(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Matthew Gale Polly Grove Susan Jones Zoltan Markella Sean McCarthy Daniel Pagella Ruth Rosewell
Governors	Anne Bajorek (appointed 1 October 2019) Jane Borgeaud Karen Edwards, Head Teacher Matthew Gale Linda Glithro Emma Sanigar Barnaby Smith (re-appointed 1 October 2019) Esme Tiplady Nicholas Walden Wenfei Wang Holly Wrankmore
Company registered number	08334593
Company name	The Heights Primary School
Principal and registered office	82 Gosbrook Road Caversham Reading RG4 8BH
Company secretary	Catherine Keetch
Senior management team	Karen Edwards, Headteacher Emma Fallon, Assistant Headteacher (Deputy Headteacher from September 2020) Caroline Hoyle, Business Manager
Independent auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP Aquis House 49-51 Blagrave Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1PL
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 24 Broad Street Reading Berkshire RG1 2BT

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GOVERNORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

The Governors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period ended 31 August 2020.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies on pages 27-31 of the financial statements, and comply with the Company's Memorandum and Artcles of Association, the Companies Act 2006, and the requirements of Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Academies Accounts Direction.

The Heights Primary School is a state-funded, mainstream primary school that provides primary education to children from age 4 to 11, serving a catchment area in Caversham Heights and Mapledurham.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Heights Primary School is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the School Trust. The Trust was incorporated on 18 December 2012.

Details of the Governors who comprise the directors and trustees of The Heights Primary School are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on the previous page.

b. Members' liability

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

c. Governors' indemnities

The Heights Primary has secured indemnity cover for the company and any Governors and employees of the company, by signing up to the government's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) for academy trusts.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

When the company was formed, both Members and Directors were chosen as representatives of the various community and business groups who wanted to be involved in the school, the majority of which are still either Members or Directors of the Trust. Only Mr Gale is both a Member and a Director.

Since opening in September 2014, parents at The Heights Primary School have elected four parent governors, one of whom was elected in the period 2019-2020, meeting the objective stated in last year's financial statements.

The Articles of Association allow Community Governors to be co-opted. No governors have been co-opted and no appointment is planned. The Governing Body of The Heights Primary School will consider any skills gaps it has identified when considering further Community Governor appointments.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Governors

All Governors have received an induction that explained their responsibilities and obligations. Further training has been and will be undertaken to assist Governors in ensuring they are discharging their obligations and in operating a system of robust structures and checks.

f. Organisational structure

The structure of the Trust consists of two levels: the Governing Body (also the Board of Directors and Trustees), who are responsible for strategic direction, and the Members of the Academy Trust who have set the aims and objectives of the School and have the power and responsibility to appoint and dismiss Directors. Only one Member of the Academy Trust is also a governor. The Headteacher is also an ex officio member of the Governing Body, and has responsibility within The Heights Primary School as the Accounting Officer. The Governing Body has delegated to the Headteacher control of the school at an executive level, and she is tasked with implementing the direction set by the Trust.

The Governing Body meets as frequently as once every six weeks, and no less frequently than three times a year. During the Coronavirus Pandemic meetings of the Governing Body and Sub-Committees have been held via video conferencing.

Groups of Governors may be formally convened outside of a committee or Full Governing Body to support the school as required, to consider:

- Headteacher, and SLT recruitment.
- Performance management of the Headteacher
- Pupil Discipline
- Staff Discipline
- Complaints
- Significant areas of change management, including the prospective move to the school's permanent site
- Review and approve pay awards for teaching and support staff.

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel is determined by a variety of contributory factors, such as; the school group size, Internal Schools Review, the pay scales for each role e.g. Head, Deputy or Assistant Head, and the level of experience of the staff member. In addition to this, levels of pay may be affected by any nationally agreed pay awards, the ability to recruit key management personnel and retain them in post, which all coincides with the school's appointment and pay policies. All amendments to key management personnel's pay and remuneration are discussed and agreed by the Governing Body.

A pay review panel is appointed annually by the governing body. The purpose of this panel is to scrutinise and approve, or otherwise, all pay awards for staff within the Academy Trust, except for the Headteacher, who has separate arrangements as part of her performance management

Connected Organisations, including Related Party Relationships

There are no connected organisations or related party relationships other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Heights Primary School is a state-funded primary school that provides primary education to children from age 4 to 11. Alongside providing much needed local primary provision and greater parental choice, the school offers a personalised and consistent education from Foundation (Reception) through to Key Stage 2 (Year 6).

The Heights Primary School aims to provide a school for Caversham Heights that is:

- Mainstream
- Inclusive
- Ambitious
- Personalised
- Aspirational
- Community orientated
- True to the vision of The Heights Primary School Trust

The Heights Primary School has focused on the following objectives during the academic year 2019 to 2020:

- The review and implementation of the five year Strategic Targets adopted during 2016/17. These are to maintain the school as an inspirational, inclusive, outstanding school for and in the heart of the Caversham Heights community, to ensure the growth of the school to its full capacity and to ensure the smooth transition from the temporary to a permanent site;
- Development and implementation of the School Development Plans for 2020 & 2021.
- Refinement of the staffing structure for when the school is operating at full capacity to ensure that appointments in the interim are affordable and sustainable; As a result a Deputy Headteacher was appointed from September 2020 and the Assistant Headteacher's derrogated.
- Continuing to work with the DFE to ensure that the building now under construction on Mapledurham Playing Fields (the school's permanent site) meets the requirements, objectives and long-term plans of the school.
- Working with the DFE and Borough Council to enable safe operation of the school in its temporary location until it moves to its permanent site;
- Recruitment of sufficient high quality staff to enable expansion of the school by a final form in Year 6 in September 2020, (the school is now at full capacity).
- To review the school's funding and budgeting to ensure that the school is financially securely placed to deliver the Trust's vision. This item will be further discussed later in the Governor's report

Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic

From the inception of the first national lockdown in March 2020, The Heights Primary School focused on:

- Providing a safe and clean environment for key worker and vulnerable children to continue to attend school. This included a focus on physical cleaning and a re-deployment of staff to ensure the school could continue to operate throughout the lockdown.
- Supporting children requiring free school meals by accessing the Government's online voucher scheme.
- Working with other local schools unable to open by providing the necessary places for vulnerable and key worker children.
- Providing as much quality lesson and curriculum content for home learning as possible within the staffing and other restraints of the pandemic. This included identifying new online content providers to work with such as White Rose Maths and new ways of communicating with children and parents using platforms such as Google Hangouts and Zoom.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Objectives and activities (continued)

- Identifying suppliers at risk and identifying if payments still needed to be made to them, according to Policy
 Procurement Notes 02/20 and 04/10.
- Opening the school to more children as the end of the summer term approached, meaning that every child had an opportunity to attend school for at least two days.
- Supporting staff in the vulnerable and clinically vulnerable categories to return to work with confidence in July and September 2020.
- Sourcing additional cleaning supplies such as virucidal cleaners, hand sanitizer and soap.

b. Principal Activities

The object of the Academy is set out in the Company's Articles of Association, namely "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 and carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum".

The Heights Primary School is the name given to the School Trust responsible for facilitating the management and operation of the Free School. Combining the expertise of local businesses, local residents of The Heights and the surrounding area, The Heights Primary School has empowered the Headteacher and staff team to effectively manage The Heights Primary School - a non-selective state- funded primary school for the Caversham Heights area.

c. Public benefit

The Heights Primary School has so far, and will continue to, receive the majority of its income from central government to provide educational services to children. The Governors of The Heights Primary School are satisfied that they meet the public benefit criteria required by section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011. In setting objectives and planning the Academy's activities, the Governing Body has paid due regard to the published guidance from the Charity Commission regarding the principle of public benefit.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Achievements and Performance in the period

In May 2017 The Heights Primary School achieved an Outstanding rating following inspection by Ofsted. This was the school's first inspection.

In the Autumn Term 2018, in implementation of the only recommendation in the 2017 Ofsted Report, the Governors invited an external agency (Reading Borough Council School Improvement Team) to undertake an independent review of the school's performance with regard to teaching and learning. This process was extremely useful and assisted in identifying areas for further focus in the School Development Plan. The school has focused on as many areas as possible, the impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic notwithstanding.

During the year accommodation for the final Year 6 form was made ready in what had previously been the KS2 Hall. The room was furnished and equipped with furniture and ICT resources during the summer term 2020. The school now has internal space sufficient to operate on the temporary site until the move to the permanent site in 2021.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

With regard to the construction of the permanent building the school has been in regular contact with the DfE and the builders (Kier), attending monthly meetings and answering queries and clarifications in relation to plans and design.

Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic

The school remained open to vulnerable children and the children of key workers throughout the first lockdown period from March 2020 and then opened to the wider school community in the latter part of the summer term. The wider opening of the school meant that up to 140 children were on site each day in June and July with every child being given the opportunity to attend school. The school was also open during school holidays in this period, following government guidance.

The school opened fully from the planned start of term in September 2020.

The school also remained open for Year 6 pupils ahead of their transition to Secondary School. During the period there was one form in Year 6, which was the founding Year 1 form when the school first opened in September 2014.

The school employs a number of staff in the vulnerable or extremely clinically vulnerable categories so the staff able to come in to school to support the opening for vulnerable and key worker children was limited. This resulted in a significant scheduling and rota-management activity to ensure that the school was appropriately staffed during both lessons and break times.

Not only was the school open during the lockdown period but teaching staff worked rapidly and effectively to develop online learning that could be accessed both while in school and from home. This involved a significant re-working of the curriculum, identification and creation of new resources and use of new platforms such as Purple Mash, Google Classroom and even Zoom and Youtube.

The impact on staff of running online learning and being in school was significant. With the agreement of Reading Borough Council the school closed during the summer holiday period to allow a period of respite and recovery for all staff.

The Heights Primary School was not eligible for and did not access any additional funds to cover expenses associated with the Coronavirus Pandemic. The school was not eligible for this funding from the ESFA because forecasts indicated that there would be a surplus by year-end and not an in-year deficit.

Academic Performance

The Heights Primary School achieved its ambitious targets for Year 6 in July 2020, and targets in Reading and Maths across Key Stage 1 and Reception. Targets in writing were not achieved as the result of the amount of time children spent out of school during lockdown. Writing and Phonics are two key areas for focus in the 2020 to 2021 academic year.

The vast majority of other targets set within the Academy's School Development Plan, to be delivered during the period, were also achieved.

