Company Registration Number: 10821223 (England and Wales)

# Woking College (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year 1 September 2018 - 31 August 2019

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## **Reference and Administrative Details**

Members

Mr M. Ingram

Revd. Dr D. R. Marks

Mrs G. Mather Mr L. Oates Mr R. Volo

**Trustees** 

Mrs Y Aslam

Mrs E Cussans

Mr B Freeman

Appointed 12 November 2018

Appointed 1 September 2018

Principal and Accounting Officer

Mr M Hearsum Resigned 31 July 2019

Mr R Kemp Appointed 1 September 2019

Mrs G Mather Chair of Trustees, Appointed 1 September 2018

Mr H J Miles

Mr C Mitchell Appointed 1 September 2018

Mr J Moffat Dr M Mulheron

Mr B Smith Appointed 1 September 2018

Mr T Stokes

Senior Management Team

Principal Mr B Freeman
Deputy Principal Mr N Razaq
Assistant Principal Ms L Cook
Assistant Principal Ms K Foan

Finance Director Ms F Munday Appointed 28 August 2018

Clerk to Trustees

Mrs H Meredith Resigned 31 July 2019

Mrs B Maude Appointed 17 September 2019

Company Name Woking College

Company Registration Number 10821223 (England and Wales)

Principal and Registered Office Rydens Way, Woking GU22 9DL

Auditors Wilkins Kennedy Audit Services

Gladstone House 77-79 High Street

Egham Surrey TW20 9HY

Bankers Lloyds Bank PLC

2 City Place, Beehive Ring Road

Gatwick, RH6 0PA

Solicitors Stevens & Bolton

Wey House, Farnham Road, Guildford

Surrey GU1 4YD

**Eversheds Sutherland** 

1 Wood St, London EC2V 7WS

## **Trustees Report**

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy which specialises in academic and vocational courses for 16-19 year olds. During the year it had 1422 students enrolled. In addition, the academy trust has a number of part-time courses (predominantly English for Speakers of Other Languages) which serve the local community and currently have 300 students enrolled on a part-time basis.

The conversion to a single academy trust on 1 September 2017 involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities valued at fair value and all operations of the College for £nil consideration.

## 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 Woking College are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Woking College.

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

## Members' Liability

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

#### Trustees' Indemnities

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the academy trust's expense to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of negligence, default or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the academy trust, provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or not, and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as directors of the academy trust.

## Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

Eligibility to act as a trustee of the academy trust is within the Constitutional Framework and Clauses 45-80 of the Articles of Association.

The academy looks to ensure a mix of skills and selects new trustees on the basis of background, experience and specialist skills to provide the academy trust with the best possible advice and support. An annual skills audit is undertaken to identify any skills gaps in the board of trustees and to inform the recruitment of new Trustees to fill identified skills gaps.

## Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that appropriate training is provided as required. All new trustees are invited to attend induction training and receive a Trustees' Handbook including all relevant guidance to their role. Trustees are provided with support from the Clerk to the trustees who circulates regular sector briefings and updates and details of relevant external training and networking opportunities to Trustees. The Academy Trust provides training presentations as part of Trustee meetings on topical issues according to need.

An annual Governance Conference is held each September to update Trustees on latest developments at College and an annual Strategic Plan Review takes place each May / June to update Trustees on developments within the sector and the possible impact for the Academy Trust.

## **Trustees Report (Continued)**

## **Organisational Structure**

The Senior Management Team consists of the Principal, Deputy Principal, two Assistant Principals and the Finance Director. This group meets weekly as the College Executive Group. The group is also the Risk Management group. The College Operations Group consists of the Deputy Principal, two Assistant Principals and two Directors.

The committee structure of the Board of Trustees consists of a combined Finance and Audit Committee and there is also a Succession Planning Working Group. There is a Scheme of Delegation which is on the College website, which shows which decisions are reserved for the Board of Trustees and those delegated to management.

## Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

At Woking College, the Accounting Officer (Principal) is the only person defined as a senior post holder. Decisions relating to senior post holder appointments and remuneration are made by the trustees after detailed review of performance and affordability as well as benchmarking data by a working group of trustees who review the remuneration.

Decisions relating to other members of senior management are taken by the Principal having regard to benchmarking data, Sixth Form Colleges Association pay increases and affordability.

Trustees / Directors do not receive any remuneration.

## Trade union facility time

#### Relevant union officials

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

As there were no relevant union officials during the relevant period no further disclosure is required.

#### Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The College has no formal related parties and is not connected with any other charity or organisation. However, the academy trust works closely with local schools and is a member of the S7 Consortium of Sixth Form Colleges, which provides training and other cross college activities.

The college has links with local sporting clubs and charities who hire College facilities and with The Lightbox art gallery (Registered Charity Number 1073543) where an annual art and fashion exhibition is held by the college.

## **Trustees Report (Continued)**

## **Objectives and Activities**

### **Objects and Aims**

The Academy Trust's objects, as set out in the Memorandum of Association, are to advance for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a 16 to 19 Academy offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students. In addition, the Academy Trust is to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Woking and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

Within these objects, the academy trust aims to create an environment where student success is the priority so as to increase life-choices for all students.

The objective is to provide education for students of all abilities to improve their life chances, allowing them to take the opportunities that are available to them. We aim to enhance our students' future choices though the provision of a learning environment in which they will maximise their examination success. These successes should happen within a culture in which the learning of wider knowledge, skills and values is cherished and supported and attention is paid to individual wellbeing - to the benefit of individual students and the societies in which they will live.

