

**REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08168042 (England and Wales)**

**Report of the Trustees and  
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021  
for  
The Cedars Academy Trust  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

Clive Owen LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors  
140 Coniscliffe Road  
Darlington  
County Durham  
DL3 7RT

# **The Cedars Academy Trust**

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## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Reference and Administrative Details for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

<b>MEMBERS:</b>	M P O'Reilly J Vincent G Neale
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	G D Morton G Neale M Hall J Vincent P Finn P Hills N Kelly R Lane J MacCabe J Cairns M Flowers M P O'Reilly
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	Ivy Lane Low Fell Gateshead Tyne and Wear NE9 6QD
<b>REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER</b>	08168042 (England and Wales)
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Clive Owen LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors 140 Coniscliffe Road Darlington County Durham DL3 7RT
<b>SOLICITORS</b>	Jackson Law Innovation House Yarm Road Stockton on Tees TS18 3TN

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Reference and Administrative Details**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**BANKERS**

Lloyds Bank  
5th Floor 102 Grey Street  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE1 6AG

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

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

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 3 to 19 serving a catchment area in Gateshead. It has a pupil capacity of 190 and had a roll of 220 in the school census September 2021.

Commissioned places from Gateshead comprise 170 pre-16 and 20 post 16. All of the pupils at Cedars must have a Statement of Special Educational Needs/Educational Health Care Plan, although it may be possible for this to be drawn up whilst they are in attendance. The Single Plan/Statement have protection in law, and describe the education provision to meet the child's individual need. The Statement/Plan protects the child's individual needs and is formally reviewed at least annually.

Pupils are admitted at any time during the school year, referred via a range of routes. The Academy works closely with all involved professionals to ensure pupils are correctly placed and that they receive appropriate provision for their needs.

## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

### **Objectives and Aims**

The principal objective and activity of the charitable company is the operation of The Cedars Academy Trust to provide education for pupils aged 3 to 19 years with physical, sensory and medical needs, speech, language and communication disorders, autism, and a wide range of other complex needs often associated with emotional vulnerability. As a special school we serve the borough of Gateshead with a few out of borough places.

In accordance with the articles of association the charitable company has adopted a 'Scheme of Government' approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Government specified, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the Academy Trust, the catchment area from which the students are drawn, Gateshead, and that the curriculums should comply with the substance of the national curriculum with emphasis on developing skills, knowledge and resilience necessary in adulthood: to create a school that inspires and nurtures creativity and communication and where pupils and staff feel safe and are comfortable within themselves and with each other; and to help develop young people who are confident in and inquisitive of the world around them, who are physically active people, making healthy choices who are confident in a range of environments, who are well prepared for adulthood.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objects and Aims**

Our aim is to provide a caring but challenging environment where adults and children feel valued and secure and to provide an education which promotes the growth and development of each individual in our care.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance and public benefit. The pupils who attend live in and around the borough, with some out of borough pupils also attending.

The Academy provides education for pupils of different abilities, with additional (special educational) needs. The Academy has a curriculum satisfying the requirements of section 78 of EA 2002 (balanced and broad curriculum). The Academy will be at the heart of the community, promoting community cohesion and sharing facilities with other schools and the wider community.

The Academy offers all pupils a broad and balanced curriculum. Our curriculum is highly individualised, responsive and rich; it is focused on the promotion of communication, emotional development, resilience, and the development of personal and social skills. We place a significant emphasis on enrichment and activity, its positive impact on developing independence, cognitive functioning, emotional literacy, physical & mental health and self-esteem. As students' progress through school the focus is on preparation for an extensive range of accredited routes and transition into a range of routes into FE, training or employment as students' progress through school the focus is on preparation for adulthood via a range of individual learning programmes, accredited routes and transition into a range of routes into FE, training or employment.

The main objectives of the academy trust during the year ended 31 August 2021 are as summarised below:

1. to improve the Quality of Education received by all our young people
2. to improve Access to Learning for all our young people
3. to improve our Leadership and Management capabilities across the Academy
4. to improve and develop the accommodation on offer at both sites

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

The academy trust's main objectives are encompassed in its mission statement: Ours is a community of learning, where secure partnerships create opportunities for students, staff, trustee's, parents and carers alike to participate and grow to become intellectually, emotionally and socially 'fit for life'.

To this end the objectives and the strategies and activities undertaken to achieve these objectives are all intended to provide the highest quality of education and include:

- 1.1 to develop staff skills, knowledge and confidence in a range of communication and language acquisition strategies and that these are at the core of all curriculum delivery
- 1.2 a school that inspires and nurtures creativity
- 1.3 young people who are confident in and inquisitive of the world around them
- 1.4 students and staff who feel safe and are comfortable within themselves and with each other
- 1.5 physically active people, making healthy choices who are confident in a range of environments
- 1.6 young people who are well prepared for adulthood
- 1.7 to offer a wider range of therapeutic intervention programmes as part of a wide, holistic curriculum
- 1.8 to strengthen parent engagement, our understanding of, and response to, family needs
- 1.9 to further develop our leadership roles, subject knowledge and pedagogical practice
- 1.10 to build sustainability and succession planning through personalised pathways, coaching, mentoring and joint professional development
- 1.11 to refine our financial processes, business structure and model and develop our accommodation across both sites