High quality staff were successfully recruited for the expansion of the school to full capacity of 14 classes in September 2020. The school successfully recruited two full clases for the 2020/21 Reception class. Years 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 are also full.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Key financial performance indicators and financial review

Restricted General Fund

The Academy's Restricted General Fund income was received almost entirely through the Education and Skills Funding Agency's (ESFA) General Annual Grant funding, which is restricted to the academy's principal activities. A full list of principal activities has been outlined above. These revenue grants, and the associated revenue expenditure made against them, are detailed in the SOFA. General Restricted Fund income for the period was £1,628,916 (2019: £1,365,120); expenditure against the fund after transfers was £1,703,442 (2019: £1,416,121).

The Coronavirus Pandemic did not impact the receipt of grant funding during the period. All revenue and capital grants were paid by the ESFA as normal.

Restricted Fixed Asset Fund

The Restricted Fixed Asset fund records income of £194,648 (2019: £174,869). Total expenditure for the period from the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund is £184,430 (2019: £194,783). This expenditure relates to depreciation on fixed assets, construction and infrastructure costs, so has been appropriately treated as capital expenditure. The carry forward balance of £198,509 (2018: £189,458), represents the value of fixed assets and a small amount of carried forward balance and capital funding secured but not yet spent.

Unrestricted Fund

During the period the Unrestricted Fund also recorded income of £12,977 (2019: £21,503) and expenditure of £9,812 (2019: £18,491).

Summary of Financial Performance

Fund balances as at 31 August 2020 totalled a deficit of £190,025 (2019: funds of £17,118). This is comprised of Unrestricted Funds of £28,746 (2019: £25,581), Restricted General Funds of deficit £417,280 (2019: deficit £197,921), and Restricted Fixed Asset Funds of £198,509 (2019: £189,458).

Balance Sheet Cash in hand at 31 August 2020 was £143,959 (2019: £136,321).

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

a. Principal risks and uncertainties

The objective of the Academy's risk management procedure is to identify the principal risks facing the academy so that existing controls may be considered and further action taken, if required, including external insurance. The Governing Body has a comprehensive risk management process to identify and monitor the risks faced by the Academy. The financial risks considered include: economic / financial uncertainty, liquidity and solvency, credit risk, the risk of fraud and compliance with financial/ statutory requirements along with the risks and uncertainties associated with being based on a temporary site.

The Governing Body has a comprehensive risk management process to identify and monitor the risks faced by the school. The principal risks identified include governance, statutory compliance, finance, insurance, attainment, attendance, behaviour, health and safety, organisation, operations, safeguarding, reputation, HR and ICT. The Governing Body has also identified specific risks in respect of progress with the selected permanent site at Mapledurham Playing Fields, and the timeframe within which the school needs to move into the site and is working with the DFE and Reading Borough Council to minimise the consequences and impact of this.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

An analysis of potential risks has been completed. Each risk has been recorded in a register and a rating mechanism applied which allows the Academy Trust to direct greater emphasis towards those risks with a higher score (as identified by the rating mechanism).

The majority of risks identified on the risk register are low risks, as a result of steps taken by the Academy Trust such as:

- implementing policies and procedures to minimize financial risks, including budget management and forecasting procedures;
- the procurement of adequate insurance cover;
- investing in staff training and continuing professional development;
- a clear and regularly reviewed School Development Plan to ensure good educational outcomes for pupils;
- policies and procedures which protect staff, students and the Academy Trust, and reduce the risk of safeguarding failures.

The principal risks identified by the governors in the risk review were:

- That the Coronavirus Pandemic may cause delays to the construction works ongoing at the school's permanent site. The school is in regular contact with the construction company and DfE and is working to understand and manage the risk. Ultimately a delay in construction will likely result in a delay to the planned move date. There is a separate sub-committee of the Premises & Finance committee which has been formed specifically to monitor and respond to the progress of the works. This committee met at least 6 times during the academic year 2019/20 and will meet with greater frequency as the planned move date approaches.;
- The Governors and Headteacher are also working closely with RBC and other local stakeholders to manage the implications of any further delay to the final move to the permanent site.
- In the 2019-2020 year The Heights Primary School, while not at capacity, had pupils in all year groups from EYFS to Year 6. This changed the method of funding for the school from funding based on a pupil number estimate to funding based on the actual pupil number in the previous October census. In the October 2019 census the school had 328 pupils, predicted 353. The impact of this is that school's growth by one more form from September 2020 is unfunded. The budget for the 2020-2021 financial year shows a significant deficit approximately equal to the amount of funding that the additional form would attract.
- It is, therefore, absolutely vital that funds are closely managed in 2020-2021 to ensure that the deficit is controlled as much as possible. The school has reserves to fund the shortfall in GAG funding, but the risk is that the school's cashflow will be adversely affected or the entire reserves spent.
- The Trust's funding agreement contains a clause allowing the school to approach the Secretary of State (SoS) for additional funding under these circumstances where the impact on balances will be significant.
- The Chair of Governors wrote to the SoS asking if additional funds, per the funding agreement, could be
 provided given the significant impact on the school's reserve balances. The initial response from the SoS
 was that no additional funding would be provided and that the Trust should work with a School Resource
 Management Advisor (SRMA) to identify any additional reasons for the forecast deficit. The Trust agreed to
 engage with the proposed SRMA from September 2020 and it is hoped that the outcome of the process will
 be to access additional funding.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

b. Reserves Policy

The Heights Primary School recognises the importance of establishing a sensible reserve in order to carry forward a prudent level of resources designed to meet the long-term cyclical needs of renewal and any other unforeseen contingencies, subject to the constraint that the level of resources does not exceed the level permitted by the DFE. It is the Trust's ambition to have one term's operational expenditure in reserve, plus further contingency. In future years capital maintenance and development projects may be considered in the reserves policy review. The Governing Body considers an appropriate level of reserve during each annual budget setting process.

