity Academy Blackpool

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(87)	(118)
Discount rate -0.1%	89	121
Mortality rate 1 year increase	90	99
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(88)	(97)
CPI rate +0.1%	89	122
CPI rate -0.1%	(87)	(119)

Blackpool Aspire Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(50)	(78)
Discount rate -0.1%	51	80
Mortality rate 1 year increase	63	81
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(62)	(79)
CPI rate +0.1%	50	81
CPI rate -0.1%	(49)	(79)

Blackpool Gateway Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(37)	(37)
Discount rate -0.1%	37	38
Mortality rate 1 year increase	30	30
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(29)	(29)
CPI rate +0.1%	38	39
CPI rate -0.1%	(37)	(38)

Mereside Primary Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(43)	(52)
Discount rate -0.1%	43	53
Mortality rate 1 year increase	44	48
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(43)	(47)
CPI rate +0.1%	43	53
CPI rate -0.1%	(42)	(52)

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

20 Pension and similar obligations

Westminster Primary Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(40)	(52)
Discount rate -0.1%	41	53
Mortality rate 1 year increase	39	47
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(38)	(46)
CPI rate +0.1%	41	54
CPI rate -0.1%	(40)	(53)

Armfield Academy

Change in assumptions at 31 August 2023:	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(29)	(19)
Discount rate -0.1%	30	20
Mortality rate 1 year increase	24	10
Mortality rate 1 year decrease	(24)	(10)
CPI rate +0.1%	30	19
CPI rate -0.1%	(29)	(18)

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2023 Fair value £'000	2022 Fair value £'000
Equities	12,578	11,233
Bonds	104	1,047
Cash	156	381
Property	2,469	2,594
Other assets	10,681	8,543
Total market value of assets	25,988	23,798

The actual return on scheme assets was £238,000 (2022: £1,605,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Current service cost	1,719	3,221
Interest income	(1,066)	(362)
Interest cost	1,189	728
Administrative expenses	49	42
Total operating charge	1,891	3,629

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		(Continued)	
20	Pension and similar obligations		
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	At 1 September 2022	27,576	42,794
	Current service cost	1,719	3,221
	Interest cost	1,189	728
	Employee contributions	468	410
	Actuarial gain	(5,818)	(19,373)
	Benefits paid	(321)	(204)
	At 31 August 2023	24,813	27,576
	Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
	At 1 September 2022	23,798	20,297
	Interest income	1,066	362
	Actuarial loss/(gain)	(828)	1,243
	Employer contributions	1,854	1,732
	Employee contributions	468	410
	Benefits paid	(321)	(204)
	Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses	(49)	(42)
	At 31 August 2023	25,988	23,798

The pension values as at 31 August 2023 have been determined by the actuary which is showing the following pension assets within the academy trust as at the balance sheet date:

Unity Academy – pension liability of £388,000
 Montgomery Academy – pension asset of £161,000
 Blackpool Aspire Academy – pension asset of £100,000
 Hambleton Primary Academy – pension asset of £54,000
 Westcliff Primary Academy – pension asset of £97,000
 Mereside Primary Academy – pension asset of £130,000
 Garstang Community Academy – pension asset of £341,000
 Westminster Primary Academy – pension asset of £328,000
 Armfield Academy – pension asset of £168,000
 Fylde Coast Academy Trust – pension asset of £184,000

This results in the academy trust's consolidated position as showing a pension asset and pension fund surplus. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset values in the academy trust have been recognised at the lower of the pension surplus and the asset ceiling value. Although a pension asset is arising, this does not create an immediately realisable asset that can be expended for the specific purposes of the pension fund.

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

21 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(413)	(2,935)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(2,517)	(1,187)
Investment income receivable	6	(8)	(2)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	20	(86)	1,531
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	20	123	366
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		2,570	2,312
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	4
(Increase) in debtors		(761)	(189)
Increase in creditors		120	2,413
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(972)	2,313

22 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2022 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2023 £'000
Cash	11,378	(1,141)	10,237
Loans falling due within one year	(52)	-	(52)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(184)	52	(132)
	11,142	(1,089)	10,053

23 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Amounts due within one year	74	48
Amounts due in two and five years	155	88
	229	136

FYLDE COAST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

24 Capital commitments	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	<u>211</u>	<u>-</u>

Capital commitments as at the balance sheet date relate to SCA funded projects which have been committed to and are due to complete in the year ended 31 August 2024.

25 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.

26 Members' liability

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

