

Company Registration No. 9258843 (England and Wales)

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

**GOVERNORS' STRATEGIC REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Governors

J Hayes (Chair from 27 September 2016)
I Vassallo (Accounting officer)
C Baxter
M Beechinor-Collins (Resigned 26 September 2017)
H Blake-James
Reverend Father T R Brennan
B Flannery (Appointed 11 October 2016)
C Foster
E Jones (Chair until 26 September 2016) (Resigned 22 November 2016)
R Lambeth (Chair of Resources & Audit)
M Marston (Resigned 23 April 2017)
Sr. E O'Neill
A Thornton (Vice Chair of Governors)
Reverend Father S G Wymer (Appointed 10 July 2017)

Members

J Hayes
Reverend Monsignor M J Dickens, Vicar General
Sr E O'Neill, Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus

Senior leadership team

I Vassallo	- Headteacher
S Durand	- Deputy Headteacher
C Mangan	- Assistant Headteacher
K Bailey	- Chief Financial Officer

Company secretary K Bailey

Company registration number 9258843 (England and Wales)

Registered office St Mary's Catholic Primary School
Westgate Road
Beckenham
BR3 5DE

Independent auditor Wilkins Kennedy LLP
Greytown House
221-227 High Street
Orpington
BR6 ONZ

Bankers Lloyds Bank Plc
6-8 Market Square
Bromley
Kent
BR1 1NA

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Solicitors

Stone King LLP
Boundary House
91 Charterhouse Street
London
EC1M 6HR

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The governors present their annual report together with the financial statements and independent auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 servicing a catchment area in accordance with the academy's admissions policy as detailed on its website. It has a pupil capacity of 435 and had a roll of 425 registered on 31 August 2017.

Please note that in the following the terms "school", "academy" and "academy trust" are used interchangeably and relate to the operation and activity of St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee without share capital (registration no.09258843) and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy. The Governors act as the Trustees for the charitable activities of St Mary's Catholic Primary School and they are also Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

Details of the governors who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School was incorporated on 10 October 2014 and obtained Academy status from 1 November 2014.

Members' liability

The liability of the Members of the Academy Trust is limited.

Every Member of the Academy Trust undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the Academy Trust's assets if it should be wound up while he or she is a member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, for payment of the Academy Trust's debts and liabilities before he or she ceases to be a member, and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories among themselves.

Governors' Indemnities

In accordance with the Articles of Association, subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Governor or other officer or auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by him or her in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which he/she is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him/her by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust. The academy recognises this risk and mitigates this by sufficient insurance cover.

Principal activities

The principal activity of the Academy is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular managing and developing a Catholic academy for children aged 4 to 11 which offers a broad and balanced curriculum and is conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Catholic Church and all Catholic canon law. In doing so it meets the requirements of the Funding Agreement signed by the Secretary of State for Education. A copy of this document is found on the school's website.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors

The Academy Trust shall have the following Governors: -

- 8 foundation Governors appointed under Article 50 of which 3 may be appointed by the Provincial Superior of the Trustees (The Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus) and 5 by the Archbishop;
- no less than 2 Staff Governors appointed under Articles 50A and 58A;
- up to 1 Local Governor appointed under Article 51;
- no less than 2 Parent Governors elected or appointed under Articles 53-58;
- the Headteacher.

The Academy may also have up to two Co-opted Governors appointed under Article 59 provided that if any such Governors are appointed the number of Foundation Governors permitted by Articles 46 and 50 shall increase proportionately to ensure that the number of Foundation Governors always exceeds the total number of other Governors by at least two.

The maximum term of office for any Governor shall be 4 years, save that this time limit shall not apply to the Head Teacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any Governor may be re-appointed or re-elected for up to three terms in total.

Members

The members of the Academy Trust are comprised of three ex officio members being the Vicar General, one person nominated by the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and the Chair of Governors.

Further persons may be members subject to the terms of Article 16.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of governors

The training and induction provided for new Governors will depend on their existing experience. All new Governors will be given a tour of the school and the chance to meet with staff, children and other governors. All relevant governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as governors. As there are normally only one or two new governors each period, induction is tailored specifically to the individual. In keeping with the academy's commitment to the safeguarding and wellbeing of the children and adults, safeguarding training is made available to all governors.

The Governing Body regularly undertakes a review of its scope, range and level of skills amongst the governors. Skills audits are undertaken annually. The results are discussed in depth at a regular meeting of the Governing Body. This ensures any deficiencies are addressed and all appropriate skills and strengths are allocated to supporting the relevant area in the academy.

Organisational structure

The academy's structure consists of three levels: the Governors, Senior Leadership Team and Middle Leaders (including Subject Leaders). The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the school by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The governors have approved a formal scheme of delegation. By this document the governors have delegated powers and functions to the Headteacher as required for the internal organisation, management and control of the academy, for the direction of the teaching and curriculum in the academy and for financial and administrative matters.

The Senior Leadership Team consists of the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher. These leaders control the Academy at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the governors and reporting back to them. As a group, the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff: appointment boards for middle and senior leader posts will contain at least one governor.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Remuneration for key management personnel is based on the school's staff pay policy which for members of the teaching staff is set currently in accordance with the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions (STPC) and for members of the support team in accordance with the National Joint Council.

The Headteacher's pay and conditions are determined in accordance with the latest STPC which includes the necessary benchmarking for an academy such as St Mary's. The Headteacher's pay and performance are reviewed annually by the Chair and members of the governing body.

All managers and key personnel are rigorously performance managed annually taking into consideration job evaluation and past performance. Consequently, each manager's salary is paid in accordance with proven skills and performance.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The school is a founding member of the Bromley Catholic Schools Trust. This is an umbrella trust and its aims are to facilitate collaboration and cooperation between the academies with a particular emphasis on improving standards so that the member schools might better serve their communities and promote the common good. It consists of eight primary academies operating predominantly though not exclusively in the London Borough of Bromley.

The Chair of Governors and the Headteacher of the academy sit on the board of the umbrella trust as directors.

