

Company Registration No. 10045230 (England and Wales)

**ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Trustees	J Sone (appointed 18 September 2024) J Horrigan (resigned 17 September 24* G Gillespie* T Papworth Rev P Mansfield C Luke M Cox A Carr* A Harper* (appointed 6 June 23 resigned 30 October 23) C Onwuejeogwu (appointed 21 March 23) K Stockermans (appointed 5 May 23) E Galbraith (appointed 22 September 23) G Logue (Resigned 18 March 2024) S Esparon J Wilson M Dickens P McCallum * Members of the Finance, Premises and Audit Committee
Members	Archbishop of Southwark Vicar General of Southwark Diocesan Financial Secretary of Southwark
Senior Management Team	
Executive Head Teacher	M Hannon
Head Of School	C Hughes
Assistant Head Teacher	H Stanley
Company registration number	10045230 (England and Wales)
Registered office	Portnalls Road Coulston CR5 3DE United Kingdom
Independent auditor	Baxter & Co Lynwood House Crofton Road Orpington BR6 8QE
Bankers	Lloyds Bank George Street Croydon Surrey
Solicitors	Winckworth Sherwood Minerva House 5 Montague Close London SE1 9BB

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the Financial Statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The principal activity of the company is the operation of a state-funded Academy; St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, providing a state education for students aged 4 to 11. It has a pupil capacity of 218 and had a roll of 215 in the last school census (Oct 24).

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Academy Trust was incorporated as a company on 07 March 2016 and the predecessor school converted to academy status on 01 April 2016. 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 charitable company operates as St Aidan's Catholic Primary School.

The Trustees of St Aidan's Catholic Primary School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these Financial Statements are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

No indemnities have been given to any third parties on behalf of any Trustees.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

In accordance with the articles, the Trustees of the charitable company are the Directors of the charitable company. They are appointed as follows:

- a) 8 Foundation Directors appointed by the Archbishop of the Diocese;
- b) 2 Staff Directors appointed by the Directors;
- c) the Principal being an ex officio Director;
- d) 1 Local Director appointed by the Directors;
- e) a minimum of 2 Parent Directors appointed by the Directors;
- f) Co-opted Directors appointed by the Directors.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary, induction will provide training in charity, educational, legal and financial matters. All Trustees are provided with the information needed (including policies, minutes, budgets, etc.) to undertake their role as Trustees.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees, the majority of whom are non-executive, comprises those persons appointed under the Articles of Association. The board meets at least 3 times a year and has 4 committees which deal with policies, developments and assessment of different areas of the running of the Academy. The committees are as follows:

- Finance, Premises and Audit and Pay Committee
- Curriculum Committee
- Personnel Committee
- Admissions Committee

All of the committees are formally constituted with terms of reference and comprise appropriately qualified and experienced members. Trustees delegate specific responsibilities to its committees, the activities of which are reported to and discussed at full Board of Trustees Meetings. The committees meet each term. All policies and budget decisions are agreed by the Board of Trustees.

The Executive Head Teacher is the Accounting Officer and is a member of the Finance, Premises and Audit, Curriculum, Personnel and Admissions committees. The School Business Manager is the Principal Finance Officer.

The day to day management of the Academy is undertaken by the Head Teacher, supported by the Leadership Team.

The school has no subsidiaries.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The senior management team (SMT) are the key management personnel of the trust. Trustees are also senior management although they receive no pay or other remuneration in respect of their role as Trustees. Where Staff Trustees are in place, they receive remuneration for their role as staff and their pay is determined in the same way as applicable to all other staff. Any further details of remuneration paid to staff who are Trustees is set out within the notes to the accounts.

The pay of the Head Teacher is set annually by the Personnel Committee, having regards to performance against objectives set the previous year. Pay of other SMT members is also set by the Personnel Committee again having regard to performance against previously agreed objectives and any recommendations made by the Head Teacher.

Trade Union Facility Time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
N/A	N/A

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of Employees
0%	N/A
1% - 50%	N/A
51% - 99%	N/A
100%	N/A

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total Cost of facility time (£'000)	£0
Total Pay bill (£'000)	£1,144
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	0%

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours.	0%
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Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The school operates as a separate entity but forms part of an Umbrella Trust, the Croydon Catholic Umbrella Trust.

