

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER 10027322

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
31 AUGUST 2021



AUDIT FOR BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT AND SOLUTIONS LIMITED

Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
15 Oxford Street
Southampton
Hampshire
SO14 3DJ

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

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THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Reference and Administrative Details

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Registered charity name The Rise Partnership Trust
Company registration number 10027322
Registered office C/o Manor School
Chamberlayne Road
Kensal Rise
London
NW10 3NT

Members

| | | |
|-----------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Judith Enright | - | Headteacher of Queens Park Community School |
| Stephen Hull | - | British Council senior leader (former BSAT Trustee) |
| Simon Pink | - | Accountant at Elliot Foundation |
| Paul Sommerfeld | - | Charity Consultant (previously CoT until April 2021) |
| Robert Anderson | - | HR consultant (former LA Assistant Director of Education) |

Trustees

The trustees who served the charity during the period were as follows:

Ms J E Jardine – Executive Head/ CEO
Mr P J Sommerfeld – Chair of Trustees (resigned April 2021)
H&S lead trustee
Mr L W Lumsden - Vice Chair (Vice Chair/Safeguarding lead trustee
Ms A Gunning
Mr S Roshan
Ms R Rossiter
Ms C M Jackson (appointed 14 September 2020, appointed Chair of Trustees April 2021)
Ms Therese McNulty – Standards and Curriculum lead trustee

Executive Leadership Team:

| | |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| Executive Head/CEO | - Jayne Jardine |
| Director of partnerships and safeguarding | - Louise Kimber |
| Director of education and standards | - Margaret O'Connor |
| Director of finance and administration | - Janice Alexander |

Auditor

Audit for Business Development and Solutions Limited
Chartered Accountants
& Statutory Auditor
15 Oxford Street
Southampton
Hampshire
SO14 3DJ

Bankers

Santander
2 Triton Square
Regent's Place
London
NW1 3AN

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates Manor School and the Avenue. Manor School is a primary special academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in Kensal Rise. It has a pupil capacity of 198 and had a roll of 175 in the school census 2020/21. The Avenue School is an all age special academy with 32 pupils on roll whilst it is operating on its temporary site at Queens Park Community School. The Avenue School will grow its roll to 104 pupils once it moves to its permanent site in late 2021.

The company was incorporated on 25 February 2016 and was dormant throughout the period to 31 August 2016. Manor School obtained academy status on 1 April 2017. The Avenue School operated as a satellite of Manor School prior to obtaining free school status in September 2020. The trust changed its name from Brent Special Academy Trust to The Rise Partnership Trust on 9 September 2021 in order to reflect its expanding regional role.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Structure, Governance and Management Constitution

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

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

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

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

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The Subscriber Members may appoint up to 8 Trustees.

The Academy Trust shall comprise not less than three Trustees (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution). Up to eight Trustees shall be appointed by the members by ordinary resolution. Trustees may appoint an unlimited number of Co-opted Governors.

The Executive Head/CEO is an *ex officio* Trustee and has no fixed term of appointment as a Trustee.

From time to time Trustees use specialist recruiters, Academy Ambassadors and Inspiring Governors, to find individuals with the right skills and aptitude to strengthen the Board.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

All new Trustees have one to one induction sessions with the Chair and the CEO and agree a Personal Development Plan. They are provided with an induction pack, including copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they need to undertake their role as Trustees, and given a tour of the schools. Trustees are provided with access to the online resource, *GovernorHub*.

Trustees are offered DfE funded training opportunities through the appointed delivery agent Entrust, and are also encouraged to source and attend relevant training courses, seminars and conferences.

All Trustees attend termly training on key policies/information i.e. KCSIE.

Organisational Structure

The unified management structure consists of three levels: the Trustees, the Executive Leadership Team and the Senior Leadership Team. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the school by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the school, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The PRT Executive Leadership Team is made up of the CEO, a Director of Education and Standards, a Director of Partnerships and Safeguarding, a Director of Communications, IT and Data, a Director of Therapy, a Director of Finance and Administration and a Director of Inclusion and Family Liaison. In addition to this, each School has a Head Teacher. The Executive Leadership Team oversees the work of the Trust schools at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them. As a group the Executive Leadership Team is responsible for the authorisation of expenditure within agreed budgets and the appointment of school leadership team staff, although appointment boards for some posts in the Senior Leadership Team i.e. Head teacher always includes at least one Trustee. Some spending control is devolved to members of the school Leadership Team, with limits above which a member of the Executive Leadership Team must countersign.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Pay Committee is a sub-committee of the Finance and Resources Committee and meets annually to determine leadership pay. All staff on the leadership team are on defined pay scales with a lower and an upper limit. The pay scales are taken from the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document. In the case of the Executive Leadership Team and the school's Senior Leadership Team the CEO will make recommendations for any pay progression to the committee based on the annual performance management process. Similarly the committee will consider any pay progression for the CEO based on their annual performance review. The CEO pay and performance is reviewed annually by two trustees and an independent expert external reviewer and consistency with national guidance, taking into account prevailing market conditions, and benchmarked comparison data provided by the external solicitors.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trade union facility time

Employees in BSAT

50 to 1,500 employee category

Trade union representatives and full-time equivalents

Trade union representatives: 4

FTE trade union representatives: 3.5

Percentage of working hours spent on facility time

0% of working hours: 0 representatives

1 to 50% of working hours: 4 representatives

51 to 99% of working hours: 0 representatives

100% of working hours: 0 representatives

Total pay bill and facility time costs

Total pay bill: £6,484,525

Total cost of facility time: £439

Percentage of pay spent on facility time: 0.00676%

Paid trade union activities

Hours spent on paid facility time: 24

Hours spent on paid trade union activities: 0

Percentage of total paid facility time hours spent on paid TU activities: 0%

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The RPT is an active member of the Brent Schools Partnership which aims to promote co-operative working between Brent schools in relation to recruitment, purchasing and staff development. The RPT also works closely with Challenge Partners and BHAG (a group of London special schools). The RPT is a member of SSAT, CST and Primary Quality Mark.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trust Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The principal activities are to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a personalized, specialist, broad and balanced curriculum.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of Manor and Avenue Schools to provide a highly specialist teaching environment for pupils with a range of special educational needs.