The post of Chair of the Bromley Catholic Schools Trust rotates amongst the directors of the schools. This post was held by St James's Roman Catholic Primary School until 31 August 2016 and from 1 September 2017 will be held by Holy Innocents' Catholic Primary School.

The activities of the academies and the umbrella trust shall be in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Catholic Church and all Catholic canon law applying thereto having regard to any advice given by the officers appointed by the Archbishop and being responsible for the Catholic schools in the Archdiocese of Southwark (charity number 0235468). This latter mentioned body is known as the Education Commission in the Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark. During the year the Director of Education was Dr Anne Bamford and the Deputy Director was Mr Stephen Bryan. Under the direction of the Archbishop the umbrella trust will assist in establishing, sponsoring, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Catholic schools in Bromley.

The school has entered into an agreement between itself, the Secretary of State for Education and the academy's trustees, the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart (Charity number 221319) and the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark for the use of the land and buildings on which the school stands.

The school is the beneficiary of the activities of St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Beckenham) Voluntary Fund (Charity number 1144157). The remit of this charity is to advance the education of the children at the school by providing and assisting in the provision of facilities (not required to be provided by the Local Education Authority) for education at the school.

The school is also the beneficiary of the activities of the St Mary's Parents and Teachers Association (Charity number 312476). This body raises funds to support the activities of the school by providing for funding for higher value items of educational equipment, furniture, fixture and fittings as well as enhancing the educational provision in the school.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

St Mary's Catholic Primary School opened as an Academy on 1 November 2014.

The object of the academy trust is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a Catholic school designated as such ("the Academy") which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Catholic Church and all Catholic canon law applying thereto including any trust deed governing the use of land used by the Academy both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship and having regard to any advice and following directives issued by the Archbishop.

The governors, staff and parents of the school share high aspirations for all children. Our aim is to provide an education where each child is enabled to realise his/her potential academically, physically, morally, socially and spiritually. It is the responsibility of all staff, parents and governors, in collaboration with the local Catholic parishes of St Edmund's, Beckenham, St Mark's, West Wickham and The Holy Rosary Church, Hayes to assist children on their faith journeys, deepening their understanding of the beliefs and traditions of the Catholic church.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main activities of the Academy during the period ended 31 August 2017 are summarised below: -

- to pass on Church teaching and to encourage a development of faith at each individual's level;
- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, teaching and pastoral care;
- to raise the standard of educational achievement of all children, ensuring every child reaches his or her full potential and makes the best progress possible;
- to improve the effectiveness of the Academy by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to ensure that the school is suitably staffed;
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- to ensure teaching and learning is of the highest standard;
- to conduct the Academy's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness;
- to develop and maintain links with local Catholic parishes, the Bromley Catholic Schools Trust and its constituent members, the Archdiocese of Southwark and the wider community including working with other educational establishments.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School values diversity and seeks to give everyone in the school an equal chance to learn, work and live, free from the action, or fear, of racism, discrimination, or prejudice. By our actions we will work together to develop the potential of all children academically, socially, culturally and psychologically and to establish a community that is just and fair for all people who work at, learn in or visit St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Our aim is for children to be happy and healthy, enthused by the intellectual, social and physical challenges posed by their experience at the school. They will be independent learners, aware of how to learn and of the role of emotions and dispositions in the learning process, which they draw on to address challenge and difficulty, as well as success.

All staff will have the opportunity to develop their pedagogy further as self-directed, reflective learners, through working collaboratively with others to enhance their own expertise. Through their passion, teachers will enthuse and inspire others to explore new ideas.

Parents will fulfil their roles as true partners, recognising their role in the student -school - parent partnership to ensure that their child realises his/her potential.

Governors will contribute to the life of the school on a wider scale, acting as critical friends to support the school in becoming a recognised centre of excellence.

Public benefit

The Governors confirm that they have had due regard to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the Academy's aims and objectives and in exercising their powers or duties when planning future activities. In particular, the governors consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

As a Catholic academy, we aim to provide a Catholic education for all our children where the Catholic doctrine and practice permeates every aspect of the school's activity.

The academy exists primarily to serve Catholic families who regularly worship at the parishes of St Edmund's Beckenham; St Mark's West Wickham and The Holy Rosary Hayes. Subject to the availability of places, the Governing Body welcomes applications from Catholic families from other parishes as well as those of other denominations and faiths who support the religious ethos of the school.

The Governing Body has responsibility for admissions to this academy and, having consulted with the Archdiocese, the local authority and other admission authorities, intends to admit 60 children to Reception in each new school year. Additional children can be admitted to Year 3 and above (places permitting) in accordance with the prevailing admissions policy.

Children are admitted to the school without reference to ability or aptitude.

Full details of the school's admissions policy can be found on its website (<http://www.st-marys-catholic.bromley.sch.uk/Policies>).

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

St Mary's is a two-form entry Catholic Primary School. There are currently 425 pupils on roll in 14 classes. Pupils come from a variety of different backgrounds. There has been a considerable increase in recent years of pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds and the percentage of pupils for whom English is an additional language has also increased significantly, particularly with pupils joining the school from Eastern Europe and Latin America. Although the proportion of pupils with funded SEN is below the national average, the proportion with significant need is well above. The staffing complement has been very stable in recent years, with the headteacher having been in place for 12 years. The school has a number of productive partnerships and converted to Academy status in November 2014, joining a newly-formed Umbrella Trust with the other Bromley Catholic primary schools.

The school was judged by Ofsted at the recent one day inspection on 12 September 2017 to continue to be "good".

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Of particular note were the following points made by the inspector in her letter: -

- That the school has maintained a good quality of education, creating a welcoming, caring and very harmonious atmosphere where all feel valued;
- That clear and determined leadership has been an inspiration to others and that staff morale is high;
- That the school has sustained high expectations for children's work and behaviour;
- That parents and carers said that the school community is caring and inclusive and that it feels like a family;
- That there is consistently good attendance rates;
- That the school supports learning the faith;
- That there is a diverse workforce and members of the local community from other cultural backgrounds help to ensure that pupils learn about the beliefs and customs of others;
- That there is a strong safeguarding culture at the school with up to date training;
- That staff are vigilant in spotting changes in the behaviour of children who may be at risk from harm;
- That staff understand their responsibilities to keep pupils safe and have a good knowledge of the most up to date statutory guidance.