The Umbrella Trust has the following aims:

- To enable all Catholic schools within the Umbrella Trust to provide high quality education for all their pupils and achieve the best possible standards.
- To maintain, promote and develop the Catholic ethos in our schools.
- To support all the Croydon Catholic Primary Schools in their individual visions and to enable all pupils to achieve their full potential within a Catholic community.
- To identify areas of strength in our schools.
- To identify areas of potential difficulty in any of the schools and action appropriate intervention by offering effective and on-going support to any school within the trust facing challenging circumstances within the capacity of the group.
- To broker support from external providers as appropriate.
- To share expertise and best practice.
- To secure cost-effective resources and identify savings through economy of scale purchasing and negotiating services and agreements.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The objects of the company are the advancement of the Catholic religion in the Diocese and to promote for the benefits of the inhabitants of the local area, the provision of facilities for recreation. It achieves these objectives by operating the St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, providing a state-funded primary education free of charge to its pupils and by making its facilities available to the local community.

St Aidan's Catholic Primary School was the only Academy within the Academy Trust in the current period.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives in the last year were to:

- To prepare for Ofsted and to be considered outstanding in all areas.
- The appointment of a head teacher to ensure the continued effective leadership of the school.
- To continue to embed the new little Wandle phonics scheme into Y2 and purchase and introduce stretch and challenge books for readers.
- Review provision in writing and maths to improve performance and progress of those with potential to reach high standards by the end of KS2.
- Maintain a diverse range of extra-curricular activities and trips/enrichment activities.
- To challenge and focus the provision of a curriculum that meets/exceeds accepted benchmarks for outstanding quality of education. To have a developed curriculum with integrated outdoor and blended learning fully in place.
- To review behaviour and anti-bullying policies and review and refine methods for recording and analysing incidences of negative behaviour and bullying.
- To review mental health and wellbeing provision and the further development of the policy and approach for supporting positive mental health and wellbeing of pupils and staff, including pupil and staff surveys.
- To develop the premises so that it is a safe and inviting learning space that inspires pupils and attracts prospective families, through:
 - the submission of new roofing CIF bid
 - Replacement of worn fencing around the school site
 - Fire risk assessment recommendations to be implemented

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Public benefit

In setting the objectives and planning the associated activities, Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The key public benefit delivered by St Aidan's is the maintenance and development of a high quality education. This education is primarily for the young people of St Aidan's Parish, St Mary's Parish and surrounding parishes and for those who meet the admissions criteria.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Key Performance Indicators

In 2023/24 the academy trust had the following:

- revenue reserve of £73,000
- a per pupil spend of £6,130
- the school received £1,306,000 in grant funding.

All pupils are closely tracked to ensure high levels of progress and attainment.

EYFS GLD (Good Level of Development)

71% achieved GLD at the end of reception.

Key stage 1 phonics screening test

% meeting standard (in Yr 1)	90%
% meeting the standard (inc. Yr2 retakes)	67%

Key stage 1 SATS/Teacher assessment

Attainment of pupils for St Aidan's (National results from 2022 shown in brackets).

Subject	Age related	Greater Depth
Maths	91% (68%)	38% (15%)
Reading	94% (67%)	53% (18%)
Writing	94% (58%)	22% (8%)

Key stage 2 SATS/Teacher assessment

Attainment of pupils for St Aidan's (National results from 2022 shown in brackets).

Subject	Age related	Greater Depth
Maths	94% (73%)	38% (23%)
Reading	94% (73%)	34% (28%)
Writing	88% (71%)	16% (13%)

Combined (reading, writing and maths)	84 (61%)
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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, The Board of Trustees 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.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Financial review

We receive our income from a number of different sources. The majority of our income comes from central government via the Education and Skills Funding Agency who provide us with grant, based largely on our student numbers to cover our staffing and other general running costs (General Annual Grant - GAG). The ESFA may provide us with additional grants which are earmarked for specific purposes (such as Pupil Premium which must be used to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils). These appear in the accounts as DfE/ESFA grants. Where we receive grant or other funding from the Local Authority (such as where we undertake responsibilities on their behalf in respect of our students) this appears in the accounts as other government grants. Such income is collectively referred to as "Restricted Funds".