Our mission will be achieved if, following effective advice and guidance, all students are enrolled onto the right courses for them as individuals and they then benefit of high quality teaching and assessment. At Woking College stretch, struggle and challenge in learning will be embraced, students will be encouraged to be independent learners with a sense of ownership in their work and progress; this will be supported with a steadfast belief in the ongoing personal development for all members of the College community.

Woking College will remain an inclusive, diverse, open access sixth form college with a positive sense of community and strong links to the local area. We want to further enhance the vibrancy of the College and continue to engender an excitement for learning. We will help students to become critical thinkers able to deal with the challenges of an uncertain world in order to nurture the next generation of leaders, carers, active citizens. Woking College sees the quality of learning, teaching and assessment as essential to its mission; becoming recognised in the wider community as a leader in Sixth Form pedagogy is central to the College's mission.

Consistent with other academies in the United Kingdom, Woking College aims to raise educational outcomes and to increase student numbers to meet demand.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities

In July 2017, the College adopted a strategic plan for the period 1 August 2017 – 31 July 2020. The Board of Trustees monitors the performance of the College against these plans. The plans are reviewed and updated each year. The Colleges main strategic objectives are:

- To enhance student life choices and chances through maximising examination and coursework successes whilst paying due attention to students' progression plans;
- To ensure that the quality of learning, teaching and assessment is excellent and evolves dynamically, continuing to be placed at the centre of everything we do;
- To enhance the lives of our students by ensuring that the student experience is not just about examination success, so that enjoyment and edification sit alongside more measurable educational outcomes for our students;
- To maximise its income and the efficient allocation of resources enabling successful learning, teaching and student success;
- To ensure effective internal communications and also to further develop links with the local community;
   to the benefit primarily of our students but also to local stakeholders;

To look further forwards considering political, economic, social and technological developments and their potential impact on planning at Woking College.

## **Trustees Report (Continued)**

#### **Public Benefit**

Woking College is an exempt charity under the Part 3 of the Charities Act 2011 and is regulated by the Secretary of State for Education. The members of the Governing Body, who are Trustees of the charity, are disclosed on page 1.

In setting and reviewing the College's strategic objectives, the Board of Trustees has had due regard for the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit and particularly upon its supplementary guidance on the advancement of education. The guidance sets out the requirement that all organisations wishing to be recognised as charities must demonstrate, explicitly, that their aims are for the public benefit.

In delivering its mission, the College provides the following identifiable public benefits through the advancement of education:

- High-quality teaching
- Widening participation
- Excellent progression/employment record for students
- Strong student support systems
- Links with employers, industry and commerce

## Strategic report

#### **Achievements and Performance**

The achievements in 2018/19 in relation to the main strategic objectives include:

- The College grew to 1420 FTE 16-18 students
- Average ALPS grade 3
- 95% of students would recommend the College as a place to study
- 59% (2018: 59%) of students immediately entered Higher Education with 76% (2018:75%) of students gaining their first choice and 6% (2018: 18%) gaining their insurance choice
- 24% (2018: 30%) of students left for employment and apprenticeships
- 15% (2018:11%) took a gap year. The remaining 2% chose to return to College to attend another FE college in order to improve their grades

The Trustees use the following measures to assess the success of the activities of the College;

- Student achievement including value added performance
- Percentage of students passing
- Attendance data
- Retention data
- · Student enrolment data
- College's compliance with all legal requirements including Equality and Diversity, Health and Safety, Safeguarding, Data Protection including GDPR

## **Trustees Report (Continued)**

### **Key Performance Indicators**

		16-18			19+			Total	
Overall Success/ Achievement Rate	16/17	17/18	18/19	16/17	17/18	18/19	16/17	17/18	18/19
Starters	4023	4314	4314	258	213	268	4799	4236	4582
Achievement rate (%)	91.0	91.4	91.4	88.7	87.4	86.3	90.8	90.8	91.0
Pass rate (%)	97.5	98.3	98.3	94.2	91.9	89.4	96.0	97.1	97.6
GCSE Average	5.3	5.6	5.6	5.2	4.1	3.6	5.4	5.3	5.6
Attendance (%)	97.8	97.8	97.8	95.6	95.8	95.1	97.6	97.8	97.8
Retention (%)	95.2	95.0	95.0	94.2	95.3	96.6	95.1	95.2	95.1
Punctuality (%)	97.9	98.0	98.0	98.1	98.5	97.6	98.4	97.9	98.0
High Pass rate (%)	56.2	56.5	56.5	30.2	22.8	15.9	42.5	53.9	53.3

Woking College is currently graded 2 'Good' by Ofsted (Feb 2016). The figures above suggest that this level of judgement, by the above measures, continues to be more than satisfied.

## **Going Concern**

The Academy Trust has achieved an operational surplus and has retained reserves. After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the Trust 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 on page 25.

#### **Financial Review**

A significant portion of the College's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants. The grants received from the ESFA and the associated expenditure is shown as restricted funds in the Statement of financial activities.

The College generated a deficit before other gains and losses for the period of £15k.

At 31 August 2019 the net book value of fixed assets was £31,124k as shown in note 11. The assets are used for the purposes of providing education and the associated support services to the students of Woking College.

Total funds available at 31 August 2019 amount to £31,622k and the value of unrestricted reserves is £1,495k.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The policy is to have at least £500k in free reserves (excluding the restricted fixed asset fund asset £31,124k and pension reserve £1,376k deficit at 31 August 2019) to mitigate the risk of reduced funding due to lower student numbers, funding cuts or unexpected increases in expenditure for example higher levels of inflation, higher than anticipated increases in teachers' pension contributions. This equates to approximately one months' worth of expenditure including payroll and will ensure the working capital requirements are met.