A copy of the inspector's letter and the full inspection report are available on both the school's website and Ofsted's.

The school's Section 48 inspection (March 2014) graded the school as outstanding.

Attainment on entry is broadly in line with national expectations. By the end of KS1 and KS2 attainment has consistently been significantly above the national average, suggesting very strong progress from initial starting points. The proportion of pupils meeting and exceeding national expectations for progress is high in all areas. The school's internal tracking data shows progress across the year groups in moving towards and exceeding national expectations to be rapid.

The progress of pupils with SEN throughout the school is very strong, though slightly below that of their peers because a few have some severe cognitive difficulties. Work scrutinies confirm that pupils with SEN are accessing activities in lessons and making very good progress. A range of interventions are provided for pupils with SEN and in the impact of these is monitored stringently to ensure improved progress and value for money.

Lesson observations highlight pupils' excellent learning skills and application. They have a high level of self-motivation and self-discipline and are ready to take the next steps in learning.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Key performance indicators

The school's aim is to deliver outstanding teaching and learning throughout the school. Our aim is to ensure that the quality of leadership and management, teaching, behaviour and outcomes for children consistently meet the criteria of outstanding as measured by Ofsted.

To achieve these aims the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team (SLT) rigorously monitor performance against the Self Evaluation Form (SEF). With the assistance of governors in their roles as critical friends, the SLT consistently and continuously re-evaluates all children's learning and wellbeing, ensuring the highest possible standards are achieved.

The school has very high expectations for children's attendance and rates have been at 97.4% for a three-year period, with very few incidents of persistent absenteeism.

Key financial performance indicators

The governors have determined that the following parameters will be applied in relation to the school's financial performance: -

- the school will seek to maintain a 3 and 5 year balanced budget;
- Maintain adequate staffing levels to meet requirements of the timetable;
- Maintain staffing levels to ensure the needs of children with special educational needs (SEN) are met;
- Maintain a 3 and 5 year budget to include the priorities as set in the Strategic Plan and the School Development Plan;
- Continuing successful initiatives to enable increased student achievement.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of governors 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 governors continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, some of which are restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the period ended 31 August 2017 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the period ended 31 August 2017, total expenditure of £2,274k (2016: £1.912k) was met by recurrent grant funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources. The excess of expenditure over income for the period (excluding restricted fixed asset funds and transfers to restricted fixed asset funds) was £246k (2016: £150k income over expenditure).

At 31 August 2017 the net book value of fixed assets was £4,272k (2016: £4,329k). Movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 12 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

The Local Government Pensions Scheme, in which the Academy participates, showed a deficit of £442k (2016: £595k) at 31 August 2017.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Reserves policy

The Governors review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Governors have determined that the appropriate level of unrestricted reserves should be equivalent to four weeks' expenditure, approximately £150k (2016: £150k).

The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent repairs and maintenance. The academy's current level of unrestricted reserves is £174k (2016: £142k) (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds).

The academy's current level of restricted funds was £3,964k (2016: £3,921k), made up of fixed asset funds £4,278k (2016: £4,329k), General Annual Grant (GAG) funds £128k (2016: £187k) and the pension deficit of £442k (2016: £595k).

Using three and five year budget projections and with due regard to the condition of the building and its infrastructure, with the governors approval, the school has built up reserves beyond the guidelines indicated in the reserves policy. There are three reasons for this: 1) notwithstanding the possibilities of funding being accessed by bids and grants, to address and support several significant building improvement and repair projects amongst which include replacement of the academy's heating system; 2) to increase learning support for the children through increased resources particularly staffing; 3) to meet the challenges of changing local demographics. Projections show that within 2 years the level of reserves will fall back to the policy levels.

The governors implemented plans to replace faulty and defective windows and doors as well as the flooring in the KS2 area of the school. The governors have agreed to feasibility studies for the renewal of the heating system, and the hot and cold water distribution system. Both projects will have the additional benefit of more efficient and greener resource consumption.

It is anticipated that this expenditure from the reserves will bring the level down to those anticipated within the reserves policy. The governors look to manage its balances in a prudent manner giving due consideration to both the educational needs of the children as well as ensuring their well-being, and the staff's, in the school buildings and on the site.

The Academy held fund balances at 31 August 2017 of £4,138k (2016: £4,063k) comprising £3,964k (2016: £3,921k) of restricted funds and £174k (2016: £142k) of unrestricted general funds. Of the restricted funds, £4,278k (2016: £4,329k) is represented by tangible fixed assets and £128k (2016: £187k) related to unspent grants.

The Pension reserve which is considered part of restricted funds was £442k (2016: £595k) in deficit.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Investment policy and powers

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the academy has the power to invest funds not immediately required for its own purposes. To this end the governors approved an Investment Policy the purposes of which are the following: -

- To ensure adequate cash balances are maintained in the current account to cover day-to-day requirements;
- To ensure there is no risk of loss in the capital value of any cash funds invested;
- To protect the capital value of any invested funds against inflation;
- To optimise returns on invested funds.

The school has a positive cash balance to cover eventualities and unforeseen expenses. The school has no investments other than a current account with Lloyds Bank. This is considered prudent by the Governors given the very low interest rate environment, the needs of the school's financial operation day-to-day and the lack of any desire to take any unnecessary financial risks.

The banking facilities are reviewed on a regular basis.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The governors have identified the following as key operational areas : -

- Teaching and learning;
- Financial and human resource and management.

Using the academy's Risk Register, the Governors have assessed the risks to which the school might be exposed and especially in these operational areas as well as without limitation to health and safety, safeguarding, bullying, school trips, technical failure, external factors and socio-economic challenges. Policies have been developed to minimise risk and the implementation of those policies are checked independently by the academy's auditors.

The Governors recognise that specifically there can be significant risks revolving around Health & Safety and in relation to the control of finance (e.g. insufficient funding, fire or damage, improper use of funds, acting outside of the charitable objects of the charity) and these are mitigated either by effective policies or insurance. The Governors remain particularly vigilant towards risks to the financial stability of the academy caused either by technical failure or changes in government funding policies.