Other income is received from parents (for example as contributions to trip or other costs) and from third parties (for example from our bank for interest on our account balances or from others who are charged for their use of our facilities). Such other income may be restricted or unrestricted, depending on whether it comes to us with conditions as to its use or whether it is available for spending at the discretion of the Trustees.

We hold funds in two broad categories, funds which are available for spending and other funds which are not available for spending.

Spendable funds are in turn sub-categorised between those which are available for spending at the discretion of Trustees ("Unrestricted Funds") and those which are subject to condition or restriction, ("Restricted Funds").

Funds not available for spending include the book value of fixed assets such as ICT and equipment. These have a value and are, therefore, included as assets in the accounts but, clearly, we cannot spend this value. In common with all academies and local authorities, our share of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) surplus / (deficit) must also be reflected in our accounts and as this is not a conventional asset / (liability), it does not get included in spendable funds. The Trust meets its obligations in respect of the LGPS by paying over pension contributions due as calculated by the scheme's actuaries.

The following balances held were held at 31 August:

Fund	Category	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
GAG	Restricted General Funds	-	9
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	Restricted General Funds	-	-
Other Income	Restricted General Funds	-	-
	Sub-total General Restricted Funds	-	9
Unspent Capital Grants	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	16	261
Other Income	Unrestricted General Fund	73	154
	Sub-Total Spendable Funds	89	424
Net Book Value of Fixed Assets	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	539	547
Share of LGPS Surplus / (Deficit)	Restricted Pension Reserve	(31)	(96)
	Total All Funds	597	875

During the year under review there was a decrease of £9k (2023: decrease of £65k) on general restricted funds, a decrease of £81k (2023: increase of £39k) on unrestricted funds and after LGPS valuation adjustments, depreciation and capital income and expenditure, an overall decrease of £278k (2023: decrease of £424k) on total funds.

Moving forward into 2024-2025 the major risks and uncertainties continue to be high energy costs as well as high costs associated with the cost of living crisis. High staff pay increases for 24-25 continued to be a risk to the budget. The school has in the main budgeted for this and will continue to monitor spend very closely throughout the year.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

During 2023-24 work continued on two CIF bids, improving water quality and fire safety and electrical improvements. These projects are now complete and have made a significant improvement to the school premises. Two further bids were submitted during the year one of which, heating distribution was successful, and the second roof replacement was not. The roofing replacement was unsuccessful on appeal and is likely to be resubmitted this year.

Reserves policy

During 2023/24 the academy trust had a revenue reserve of £73,000 with a positive in-year balance of £62,000.

The principal policy on reserves is that accumulation of unspent GAG balances should not breach any limits thereon set out in the Funding agreement. The level of reserves should never be in deficit.

Each year the Trustees review the resource requirements and grant and other income that is forecast for the coming year and an annual budget is formulated and approved.

Investment policy and powers

There are no investments held beyond cash deposits retained with the major UK clearing banks. Speculative investments are not permitted.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The school has a risk register which is reviewed regularly at each committee meeting as well as at full Trustees meetings.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the academy is exposed, in particular those relating to academic performance, finances, child welfare, admissions, premises. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Academy faces, and have developed policies and procedures to mitigate those risks. Where significant financial risk still remains, they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Academy trust has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement.

During 2023/2024 the energy and high staff cost increases due to the cost of living crisis had a significant impact during the financial year. Given this current climate, Trustees will continue to monitor budgets and reserves more closely.

The principal financial risks faced by the academy are the ongoing pressures on funding, high energy and cost of living costs resulting in a risk that deficits may be experienced. The budgeting and reporting process, including scrutiny by the Trustees of actual financial performance, mitigates the risk.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

As the nature of the financial instruments dealt with by the Academy is relatively simple (bank balances, debtors and "trade" creditors), Trustees consider the associated risk in this area to be minimal.