The Governing body understand that the Academy Trust needs to maintain an appropriate level of reserves to provide sufficient capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of income from the available funding streams, to fund capital projects or to provide for unexpected expenditure and emergencies.

It should be noted that the risk outlined in the Key Risks section of this report, relating to unfunded growth of the school in the 2020-2021 financial year, will have a significant impact on the Trust's ability to meet the requirements of the current reserves policy in the short-term to medium-term.

The level of general revenue reserves held on 31st August 2020:

Unrestricted	£28,746
Restricted General Fund	(£417,280)
Restricted Fixed Assets	£198,509

The reserves policy set by the Governors states that the level of reserves appropriate for each of the funds noted are as follows:

Unrestricted	£30,000
Restricted General Fund	£92,000

The funds in the Restricted Fund are below where the reserves policy would indicate they should be. Much of the shortfall is accounted for by the £486,000 of LGPS pension liability. The Governors will address this shortfall by seeking to make small incremental surpluses year on year, although as stated above the funding shortfall in the 2020-2021 financial year will impact the Trust's ability to maintain a suitable reserve level in the short to medium term.

c. Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Neither The Heights Primary School nor The Governing Body are acting as third party custodial trustees.

d. Going Concern

After consideration of the school's financial position, its financial plans, (including projected student numbers), the demand for places and the broader environment, and notwithstanding the funding shortfall in the 2020 to 2021 financial year, the Governing Body has a reasonable expectation that the School has and will continue to have adequate resources to enable it to be a sustainable going concern in 2020 and for the foreseeable future. Governors are assured they can manage the School in a way where they are fully compliant with the financial obligations evident in the Funding Agreement. For this reason the School continues to adopt the Going Concern principle in preparing its financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the Going Concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Fundraising

The Academy Trust does not engage in large scale fundraising involving direct mailing potential donors, collecting cash in the street or running a lottery or raffle, or by paying a fundraiser. As a general rule the Academy Trust does not seek to raise significant revenues by holding fund raising events, or ask parents or the general public to contribute directly to fundraising activities.

However, should the Academy Trust seek to raise funds from direct contact with the general public the Trust would do so in a manner which conforms to Charity Fundraising Guidelines published by the Charities Commission and to the Charities (Protection and Social Investments) Act 2016.

Any fundraising by the Academy Trust is likely to take the form of a small scale event during the school day or immediately afterwards. From time to time the school may ask parents for direct contributions towards particular resources, such as library books, however potential donors would never be chased or pressured to take part in any such fundraising event or activity.

During the period 2019-2020 a small amount of money for books was raised through voluntary contributions via the school's online payment system (Parentpay). In previous years the pupils have raised funds to subsidise school trips through various events and activities. This type of fundraising was not possible in the period due to the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus Pandemic.

Fundraising during the period:

Donations towards library books via Parentpay	£259.15
Total funds raised during the year	£259.15

Plans for future periods

The Funding Agreement that has been entered into between the Trust and the Secretary of State has provided the basis for an on-going revenue stream based on a per-pupil allocation for the School. Further arrangements entered into with the DFE in accordance with the Funding Agreement have provided and continued to provide the capital monies that have been reserved by the DFE to pay invoices raised in relation to the School's ICT procurement, and temporary and permanent building provision. Thus a key priority for the future period will be to incorporate sensibly and appropriately these monies into the School's financial cost models, plus ensuring these monies are drawn down from the DFE in a timely manner. Another priority for Governors is to ensure that any additional funds received via Pupil Premium allocations are well invested to ensure our most disadvantaged students are offered all possible opportunities, and any attainment gaps are quickly closed.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and
- that 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.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Auditor

The auditor, Crowe U.K. LLP, has indicated its willingness to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the Annual General Meeting.

The Governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company directors, on 21 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

N.I.War

Nicholas Walden Chair of Governors

Kel

Karen Edwards Accounting Officer

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities.

The Premises & Finance Committee is a committee of the main Governing Body. Its terms of reference require it to assist 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 academy's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity as well as issues such as pay review and performance management that require greater confidentiality.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of Governors was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Anne Bajorek	4	4
Jane Borgeaud	2	4
Karen Edwards, Head Teacher	4	4
Matthew Gale	4	4
Linda Glithro	4	4
Emma Sanigar	4	4
Barnaby Smith	3	4
Esme Tiplady	3	4
Nicholas Walden	4	4
Wenfei Wang	4	4
Holly Wrankmore	4	4

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Premises & Finance Committee met separately and formally six times during the year. It is a small group chaired by the Vice Chair of Governors and includes the Headteacher, the Chair of Governors and is attended by the School's Business Manager. A report from the Premises and Finance Committee is presented at each Full Governing Body Meeting. The Full Governing Body met four times during the period 2019-2020.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Jane Borgeaud	6	6
Karen Edwards	5	6
Matthew Gale	6	6
Barnaby Smith	6	6
Nicholas Walden	5	6
Holly Wrankmore	5	6
Anne Bajorek	5	5

Governance Review

The governing body undertook a formal review of governance in December 2020 including a specific review of its impact during the 2019/20 academic year. This confirmed that the governing body has continued to make a significant contribution to the performance of the school in relation to both strategy and operation.