In accordance with the Articles of Association the school has adopted a 'Scheme of Governance' approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Governance specifies, among other things, the basis for admitting students to the school, and that the curriculum should comply with the substance of the National Curriculum.

Our Trust Mission Statement: Our Trust is committed pursuing excellence in all that we do; providing the most effective education, therapy, support and provision for all.

Our Motto 'love, learn, laugh, underpins everything we do.

Our Vision is: Championing unique potential.

Our approach is based on the support model that came from the national strategy; within the Trust there is significant expertise and a strong track record in supporting and working with schools to deliver excellent outcomes for pupils. This support has included a range of strategies and models for school improvement including: supportive review, highly effective assessment and personalised learning.

Our aim is not to grow an empire of schools, but rather our compulsion is to share our proven approach to sustained school improvement for the benefit of children, young people and their communities. All of our Trust schools benefit from partnership working, supported by a network of quality assured services that keep them legal, financially robust, continually improving and enjoying the economies of scale that this brings.

Personalised and enriched learning experience

We believe in providing exceptional educational experiences for all, and our School Promise is part of how we provide this. Each pupil benefits from seminal experiences that help them to develop life experience, curiosity in the world around them, resilience and ambition as they move through the phases of their life. We encourage each of our schools to develop their own unique Promise that supports the needs of their pupils and community. We are passionate about system-led change: our Trust is built upon the principle of schools supporting schools, being open in their approach and readily sharing resources and thinking both within the family and with other schools. Our staff, trustees and local governors are committed to leading by example and live by their unswerving commitment to integrity, transparency and excellence.

Our Trust proactively engages with our parents and the local communities and is continually seeking ways to improve and enhance our education and support service capabilities.

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Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Criteria and/or measures to assess success

We have identified Key Performance Indicators to support us in monitoring the effectiveness of our Trust and its schools. These include:

- Close financial scrutiny and adherence to the AFH
- Compliance checks for Finance, H&S, Buildings, Education, Staffing and HR
- Regular monitoring of standards and pupil outcomes
- Our own, specialist, in house assessment system, Small Steps, developed to track pupils progress over time
- Robust Performance Management for all staff
- Regular Trust review

Public Benefit

The school's Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Strategic Report

During the year the Trust continued to work on improving the curriculum and standards across the schools and on further development of the 'Growing our Own' leadership and development programme.

Success has been demonstrated in the National Schools Awards 2019/20 where Manor School was named the School of the Year 2019/20, and in levels of staff retention, currently running 25% above the national average for London schools.

Formally opening The Avenue in September 2019 as a new free school, included extensive engagement with the DfE and ESFA, planning an extension to the temporary accommodation on the site at Queens Park Community School, and working with the DfE and ESFA on planning for the new build 104 place school at Brondesbury Park/Avenue site for early 2022.

During the year Trustees met to review our growth strategy and consider opening a business 'arm' of the Trust. We held a successful group-wide strategy session with Trustees, the LAB Chairs and the Senior Management Team. The Trust is continuing to pursue a strategy of 'measured growth' and agreed to explore the development of RPT Services.

Our annual independent report on performance is carried out by Brent Schools Partnership each by a specialist school improvement partner and they have judged the work and standards at both Manor and the Avenue to be outstanding.

Mobility

We continue to have a very stable roll with very little in year mobility. The stable roll is very positive for both our pupils and for their outcomes/achievements.

Impact of Covid

In 2020/21 Covid continued to have an impact on our school. In line with DfE guidance our schools remained open to pupils. All pupils and families were supported/educated during this period; either in our schools or, for periods of time at home with a combination of on line, 'live' teaching and home learning package. Our home learning offer was robust and offered virtual learning, training for parents, home learning packs and specialist equipment delivered to pupils' homes; the success of this offer has been noted in the DfE's good practice seminars. Parents reported that they found our support, guidance and assistance to be of high quality. Robust safeguarding measures were put into place and we worked closely with social care to ensure every pupil/family were offered the support they needed.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Effectiveness of the Trust

The Board has met virtually throughout 2020/2021; committees meet half termly and the full Board meets 4 times per year. This has ensured we have continued with strategic planning, risk assessment, review, compliance etc. ensuring all our duties were addressed and to ensure the H&S/welfare and safeguarding of all pupils, staff and families.

Activities undertaken to further the academy trust's purposes for the public benefit

We work in close partnerships with our parents, community, other schools and organisations to share our best practice and support others. These include:

- Parent support groups and training (in person and virtually)
- Conferences and training – both locally and nationally (Many of these activities have continued to take place over the Covid period virtually)
- Hosting visits etc. (in person and virtually)
- Sharing policies, knowledge and experience
- Contributing to research with the DfE, IoE and other key educational organisations
- Working closely with our link Local Authorities
- Offering school to school support and improvement (in person and virtually)

Achievements and Performance

Pupil Attendance

Our pupil attendance is rigorously monitored and clear daily attendance procedures are in place to ensure our school follow up on any pupil absence. Our attendance rates are very good in comparison with other special schools both nationally and locally.