The amount of reserves held (excluding restricted asset and pension reserve) at 31 August 2019 is £1,746k which is 3.5 times the amount required to mitigate risk. The current policy is under review and it is anticipated that funds over and above the target free reserves will be transferred to a designated fund set up to be used to improve the infrastructure of the College's premises to benefit current and future students.

The total funds available at 31 August 2019 amount to £31,622k and the amount available for general purposes of the academy trust at 31 August 2019 amount to £1,495k.

The balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds at 31 August 2019 is £1,746k.

## **Investment Policy**

The Academy Trust has an Investment Policy that allows funds, identified as surplus to immediate requirements through cash flow monitoring, to be placed on short-term deposit with banks. The banks offer better return on short term investments through the money market. Should the reserves increase sufficiently to consider longer term investment, the Academy Trust would take professional advice on suitable investment opportunities.

## **Trustees Report (Continued)**

## **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The system of internal control maintained by the academy trust includes financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the assets and reputation.

A risk register is maintained at the academy trust and is reviewed at the meeting of the Audit and Finance Committee, and on a regular basis by the Senior Management Team. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the academy trust and the actions being undertaken to reduce and mitigate the risk. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system. Outlined below is a description of the principal risk factors that may affect the Academy Trust. Not all the factors are within the academy trust's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the Academy Trust.

The College faces the following principal risks;

1. The College fails to attract and retain students and therefore secure adequate funding in order to allow for the effective operation of its mission and continue as a going concern.

This risk is managed by the College using effective interviewing and admission processes to ensure maximum publicity and contact with students in Year 10 and 11. Application numbers and acceptance numbers are reviewed by the Executive weekly. Marketing activities are tailored according to recruitment trends.

2. Failure to address effectively the range of changing external challenges such as increased local competition and a change in national priorities leads to College not being a going concern.

This risk is managed by producing the following in which the College identifies and responds to the range of external challenges, in order to ensure the College's agreed strategic objectives are met:

- QIP
- Strategic Plan
- Financial plan

The documents listed above are all reviewed regularly by the SLT in consultation with all staff in order to ensure the College's responses remain relevant, sufficient and appropriate. The documents listed above are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees as being sufficient to achieve the College's strategic objectives in the short/medium term.

3. Insufficient funding rate changes and compulsory increases in salary related costs (increased pension contributions, national insurance contributions and apprenticeship levy charge) reduce College income and lead to the College not being a going concern.

This risk is managed by producing an annual budget and a three-year forecast based on a variety of assumptions about funding rates and external salary related changes. Monthly management accounts are produced and reviewed and action taken when negative variances arise.

4. The College fails to recruit, manage and retain high performing staff (teaching and support) resulting in poor morale and success rates which will reduce student demand and lead to risk 1.

This risk is managed by taking a proactive approach to staff recruitment and, in most cases, advertising and appointing as early as possible to ensure successful appointments or time to re-advertise if necessary.

#### **Fundraising**

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

## **Trustees Report (Continued)**

#### **Plans for Future Periods**

The College plans to continue implementing its mission "to improve the life chances of our students". During 2019/2020 the key objectives will be as follows:

## Quality of Education:

- To improve effectiveness of techniques to enhance students long term memory in preparation for linear exams
- To ensure consistency of Assessment for Learning within departments
- To fully embed "Success for Learning" Department including use of Individual Learning Mentors
- To further develop the of Excellence Programme for more-able students
- To establish a new screening and assessment process for September 2020
- To continue to enhance consistency and quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment and 1:1 tutorials

### Personal Development

- To further develop the Pastoral curriculum
- To develop students' knowledge of physical and mental health in order to promote resilience and wellbeing
- To embed the careers (Gatsby) benchmarks into curriculum areas
- To further expand the enrichment offer

#### **Behaviour and Attitudes**

- To fully embed VESPA (student motivation & organisation) strategy
- To embed the role of new Equality and Diversity Co-ordinator
- To review the student support and disciplinary process

## Leadership and Management

- To further develop the College site through the estates strategy
- To use Quality Reviews to review specific aspects of quality across the college
- To ensure that the College is ready for the new Ofsted framework
- To support and further train trustees in their roles.
- To manage appropriately the increased risk associated with new courses
- To identify, support and monitoring of any underperforming departments and subjects
- To build an effective and accurate system of data management for the college data to reduce workload and promote well-being
- To embed staff well-being into all aspects of college life to enhance morale
- To improve communication with local communities
- To develop SLT / School Links
- To improve financial systems software

## **Auditor**

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 11 December 2019 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Gayabh Mather Chair of Trustees

## **Governance Statement**

## Scope of Responsibility

As Trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Woking College 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 Principal, 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 Woking College 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 6 times during the period.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of a possible	% Attendance
Ms Y Aslam	3	5	66
Mrs E Cussans	3	6	50
Mr B Freeman- Principal	6	6	100
Mr M Hearsum	1	6	17
Mrs G Mather	6	6	100
Mr C Mitchell	5	6	83
Mr J Miles	5	6	83
Mr J Moffat	6	6	100
Dr M Mulheron	4	6	67
Mr B Smith	6	6	100
Mr T Stokes	4	6	67

## Key changes in the composition of the Board of Trustees

In preparing for conversion to an Academy Trust the Board of Woking College undertook a review of governance at the College including reviewing the composition and size of the Board and the number of Board Committees to determine the most effective size and governance structure for the Academy Trust. The Board of the Academy Trust agreed to operate as a considerably smaller and more stream-lined board with fewer committees than existed prior to conversion to an academy. The Academy Board operates through a more Policy Governance based style of governance which has been in place from September 2017.