Value for money

As accounting officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources.

The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received. The accounting officer considers how the trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data, where available. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money in the following key areas:

Impact of the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Coronavirus Pandemic has meant that most of the pupils at the school were home educated from March 2020 with limited access to school in the latter part of the summer term. The school has followed government guidance throughout the evolving situation. As such the school ensured the following:

- That suppliers who would normally provide services such as school dinners, PE and cover staff did not need to be paid for any services that were not delivered as all suppliers were able to access the Furlough Scheme.
- That available funds were used to support in-school learning and home learning through the employment of cover staff where needed and the purchase of systems, platforms or new resources as required.
- That the school was clean and safe through the purchase of additional cleaning and sanitizing materials and the re-direction of cleaning time to areas of the school in use each day. This ensured that the school could be thoroughly cleaned and as Covid-safe as possible.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Value for money (continued)

Educational Outcomes

Academic year 2019 - 2020 was a challenging year for The Heights Primary School and all education settings in the country. Educational Outcomes were adversely affected by the amount of time that children spent at home. The children's mental health and wellbeing remained a strong focus and it was apparent that when the school community returned in September that wellbeing of the vast majority of pupils was good.

Attainment at the end of KS2 was very good. Phonics and writing are the areas where the school has identified significant recovery is required.

The School received Pupil Premium funding during the financial year. The vast majority of these pupils were in school for the entire lockdown period. These children thrived in school and have made good progress across many areas. Most of the pupils eligible for this funding are achieving in line with other children of their age.

The School has continued to recruit and develop outstanding practitioners, both in the form of teachers and teaching assistants and has built on the excellent standards of progress and attainment achieved in earlier years. Practitioners' work has been supported by very targeted continuing professional development, led by specialists in different areas.

Continued Improvements to Financial Systems and Procedures

During the period 2019-2020 the Academy continued to use budgeting software to aid, not only the creation of a three to five year budget but also to track income and expenditure against the budget set.

During the period in question forecasts were produced from the budget system which, in the first five months indicated that the school may accrue a deficit in-year over and above that set in the budget. Based on the indications of this forecast steps were taken to ensure that the vast majority of spending requests had to be approved by the budget holder and Headteacher. Decisions to overspend in any area were taken only when increased income was also forecast. The net result of the actions taken is that the School has not accrued an in-year deficit, performing overall better than the budget set and breaking and making a small surplus in the Restricted Fund (before the pension liability is taken into account).

During the period the decision was taken to move to a new finance system – Civica Financial Lives. This decision was considered by the Governing Body after several other cloud-based systems were reviewed. Civica provided the most competitive price point and will offer many improvements in access to the system, back up of data and reporting. Training on the new system took place in August 2020 for the school's finance staff, but the system itself did not "Go Live" until September 4th 2020.

The Academy has continued to make use of framework procurement agreements where appropriate to ensure value for money during the purchasing process. These have particularly been used to advantage when equipping the school's fourteenth and final classroom. In addition, electricity is purchased via a framework at a very competitive rate.

As the Academy moves nearer to occupying its permanent site the Governing Body recognizes the importance of value for money procurement compliant with all necessary legislation. To ensure that statutory and obligations are met with regard to this key procurement the Governing Body has appointed a Permanent Site Sub Committee to manage these key decisions and processes and report to the Premises & Finance Committee. In this way the Trustees and Members hope to ensure that strong oversight of the procurement process is maintained.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Value for money (continued)

Crowe UK LLP, the Trust's external auditors, have continued to provide an internal audit function. Three visits were undertaken during the accounting period and any suggested improvements to systems have been implemented by the Academy. According to new regulations from the DfE the school will procure this service via an alternative provider in the 2020 to 2021 financial year.

Devolved Budget Management

The use of devolved departmental budgets continues to ensure that key budgets for classroom resources and books were managed appropriately with no overspend.

Staffing

While the Academy has been able to retain the majority of its high quality teaching and support staff, deployment of staff and staffing levels during the year were continually reviewed by the Headteacher and the governing body. Staffing is the single largest area of expense, so, in the current funding climate a key aspect of financial control within the Academy is to constantly review staffing levels with regard to the in-year financial position and budget planning for future years.

While the governing body has, currently, adopted a staffing structure for when the school is operating at full capacity this is continually reviewed to ensure that appointments in the interim are affordable and sustainable.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of the School Trust's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

Capacity to handle risk

The Governing Body has reviewed the key risks to which the School Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Governing Body is of the view that there has been a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the School Trust's significant risks during the period ended 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Body.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

The School 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 will include:

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Governing Body;
- regular reviews by the Premises & Finance Committee (and sometimes the full Governing Body) of budget monitoring 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) guidlines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Governors will be appointing a new Internal Auditor during the 2020 to 2021 financial year. During the period, however, this service was carried out by Crowe U.K. LLP, the external auditor.

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

- Review of the financial procedures manual
- Reporting to the Governors and the DFE
- Purchase ledger review
- Purchase controls
- Credit card expenditure

Following each visit, the reviewer reports to the board of Governors on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. The three visits by the school's external auditors highlighted some areas where improvements could be made. These added controls have now been implemented.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the reviewer
- 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 systems of internal control by the governing body and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the systems is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Governors and signed on their behalf by:

N.I.Wa

Nicholas Walden Chair of Governors Date: 21 January 2021

KO_l

Karen Edwards Accounting Officer

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of The Heights Primary School I have considered my responsibility to notify the School Trust Governing Body and the Department for Education of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with DFE terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the School 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.