The risk resulting from the Academy's share of the LGPS deficit is managed by following the advice of the scheme's actuaries, specifically as regards the level of contributions payable, ensuring that annual budgets are drawn up to reflect the actuary's advice.

Most of the company's income is obtained from the DfE (via the Education and Skills Funding Agency) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the period ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Fundraising

The trust and individual academies within it organise fundraising events and appeals and co-ordinate the activities of our supporters both in the academies and in the wider community on behalf of the trust.

The trust does not use professional fundraisers or involve commercial participators.

There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The trust complies with the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

All fundraising is undertaken by the trust in a manner that seeks to ensure that it is not unreasonably intrusive or persistent. Contact is made through email, academy newsletters, our websites and via students. All fundraising material contains clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Plans for future periods

Strategic Development Plan (SDP) priorities:

School Development Plan 2024-2025

- Maths: Implement a common approach to the teaching of maths across all year groups, so that all children are achieving their full potential.
- Pedagogy: Develop shared understanding and use of pedagogical strategies, so that all children benefit from a range of teaching strategies that secure their learning.
- Coaching: All staff engage in professional development, learning scrutiny and academic reviews that support all staff to grow as practitioners.
- Leadership: Appoint a substantive headteacher for the school by 31 August 2025.
- Premises: Improve the school building by replacing the existing roof as part of the CIF process.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Academy Trust is not acting as custodian for any other external body.

Auditor

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 05/12/2024 and signed on its behalf by:



J Sone

Chair of Trustees

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Executive Head Teacher, 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 St Aidan's Catholic Primary School Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is 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 9 times during the year. Attendance during the period at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
J Sone	7	8
G Gillespie	9	9
T Papworth	2	5
Rev P Mansfield	6	8
C Luke	6	8
M Cox	7	8
A Carr	7	9
C Onwuejeogwu (appointed 21 March 23)	9	9
K Stockermans (appointed 5 May 23)	3	8
L Galbraith	7	8
M Hannon	2	2
C Hughes	9	9

Conflict of interest

The school keeps an up to date register of interests. Declaration of interest forms are completed at the start of each academic year and updated if there is a change in circumstances. Declaration of interests are reported regularly at each Committee and at full Trustees meetings.

Governance reviews

During 23-24 the school appointed an accounting officers as a result of the previous head leaving in March 24 and the challenge of appointing a new head in this current climate. There has been a low level of other Trustee turnover during 2023/24 and the board has managed to fill all vacancies for board members.

The Finance, Premises and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to plan and recommend budget for approval by the Full Board of Trustees. They obtain regular reports from the, School Business Manager and the Academy's Auditors. The Finance, Premises and Audit Committee has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance at meetings in the period was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
G Gillespie	3	3
J Horrigan	3	3
A Carr	3	3
C Onwuejeogwu (appointed 21 March 23)	3	3
M Hannon	1	3
C Hughes	3	3

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer, the Head Teacher 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 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 available. The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the period by:

- The Executive Head has obtained office furniture and IT equipment from donor parties that work with schools to donate old equipment, which is aimed save costs during these finance constrained periods. This is also aimed to achieve value for money objective.

The school development plan informs use of funds to ensure value for money.

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 St Aidan's Catholic Primary School for the period 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 01 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

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

The Board of Trustees have appointed KnillJames Chartered Accountants to perform a supplementary programme of work on internal controls.

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

- testing of payroll and personnel systems
 - testing of purchasing systems
 - checks on income collection processes
 - testing of accounting system, control account/ bank reconciliations
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ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

- review of governance structure, policies and procedures

On an annual basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees through the Finance and Premises on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of trustees. On an annual basis, the auditor reviews to prepare a 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.

The reviews on internal controls have been carried out as planned with no material issues noted.

Review of effectiveness

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

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

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

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on*05/12/2024*.....and signed on its behalf by:

J Sone

J Sone
Chair of Trustees

M. Hannon

M Hannon
Accounting Officer

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

As accounting officer of St Aidan's Catholic Primary School, 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 2023, 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 2023.

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.