2020/21 = Average – 93.8%. This is a decrease of 0.9% on 2019/20 and better than the NA.

Pupil Outcomes

We have developed a highly effective, developmental assessment system, Small Steps, to track all pupils' progress and achievement over time. Senior staff meet with teachers each term to monitor progress to ensure pupils are on track to meet their end of year/Key Stage targets. We compare and share our outcomes with other schools from across Brent, Harrow and Hertfordshire to ensure consistency and to provide comparison. Our pupil outcomes, even of the Covid period, are excellent.

The following financial performance indicators are monitored by the Trustees:

Average gross income per pupil in 2021 = £40,236

Ratio of staff costs (including support staff costs and therapy costs) to total costs – 84% (2020 86%)

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Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Going Concern

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

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The school's income and expenditure for the period is set out in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The school's income across all funds for the period was £8,328,762 (2020 £7,254,581) and its expenditure was £8,560,125 (2020 £7,603,158) resulting in a deficit for the period of £231,363 (2020 deficit of £348,577).

Income and expenditure is separately disclosed by type of fund, as follows:

1. Unrestricted income fund - Total funds carried forward: £410,650 represents net incoming resources during the period plus surplus brought forward.
2. Restricted income funds - Total deficit carried forward £5,153,563 including a deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) of £6,335,000. This is the main fund through which school income and expenditure passes. These funds must be spent for the benefit of a particular aspect of the school and at the discretion of the Trustees.
3. Restricted Fixed Asset - Total funds carried forward: £8,250,785. This fund relates to the school's fixed assets, including its land and buildings.

Reserves Policy

Cash balances are deposited with UK banks.

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the school annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

The Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to 90 days of average expenditure, approximately £2,071,000. This is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and the receipt of grants and to provide the ability to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. Relevant reserves are net current assets for this purpose and approximate to £1,619,000, which is in excess of the target amount.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees assess the major risks to which the trust schools are exposed to on a regular, at least termly, basis. Our risk register is comprehensive and covers all parts of our operational areas and in particular those relating to operations of the schools including teaching, recruitment, health and safety, school trips, pupil safety and the suitability of facilities. A Risk Register with associated mitigation measures is kept by the CEO and Director of Finance and Administration. Trustees discuss the risk each term with the CEO and as new risks are identified i.e. the impact of Covid, Brexit and cyber crime these risks are added to the register.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Trustees' Report

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In particular the following risk are monitored on a regular basis:

RISK: Stalled decision making at the Funding Agency may result in abortive development work.

MITIGATION: Can be contained within current financial forecasts.

RISK: Reductions in pupil funding from central Government.

MITIGATION: Contingency planning process in place.

RISK: Departmental spending not adequately controlled.

MITIGATION: Strong internal control procedures have been put in place to prevent this happening, managed by the Head of Finance. Quarterly management information provided to the Trustees for oversight purposes. The CEO and Director of Finance meet on a weekly basis to review budget spending and discuss any issues arising.

RISK: Delays to Avenue building programme (outside the Trust's control).

MITIGATION: Specific contingency planning in place

Plans for Future Periods

Over the next 3 years we will:

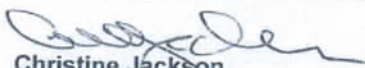
- Continue to develop a comprehensive specialist schools expansion programme in collaboration with local authorities and the RSC via the presumption route and other partners;
- Set up a business 'arm' of the Trust
- Review of Vision and Mission
- Continue to embed and develop our communications and stakeholder engagement strategy to raise awareness about, and the profile of, the Trust's schools;
- Continue to roll out a 'grow your own' leadership and development programme;
- Further develop RPT Services/income generation routes

Auditor

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, including a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of Trustees, as the company's directors, on 13 December 2021 and signed on the board's behalf by:


Christine Jackson
Chair of Trustees

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Governance Statement

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of Responsibility

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

The board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Executive Head/CEO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The Rise Partnership Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

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

| Trustee | Meetings attended | Out of a possible |
|-------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Christine Jackson | 6 | 6 |
| Lendon Lumsden | 5 | 6 |
| Therese McNulty | 5 | 6 |
| Rachel Rossiter | 4 | 6 |
| Jayne Jardine | 5 | 6 |
| Paul Sommerfeld | 5 | 5 |
| Amy Gunning | 5 | 6 |
| Suhail Roshan | 5 | 6 |

There are two separate sub-committees; Finance and Resources and Risk, Audit and Compliance. All matters such as financial strategy and policy, review of the school's income and expenditure, internal control framework, including its financial procedures and risks arising from operations and, in respect of premises, recommendations concerning the condition, use and development of the school's buildings, and to review school's policy on health and safety are considered within these meetings.

Review of Value for Money

As accounting officer the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- Improving Educational Results by continuing to enhance CPD opportunities for all staff, supporting teaching and learning across the Trust, enhancing our assessment processes; including improving our Pupil Progress meetings and further developing our monitoring and reporting systems (see previous for results).
- Financial Governance and Oversight by reviewing the terms of reference for our Trust's FaR committee, appointing a new trustee with extensive financial background and arranging

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Governance Statement

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

frequent visits to other MATs to share and investigate best financial practice. Trustees review and approve the budget each year and are mindful of the need to balance expenditure against income to ensure the school remains a going concern. Trustees approve the Trustee Report and Financial Statements and the external Auditor's Management Report. They also review budget monitoring reports during the year and three year forecasts of income and expenditure.