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

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 Governing Body and DFE.

KO_l.

Mrs K Edwards Accounting Officer Date: 21 January 2021

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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

Company law requires the Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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 of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- 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 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 members of the Board of Governors on 21 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

N.I.War

Nicholas Walden Chair of Governors

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Heights Primary School (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2020 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 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's affairs as at 31 August 2020 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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

- the 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'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.

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

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. Other information includes the Reference and administrative details, the Governors' report including the Strategic report, and the Governance statement. 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 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Governors' Report including the 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.

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEIGHTS PRIMARY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Governors' responsibilities statement, the Governors (who are also the directors of the academy for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the 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'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 or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's report that includes our opinion. 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: <u>www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</u>. This description forms part of our Auditor's report.

Use of our report

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

Janette Joyce (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Aquis House 49-51 Blagrave Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1PL

25 January 2021

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 7 July 2017 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Heights Primary School during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 The Heights Primary School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Heights 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 The Heights Primary School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Heights Primary School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Heights Primary School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated April 2014 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, 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 2019 to 2020. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 2019 to 2020 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's income and expenditure.

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Crowe U.K. LLP

Reporting Accountant Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Date: 25 January 2021

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital	0	40.077	40.005	404.040	040.000	000 700
grants Charitable activities	3 4	12,977	12,035 1,531,137	194,648	219,660 1,531,137	230,796 1,262,010
Other trading activities	4 5	-	85,744	-	85,744	68,686
Other trading douvlies	Ū		00,144		00,144	00,000
Total income		12,977	1,628,916	194,648	1,836,541	1,561,492
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	9,812	1,703,442	184,430	1,897,684	1,624,692
Total expenditure		9,812	1,703,442	184,430	1,897,684	1,624,692
-			·			
Net expenditure before transfers		3,165	(74,526)	10,218	(61,143)	(63,200)
Transfers between	47	·		·		
funds	17	-	1,167	(1,167)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension						
schemes	23	-	(146,000)	-	(146,000)	(59,000)
Net movement in						
funds		3,165	(219,359)	9,051	(207,143)	(122,200)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought		05 504	(407.004)	400.450	47 440	100.010
forward		25,581	(197,921)	189,458	17,118 (207,142)	139,318
Net movement in funds		3,165	(219,359)	9,051	(207,143)	(122,200)
Total funds carried forward		28,746	(417,280)	198,509	(190,025)	17,118

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements.

(A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 08334593

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2020

	Note		2020 £		2019 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets Current assets	13		75,994		102,428
Debtors	14	174,302		303,291	
Cash at bank and in hand		143,959		136,321	
	-	318,261	-	439,612	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(98,280)		(264,922)	
Net current assets	-		219,981		174,690
Total assets less current liabilities		-	295,975	-	277,118
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23		(486,000)		(260,000)
Total net assets		-	(190,025)	-	17,118
Funds of the academy Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	17	198,509		189,458	
Restricted income funds	17	68,720		62,079	
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	17	267,229	-	251,537	
Pension reserve	17	(486,000)		(260,000)	
Total restricted funds	17		(218,771)		(8,463)
Unrestricted income funds	17		28,746		25,581
Total funds		-	(190,025)	-	17,118

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 25 to 50 were approved by the Governors, and authorised for issue on 21 January 2021 and are signed on their behalf, by:

N.I.War

Nicholas Walden Chair of Governors

(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

Cash flows from operating activities	Note	2020 £	2019 £
Net cash used in operating activities	19	(171,973)	(87,654)
Cash flows from investing activities	20	179,611	136,891
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year	-	7,638 136,321	49,237 87,084
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21, 22	143,959	136,321

The notes on pages 28 to 50 form part of these financial statements

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction *2019* to 2020 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The Governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the academy 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 has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

• Grants

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

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

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

• Donations

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

• Other income

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

• Charitable activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Temporary buildings	- 4 years
Furniture and equipment	- 5 years
Plant and machinery	- 10 years
Computer equipment	 4 years

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.

It is the Academy Trust's policy to transfer any amounts in the Unrestricted Fund that have been spent on capitalised fixed assets to the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund. This policy has been formally approved, minuted and adopted by the Governing Body.

1.6 Debtors

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

1.7 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.8 Liabilities

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

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

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 as detailed in note 15. 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. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

1.10 Taxation

The academy 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 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.

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 Pensions

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

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy 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.

1.12 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The 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 23, 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 2020. 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.

Other than the LGPS noted above. The Trustees consider that there are no other material judgements in applying accounting policies or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

PTFA donations	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £ 11,970	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £ 11,970	Total funds 2019 £ 13,318
Other restricted donations	-	65	-	65	21,246
Other unrestricted donations	12,977	-	-	12,977	21,363
Capital Grants	-	-	194,648	194,648	174,869
	12,977	12,035	194,648	219,660	230,796
Total 2019	21,363	34,564	174,869	230,796	

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

4. Funding for the academy's funding for the free school's educational operations

DfE/ESFA grants	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,402,389	1,402,389	1,161,819
Other EFA grants	27,823	27,823	21,769
Post opening grants	-	-	13,500
Local authority grant	100,925	100,925	64,922
	1,531,137	1,531,137	1,262,010
Total 2019	1,262,010	1,262,010	