## Coverage of the work of the Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees met 6 times during 2018/19. If additional meetings are considered necessary, either additional Board Meetings are convened as required or the Board sets up working groups. The Board previously had both a Finance and Policy Committee and an Audit Committee but took the decision in July 2018 to combine both functions into one combined Committee, to be known as the Finance and Audit Committee with effect from 1 September 2018. The Committee is chaired by a qualified Chartered Accountant.

New Terms of Reference for the combined Committee were approved and will be reviewed annually. The Clerk to the Trustees co-ordinates the work of the Board of Trustees. The minutes of the Finance and Audit Committee, and key reports including the management accounts, are also considered by the full Board at each meeting. Management accounts are circulated to the Chair of the Board monthly and to all Trustees with a covering email from the Finance Director during the year. Through the regular circulation of management accounts to the Board and scrutiny by the Finance and Audit Committee (which meets once a term or more often if required) the Board maintains effective oversight of the College's funds.

## **Governance Statement (Continued)**

The oversight of educational performance by the Board is undertaken through a number of ways in addition to scrutiny of performance data at Board Meetings. These include involvement of Trustees in moderation of the College Self-Assessment Report. Trustees observe the College SAR validation event to check the rigour of the process first hand for the Board and to validate or challenge judgments made by College managers. Trustees also use contextualised learning walks which focus on a particular curriculum area or a particular aspect of teaching, learning and assessment together with student focus groups to help validate their judgments about the College's performance.

### The Board's performance

The Board is aware of the need continually to monitor and improve its performance. Each committee carries out an annual review of effectiveness against its Terms of Reference. The key tool for Board evaluation is the practice of carrying out an annual internal review when the Board prepares a Governance Self-Assessment Report, identifying key strengths and areas for development including setting a Governance Quality Improvement Plan and self-assessing the effectiveness of governance which was self-assessed for 2018/19 as a Grade 1 - outstanding. Achievement against targets in the Governance Quality Improvement Plan was reviewed mid-year by the Board's Governance Working Party and action instituted to ensure that all targets are met.

## Data used by the Board

Trustees receive high-quality, accurate and timely information sufficiently in advance of Board Meetings so that they can exercise effective scrutiny at their meetings. Teaching, learning and assessment is highlighted as a separate Agenda item for every Board meeting, and appears early on the agenda so as to be a key focus for Trustee's time and attention.

Trustees receive regular written reports, performance data and Quality Improvement Plan (QIP) updates, supplemented by presentations from college staff at Board Meetings. Trustees also request additional reports or presentations if they lack knowledge of any particular issue or curriculum development. At the request of trustees all data presented to the Board is colour coded to highlight whether this is below, at or above target and includes comparable data in respect of the previous two years as well as benchmarking comparing the college with other colleges and academies.

Trustees are invited to attend the College's Self-Assessment moderation meeting and mid-year review meetings. All Trustees receive the College's Self-Assessment Report and the College's QIP and review and monitor the QIP from regular progress reports on this to the Board throughout the year. These reports and presentations provide them with a clear understanding of the college's strengths and weaknesses.

Trustees also gather first-hand knowledge about the strengths and weakness of the College from cross-college learning walks led by a member of the SLT. In addition, the Chair and Vice-Chair hold regular staff and student focus groups without College management present to test the accuracy of the data which they receive.

#### Governance Review

The Board is aware of the need to continually monitor and improve its performance. The key tool for Board evaluation is the practice at Woking College of carrying out an annual internal review of the effectiveness of Governance as part of the College-wide Self-Assessment process. Through preparing the Governance Self-Assessment Report the Board self-assesses the effectiveness of governance at Woking College including identifying key strengths and areas for development included in a Governance Quality Improvement Plan for the next year. The Board of Trustees adopted a Governance Quality Improvement Plan for 2018/19 with five areas for improvement in autumn term 2018 and the Board reviewed achievement against targets mid-year and instituted action to ensure that all targets were met.

The effectiveness of governance for 2018 was reviewed at a Board Meeting in November 2019 when this was self-assessed for 2018/19 as a Grade 1 - Outstanding as four targets had been met and one was a continual target that was ongoing.

## **Governance Statement (Continued)**

Changes made to governance at the College as a result of these reviews and the impact of these on the effectiveness of governance include:

- The use of contextualised learning walks for Trustees which focus on a particular curriculum area or a specific aspect of teaching, learning and assessment enabling them to achieve a greater understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the College;
- Continued use of Staff and Student Focus Groups to enable Trustees to meet staff and students directly
  without senior management in attendance to enable them to independently test the data received;
- Periodic updates are now given to trustees to remind them of their responsibilities as trustees and directors together with ongoing training to ensure they are fully conversant with their responsibilities;
- Since September 2018 there is only one Trustee who is also a Member of the Academy Trust providing a more robust governance structure due to the significant degree of separation between the member and trustee roles;
- Trustees have increased their focus on the strategic direction for the College and have mapped two Strategic Planning days into the calendar of meetings for the next academic year and will continue to give greater emphasis to the clarity of their strategic planning during 2019/2020.