Where significant financial risk remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The school has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement. Some significant risks such as public and employee liability are covered by the academy's insurance policy.

There is a formal risk register in place that is reviewed regularly by governors and managed operationally by the Headteacher and the School Business Manager.

The Governors' attitude to risk depends on the type of risk. It is not the Governors approach to eliminate all risk as this would be an inefficient use of resources and would dampen opportunity and innovation however where the children and their safety and safeguarding are concerned the school's attitude is uncompromising: not only will the children be safe, they will be seen to be safe and they will think themselves safe.

The principal risks and uncertainties that St Mary's Catholic Primary School faces are mitigated by the risk management process that the academy trust has in place.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The main financial risk to which St Mary's Catholic Primary School is exposed, taking account of the mitigations in place, relates to the risk of any future income reduction. This would be due to the possibility of future government spending reductions affecting the academy's general grant or the failure of the academy to maintain sufficient levels of admissions, reducing available funding. The school monitors such risks by compiling various budget scenarios to identify appropriate indicators showing increased risk.

A risk exists in relation to the defined benefit pension scheme, the Local Government Pension Scheme which currently shows a deficit of £442k (2016: £595k). The risk is assessed annually by the appointed actuary, Mercer Limited, reviewed by the Governing Body and recorded appropriately in the financial statements. In mitigation of this risk, the Governing Body can show it has acted on the advice of the actuary to make suitable adjustments to its contribution level to address the risk.

Furthermore on 18 July 2013 Parliament agreed at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to guarantee that, in the event of closure, outstanding LGPS liabilities would be met by the DfE.

Plans for future periods

The school will continue striving to improve the levels of performance of its children at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure the children are ready, willing and able to meet the challenges of the next stage of their education and development.

Evidence shows that the school has a good understanding of its strengths and areas for development based on rigorous analysis of data and monitoring of teaching and learning. The school makes good use of external validation to secure its judgement on the quality of provision and subsequent outcomes. The School Improvement Plan (SIP) has specific areas identified for improvement and is based on regular analysis of data which is meticulously analysed by the SLT.

The SIP is regularly monitored and is reviewed termly by the SLT and governors. It is underpinned by appropriate budget links. School Improvement strategies have an impact as the emphasis is sharply focused on Teaching and Learning and on pupil progress. These focus on rigorous monitoring, high quality CPD (continuing professional development) and thorough analysis of test and Teacher Assessment data. Formative assessment is part of daily pedagogical practice and feeds into half termly summative assessment. The school makes good provision for personalised learning and intervention programmes and has developed a rich, creative curriculum which includes and stretches children across the ability range.

The school will continue to maintain and, where possible, develop the site to the benefit of the community as a whole. In keeping with the aims above regarding financial performance the school will aim to maintain adequate staffing levels to meet the requirements of all of the children in its care.

The school will seek other streams of income in support of all its aims and objectives.

Auditor

In so far as the governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the governors 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 governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of governors, as the company directors, on 21 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

J Hayes

Chair from 27 September 2016

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Scope of responsibility

As governors we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that St Mary'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 governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between St Mary's Catholic Primary School and the Secretary of State for Education. She is also responsible for reporting to the board of governors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

To deliver assurance the governors have established a programme of risk review and checking of financial controls by the performance of a supplementary programme of work by the school's external auditor. Reports are submitted to the Resources and Audit Committee for consideration and review and for submission to the full governing body. These arrangements can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected in a timely period.

Governance

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

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
J Hayes (Chair from 27 September 2016)	5	5
I Vassallo (Accounting officer)	5	5
C Baxter	4	5
M Beechinor-Collins (Resigned 26 September 2017)	4	5
H Blake-James	5	5
Reverend Father T R Brennan	3	5
B Flannery (Appointed 11 October 2016)	4	4
C Foster	3	5
E Jones (Chair until 26 September 2016) (Resigned 22 November 2016)	1	1
R Lambeth (Chair of Resources & Audit)	2	2
M Marston (Resigned 23 April 2017)	3	3
Sr. E O'Neill	2	2
A Thornton (Vice Chair of Governors)	4	5
Reverend Father S G Wymer (Appointed 10 July 2017)	0	1

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Governing Body understands its responsibilities for ensuring delivery of high standards of corporate governance and overseeing strategies designed to enhance and develop educational standards and levels of achievement for children at St Mary's Catholic Primary School.

The Governing Body exercises its powers and functions with a view to fulfilling its strategic leadership role in the running of the school, addressing such matters as:

- policy development and strategic planning, including target-setting to maintain focus on school improvement;
- ensuring sound management and administration of the school, and ensuring that managers are equipped with relevant skills and guidance;
- ensuring compliance with legal requirements;
- establishing and maintaining a transparent system of prudent and effective internal controls.
- management of the school's financial, human and other resources
- monitoring performance and the achievement of objectives, and ensuring that plans for improvement are acted upon;
- helping the school to be responsive to the needs of parents, Holy Church and the wider community and making it more accountable through consultation and reporting;

To these ends the Governors have created two sub-committees, Resources and Audit, and Standards and Achievement, and approves annually a Scheme of Delegation. The committees are responsible to the Governing Body for overseeing respectively the following:

- finance, premises and property, health and safety, human resources and audit; and,
- curriculum planning and delivery, assessment and improvement, talent management and engagement.

In accordance with the annually approved Terms of Reference for each committee both convene regularly and report their findings and activities to the full Governing Body.

During the year the Governors and senior members of staff have ensured that resources have been directed to where they are most needed and most effective in meeting the diverse educational requirements of the children. The school's varied curriculum has gone to ensure all children have had the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment and to achieve ambitious progress targets.

The school has focused on the individual needs of each child and this is reflected in the continued high standards in the performance of our children which have always been above the national average at the end of each Key Stage.

The Governors and senior members of staff have ensured that resources have been targeted in line with the School Improvement Plan's priorities and have been reviewed regularly to ensure there is an impact on children's progress and attainment.