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Other income	_	85,744	85,744	68,686
Total 2019	140	68,546	68,686	

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2020 £	Premises 2020 £	Other 2020 £	Total 2020 £	Total 2019 £
Funding for the free school's educational operations:					
Direct costs	1,170,811	41,471	26,168	1,238,450	982,529
Allocated support costs	174,504	211,448	273,282	659,234	642,163
	1,345,315	252,919	299,450	1,897,684	1,624,692
Total 2019	1,067,833	188,974	367,885	1,624,692	

7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Funding for the free school's educational operations	9,812	1,887,872	1,897,684	1,624,692
Total 2019	6,102	1,618,590	1,624,692	

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2020 £	Support costs 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Funding for the free school's educational operations	1,238,450	659,234	1,897,684	1,624,692
Total 2019	982,529	642,163	1,624,692	

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2020 £	Total funds 2019 £
Staff costs	174,504	154,786
Premises costs	211,448	139,408
Education support	79,920	83,914
Professional services	28,685	23,602
Insurance	20,694	17,401
Office costs	14,443	87,090
Other support costs	119,333	122,870
Governance costs	10,207	13,092
Legal costs	-	-
	659,234	642,163

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(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2020	2019
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	140,000	140,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	41,471	49,304
Auditors remuneration		
- audit	10,000	9,750
- other services	3,575	3,575

10. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Wages and salaries	1,008,760	840,955
Social security costs	60,766	47,776
Pension costs	275,789	179,102
	1,345,315	1,067,833

b. Non-statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

There were no non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments in the year (2019: £926).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

10. Staff (continued)

c. Staff numbers

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

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Teaching staff	27	25
Administration and support	27	22
Management	2	2
	56	49

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2020 No.	2019 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	-	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	-

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy comprise the Governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy was $\pounds 200,517$ (2019 $\pounds 174,002$).

11. Governors' remuneration and expenses

One or more Governors has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy. The principal and other staff Governors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Governors' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2020	2019
		£	£
Karen Edwards, Head Teacher	Remuneration	70,000 - 75,000	65,000 - 70,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 - 20,000	10,000 - 15,000
Emma Sanigar	Remuneration	20,000 - 25,000	20,000 - 25,000
	Pension contributions paid	5,000 - 10,000	0 - 5,000

During the year ended 31 August 2020, no Governor expenses have been incurred (2019 - £NIL).

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

12. Governors' and Officers' insurance

The academy has opted into the Department of Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to $\pounds 10,000,000$. It is not possible to quantify the Governors and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Plant and machinery £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2019	41,707	79,305	15,928	149,168	286,108
Additions	-	2,570	-	12,467	15,037
Disposals	(1,102)	(2,473)	-	(50,257)	(53,832)
At 31 August 2020	40,605	79,402	15,928	111,378	247,313
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2019	24,402	45,601	5,697	107,980	183,680
Charge for the year	7,371	13,246	1,593	19,261	41,471
On disposals	(1,102)	(2,473)	-	(50,257)	(53,832)
At 31 August 2020	30,671	56,374	7,290	76,984	171,319
Net book value					
At 31 August 2020	9,934	23,028	8,638	34,394	75,994
At 31 August 2019	17,305	33,704	10,231	41,188	102,428

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

14. Debtors

		2020 £	2019 £
	Due within one year		
	Trade debtors	1,808	4,980
	Other debtors	19,850	39,418
	Prepayments and accrued income	152,644	258,893
		174,302	303,291
15.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
		2020 £	2019 £
	Trade creditors	7,889	172,429
	Other taxation and social security	16,622	12,829
	Other creditors	5,972	1,965
	Accruals and deferred income	67,797	77,699
		98,280	264,922
		2020 £	2019 £
	Deferred income at 1 September 2019	56,872	39,430
	Resources deferred during the year	46,502	56,872
	Amounts released from previous periods	(56,872)	(39,430)
		46,502	56,872

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

16. Financial instruments

	2020 £	2019 £
Financial assets		
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	259,607	217,753
	2020 £	2019 £
Financial liabilities		
Financial liabilities measured at fair value through income and expenditure	400.000	000.000
comprise of the pension scheme deficit	486,000	260,000
Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	35,156	194,350
	521,156	454,350

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise cash, trade debtors and accrued income.

Financial liabilities measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise of the pension scheme deficit.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise trade creditors, other creditors and accruals.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Unrestricted funds	~	~	~	~	~	~
General Funds - all funds	25,581	12,977	(9,812)		-	28,746
Restricted general funds						
Restricted Funds	co 070	4 000 040	(4 000 440)	4 4 6 7		<u></u>
- all funds Pension reserve	62,079 (260,000)	1,628,916	(1,623,442) (80,000)	1,167	- (146,000)	68,720 (486,000)
Fension leserve	(200,000)	-	(80,000)	-	(140,000)	(400,000)
	(197,921)	1,628,916	(1,703,442)	1,167	(146,000)	(417,280)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DfE/ESFA						
capital grants	89,693	194,648	(142,959)	(18,867)	-	122,515
Fixed Assets	99,765	-	(41,471)	17,700	-	75,994
	189,458	194,648	(184,430)	(1,167)	-	198,509
Total Restricted funds	(8,463)	1,823,564	(1,887,872)	-	(146,000)	(218,771)
Total funds	17,118	1,836,541	(1,897,684)	<u> </u>	(146,000)	(190,025)

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

The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund records income of £194,648. Total expenditure for the period from the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund is £184,430, which related to depreciation and grants spent on assets not capitalised. Gains, losses and transfers relate to capital additions and losses on disposal of fixed assets from the GAG and unrestricted funds. The carry forward balance of £198,509 therefore represents capital funding secured but not yet spent of £122,515, and the net book value of tangible fixed assets of £75,994. The transfer from the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund to the Restricted General Fund is the net of capital grants received for revenue expenditure and capital additions purchased from GAG income.