## **Finance and Audit Committee**

The Finance and Audit Committee is a committee of the Board of Trustees. It operates in accordance with written Terrns of Reference approved by the trustees. In terms of its financial function, it's purpose is to review the financial position of the academy trust, including revenue, capital and cash flow and investments, on a termly basis (or more frequently if required), and it receives regular reports on capital schemes and other premises issues. It advises the Board on all financial matters and such other matters relating to employment and certain corporate policies or finance as the academy Trust Board may remit to them such as financial regulations / delegations / procedures or staffing policies. During the period it dealt with monthly management accounts the annual budget, three-year forecast and the CIF bid.

In terms of the Audit function of the Committee, its purpose is to advise the Trustees on the adequacy and effectiveness of the Academy Trust's systems of internal control and its arrangements for risk management, control and governance processes. The committee also provides a forum for reporting by the Academy Trust's Financial Statements Auditor's, who have access to the Committee for independent discussion, without the presence of management. The committee also receives and considers reports from the funding body if they affect the operations.

Management are responsible for the implementation of agreed audit recommendations and the Finance and Audit Committee review follow-up tracker reports to ensure that recommendations have been implemented.

The Committee also advises the Trustees on the appointment of Financial Statements Auditor's, and their remuneration for both audit and non-audit work as well as reporting annually to the Trustees.

Attendance during the period at meetings was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of a possible	% Attendance
Ms Y Aslam Mr B. Freeman – Principal Mr J Miles Mr J. Moffat – Chair Dr M. Mulheron Mr T Stokes	1 2 3 3 2 2	2 3 3 3 3 3	50 67 100 100 67 100
Mr A Stickland (Co-opted Committee member)	2	3	67

## **Governance Statement (Continued)**

## **Review of Value for Money**

As Accounting Officer, the Principal, 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 academy 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:

- Ensuring financial controls and procedures are reviewed regularly including written delegations and clear purchasing procedures;
- Robust challenging of all expenditure ensuring procurement procedures followed;
- Regular budget monitoring including comprehensive monthly management accounts which are reported to Trustees on a monthly basis;
- Three-year financial planning and cash-flow forecasting;
- Collaborative procurement programme with S7 covering staff development;
- Undertaking regular review of benchmarking against other S7 Colleges and other Sixth Form Colleges;
- Tendering the teacher's pension audit, external audit service and regularity audit.

## 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 Woking College for the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

## **Governance Statement (Continued)**

#### 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 Audit committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines:
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. The Trustees have, however, appointed Wilkins Kennedy, the external auditor, to perform additional checks.

This 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 funding processes and systems

The external auditor reports to the Board of Trustees twice a year, through the Finance and Audit Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.

No material control issues arose as a result of the auditor's work.

#### Review of effectiveness

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

- the extended assurance work carried out by the external auditor
- the work of the external auditor
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of the review of the system of internal control by the audit committee and a plan to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 11 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Gaknor Mather

Chair of Trustees

**Brett Freeman** Accounting Officer

## Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of Woking College, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, 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 2018.

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 2018.

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.

Brett Freeman 11 December 2019

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently

 observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019

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 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 to 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 11 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

Gaynor Mather Chair of Trustees

# Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Woking College for the year ended 31 August 2019

## **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Woking College for the year ended 31 August 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2019 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
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

## **Basis for opinion**

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

#### Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Woking College for the year ended 31 August 2019

## Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

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

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

# Independent Auditor's Report to the members of Woking College for the year ended 31 August 2019

## Use of our report

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

Wilkes temely And + Services

Paul Creasey (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Wilkins Kennedy Audit Services

**Statutory Auditor** 

12 December 2019

Gladstone House 77-79 High Street Egham Surrey TW20 9HY

# Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Woking College and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 10 June 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Woking College during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Woking College and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Woking College 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 Woking College and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

## Respective responsibilities of Woking College's Accounting Officer and the Reporting Accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Woking College's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 July 2017 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

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

# Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Woking College and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (Continued)

#### Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**Reporting Accountant** 

Wilkins Kennedy Audit Services
Gladstone House
77-79 High Street
Egham
Surrey
TW20 9HY

Wilkes trendy Audit Services

Dated: 12 December 2019

# Woking College Statement of Financial Activities For the period ended 31 August 2019 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset	2018/19 Year	2017/18 Period
		£000	£000	Funds £000	Total £000	Total £000
Income and endowments from: Donations and capital grants Transfer from the former Woking College on conversion Charitable activities:	2	3	-	354	357	422 31,670
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations Other trading activities Investments	3 4 5	112 89 12	6,627 - -	- - -	6,739 89 12	6,390 89 4
Total		216	6,627	354	7,197	38,575
Expenditure on: Charitable activities: Academy trust educational operations	6 7	-	6,488	724	7,212	6,795
Total			6,488	724	7,212	6,795
Net income / (expenditure)		216	139	(370)	(15)	31,780
Transfer between funds	14	-	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses): Actuarial (losses) / gains on defined benefit pension schemes Net movement in funds	23		(435) <b>(296)</b>	(370)	(435) <b>(450)</b>	292 32,072
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward		1,279	(829)	31,622	32,072	-
Total funds carried forward		1,495	(1,125)	31,252	31,622	32,072