Assessment, tracking and monitoring processes are continually being reviewed and developed to ensure data is used to inform planning, target interventions and support differentiation. Governors are appropriately trained and versed in the use of the school's various tracking tools including TargetTracker, FFT and Raiseonline. Performance data is a key element of the termly headteacher's report.

The Governors and senior members of staff have deployed staff to provide best value in terms of quality teaching, quality of learning, adult pupil ratio and curriculum management. With due regard to financial prudence, the Governors, on the recommendation of the SLT, have approved the employment of additional specialist staff in the curriculum areas of PE, Music, Art and Modern Foreign Languages to ensure high quality subject delivery and of additional Teaching Assistants to effectively support class teachers delivering enhanced teaching and to implement intervention programmes and booster classes.

The Governors require the SLT to regularly review the staffing structure by observation and performance management to ensure effective teaching practices and quality first teaching.

For those children who attract Pupil Premium funding and at risk of underachieving, the Governors have approved implementing a variety of intervention programmes on a one to one basis or in small groups. Funding for these children is allocated to optimal effect as indicated by the detailed breakdown on the school website.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Universal Free School meals have been successfully implemented for all our Reception and Key Stage One children to provide nutritional meals daily.

The Governing Body undertakes an annual Skills Audit: the most recent being in March 2017. It takes advantage of its membership of the National Governors Association utilising its skills assessment tools. The findings from the Skills Audits are discussed at a full Governing Body meeting and are then used to ensure the Governing Body has appropriate experience, expertise and representation from many areas to achieve its aim of delivering the best possible outcomes for its stakeholders. The most recent Skills Audit demonstrated it has strength in all areas. The Skills Audit also helps to ensure any appropriate training needs are addressed.

As can be seen in the above table, during the year three governors resigned, two new governors were appointed with another pending. One of the governors, B Flannery, a long-standing and valued member of staff, was elected by members of staff and the other, Fr S Wymer, was appointed as a Foundation Governor by the Archbishop of Southwark. One appointment is pending.

Having up to date information on the skills base of the Governing Body has gone to ensure there are the necessary skills, breadth of experience and personal qualities needed to sustain and enhance the workings of the governors at St Mary's.

This year the Governors looked to enhance the collective expertise in the fields of information technology and finance. From a large band of prospective candidates the governors have proposed appointing two new governors: one as a foundation governor and the other as an associate governor. The associate governor role is a new concept for the school and the appointment was within the Governing Body's remit. The role allows the governors to nurture into governorship those individuals with the qualifications and experience needed to enhance the skills balance while affording the appointee the time and opportunity to learn about the role of the governor without the full responsibilities at this time.

The evidence from the recent Ofsted monitoring report, 27th September 2017, confirmed that the Governors were fulfilling their statutory duties effectively. The inspector commented, "They know the school well and provide effective support and a good level of challenge. They gather information from a range of internal and external sources, and ask searching questions that help the school improve its performance. They make visits to the school and gather the views of staff, parents and pupils. They have made difficult financial decisions recently to ensure that they maintain the high quality of education, while still ensuring value for money." The inspector added to the Governors, "You have ensured that the progress of disadvantaged pupils is central to provision and governors use the individual pupil assessment information when holding leaders to account."

The Resources and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the Governing Body and its purpose is to have oversight of the following elements of the school's operation: finance, premises and property, health and safety, human resources and personnel and audit. The committee assists in the decision making of the Governing Body by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the school's finances and resources. It oversees the annual budget, reporting regularly to the full Governing Body, by monitoring income and expenditure, agreeing limits of expenditure delegation, reviewing and monitoring all policies under the scope of the committee's remit, as delegated by the Governing Body, ensuring compliance with the Procurement and Tendering Policy, Best Value Statement and Academies Financial Handbook and by ensuring that financial control systems are robust. Additionally, the committee monitors, evaluates and reviews the school's policy and practice in relation to premises and property, human resources and personnel. Finally, within its extended remit the committee is responsible for audit, in particular: governance, risk management and internal control. The committee's work focuses on providing assurances to the Governing Body that risks are being adequately identified and managed by reviewing the reports and taking advice from the external auditors and by agreeing a programme of work to address and provide assurance on those risks.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
I Vassallo (Accounting officer)	4	4
H Blake-James	3	4
Reverend Father T R Brennan	4	4
B Flannery (Appointed 11 October 2016)	3	3
R Lambeth (Chair of Resources & Audit)	2	2
M Marston (Resigned 23 April 2017)	2	2
A Thornton (Vice Chair of Governors)	4	4

Review of value for money

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

The Headteacher considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year and reports to the Governors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Headteacher for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year specifically to improve educational outcomes and to enhance the working environment for staff and children alike.

Resources have been directed to where they are most needed and most effective in meeting diverse educational requirements of the children. We have focused on the individual needs of each pupil and this is reflected in the standards performance of our children. Additional specialist staff have been employed in the curriculum areas of PE, Music, Art and Modern Foreign Languages to ensure high quality subject delivery. Additional Teaching Assistants have been employed to effectively support class teachers delivering enhanced teaching and to implement intervention programmes and Booster classes.

This year the school employed the expert services of a building surveyor who, working with the Headteacher, School Business Manager and Site Manager, successfully bid for funding from the Condition Improvement Fund to renew the school's roof and, separately, initiated a programme of refurbishment to the school funded from reserves. Under the terms of the Procurement Policy and with Governors' approval, best value was sought for the range and scope of works tendered. The results have gone to improve and enhance the teaching and learning environment for the staff and children and the health and safety standard in the school.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

FINANCIAL GOVERNANCE AND OVERSIGHT

Financial governance and oversight is strong in our academy. Our Governing body has considerable financial, legal and management experience. We have developed a strong Resources and Audit committee which includes qualified personnel.

Management accounts are produced and discussed with senior managers and the Governing Body to ensure value for money.

Spending proposals are costed and presented to senior leaders and governors and a business case is produced to support major investments. All proposals are challenged appropriately at all levels.

Regular Budget to Actual comparisons are produced and explained to senior staff and governors by the School Business Manager.