- Enhancing our better purchasing procedures by undertaking regular tender exercises to ensure that high value contracts are assessed against the marketplace on a regular basis to ensure that long term contracts remain competitive.
- Enhancing our income generation procedures; this includes supporting the staff members who support this work. We continue to explore opportunities to generate income through the hire of facilities including the swimming pool and halls etc. as well as selling our services, training and assessment programme.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Rise Partnership Trust for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Governance Statement

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- to continue with the services of School Business Matters Ltd. to provide internal audit services;
- to appoint Audit for Business Development and Solutions Limited, the external auditor, to perform additional checks on a quarterly/termly basis.

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

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of income systems
- testing of control account/ bank reconciliations

On a quarterly basis, the **auditor** reports to the board of trustees, through the **resources committee** on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.


Review of Effectiveness

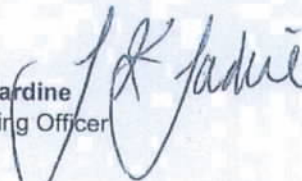
As accounting officer the CEO has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the **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 system of internal control by the **resources committee** and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 13 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


Christine Jackson
Chair of Trustees


Jayne Jardine
Accounting Officer

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

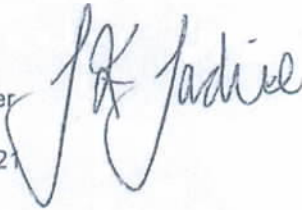
As accounting officer of The Rise Partnership Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

Jayne Jardine
Accounting Officer

13 December 2021



THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 13 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Christine Jackson

Chair of Trustees



THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

I have audited the accounts of The Rise Partnership Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES AND AUDITOR

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Annual Report, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

My responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the accounts in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK). Those standards require me to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE ACCOUNTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the accounts sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the accounts are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the accounts and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. In addition, I read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Annual Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited accounts. If I become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies I consider the implications for my report.

OPINION ON ACCOUNTS

In my opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 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.
- have been prepared in accordance with Charities SORP 2015 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTER PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In my opinion the information given in the Trustees' Annual Report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

I have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires me to report to you if, in my opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for my audit have not been received from branches not visited by me; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- I have not received all the information and explanations I require for my audit.

Peter James Ham

Peter James Ham
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of
Audit for Business Development and Solutions Limited
Chartered Accountants
& Statutory Auditor
15 Oxford Street
Southampton
Hampshire
SO14 3DJ

13 December 2021

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of my engagement letter dated 15 October 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, I have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Rise Partnership Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Rise Partnership Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. My work has been undertaken so that I might state to The Rise Partnership Trust and ESFA those matters I am required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, I do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Rise Partnership Trust and ESFA, for my work, for this report, or for the conclusion I have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Rise Partnership Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Rise Partnership Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 March 2017 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, 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.

My 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 my engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. I report to you whether anything has come to my attention in carrying out my work which suggests that, in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

I conducted my engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA. I performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in my engagement letter.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide me 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 me to obtain assurance that I would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, I do not express a positive opinion.

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

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The work undertaken to draw my conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across all of the school's activities;
- Further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including enquiry, identification of control processes and examination of supporting evidence across all areas identified as well as additional verification work where considered necessary; and
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work detailed above and the work completed as part of my financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

Conclusion

In the course of my work, nothing has come to my attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Peter James Ham

Peter James Ham
Reporting Accountant
For and on behalf of
Audit for Business Development and Solutions Limited
15 Oxford Street
Southampton
Hampshire
SO14 3DJ

13 December 2021

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted General Funds £ | Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £ | Total Funds 2021 £ | Total Funds 2020 £ |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| INCOME FROM: | | | | | | |
| Donations and capital grants | 2 | — | 50,000 | 165,857 | 215,857 | 91,432 |
| Charitable activities: Funding for the school's educational operations | 3 | — | 8,085,333 | — | 8,085,333 | 7,077,088 |
| Other trading activities | 4 | 6,997 | 20,215 | — | 27,212 | 85,336 |
| Investments | 5 | 360 | — | — | 360 | 725 |
| TOTAL | | <u>7,357</u> | <u>8,155,548</u> | <u>165,857</u> | <u>8,328,762</u> | <u>7,254,581</u> |
| EXPENDITURE ON: | | | | | | |
| Charitable activities: School's educational operations | 6 | — | (8,398,452) | (161,673) | (8,560,125) | (7,603,158) |
| TOTAL | | <u>—</u> | <u>(8,398,452)</u> | <u>(161,673)</u> | <u>(8,560,125)</u> | <u>(7,603,158)</u> |
| NET INCOME/ (EXPENDITURE) | | <u>7,357</u> | <u>(242,904)</u> | <u>4,184</u> | <u>(231,363)</u> | <u>(348,577)</u> |
| Transfer between funds | 12 | — | 44,196 | (44,196) | — | — |
| OTHER RECOGNISED (LOSSES)/GAINS | | | | | | |
| Actuarial (loss)/gain on defined benefit pension scheme | 25 | — | (1,443,000) | — | (1,443,000) | 32,000 |
| NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS | | <u>7,357</u> | <u>(1,641,708)</u> | <u>(40,012)</u> | <u>(1,674,363)</u> | <u>(316,577)</u> |
| RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS | 17 | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | | <u>403,293</u> | <u>(3,511,855)</u> | <u>8,290,797</u> | <u>5,182,235</u> | <u>5,498,812</u> |
| TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD | | <u>410,650</u> | <u>(5,153,563)</u> | <u>8,250,785</u> | <u>3,507,872</u> | <u>5,182,235</u> |