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

## Woking College Statement of Financial Activities For the period ended 31 August 2018 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	2017/18 Total
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Income and endowments from: Donations and capital grants Transfer from the former	2	13	-	409	422
Woking College on conversion Charitable activities:		1,071	(1,280)	31,879	31,670
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	3	102	6,288	_	6,390
Other trading activities	4	89		_	89
Investments	5	4	<b>34</b> 4	-	4
Total		1,279	5,008	32,288	38,575
Expenditure on: Charitable activities: Academy trust educational	6				
operations	7	-	6,060	735	6,795
Total		<b>N</b>	6,060	735	6,795
Net income / (expenditure)		1,279	(1,052)	31,553	31,780
Transfer between funds	14	-	(69)	69	-
Other recognised gains / (losses): Actuarial (losses) / gains on					
defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	292	_	292
Net movement in funds		1,279	(829)	31,622	32,072
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward			-		
Total funds carried forward		1,279	(829)	31,622	32,072

## Woking College Balance Sheet As at 31 August 2019

	Note	2019 £000	2019 £000	2018 £000	2018 £000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		31,124		31,622
Current assets Debtors Cash at bank and in hand	12 -	243 2,094 2,337		178 1,696 1,874	
<b>Liabilities</b> Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13 _	(463)		(626)	
Net current assets		_	1,874		1,248
Total assets less current liabilities			32,998		32,870
Net assets excluding pension liability		-	32,998	_	32,870
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	_	(1,376)		(798)
Total net assets		_	31,622		32,072
Funds of the academy trust: Restricted funds Fixed asset fund Restricted income fund Pension reserve Total restricted funds	14 14 14	31,252 251 (1,376)	30,127	31,622 (31) (798)	30,793
Unrestricted income funds	14	-	1,495	_	1,279
Total funds		-	31,622	Married 4	32,072

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

The financial statements on pages 21 to 42 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 11 December 2019 and are signed on their behalf by

December 2019 and are signed on their bonds by

Gaynor Mather Chair of Trustees Brett Freeman
Accounting Officer (Principal)

## Woking College Cash Flow Statement For the period ended 31 August 2019

	Note	2019 £000	2018 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	18	258	318
Cash received on conversion 1 September 2018		-	1,443
Cash flows from financing activities	19	140	(65)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		398	1,696
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2018		1,696	-
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2019	20	2,094	1,696

The accompanying notes form part of these financial statements.

### 1 Accounting policies

Woking College is a charitable company, limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the Trustees' Report.

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

## **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their 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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

## **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. A review of the balance sheet shows net current assets are £1,874k and Cash at bank and in hand £2,094k. The Trustees 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 as 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.

#### 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Grant for 19+ funding is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any clawback 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.

## 1 Accounting policies (continued)

#### 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.

## Donated goods, facilities and services

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

## Donated fixed assets (excluding Transfers on conversion/into the Academy Trust)

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

#### 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.

## 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 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:

Freehold land and buildings
 Furniture and equipment
 20 - 50 years
 3 years

Freehold land is not depreciated as it is considered to have an infinite useful life.

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.

## 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 as detailed in note 12. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. 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. 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 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.

## 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 Department for Education Group.

### Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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 (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 2018. 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.

#### **Agency Arrangements**

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The academy trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 25.

## 2 Donations and capital grants

2 Donations and capital grante				
			2018/19	2017/18
	Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Capital grants	_	354	354	409
Other donations	3	-	3	13
Other donations	3	354	357	422
3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educati	onal operations			
or unumg for the readenty true to cause in	отта			0045140
			2018/19	2017/18
	Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
DfE / EFSA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	_	6,335	6,335	6,028
Other DfE Group grants	_	248	248	225
Office DIL Group grants		6,583	6,583	6,253
Other Government grants		,		
Local authority grants	-	44	44	35
Other income from the academy trust's				
educational operations	41	71	112	102
2000	41	6,698	6,739	6,390
4 Other trading activities				
4 Other trading activities				•
			2018/19	2017/18
	Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
	40		46	54
Hire of facilities	46	-	43	35
Income from other charitable activities	43			
	89	<b>*</b>	89	89
5 Investment income				
			2018/19	2017/18
	Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Funds	Funds	Total	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000
	40		12	4
Short term deposits	12		12	4
	12	-	12	4

## 6 Expenditure

		Non	-Pay Expe	nditure 2018/19	2017/18
	Staff costs £000	Premises £000	Other £000	Total £000	Total £000
Academy's educational operations: Direct costs	4,355	-	502	4,857	4,567
Allocated Support costs	801 5,156	488 488	1,066 1,568	2,355 7,212	2,228 6,795
Net income/ (expenditure) for the period includes:					
				2018/19 £000	2017/18 £000
Operating lease rentals Depreciation				16 725	16 735
Fees payable to auditor for: Audit Other services			_	14 1	15 1
There were no transactions above £5k requiring disc	losure.				
7 Charitable activities					
				2018/19 £000	2017/18 £000
Direct costs – educational operations Support costs – educational operations			_	4,857 2,355	4,567 2,228
				7,212	6,795
Analysis of support costs					0047/40
			ational	2018/19	2017/18
		oper	ations £000	Total £000	Total £000
Support staff costs			784 725	784 725	717 735
Depreciation Technology costs Premises costs			50 488	50 488	30 524
Other support costs Governance costs			275 33	275 33	194 28
Governance costs			2,355	2,355	2,228

#### 8 Staff

#### a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the period were:

	2018/19 £000	2017/18 £000
Wages and Salaries Social security costs Pension costs	3,960 402 774	3,753 367 732
Agency staff costs	5,137 16	4,852 12
Staff restructuring costs	<u>4</u> 5,156	4,864
Staff restructuring costs comprise: Severance payments	4	-

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

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-contractual severance payments totalling £3,618 (2018: £nil). Individually the payments were £3,618 made of 4 April 2019.