All contracts are reviewed when renewed to ensure the academy's interests are secured and are fit for purpose and provide best value. Consideration is given to both local and national contractors in determining best value before any commitment is made. All economies of cost are investigated by senior management to ensure efficient services are provided to children and staff. Evidence shows that the school ensures that multiple tenders are sourced where appropriate to ensure Value for Money.

Cash Flow is important and regular reporting together with projections are provided to enhance management of the school's financial resources.

The School's internal auditors make three visits each year to report on all aspects of finance, business and governance each year and report independently to the Governors to ensure the school maintains or achieves improved financial support and 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 Mary's Catholic Primary School for the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of governors 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 governors 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 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of governors.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

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 periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of governors;
- regular reviews by the Resources 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;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Governing Body has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Governors have appointed Wilkins Kennedy LLP, to complete the internal audit function. Wilkins Kennedy LLP's 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 include:

- Testing of control systems
- Testing of control account/ bank reconciliation
- Review of policies and procedures and adherence thereon
- Review of governance and training of Governors

Wilkins Kennedy LLP reports to the Governing body on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Governing Body's financial responsibilities. The role is carried out by a separate team at Wilkins Kennedy LLP with no connection to the audit team, this is to ensure the reviews are carried out independently.

Wilkins Kennedy LLP delivered their schedule of work as planned and any recommendations are being actioned. There were no issues of concern identified.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy 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 Resources and Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of governors on 21 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

J Hayes
Chair from 27 September 2016

I Vassallo
Accounting officer

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

As accounting officer of St Mary's Catholic Primary School I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of governors and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of governors 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

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 governors and ESFA.

I Vassallo
Accounting Officer

21 November 2017

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The governors (who act as trustees for St Mary's Catholic Primary School and are also the directors of St Mary's Catholic Primary School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued 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 governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the governors 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 governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017;
- 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors 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 board of governors on 21 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

J Hayes

Chair from 27 September 2016

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St Mary's Catholic Primary School (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2017 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2017 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017.

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Governors' 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 Governors' 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 Governors' 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 governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities, the governors 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors either intend to liquidate the Academy Trust, 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 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.

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

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Use of our report

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

**Michelle Wilkes (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Wilkins Kennedy LLP**

18 December 2017

**Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants**

Greytown House
221-227 High Street
Orpington
BR6 ONZ

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 28 January 2015 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2015 to 2016, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St Mary's Catholic Primary School during the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 Mary'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 St Mary'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 Mary's Catholic Primary School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of St Mary's Catholic Primary School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 November 2014 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2016, 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 2016 to 2017. 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 2016 to 31 August 2017 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 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.

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including high level financial control areas and areas assessed of presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity, where such controls, policies and procedures apply to classes of transactions. This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements to the extent evidence from the conduct of that audit supports the regularity conclusion as well as additional testing based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Wilkins Kennedy LLP
Greytown House
221-227 High Street
Orpington
BR6 ONZ

Dated: 18 December 2017

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2017 £'000	Total 2016 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	45	30	216	291	64
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	1,785	-	1,785	1,844
Other trading activities	5	75	-	-	75	72
Total income and endowments		<u>120</u>	<u>1,815</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>2,151</u>	<u>1,980</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	88	2,093	93	2,274	1,912
Total expenditure	6	<u>88</u>	<u>2,093</u>	<u>93</u>	<u>2,274</u>	<u>1,912</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		32	(278)	123	(123)	68
Transfers between funds		-	174	(174)	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	198	-	198	(219)
Net movement in funds		<u>32</u>	<u>94</u>	<u>(51)</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>(151)</u>
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>142</u>	<u>(408)</u>	<u>4,329</u>	<u>4,063</u>	<u>4,214</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>174</u>	<u>(314)</u>	<u>4,278</u>	<u>4,138</u>	<u>4,063</u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2016	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	2016
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	39	25	-	64
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	1,844	-	1,844
Other trading activities	5	72	-	-	72
Total income and endowments		111	1,869	-	1,980
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	84	1,746	82	1,912
Total expenditure	6	84	1,746	82	1,912
Net income/(expenditure)		27	123	(82)	68
Transfers between funds		-	(25)	25	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(219)	-	(219)
Net movement in funds		27	(121)	(57)	(151)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		115	(287)	4,386	4,214
Total funds carried forward		142	(408)	4,329	4,063

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2017

		2017		2016	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		4,272		4,329
Current assets					
Debtors	12	77		36	
Cash at bank and in hand		334		356	
		<u>411</u>		<u>392</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(103)		(63)	
Net current assets			308		329
Net assets excluding pension liability			4,580		4,658
Defined benefit pension liability	18		(442)		(595)
Net assets			<u>4,138</u>		<u>4,063</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds			4,278		4,329
- Restricted income funds			128		187
- Pension reserve			(442)		(595)
Total restricted funds			<u>3,964</u>		<u>3,921</u>
Unrestricted income funds	16		174		142
Total funds			<u>4,138</u>		<u>4,063</u>

The financial statements set out on pages 26 to 48 were approved by the board of governors and authorised for issue on 21 November 2017 and are signed on its behalf by:

J Hayes
Chair from 27 September 2016

Company Number 9258843

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

		2017		2016	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	19		(202)		169
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE and ESFA		216		-	
Payments to acquire tangible fixed assets		(36)		(25)	
		<u> </u>	180	<u> </u>	(25)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(22)		144
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2016			356		212
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2017			<u>334</u>		<u>356</u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1 Accounting policies

St Mary's Catholic Primary School is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the governors' 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 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 2016 to 2017 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

St Mary's Catholic Primary School meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The governors 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 governors 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 receivable

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.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

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 financial statements 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.

Interest receivable

Interest receivable is included within the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis.

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.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management, governors' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Tangible fixed assets acquired since the Academy was established are included in the accounts at cost. Assets costing less than £1,000 or groups of the same assets amounting to £3,000 are written off in the year of acquisition. All other assets are capitalised.

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. 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 such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the academy trust's depreciation policy. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds the cost is transferred to the restricted fixed asset fund, depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund.

In accordance with the accounting treatment set out by the Academies accounts direction the land and buildings have been included as an asset in the financial statements.