M Hannon
Accounting Officer


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ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of St Aidan's Catholic Primary School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements; and
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring 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 Financial Statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 05/12/2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Jo Sone

Chair of Trustees

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of St Aidan's Catholic Primary School for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the Financial Statements, 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 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the Financial Statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 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 2023 to 2024.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 Financial Statements are prepared is consistent with the Financial Statements; 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 Financial Statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the Financial Statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of Financial Statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the Financial Statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy 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 Financial Statements

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

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

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of management to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing internal assurance reports.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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.



Louise Hallsworth FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Baxter & Co

17 December 2024
.....

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Lynwood House
Crofton Road
Orpington
Kent
BR6 8QE

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 14 November 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St Aidan's Catholic Primary School during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 St Aidan's Catholic Primary School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the St Aidan's Catholic Primary School 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 St Aidan's Catholic Primary School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of St Aidan's Catholic Primary School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of St Aidan's Catholic Primary School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 24 March 2016 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. 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 2023 to 31 August 2024 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.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of payments to staff;
- Review of payments to suppliers and other third parties;
- Review of grant and other income streams;
- Review of some key financial control procedures;
- Discussions with finance staff;
- Consideration of the record maintained by the Accounting Officer of the oversight they have exercised;
- Consideration of the programme of internal scrutiny implemented by the Academy Trust in order to comply with its obligations under 3.1 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, issued by the ESFA.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Baxter & Co.

Reporting Accountant

Baxter & Co
Lynwood House
Crofton Road
Orpington
Kent
BR6 8QE

Dated: 17 December 2024

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	23	(104)	(81)	296
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	33	1,273	-	1,306	1,233
Other trading activities	5	105	-	-	105	83
Total		<u>138</u>	<u>1,296</u>	<u>(104)</u>	<u>1,330</u>	<u>1,612</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	74	-	-	74	75
Charitable activities:						
- Grants	7	-	-	132	132	723
- Educational operations	8	145	1,294	22	1,461	1,343
Total	6	<u>219</u>	<u>1,294</u>	<u>154</u>	<u>1,667</u>	<u>2,141</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		(81)	2	(258)	(337)	(529)
Transfers between funds	16	-	(5)	5	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	59	-	59	105
Net movement in funds		(81)	56	(253)	(278)	(424)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		154	(87)	808	875	1,299
Total funds carried forward		<u>73</u>	<u>(31)</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>597</u>	<u>875</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2023	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		funds	General	Fixed asset	2023
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	32	264	296
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	61	1,172	-	1,233
Other trading activities	5	83	-	-	83
Total		<u>144</u>	<u>1,204</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>1,612</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	75	-	-	75
Charitable activities:					
- Grants	7	-	-	723	723
- Educational operations	8	30	2,013	(700)	1,343
Total	6	<u>105</u>	<u>2,013</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>2,141</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		39	(809)	241	(529)
Transfers between funds	16	-	723	(723)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	105	-	105
Net movement in funds		39	19	(482)	(424)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>115</u>	<u>(106)</u>	<u>1,290</u>	<u>1,299</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>154</u>	<u>(87)</u>	<u>808</u>	<u>875</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £'000	£'000	2023 £'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		539		547
Current assets					
Debtors	13	77		230	
Cash at bank and in hand		301		496	
			378		726
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(289)		(302)	
Net current assets			89		424
Net assets excluding pension liability			628		971
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	18		(31)		(96)
Total net assets			597		875
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds			555		808
- Restricted income funds			-		9
- Pension reserve			(31)		(96)
Total restricted funds			524		721
Unrestricted income funds	16		73		154
Total funds			597		875

The Financial Statements on pages 19 to 43 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 05/12/2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Jo Sone

Chair of Trustees

Company registration number 10045230 (England and Wales)

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash used in operating activities	19		(77)		(221)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		(104)		264	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(14)		(2)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities			<u>(118)</u>		<u>262</u>
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			<u>(195)</u>		<u>41</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			496		455
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>301</u>		<u>496</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements of the 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 Financial Statements 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 2023 to 2024 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 Financial Statements and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Financial Statements.

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.