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Balance Sheet

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

| | Note | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------|------------------------|------------------------|
| FIXED ASSETS | | | |
| Tangible assets | 13 | 8,250,785 | 8,290,797 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | | |
| Debtors | 14 | 136,456 | 42,456 |
| Cash at bank | | 1,732,142 | 1,660,976 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year | 15 | 1,868,598 (249,382) | 1,703,432 (322,440) |
| NET CURRENT ASSETS | | 1,619,216 | 1,380,992 |
| CREDITORS: Amounts falling due after more than one year | 16 | (27,129) | (32,554) |
| TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES | | 9,842,872 | 9,639,235 |
| PROVISIONS FOR LIABILITIES | | | |
| Pensions | 25 | (6,335,000) | (4,457,000) |
| NET ASSETS | | 3,507,872 | 5,182,235 |
| FUNDS | | | |
| RESTRICTED FUNDS | | | |
| Fixed asset fund | 17 | 8,250,785 | 8,290,797 |
| Restricted income fund | 17 | 1,181,437 | 945,145 |
| Pension reserve/(deficit) | 25 | (6,335,000) | (4,457,000) |
| TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS | 17 | 3,097,222 | 4,778,942 |
| Unrestricted income fund | 17 | 410,650 | 403,293 |
| TOTAL FUNDS | 17 | 3,507,872 | 5,182,235 |

These accounts were approved by the members of the committee and authorised for issue on the 13 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

J Jardine
Accounting Officer

Christine Jackson
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration Number: 10027322

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Cash Flows

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

| | | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|-----------------------------------------------|----|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES | | | |
| Net cash provided by operating activities | 20 | 197,892 | 247,187 |
| CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES | 21 | (121,301) | (44,011) |
| CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES | 22 | (5,425) | (37,980) |
| CHANGE IN CASH IN THE REPORTING PERIOD | | <u>71,166</u> | <u>241,156</u> |
| CASH AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2020 | | <u>1,660,976</u> | <u>1,419,820</u> |
| CASH AT 31 AUGUST 2021 | 23 | <u><u>1,732,142</u></u> | <u><u>1,660,976</u></u> |

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Accounting Policies

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK (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 (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The conversion from a state maintained school to an Academy Trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £nil consideration and has been accounted for under the acquisition accounting method.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from Manor School to an Academy Trust have been valued at their fair value being a reasonable estimate of the current market value that the Governors would expect to pay in an open market for an equivalent item. Their fair value is in accordance with the accounting policies set out for The Rise Partnership Trust. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in voluntary income as income/net expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds.

Freehold land and buildings were transferred from the Local Authority on 1 April 2017. A professionally qualified property valuer valued the property on behalf of Brent Council at fair value, being the price that would be received to sell an asset in an orderly transaction between market participants at 1 April 2014. The trustees consider that the valuation was undertaken on a depreciated replacement cost basis and equipment was transferred for £nil consideration and have been included at £nil value except for a few readily identifiable major items.

Going Concern

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

Income

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

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Accounting Policies

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

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 entitlement its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant (GAG) is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general fund and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations

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

Other Income

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

Transfer on conversion

Where assets are received by the trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as Transfer on conversion within Donations and capital grant income.

Expenditure

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

- Expenditure on Raising Funds

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

- Charitable Activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Accounting Policies

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding 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, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------|
| • Land | No depreciation |
| • Long leasehold buildings | 125 years |
| • Fixtures, fittings and equipment | 5/10 years |
| • Computer hardware | 3 years |
| • Motor vehicles | 5 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.

Liabilities

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

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Leased Assets

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

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Accounting Policies

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity'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.

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by part 11, chapter 3 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.

Pensions Benefits

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

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

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

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Statement of Accounting Policies

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

Fund Accounting

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency, Department for Education and Brent Council.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions 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 2021. 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.

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST
Other Notes to the Financial Statements
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

2. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

| | Unrestricted Funds | Restricted Funds | Restricted Fixed Asset Fund | Total Funds 2021 | Total Funds 2020 |
|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| Capital grants | - | - | 165,857 | 165,857 | 88,540 |
| Donations | - | 50,000 | - | 50,000 | 2,892 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>50,000</u> | <u>165,857</u> | <u>215,857</u> | <u>91,432</u> |

3. FUNDING FOR THE TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £ | Total Funds 2021 £ | Total funds 2020 £ |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Grants receivable | | | | | |
| General annual grant | - | 2,020,000 | - | 2,020,000 | 1,990,000 |
| Other government grants | - | 301,644 | - | 301,644 | 269,299 |
| Pupil premium | - | 103,925 | - | 103,925 | 106,949 |
| UIFSM | - | 35,862 | - | 35,862 | 29,961 |
| Sports grant | - | 33,780 | - | 33,780 | 34,000 |
| LB Brent rent grant | - | 170,000 | - | 170,000 | 170,000 |
| SEN top up grant | - | 5,371,642 | - | 5,371,642 | 4,476,879 |
| Covid-19 funding (DFE/ESFA) | - | 48,480 | - | 48,480 | - |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>8,085,333</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>8,085,333</u> | <u>7,077,088</u> |

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

| | Unrestricted Funds £ | Restricted Funds £ | Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £ | Total Funds 2021 £ | Total funds 2020 £ |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Other voluntary income - lettings | - | - | - | - | 33,773 |
| Other voluntary income | 6,997 | 20,215 | - | 27,212 | 51,563 |
| | <u>6,997</u> | <u>20,215</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>27,212</u> | <u>85,336</u> |

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST
Other Notes to the Financial Statements
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

5. BANK INTEREST RECEIVABLE

| | Restricted Funds | Total Funds 2021 | Total funds 2020 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ |
| Bank interest receivable | 360 | 360 | 724 |