The Land and buildings has been included at the valuation provided by the ESFA when completing its desktop valuation.

The academy trust has a Licence for the use of the Land and buildings from the voluntary aided school's trustees, the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus, and the Catholic Archdiocese of Southwark under a church supplemental agreement. There is also a Deed of Release in place between the academy trust and the Handmaids of the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

The Church Supplemental Agreement is a rolling agreement with a minimum two years written notice period for termination, no such notice has been given at the date of signing the accounts.

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:

Land and buildings	Buildings 2%; Land is not depreciated
Computer equipment	33.33%
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20%

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 of services it must provide.

1.7 Leasing commitments

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

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 so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 18, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded 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 operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 governors.

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education Funding Agency/Department for Education.

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.

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 the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2017. 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

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 10 for the carrying amount of the property plant and equipment, and note 1.5 for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

Bad debts

Debtors are regularly reviewed for recoverability, any debts which in the opinion of management are not recoverable are provided for as a specific bad debt.

There are no key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000	Total 2016 £'000
Capital grants	-	216	216	-
Other donations	45	30	75	64
	<u>45</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>291</u>	<u>64</u>

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000	Total 2016 £'000
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	1,650	1,650	1,691
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	107	107	122
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,757</u>	<u>1,757</u>	<u>1,813</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	25	25	31
	<u>-</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>31</u>
Other funds				
Other incoming resources	-	3	3	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>1,785</u>	<u>1,785</u>	<u>1,844</u>

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000	Total 2016 £'000
Hire of facilities	18	-	18	17
Catering income	51	-	51	42
Other income	6	-	6	13
	<u>75</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>72</u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Premises & equipment £'000	Other costs £'000	Total 2017 £'000	Total 2016 £'000
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	1,174	57	118	1,349	1,323
- Allocated support costs	310	365	250	925	589
	<u>1,484</u>	<u>422</u>	<u>368</u>	<u>2,274</u>	<u>1,912</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	8	8
- Other services	3	3
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	93	82
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	13	13
	<u>117</u>	<u>106</u>

7 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000	Total 2016 £'000
Direct costs - educational operations	29	1,320	1,349	1,323
Support costs - educational operations	59	866	925	589
	<u>88</u>	<u>2,186</u>	<u>2,274</u>	<u>1,912</u>

	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	310	207
Depreciation and amortisation	36	25
Technology costs	6	6
Premises costs	304	104
Other support costs	235	232
Governance costs	34	15
	<u>925</u>	<u>589</u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

8 Staff costs

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	1,131	1,064
Social security costs	103	82
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	244	197
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Staff costs	1,478	1,343
Staff development and other staff costs	6	9
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total staff expenditure	<u>1,484</u>	<u>1,352</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2017	2016
	Number	Number
Teachers	19	17
Administration and support	29	29
Management	4	3
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	52	49
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2017	2016
	Number	Number
£70,000 - £80,000	1	1
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust are the governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £298k (2016: £287k)

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

9 Governors' remuneration and expenses

The Headteacher and other staff governors only receive remuneration and expenses (if any) in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Headteacher and staff, and not in respect of their services as governors. Other governors did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the academy trust in respect of their role as governors. During the year, no expenses were reimbursed to governors .

The value of governors' remuneration was as follows:

I Vassallo (Headteacher)

Remuneration £75,000- £80,000 (2016: £75,000- £80,000)

Employers Pension Contributions £10,000 - £15,000 (2016: £10,000 - £15,000)

S Lawlor (staff) resigned 31 August 2016

Remuneration £Nil (2016: £30,000 - £35,000)

Employers Pension Contributions £Nil(10 Months to 31 August 2015 £Nil - £5,000)

C Baxter (staff)

Remuneration £40,000 - £45,000 (2016: £40,000 - £45,000)

Employers Pension Contributions £Nil - £5,000(2016: £5,000 - £10,000)

B Flannery (staff) appointed 12 October 2016

Remuneration £10,000 - £15,000

Employers Pension Contributions £Nil - £5,000

Other related party transactions involving the governors are set out within the related parties note.

10 Governors' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim, however the cost for the year ended 31 August 2017 could not be ascertained as it was included with all insurance (2016: Included with all insurance).

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost				
At 1 September 2016	4,331	10	121	4,462
Additions	-	11	25	36
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2017	4,331	21	146	4,498
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2016	104	4	25	133
Charge for the year	57	7	29	93
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2017	161	11	54	226
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2017	4,170	10	92	4,272
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2016	4,227	6	96	4,329
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

12 Debtors

	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Trade debtors	2	1
VAT recoverable	49	10
Other debtors	4	11
Prepayments and accrued income	22	14
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	77	36
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Accruals and deferred income	103	63
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

14 Deferred income	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	53	54
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2016	54	49
Released from previous years	(54)	(49)
Amounts deferred in the year	53	54
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2017	53	54
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

At the balance sheet date, the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for universal infant free school meals, rates relief, advanced trip income and dinner monies paid in advance.

15 Financial instruments	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Carrying amount of financial assets		
Debt instruments measured at amortised cost	56	21
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Carrying amount of financial liabilities		
Measured at amortised cost	50	9
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2017 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	187	1,650	(1,883)	174	128
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	107	(107)	-	-
Other government grants	-	25	(25)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	33	(33)	-	-
	<u>187</u>	<u>1,815</u>	<u>(2,048)</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>128</u>
Funds excluding pensions	187	1,815	(2,048)	174	128
Pension reserve	(595)	-	(45)	198	(442)
	<u>(408)</u>	<u>1,815</u>	<u>(2,093)</u>	<u>372</u>	<u>(314)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE / ESFA capital grants	-	216	-	(210)	6
General fixed assets	4,329	-	(93)	36	4,272
	<u>4,329</u>	<u>216</u>	<u>(93)</u>	<u>(174)</u>	<u>4,278</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,921</u>	<u>2,031</u>	<u>(2,186)</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>3,964</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	142	120	(88)	-	174
	<u>142</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>(88)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>174</u>
Total funds	<u>4,063</u>	<u>2,151</u>	<u>(2,274)</u>	<u>198</u>	<u>4,138</u>

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

General Annual Grant: Income received from the ESFA to cover the normal running costs of the Academy.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2017.