Donations

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

Other income

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

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 Financial Statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

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 £2,000 or more per item (or less if they form part of a larger purchase or project where the total cost exceeds £8,000) 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. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired / funded by other income, the fixed asset fund is also credited. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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

Leasehold land	not depreciated
MUGA	10%
Computer equipment	33.33%
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10%

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Fixed Asset Transfer from Predecessor School

Where fixed assets were transferred to the charitable company from the predecessor school, these have been included at a value determined in accordance with the policy described below:

Land

Where land is owned (or occupied under the terms of a long term lease), subject to a legally binding restriction as to its use, it is valued at fair value, based on existing use.

Buildings

No specialist buildings have been transferred from the predecessor school.

Other Fixed Assets

Other assets transferred from the predecessor school are also included at depreciated replacement cost (subject to the capitalisation limit set).

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.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

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 and the liabilities 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.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 18, 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. 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.

Critical areas of judgement

In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees have not needed to exercise any subjective judgements that would be critical to the Academy Trust's Financial Statements.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Capital grants	-	(104)	(104)	264
Other donations	-	23	23	32
	<u>-</u>	<u>(81)</u>	<u>(81)</u>	<u>296</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	1,072	1,072	1,039
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- UIFSM	-	39	39	37
- Pupil premium	-	18	18	18
- Others	-	87	87	65
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,216</u>	<u>1,216</u>	<u>1,159</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	57	57	11
	<u>-</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>11</u>
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	2
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2</u>
Other funding				
Catering income	1	-	1	35
Other incoming resources	32	-	32	26
	<u>33</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>61</u>
Total funding	<u>33</u>	<u>1,273</u>	<u>1,306</u>	<u>1,233</u>

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Income from facilities & services	105	-	105	83
	<u>105</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>83</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure Premises Other £'000 £'000		Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	61	-	13	74	75
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	866	18	143	1,027	907
- Allocated support costs	234	113	87	434	436
Grants - support costs	-	-	-	-	723
	<u>1,161</u>	<u>131</u>	<u>243</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>2,141</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:				2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Operating lease rentals				1	2
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				22	23
Fees payable to auditor for:					
- Audit				6	6
- Other services				7	5
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability				<u>5</u>	<u>8</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

7 Analysis of grant expenditure

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Improvements to diocesan property occupied by the Academy Trust	-	132	132	723

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Direct costs				
Educational operations	-	1,027	1,027	907
Support costs				
Educational operations	145	289	434	1,159
	<u>145</u>	<u>1,316</u>	<u>1,461</u>	<u>2,066</u>
Analysis of costs			2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Direct costs				
Teaching and educational support staff costs			866	768
Staff development			6	7
Depreciation			18	18
Technology costs			13	29
Educational supplies and services			43	26
Educational consultancy			55	13
Other direct costs			26	46
			<u>1,027</u>	<u>907</u>
Support costs				
Support staff costs			245	241
Defined benefit pension scheme - staff costs (FRS102 adjustment)			(11)	13
Depreciation			4	5
Technology costs			6	6
Maintenance of premises and equipment			14	745
Cleaning			4	3
Energy costs			58	44
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs			27	20
Insurance			6	5
Catering			40	35
Defined benefit pension scheme - finance costs (FRS102 adjustment)			5	8
Legal costs			-	2
Other support costs			23	21
Governance costs			13	11
			<u>434</u>	<u>1,159</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	866	805
Social security costs	73	52
Pension costs	205	178
Defined benefit pension scheme - staff costs (FRS102 adjustment)	(11)	13
Staff costs - employees	1,133	1,048
Agency staff costs	28	32
Total staff expenditure	<u>1,161</u>	<u>1,080</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Teachers	12	12
Administration and support	18	21
Management	1	3
	<u>31</u>	<u>36</u>

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

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Teachers	8	7
Administration and support	16	13
Management	1	2
	<u>25</u>	<u>22</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 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 benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £184,234 (2023: £155,913).