6. EXPENDITURE

| | Staff costs | Non Pay Premises | Expenditure Other | Total 2021 | Total 2020 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| | £ | £ | £ | £ | £ |
| School's educational operations: | | | | | |
| Direct costs | 2,646,135 | 170,000 | 423,223 | 3,239,358 | 2,587,832 |
| Support costs | 4,507,687 | 363,104 | 449,976 | 5,320,767 | 5,015,326 |
| | 7,153,822 | 533,104 | 873,199 | 8,560,125 | 7,603,158 |

7. ANALYSIS OF SUPPORT COSTS – EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

Analysis of educational support costs

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------------------|------------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Support staff costs | 4,507,687 | 4,224,478 |
| Depreciation | 161,673 | 157,491 |
| Technology costs | 54,983 | 109,258 |
| Premises costs | 363,104 | 300,837 |
| Other support costs | 220,739 | 211,962 |
| Governance costs | 12,581 | 11,300 |
| Total support costs | 5,320,767 | 5,015,326 |

8. NET INCOME/EXPENDITURE

This is stated after charging:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|-------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Depreciation | 161,673 | 157,491 |
| Auditors' remuneration: | | |
| - audit of the financial statements | 11,700 | 11,450 |
| - other services | — | — |
| Operating lease costs: | | |
| - Other | 170,000 | 170,000 |

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST

Other Notes to the Financial Statements

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

9. STAFF COSTS AND EMOLUMENTS

a. Total staff costs were as follows:

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|----------------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Wages and salaries | 4,639,092 | 4,240,355 |
| Social security costs | 412,046 | 353,084 |
| Employer's pension contributions | 1,706,739 | 11,392,223 |
| Supply staff cost | 390,359 | 493,363 |
| Apprenticeship levy | 5,586 | 5,500 |
| | <u>7,153,822</u> | <u>5,451,609</u> |

Staff restructuring costs comprise redundancy payment

| | |
|----------|--------------|
| - | 3,719 |
| <u>-</u> | <u>3,719</u> |

b. Staff numbers

The average number of employees during the period was as follows:

| | 2021 No | 2020 No |
|----------------------------|------------|------------|
| Teachers | 28 | 26 |
| Administration and support | 124 | 130 |
| Management | 14 | 10 |
| | <u>166</u> | <u>166</u> |

c. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension contributions) exceeded £60,000 on an annualised basis was:

| | 2021 No | 2020 No |
|---------------------|------------|------------|
| £60,001 - £70,000 | 3 | 4 |
| £70,001 - £80,000 | - | 4 |
| £80,001 - £90,000 | 2 | - |
| £130,001 - £140,000 | 1 | 1 |
| | <u>6</u> | <u>9</u> |

d. Senior Leadership Team

The key management personnel comprise the Governors and the Senior Leadership Team. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was for the period from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 was £659,032 (2020: £660,693).

THE RISE PARTNERSHIP TRUST
Other Notes to the Financial Statements
YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

One trustee has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the school. The CEO receives remuneration only in respect of services she provides undertaking the roles of CEO, and not in respect of her services as trustee. Other trustees did not receive any payments.

The value of trustee's remuneration and other benefits for the year were:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| J Jardine (CEO and trustee) | | |
| Remuneration | £130,001-£135,000 | £130,001-£135,000 |
| Employer's pension contributions | £30,001-£35,000 | £30,001-£35,000 |

Owing to the nature of the school's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which a trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the school's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. No related party transactions took place in the period of account.

11. TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS INSURANCE

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

12. TRANSFERS

Transfers equate fixed assets with the fixed asset fund.

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13. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

| | Long Leasehold Property £ | Leasehold Improve- ments £ | Furniture & Equipment £ | Plant & Machinery £ | Computer Equipment £ | Motor Vehicles £ | Total £ |
|-----------------------|------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------|------------------------|------------------|
| COST | | | | | | | |
| At 1 September 2020 | 8,261,539 | — | 80,628 | — | 373,546 | 28,095 | 8,743,808 |
| Additions | — | 57,700 | — | — | 63,961 | — | 121,661 |
| Transfers | — | — | (9,041) | 178,747 | (169,706) | — | — |
| At 31 August 2021 | <u>8,261,539</u> | <u>57,700</u> | <u>71,587</u> | <u>178,747</u> | <u>267,801</u> | <u>28,095</u> | <u>8,865,469</u> |
| DEPRECIATION | | | | | | | |
| At 1 September 2020 | 225,500 | — | 41,286 | — | 180,138 | 6,087 | 453,011 |
| Charge for the year | 66,000 | 1,803 | 13,874 | 13,492 | 60,885 | 5,619 | 161,673 |
| Transfers | — | — | (9,585) | 53,526 | (43,941) | — | — |
| At 31 August 2021 | <u>291,500</u> | <u>1,803</u> | <u>45,575</u> | <u>67,018</u> | <u>197,082</u> | <u>11,706</u> | <u>614,684</u> |
| NET BOOK VALUE | | | | | | | |
| At 31 August 2021 | <u>7,970,039</u> | <u>55,897</u> | <u>26,012</u> | <u>111,729</u> | <u>70,719</u> | <u>16,389</u> | <u>8,250,785</u> |
| NET BOOK VALUE | | | | | | | |
| At 31 August 2020 | <u>8,036,039</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>39,342</u> | <u>—</u> | <u>193,408</u> | <u>22,008</u> | <u>8,290,797</u> |

14. DEBTORS

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|---------------------------------|----------------|---------------|
| Trade debtors | 45,864 | 19,273 |
| Other debtors - VAT recoverable | 16,740 | 15,803 |
| Prepayments | 73,852 | 7,380 |
| | <u>136,456</u> | <u>42,456</u> |