Other DfE/ESFA grants: This includes the pupil premium, universal infant fee school meals and sport grant.

Other government grants: This includes SEN funding, additional universal infant free school meals and other grants. pupil premium.

Other restricted funds: This includes PTA donations for educational supplies.

DfE/ESFA capital grants: This is devolved formula capital and CIF Grants.

Transfer of funds relate to the purchase of fixed assets during the period and the use of capital grants for repairs and maintenance.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

16 Funds

(Continued)

Movements in funds - previous year

	Balance at 1 September 2015 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2016 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	77	1,691	(1,556)	(25)	187
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	122	(122)	-	-
Other government grants	-	31	(31)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	25	(25)	-	-
	<u>77</u>	<u>1,869</u>	<u>(1,734)</u>	<u>(25)</u>	<u>187</u>
Funds excluding pensions					
Pension reserve	(364)	-	(12)	(219)	(595)
	<u>(287)</u>	<u>1,869</u>	<u>(1,746)</u>	<u>(244)</u>	<u>(408)</u>
	<u><u>77</u></u>	<u><u>1,869</u></u>	<u><u>(1,746)</u></u>	<u><u>(244)</u></u>	<u><u>(408)</u></u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
General fixed assets	4,386	-	(82)	25	4,329
	<u>4,386</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(82)</u>	<u>25</u>	<u>4,329</u>
	<u><u>4,386</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(82)</u></u>	<u><u>25</u></u>	<u><u>4,329</u></u>
Total restricted funds	<u>4,099</u>	<u>1,869</u>	<u>(1,828)</u>	<u>(219)</u>	<u>3,921</u>
	<u><u>4,099</u></u>	<u><u>1,869</u></u>	<u><u>(1,828)</u></u>	<u><u>(219)</u></u>	<u><u>3,921</u></u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	115	111	(84)	-	142
	<u>115</u>	<u>111</u>	<u>(84)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>142</u>
	<u><u>115</u></u>	<u><u>111</u></u>	<u><u>(84)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>142</u></u>
Total funds	<u>4,214</u>	<u>1,980</u>	<u>(1,912)</u>	<u>(219)</u>	<u>4,063</u>
	<u><u>4,214</u></u>	<u><u>1,980</u></u>	<u><u>(1,912)</u></u>	<u><u>(219)</u></u>	<u><u>4,063</u></u>

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2017 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	4,272	4,272
Current assets	174	231	6	411
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(103)	-	(103)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(442)	-	(442)
	<u>174</u>	<u>(314)</u>	<u>4,278</u>	<u>4,138</u>
	<u><u>174</u></u>	<u><u>(314)</u></u>	<u><u>4,278</u></u>	<u><u>4,138</u></u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2016 £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2016 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	4,329	4,329
Current assets	142	250	-	392
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(63)	-	(63)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(595)	-	(595)
	<u>142</u>	<u>(408)</u>	<u>4,329</u>	<u>4,063</u>

18 Pensions 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 Bromley. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016.

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

Not less than every four years the Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012. The valuation has been undertaken in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

18 Pensions and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- from 1/9/15 employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employers pension costs paid to the TPS (employers and employees) in the period amounted to £125k (2016: £120k).

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 a multi-employer pension scheme. The trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit 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 26% for employers and 5.5% to 12.8% for employees. The estimated value of employer contributions for the forthcoming year is £85k.

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.

Total contributions made	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Employer's contributions	87	74
Employees' contributions	18	17
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	105	91
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

18 Pensions and similar obligations (Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2017 %	2016 %
Rate of increases in salaries	3.7	3.3
Rate of increase for pensions in payment	2.2	1.9
Discount rate	2.4	2.1
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.2	1.8
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

	2017 Years	2016 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	23.3	23.2
- Females	26.0	25.6
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	25.9	25.5
- Females	28.3	28.5
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

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

	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	(27)	(24)
Mortality assumption + 1 year	24	19
CPI rate + 0.1%	28	24
Salary rate + 0.1%	28	8
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2017 Fair value £'000	2016 Fair value £'000
Equities	719	412
Other bonds	132	86
Cash	13	5
Other assets	78	50
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total market value of assets	942	553
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Actual return on scheme assets - gain/(loss)	284	100
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

18 Pensions and similar obligations	(Continued)	
Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Current service cost	119	71
Interest income	(11)	(16)
Interest cost	24	29
Benefit changes, curtailments and settlements gains or losses	-	2
	<u>132</u>	<u>86</u>
	<u>132</u>	<u>86</u>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Obligations at 1 September 2016	553	728
Current service cost	714	71
Interest cost	24	29
Employee contributions	18	17
Actuarial loss	75	303
	<u>1,384</u>	<u>1,148</u>
At 31 August 2017	<u>1,384</u>	<u>1,148</u>
	<u>1,384</u>	<u>1,148</u>
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2017 £'000	2016 £'000
Assets at 1 September 2016	553	364
Interest income	11	16
Actuarial gain	273	84
Employer contributions	87	74
Employee contributions	18	17
Effect of non-routine settlements	-	(2)
	<u>942</u>	<u>553</u>
At 31 August 2017	<u>942</u>	<u>553</u>
	<u>942</u>	<u>553</u>

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

19 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flows from operating activities	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period	(123)	68
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income	(216)	-
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	32	(1)
Defined benefit pension net finance cost	13	13
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	93	82
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(41)	9
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	40	(2)
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(202)</u>	<u>169</u>

20 Contingent liabilities

During the period of the Funding Agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a Government capital grant was received, the Academy is required either to re-invest the proceeds or to repay to the Education Funding Agency the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the Funding Agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the Academy serving notice, the Academy shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- the value at that time of the Academy's site and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Academy; and
- the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement.

21 Capital commitments

	2017	2016
	£'000	£'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	166	13

At the balance sheet date the academy had a capital commitment for security work contracted for but not yet completed. The capital commitments are to be partly funded from CIF and partly from reserves.

22 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy's operations and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Board of Governors may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

23 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.