10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The Head Teacher and other Staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Head Teacher and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

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

C Hughes (Head Teacher - appointed 16/03/2024):

- Remuneration: £60,000 - £65,000 (2023: not appointed)
- Employer's pension contributions: £15,000 - £20,000 (2023: not appointed)

C Luke (Staff Trustee):

- Remuneration: £30,000 - £35,000 (2023: £30,000 - £35,000)
- Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2023: £5,000 - £10,000)

G Logue (Head Teacher - appointed 30/10/2023, resigned 15/03/2024)

- Remuneration: £30,000 - £35,000 (2023: not appointed)
- Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2023: not appointed)

11 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.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land	MUGA	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2023	459	67	44	106	676
Additions	-	-	-	14	14
At 31 August 2024	459	67	44	120	690
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	-	9	40	80	129
Charge for the year	-	7	3	12	22
At 31 August 2024	-	16	43	92	151
Net book value					
At 31 August 2024	459	51	1	28	539
At 31 August 2023	459	58	4	26	547

The Academy occupies the buildings from which it operates, under the terms of a licence to occupy that does not confer substantially all of the risks and rewards of ownership. The buildings are owned by the Southwark Roman Catholic Diocesan Corporation (a company registered with Companies House no 00393665) being the corporate body which is the Custodian Trustee of the lands and properties of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Southwark Diocesan Trust. The buildings are subject to a Supplemental Agreement dated 24 March 2016 whereby the academy occupies the buildings on a continual basis until the termination of the Funding Agreement or the Supplemental Agreement. The landlords have agreed that the academy could jointly enter into a supplemental agreement with the Secretary of State for Education which grants the academy trust the right to occupy the buildings, subject inter-alia to the landlord's ability to give two year's notice of termination of the agreement. The Trustees of the academy trust have considered carefully the requirements of and guidance notes within the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the ESFA. They have concluded that, taking into account the rights and obligations placed upon the academy trust by the licence to occupy, the substance of the arrangement is not materially different to its legal form. Accordingly they have concluded that it would be misleading to recognise the academy's right to occupy its buildings as a fixed asset on its balance sheet.

The academy trust has a 125 year lease with the Local Authority for its playing fields, the value of which is included above.

13 Debtors

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trade debtors	2	-
VAT recoverable	3	5
Prepayments and accrued income	72	225
	77	230

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Trade creditors	24	12
Other taxation and social security	18	13
ESFA creditors	86	2
Accruals and deferred income	161	275
	<u>289</u>	<u>302</u>

15 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	37	40
	<u>37</u>	<u>40</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	40	35
Released from previous years	(40)	(35)
Resources deferred in the year	37	40
	<u>37</u>	<u>40</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>37</u>	<u>40</u>

Deferred income relates to £23k (2023: £23k) of Universal Infant Free School Meal grants, £4k (2023: £4k) of Devolved Formula Capital grants, £10k (2023: £11k) income for trips and activities, and £nil (2023: £2k) of Local Authority grants.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	9	1,072	(1,081)	-	-
UIFSM	-	39	(39)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	18	(18)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	87	(87)	-	-
Other government grants	-	57	(57)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	23	(18)	(5)	-
Pension reserve	(96)	-	6	59	(31)
	<u>(87)</u>	<u>1,296</u>	<u>(1,294)</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>(31)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	485	-	(11)	-	474
DfE group capital grants	291	(104)	(138)	-	49
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	31	-	(5)	5	31
Private sector capital sponsorship	1	-	-	-	1
	<u>808</u>	<u>(104)</u>	<u>(154)</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>555</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>721</u>	<u>1,192</u>	<u>(1,448)</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>524</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>154</u>	<u>138</u>	<u>(219)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>73</u>
Total funds	<u>875</u>	<u>1,330</u>	<u>(1,667)</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>597</u>

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

The Restricted General Funds are used to fund the general operating costs of the Academy.

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 2024.

The Pension Reserve represents the Academy Trust's share of the LGPS pension fund deficit / surplus.

The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund represents the net book value of fixed assets plus the unspent element of Capital funds, less Capital Loans. When assets are purchased, the fund is increased, and depreciation charges reduce the fund.