#### c. Staff numbers

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

	2018/19 No.	2017/18 No.
Teachers Administration and support	96 41	95 41
Management	5	5
management	142	141

## d. Higher paid staff

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

	2018/19 No.	2017/18 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	-	-
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	1_

#### e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their service to the academy trust was £362k (2018: £346k).

Trustees / Directors do not receive any remuneration.

## 9 Related Party Transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One Trustee has been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from employment with the academy trust. The Principal and other staff trustee 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 trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

## B Freeman (Principal and trustee):

Remuneration £95,000 - £100,000 (2018: £90,000 - £95,000) Employer's pension contributions paid £15,000 - £20,000 (2018: £15,000 - £20,000)

During the period ended 31 August 2019, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £210 were reimbursed or paid directly to the Principal. No such amounts were reimbursed or paid to other trustees.

#### 10 Trustees and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the period ended 31 August 2019 was £1,245 (2018: £1,326). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

## 11 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings £000	Furniture and equipment £000	Total £000
Cost			
At 1 September 2018	31,999	1,195	33,194
Additions	188	38	226
Disposals		(90)	(90)
At 31 August 2019	32,187	1,143	33,330
Depreciation At 1 September 2018 Charged in year Eliminated in respect disposal At 31 August 2019	596 612 - 1,208	976 112 (90) 998	1,572 724 (90) 2,206
Net book values At 1 September 2018	31,403	219	31,622
At 31 August 2019	30,979	145	31,124

The land and buildings carrying value of £31,403K includes non-depreciated land valued at £12,470K.

## 12 Debtors

		2019 £000	2018 £000
	Other debtors	7	
	Vat recoverable	148	122
	Prepayments and accrued income	88	56
	, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	243	178
13	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2019 £000	2018 £000
	Trade creditors Other taxation and social security ESFA creditor: overpayment of AEB Accruals and deferred income	153 99 39 172	178 90 154 204
		463	626
	Deferred income:		
	Deferred income at 1 September 2018	_	-
	Released from previous years	-	-
	Resources deferred in the year	12	_
	Deferred income at 31 August 2019	12	

Deferred income comprises grants received in advance for the 2019/20 financial year.

14 Funds	Balance at 1 September 2018 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2019 £000
Restricted general funds					
Transfer on conversion	(332)	-	**	332	-
General Annual Grant (GAG)	257	6,187	(6,104)	(332)	8
Other grants	44	440	(241)	-	243
Pension reserve	(798)	-	(143)	(435)	(1,376)
	(829)	6,627	(6,488)	(435)	(1,125)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	31,879	_	_	_	31,879
DfE Group capital grants	409	354	_	-	763
Capital expenditure from GAG	(666)	-	(724)	-	(1,390)
	31,622	354	(724)		31,252
Total restricted funds	30,793	6,981	(7,212)	(435)	30,127
Total unrestricted funds	1,279	216	-	_	1,495
Total funds	32,072	7,197	(7,212)	(435)	31,622

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

The Restricted General Fund includes GAG and other grants received from the ESFA and the Local Authority towards educational activities.

The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund includes amounts received from the ESFA in respect of tangible fixed assets held for academy use. Transfers between the GAG Fund and Restricted Fixed Asset Fund relate to purchases from this fund.

The Pension Reserve relates to the Academy Trust's share of the deficit of the Local Government Pension Scheme overseen by Surrey County Council.

Under the Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2019.

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

	Balance at 15 June 2017 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2018 £000
Restricted general funds					(0.00)
Transfer on conversion	-	(332)	-	-	(332)
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	6,028	(5,702)	(69)	257
Other grants	-	260	(216)	-	44
Pension reserve	-	(948)	(142)	292	(798)
		5,008	(6,060)	223	(829)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	31,879	31,879	-	<del></del>	31,879
DfE Group capital grants	409	409	_	-	409
Depreciation	(666)	<b>500</b>	(735)	69	(666)
	31,622	32,288	(735)	69	31,622
Total restricted funds	_	37,296	(6,795)	292	30,793
Total unrestricted funds	-	1,279	-	-	1,279
Total funds		38,575	(6,795)	292	32,072

## 15 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets		-	31,124	31,124
Current assets	1,495	842	128	2,465
Current liabilities	-	(591)	-	(591)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	-	-
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,376)	-	(1,376)
Total net assets	1,495	(1,125)	31,252	31,622

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

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	31,622	31,622
Current assets	1,279	<b>59</b> 5	-	1,874
Current liabilities	, <u> </u>	(626)	-	(626)
Pension scheme liability	_	(798)	_	(798)
Total net assets	1,279	(829)	31,622	32,072

## 16 Capital commitments

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	-	221

## 17 Commitments under operating leases

## **Operating leases**

At 31 August 2019 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2019	2018
	£000	£000
Amounts due within one year	16	16
Amounts due between one and five years	16	31
Amounts due after five years	-	-
,	32	47

## 18 Reconciliation of net income / (expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities:

	Note	2018/19 £000	2017/18 <b>£000</b>
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(15)	31,780
Adjusted for: Net assets on conversion		-	(31,670)
Depreciation	11	724	735
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	• •	(354)	(409)
Interest receivable	5	(12)	(4)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	23	119	117
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	23	24	25
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(56)	(123)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		(172)	(133)
Net cash provided by / (used in) Operating Activities		258	318
19 Cash Flows from financing activities  Dividends, interest and rents from investments Purchase of tangible fixed assets		2019 £000 12 (226)	2018 £000 4 (478)
Capital grants from DfE Group		354	409
Net cash provided by / (used in) Investing Activities		140	(65)
20 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
		2019	2018
		£000	£000
Cash in hand and at bank		2,094	1,696
Total cash and cash equivalents		2,094	1,696

## 21 Contingent liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities.

## 22 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.

## 23 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £81k were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2019 (2018: £74k) and are included within creditors.