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15. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Trade creditors | 82,524 | 138,186 |
| Taxation and social security | 108,028 | 95,415 |
| Accruals and deferred income | 53,404 | 83,413 |
| Other creditors – loan repayable within one year | 5,426 | 5,426 |
| | <u>249,382</u> | <u>322,440</u> |
| Deferred income at 1 September 2020 | 66,281 | 46,190 |
| Released from previous period | (66,281) | (46,190) |
| Resources deferred in the year | 16,178 | 66,281 |
| | <u>16,178</u> | <u>66,281</u> |
| Deferred income at 31 August 2021 (grants received in advance) | <u>16,178</u> | <u>66,281</u> |

16. CREDITORS: Amounts falling after more than one year

| | 2021 £ | 2020 £ |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Other creditors – loan repayable after more than one year | <u>27,129</u> | <u>32,554</u> |

17. FUNDS

| | At 1st September 2020 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Gains, losses and transfers £ | At 31st August 2021 £ |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant | 569,059 | 2,020,000 | (1,827,904) | 44,196 | 805,351 |
| Transfer on conversion | 376,086 | – | – | – | 376,086 |
| Other government grants | – | 763,906 | (763,906) | – | – |
| SEN top up and other grants | – | 5,371,642 | (5,371,642) | – | – |
| Pension reserve | (4,457,000) | – | (435,000) | (1,443,000) | (6,335,000) |
| | <u>(3,511,855)</u> | <u>8,155,548</u> | <u>(8,398,452)</u> | <u>(1,398,804)</u> | <u>(5,153,563)</u> |
| Restricted fixed asset funds | | | | | |
| Transfer on conversion | 8,342,866 | – | – | – | 8,342,866 |
| Movements on fixed assets | (52,069) | 165,857 | (161,673) | (44,196) | (92,081) |
| | <u>8,290,797</u> | <u>165,857</u> | <u>(161,673)</u> | <u>(44,196)</u> | <u>8,250,785</u> |
| Total restricted funds | 4,778,942 | 8,321,405 | (8,560,125) | (1,443,000) | 3,097,222 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 403,293 | 7,357 | – | – | 410,650 |
| Total funds | <u>5,182,235</u> | <u>8,328,762</u> | <u>(8,560,125)</u> | <u>(1,443,000)</u> | <u>3,507,872</u> |

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Other Notes to the Financial Statements

YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17. FUNDS (continued)

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

General Annual Grant, pupil premium and other grants fund relates to the school's development and educational activities.

Restricted fixed asset fund relates to fixed assets transferred from the state maintained school plus subsequent additions less disposals.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the school was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

Total funds analysed by school:

| | 2021 £k | 2020 £k |
|-----------------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| The Avenue | 119 | 102 |
| Manor School | 1,600 | 1,206 |
| Central services | (127) | 40 |
| Total before fixed assets and pension reserve | 1,592 | 1,348 |
| Restricted fixed asset fund | 8,251 | 8,291 |
| Pension reserve | (6,335) | (4,457) |
| | <u>3,508</u> | <u>5,182</u> |

Cost analysis by school:

| | Teaching & educational staff costs £k | Other support staff £k | Educational supplies £k | Other costs (excluding depreciation) £k | Total 2021 £k | 2020 £k |
|--------------|------------------------------------------|---------------------------|----------------------------|--------------------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| The Avenue | 849 | 68 | 40 | 399 | 1,356 | 1,376 |
| Manor school | 1,730 | 4,415 | 235 | 490 | 6,870 | 5,968 |
| Central | 67 | 25 | — | 80 | 172 | 102 |
| | <u>2,646</u> | <u>4,508</u> | <u>275</u> | <u>969</u> | <u>8,398</u> | <u>7,446</u> |

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YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17. FUNDS (continued)

| | At 1st September 2019 £ | Incoming resources £ | Resources expended £ | Gains, losses and transfers £ | At 31st August 2020 £ |
|------------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant | 596,834 | 1,990,000 | (2,061,579) | 43,804 | 569,059 |
| Transfer on conversion | 376,086 | — | — | — | 376,086 |
| Start up grant | — | 439,299 | (439,299) | — | — |
| SEN top up and other grants | — | 4,647,789 | (4,647,789) | — | — |
| Pension reserve | (4,192,000) | — | (297,000) | 32,000 | (4,457,000) |
| | (3,219,080) | 7,077,088 | (7,445,667) | 75,804 | (3,511,855) |
| Restricted fixed asset funds | | | | | |
| Transfer on conversion | 8,342,866 | — | — | — | 8,342,866 |
| Movements on fixed assets | 60,686 | 88,540 | (157,491) | (43,804) | (52,069) |
| | 8,403,552 | 88,540 | (157,491) | (43,804) | 8,290,797 |
| Total restricted funds | 5,184,472 | 7,165,628 | (7,603,158) | 32,000 | 4,778,942 |
| Total unrestricted funds | 314,340 | 88,953 | — | — | 403,293 |
| Total funds | 5,498,812 | 7,254,581 | (7,603,158) | 32,000 | 5,182,235 |

18. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted general funds £ | Restricted fixed asset fund £ | Total 2021 £ |
|-------------------------|----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | — | — | 8,250,785 | 8,250,785 |
| Current assets | 410,581 | 1,458,017 | — | 1,868,598 |
| Current liabilities | — | (249,382) | — | (249,382) |
| Non-current liabilities | — | (27,129) | — | (27,129) |
| Pension fund liability | — | (6,335,000) | — | (6,335,000) |
| | 410,581 | (5,153,494) | 8,250,785 | 3,507,872 |