The Acadamy's Restricted General Fund income is primarily ESFA grants (including GAG), which must be used to meet the cost of running The Heights Primary School. 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 2020.

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Unrestricted funds	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Turius						
General Funds - all funds	22,569	21,503	(6,102)	(12,389)	<u> </u>	25,581
Restricted general funds						
Restricted Funds		4 005 400	(1.074.040)	0 707		00.070
- all funds Pension reserve	62,080 (150,000)	1,365,120	(1,374,848)	9,727	-	62,079 (260,000)
Pension reserve	(150,000)	-	(51,000)	-	(59,000)	(260,000)
	(87,920)	1,365,120	(1,425,848)	9,727	(59,000)	(197,921)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DfE/ESFA						
capital grants	90,915	174,869	(143,438)	(32,653)	-	89,693
Fixed Assets	113,754	-	(49,304)	35,315	-	99,765
	204,669	174,869	(192,742)	2,662	-	189,458
Total Restricted funds	116,749	1,539,989	(1,618,590)	12,389	(59,000)	(8,463)
Total funds	139,318	1,561,492	(1,624,692)	-	(59,000)	17,118

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2020 £	Restricted funds 2020 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2020 £	Total funds 2020 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	75,994	75,994
Current assets	28,746	167,000	122,515	318,261
Creditors due within one year	-	(98,280)	-	(98,280)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(486,000)	-	(486,000)
Total	28,746	(417,280)	198,509	(190,025)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2019 £	Restricted funds 2019 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2019 £	Total funds 2019 £
Tangible fixed assets	2,663	-	99,765	102,428
Current assets	23,788	326,131	89,693	439,612
Creditors due within one year	(870)	(264,052)	-	(264,922)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(260,000)	-	(260,000)
Total	25,581	(197,921)	189,458	17,118

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

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

		2020 £	2019 £
	Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of financial activities)	(61,143)	(63,200)
	Adjustments for:		
	Depreciation	41,471	49,304
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(194,648)	(174,869)
	Net Defined benefit pension scheme cost	80,000	51,000
	Decrease in debtors	128,990	49,967
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(166,643)	144
	Net cash used in operating activities	(171,973)	(87,654)
20.	Cash flows from investing activities		
		2020 £	2019 £
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(15,037)	(37,978)
	Capital grants from DfE/EFSA Group	194,648	174,869
	Net cash provided by investing activities	179,611	136,891
21.	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents		
		2020 £	2019 £
	Changes in Cash and cash equivalent in the year	7,638	ء 49,237
	Cash and cash equivalent as at 1 September 2019	136,321	49,237 87,084
		100,021	07,004
	Total cash and cash equivalents	143,959	136,321

(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2019 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	136,321	7,638	143,959
	136,321	7,638	143,959

23. Pension commitments

The academy'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 the Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £136,739 (2019 - £83,651).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trusteeadministered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £76,169 (2019 - \pounds 63,236), of which employer's contributions totalled £59,050 (2019 - \pounds 31,199) and employees' contributions totalled £ 17,120 (2019 - \pounds 9,970). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 20.6% for employers and 5.5% - 12.5% for employees.

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2020	2019
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.20	3.65
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.20	2.15
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1.90
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.20	2.15
Inflation assumption (RPI)	3.00	3.15

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

	2020 Years	2019 Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.5	22.1
Females	24.1	24.0
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.9	23.7
Females	25.5	25.8

Sensitivity analysis

	2020 £000	2019 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	739	450
Discount rate -0.1%	784	481
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	788	480
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	735	450
CPI rate +0.1%	784	481
CPI rate -0.1%	739	450

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	2020 £	2019 £
Equities	161,000	114,000
Property	39,000	26,000
Corporate bonds	36,000	30,000
Target Return Portfolio	8,000	10,000
Cash and other liquid assets	26,000	16,000
Commodities	1,000	1,000
Infrastructure	20,000	20,000
Longevity insurance	(16,000)	(12,000)
Total market value of assets	275,000	205,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £9,000 (2019 - £11,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
Current service cost Administrative expenses	(134,000) (4,000)	(93,000) (4,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(138,000)	(97,000)

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
At 1 September	465,000	286,000
Current service cost	134,000	93,000
Interest cost	9,000	8,000
Employee contributions	17,000	14,000
Actuarial losses	137,000	66,000
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(1,000)	(2,000)
At 31 August	761,000	465,000

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the fair value of the academy's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2020 £	2019 £
At 1 September	205,000	136,000
Interest income	5,000	4,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(9,000)	7,000
Employee contributions	17,000	14,000
Estimated benefits paid net of transfers in	(1,000)	(2,000)
Employer contributions	58,000	46,000
At 31 August	275,000	205,000

24. Members' liability

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

25. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the governors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

During the year ended 31 August 2020 the school paid £700 to Edwards Landscaping for services (2019:£410). No amounts were outstanding at the year end (2019:£nil). The company is run by the spouse of K Edwards (Headteacher).

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