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS or scheme) is a statutory, unfunded, defined benefit occupational scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended), and the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales that are maintained by local authorities. In addition, teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools and teachers and lecturers in some establishments of further and higher education may be eligible for membership. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic too for teachers and lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

## The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation account

Although members may be employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits are set out in regulations made under the Superannuation Act (1972) and Public Service Pensions Act (2013) and are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go 'basis – contributions from members, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Acts.

The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pension increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

## Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has now taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers will pay an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.08%). The timing of the implementation is to align its introduction with employers' budget planning cycles. Until then, employers will pay the current rate of 16.48%.

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

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 September 2020.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £499k (2018: £477k).

Her Majesty's Treasury (HMT) published draft Directions for the Teachers' Pension Scheme in September 2018 which allows the Department for Education (DfE) to finalise the pension scheme valuation. Initial indications are that the amount employers pay towards the schemes will need to increase to 23.6% from 1 September 2019 due to the proposed changes to the discount rate, which is used to assess the current cost of future payments from the schemes estimated to increase.

## 23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

## Scheme changes

The arrangements for a reformed Teachers' Pension Scheme, in line with the recommendations made by Lord Hutton, in particular the introduction of a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, were implemented from 1 April 2015.

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in the reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, gave rise to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. The Supreme Court, in a decision made in June 2019, have rejected the Government's application for permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling. The case will now be referred to an Employment Tribunal for a decision regarding the remedy which will need to be offered to those members of the two schemes who were subject of the age discrimination.

HM Treasury are clear that the ruling has implications for the other public service schemes, including the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Those implications are currently being considered and any impact on scheme costs is expected to be looked at within the next scheme valuation, which is currently scheduled to be based on April 2020 data and implemented in April 2023.

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.6% per cent for employers and 5.5% -12.5% per cent for employees. Employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2020 are estimated to be £160,000.

The LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, being the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who joined the scheme in the period. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

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.

On 26 October 2018, the High Court handed down a judgment involving the Lloyds Banking Group's defined benefit pension schemes. The judgment concluded the schemes should be amended to equalise pension benefits for men and women in relation to guaranteed minimum pension benefits, "GMP". The Government will need to consider this outcome in conjunction with the Government's recent consultation on GMP indexation in public sector schemes before concluding on any changes required to LGPS schemes.

The College has entered into an agreement to pay £21,000 per annum additional contribution in addition to normal funding levels until at least March 2020.

## Principal actuarial assumptions

	2019	2018
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	2.6	2.7
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.3	2.4
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.8	2.8
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.3	2.4
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	25% pre April 2008	25% pre April 2008
	service	service
	63% post April	63% post April
	2008 service	2008 service

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates.

## 23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	2019	2018
	%	%
Retiring today		
Males	21.6	22.5
Females	23.6	24.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.5	24.1
Females	25.0	26.4

## Sensitivity analysis:

	2019	2018
	%	%
Discount rate -0.5%	480	369
Salary +0.5%	112	96
CPI rate +0.5%	355	266

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

The academy trust a share of the assets in the continuous	2019	2018
	£000	£000
Equities	2,196	2,016
Corporate bonds	557	476
Property	247	196
Cash and other assets	93	112
Total market value of assets	3,093	2,800

The actual return on scheme assets was £123k (£2018: £139k).

## 23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities:

	£000	£000
Current service cost	(251)	(261)
Past service cost	(13)	-
		0.5

Current service cost	(251)	(261)
Past service cost	(13)	-
Interest income	80	65
Interest cost	(104)	(90)
Benefit changes, gains / (loss) on curtailment and gain / (loss) on settlement	(435)	292
Admin expenses	-	-
Total income recognised in the SOFA	(723)	6

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

	£000	£000
At 1 September 2018	3,598	_
Conversion of academy trust	-	3,499
Current service cost	251	261
Past service cost	13	
Interest cost	104	90
Employee contributions	38	36
Actuarial (gain)/loss	539	(218)
Benefits paid	(74)	(70)
At 31 August 2019	4,469	3,598

## Changes in the fair value of academy trust's share of scheme assets:

At 1 September 2018 2,800
Conversion of academy trusts - 2,4
Interest income 80
Scheme participants' contributions 38
Employer contributions paid
Benefits paid (74)
Actuarial (gain)/loss 104
At 31 August 2019 3,093 2,8

## 24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the AFH and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.

2019

2018

### 25 Agency arrangements

	2019 £000	2018 £000
Balance at 1 September 2018	8	-
Balance transferred on conversion on 1 September 2017	-	15
Funding body grants	119	138
Disbursed to Students	(104)	(138)
Administration costs	(6)	(7)
Balance unspent at 31st August 2019 included in creditors	17	88

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the account period ending 31 August 2019 the academy trust received £119k and disbursed £104k from the fund. An amount of £17k is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA. Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2018 are £138k received, £138k disbursed and £8k included in other creditors.

## 26 Events after the end of the reporting period

There have been no events since the balance sheet date that would materially affect the results for the period.