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

| | Unrestricted funds £ | Restricted funds £ | Restricted fixed asset fund £ | Total 2020 £ |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | — | — | 8,290,797 | 8,290,797 |
| Current assets | 403,293 | 1,300,139 | — | 1,703,432 |
| Current liabilities | — | (322,440) | — | (322,440) |
| Non current liabilities | — | (32,554) | — | (32,554) |
| Pension fund liability | — | (4,457,000) | — | (4,457,000) |
| | 403,293 | (3,511,855) | 8,290,797 | 5,182,235 |

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Other Notes to the Financial Statements

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19. COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

At 31 August 2021 the total of the school's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------|
| | £ | £ |
| Amounts due within one year | 106,000 | 170,000 |

20. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOMING RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|-----------|
| | £ | £ |
| Net incoming resources before transfers | (231,363) | (348,577) |
| Interest receivable | (360) | (725) |
| Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable | 357,000 | 215,000 |
| Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost | 78,000 | 82,000 |
| Depreciation | 161,673 | 157,491 |
| (Increase)/Decrease in debtors | (94,000) | 42,774 |
| (Decrease)/Increase in creditors | (73,058) | 99,224 |
| Net cash inflow from operating activities | 197,892 | 247,187 |

21. CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-----------------------------------|------------------|----------|
| | £ | £ |
| Interest | 360 | 725 |
| Purchase of tangible fixed assets | (121,661) | (44,736) |
| Cash used in investing activities | (121,301) | (44,011) |

22. CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|-------------------------------------------|----------------|---------|
| | £ | £ |
| Repayments of borrowing | (5,425) | (5,426) |
| Cash inflows from new borrowing | — | 43,406 |
| Net cash provided by financing activities | (5,425) | 37,980 |

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Other Notes to the Financial Statements

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23. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

| | 31 Aug 21 | 31 Aug 20 |
|--------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| | £ | £ |
| Cash in hand and at bank | <u>1,732,142</u> | <u>1,660,976</u> |

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 £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member. There is no controlling party.

25. PENSION AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS

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

Contributions amounting to £nil were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2014). Membership is automatic for 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 make contributions, as a percentage of salary – these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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25. PENSION AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer 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 total 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 2.0% 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 period amounted to £400,083. A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year was £1,105,000 of which employer's contributions were £919,000 and employees' contributions were £162,000.

The agreed contribution rates are 28.6% per cent for employers and 6.5% per cent for employees. Parliament has agreed, at the request of The Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding local government pension scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

| Principal Actuarial Assumptions | At 31 August 2021 | At 31 August 2020 |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Rate of increase in salaries | 3.2% | 2.5% |
| Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation | 2.9% | 2.2% |
| Discount rate for scheme liabilities | 1.7% | 1.7% |
| Expected return on assets | 2.9% | 2.9% |

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25. PENSION AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

An allowance is included for future retirements to elect to take 50% of the maximum additional tax free cash up to HMRC limits for pre-April 2008 service and 75% of the maximum tax-free cash for post-April 2008 service.

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

| Change in assumptions at 31 August 2021 | Approximate % increase to defined benefit obligation | Approximate monetary amount £000 |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 0.5% decrease in discount rate | 15% | 1,495 |
| 0.5% increase in the salary increase rate | 0% | 80 |
| 0.5% increase in the pension increase rate | 15% | 1,395 |

The return on the fund in market value terms for the period is estimated based on actual Fund Returns as provided by the Administering Authority and index returns where necessary as 2.9%.

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

| | At 31 August 2021 | At 31 August 2020 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| Current pensioners | | |
| Males | 22.3 | 22.1 |
| Females | 24.7 | 24.3 |
| Retiring in 20 years (aged 45 as at the last formal valuation date) | | |
| Males | 23.5 | 23.0 |
| Females | 26.2 | 25.5 |

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25. PENSION AND OTHER POST-RETIREMENT BENEFITS (continued)

The school's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme are as follows:

| | 31 August 2021 | 31 August 2020 |
|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| Equities | 3,636 | 2,306 |
| Bonds | 545 | 384 |
| Property | 182 | 118 |
| Cash | 182 | 148 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total market value of assets | 4,545 | 2,956 |
| Present value of funded scheme liabilities | (10,880) | (7,413) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| (Deficit) in the scheme | (6,335) | (4,457) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | 2021 | 2020 |
| | £000 | £000 |
| Current service cost (net of employee contributions) | 162 | 141 |
| Employer contribution | 919 | 802 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| Total operating charge | 1,081 | 943 |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| | £000 | £000 |
| Obligation | | |
| At 1 September 2020 | (7,413) | (6,081) |
| Current service cost | (1,276) | (1,017) |
| Interest cost | (137) | (126) |
| Employee contributions | (162) | (141) |
| Benefits paid | 90 | 89 |
| Change in financial assumptions | (1,982) | (137) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |
| At 31 August 2021 | (10,880) | (7,413) |
| | <hr/> | <hr/> |

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Movements in the fair value of the school's share of scheme assets:

| | 2021 | 2020 |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| | £000 | £000 |
| At 1 September 2020 | 2,956 | 1,889 |
| Contributions by members | 162 | 141 |
| Employer contributions | 919 | 802 |
| Benefits paid | (90) | (89) |
| Return on assets | 539 | 169 |
| Interest income on plan assets | 58 | 44 |
| At 31 August 2021 | <u>4,544</u> | <u>2,956</u> |

The estimated value of employer's contributions for the year ended 31 August 2022 is £919,000.