Unrestricted Funds represent balances held at period end that can be applied at the discretion of the Trustees, to support any of the Academy Trust's charitable purposes.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Funds

(Continued)

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

	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)	74	1,039	(1,827)	723	9
UIFSM	-	37	(37)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	18	(18)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	2	(2)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	65	(65)	-	-
Other government grants	-	11	(11)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	32	(32)	-	-
Pension reserve	(180)	-	(21)	105	(96)
	<u>(106)</u>	<u>1,204</u>	<u>(2,013)</u>	<u>828</u>	<u>(87)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	496	-	(11)	-	485
DfE group capital grants	756	264	(6)	(723)	291
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	35	-	(4)	-	31
Private sector capital sponsorship	3	-	(2)	-	1
	<u>1,290</u>	<u>264</u>	<u>(23)</u>	<u>(723)</u>	<u>808</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,184</u>	<u>1,468</u>	<u>(2,036)</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>721</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	115	144	(105)	-	154
	<u>115</u>	<u>144</u>	<u>(105)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>154</u>
Total funds	<u>1,299</u>	<u>1,612</u>	<u>(2,141)</u>	<u>105</u>	<u>875</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	539	539
Current assets	262	100	16	378
Current liabilities	(189)	(100)	-	(289)
Pension scheme liability	-	(31)	-	(31)
Total net assets	<u>73</u>	<u>(31)</u>	<u>555</u>	<u>597</u>

	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	-	-	547	547
Current assets	235	230	261	726
Current liabilities	(81)	(221)	-	(302)
Pension scheme liability	-	(96)	-	(96)
Total net assets	<u>154</u>	<u>(87)</u>	<u>808</u>	<u>875</u>

18 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 London Borough of Croydon. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2022.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in 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.

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies 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 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million.

The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £109k (2023: £95k).

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 is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the Academy Trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and 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 24.6% 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	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Employer's contributions	95	83
Employees' contributions	22	20
Total contributions	117	103

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2024 %	2023 %
Rate of increase in salaries	2.65	2.95
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	19.7	19.8
- Females	24.4	24.4
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	19.2	19.3
- Females	25.8	25.9

Sensitivity analysis

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

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Discount rate - 0.1%	1,091	931
Salary Rate +0.1%	1,067	912
Pension Rate +0.1%	1,091	930

Defined benefit pension scheme net liability

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Scheme assets	1,035	814
Scheme obligations	(1,066)	(910)
Net liability	(31)	(96)

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2024 Fair value £'000	2023 Fair value £'000
Equities	683	570
Bonds	207	122
Cash	31	24
Property	114	98
	<u>1,035</u>	<u>814</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>1,035</u>	<u>814</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £107,000 (2023: £3,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Current service cost	84	96
Interest income	(45)	(32)
Interest cost	50	40
	<u>89</u>	<u>104</u>
Total amount recognised	<u>89</u>	<u>104</u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
At 1 September 2023	910	891
Current service cost	84	96
Interest cost	50	40
Employee contributions	22	20
Actuarial loss/(gain)	3	(134)
Benefits paid	(3)	(3)
	<u>1,066</u>	<u>910</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,066</u>	<u>910</u>

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

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
At 1 September 2023	814	711
Interest income	45	32
Actuarial (gain)/loss	62	(29)
Employer contributions	95	83
Employee contributions	22	20
Benefits paid	(3)	(3)
	<u>1,035</u>	<u>814</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,035</u>	<u>814</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

	Notes	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(337)	(529)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		104	(264)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	18	(11)	13
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	18	5	8
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		22	23
Decrease in debtors		153	350
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(13)	178
Net cash used in operating activities		<u>(77)</u>	<u>(221)</u>

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2023 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2024 £'000
Cash	496	(195)	301
	<u>496</u>	<u>(195)</u>	<u>301</u>

21 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2024 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Amounts due within one year	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

22 Capital commitments

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the Financial Statements	-	242
	<u>-</u>	<u>242</u>

ST AIDAN'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

23 Related party transactions

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

A close family member of Mrs J Horrigan, the Chair of Governors, is the treasurer of the St Aidan's School Association (SASA). The Academy Trust received income from SASA of £22,625 (2023: £25,522) and made purchases of £nil (2023: £nil) from SASA.

In entering into the above transactions, the Trust has complied with the requirements of ESFA's Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

24 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.