##### **Public Benefit**

The academy trust's aims and achievements are set out within this report and have been undertaken to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Trustees have complied with the duty under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales and the Trustees have considered this guidance in deciding what activities the academy trust should undertake. The Academy Trust Trustees confirm they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit as published by the Charity Commission in exercising its powers and duties

##### **FUNDRAISING**

The Cedars Academy Trust has an active Cedars Charitable Trust (CCT) that oversees fundraising activities and works closely with parents and the school community. Cedars also fundraises with community activities and has wider business links for fund raising initiatives. The Cedars is currently fund raising to create additional teaching and non-teaching (therapeutic and intervention) accommodation.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Charitable Activities**

During the year, we have:

- I.1 Improved Communication to develop staff skills, knowledge and confidence in a range of communication and language acquisition strategies and that these are at the core of all curriculum delivery
- I.2 Deepened our understanding of the teaching and applications of Numeracy and placed real life acquisition strategies at the core of all curriculum delivery
- I.3 Embedded more Creativity across the Academy Trust and believe that we are a provision that truly inspires, nurtures and celebrates creativity
- I.4 Created opportunities for our young people to develop a better understanding of the world. We are developing young people who are confident in and inquisitive of the world around them
- I.5 We have continued to place a strong emphasis on Physical, Emotional and Social Wellbeing developing staff and students that are better prepared to make healthy choices, comfortable within themselves and with each other
- I.6 Continued embedding Work Skills & Independence from our early years learners to our College provision. Our aim is to successfully equip all of our young people with the skills needed to be well prepared for adulthood
- I.7 The Academy Trust has a commitment to creating a safe, calm, orderly and positive environment within the School and College environments and understands the impact this has on the behaviour and attitudes of pupils
- I.8 Through our extensive range of extra-curricular activities and residential opportunities, we have promoted the extensive personal development of our young people: students have access to a wide, rich set of experiences, with high quality opportunities for pupils to develop their talents and interests
- I.9 We continue to invest in CPD as a means to developing enhanced Skills for all staff; developing staff subject knowledge and pedagogical practice, to build in sustainability, secure partnerships and QA systems
- I.10 Through implementing a new financial system and by instructing new monthly management accountants, we are moving closer towards a strengthened business model....to better understand our business and the opportunities for growth



**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Key Performance Indicators**

**Ofsted Rating**

Overall effectiveness: Good  
Effectiveness of leadership and management: Good  
Quality of teaching, learning and assessment: Good  
Personal development, behavior and welfare: Outstanding  
Outcomes for pupils: Good  
16 to 19 study programmes: Good  
Overall effectiveness at previous inspection: Good

**Achievement and Progress 2020-21**

**Assessment Process**

We assess using the B Squared framework at one point during the year (May/June), unless it is a new student who requires a baseline assessment in September or within the month they join the school.

All students have a Personal Learning Plan (PLP) which is made of learning intentions from a range of sources and is evidenced on the Evidence for Learning app. PLP learning intentions are updated as and when achieved. The PLP directs the individual pathway for each child. The class may be following a curriculum topic or theme as laid out in the long term planning, but each child works on individual curricula within that. There is less 'whole class' teaching across school now, most learning is done in small groups within the class.

Progress is measured through a RAG system recorded on a Pupil Progress Report each term. Teachers RAG rate the PLP intentions for each child to show whether the child, in their judgement, has exceeded, met or working towards expected progress using a range of evidence to make these judgements.

School leaders sample the RAG rated reports, looking at one pupil with each teacher. This is an in-depth discussion looking at the judgements teachers have made and asking them to justify their decisions using all the evidence at their disposal. The moderation discussion will highlight if there are any significant discrepancies in judgements. If there are, the teacher and leader will work together to look at the judgements made for all of the children in the class to ensure a consistent approach.

**Key Findings from our Assessments**

**English & Maths**

81% of students overall have met or exceeded expected progress in English and 87% in maths despite the disruption of Covid-19 this academic year.

The small variation between the two disciplines is attributed to that teachers reporting that it was easier to teach maths remotely, as there were wider range of online resources that consolidate mathematical skills. In addition, we know that daily reading is of paramount importance for our children. During lockdown, not all families will have been able to support students with daily reading opportunities. In addition, many of our students have significant speech, language and communication difficulties; it may be that disruption to consistent language and communication activities have impacted language development. Individual Pupil Progress reports support this finding.

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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

Pupil Premium and LAC students

Pupil Premium (93 students) and LAC (7 students) pupils have made favourable progress, much in line with the whole school cohort. A higher proportion of these students will have remained in school for the duration of the lockdown periods and had more access to daily reading and communication opportunities.

Physical, Emotional and Social Wellbeing

The levels of expected progress reached in Physical, Emotional and Social Wellbeing (PESW) are lower than in previous years. The Pupil Progress interviews with teachers have told us that our children were impacted significantly by the events of the last 18 months. The disruption to their daily routines, estrangement from friends and family, and lack of access to resources has meant that many of our students required a substantial Recovery Curriculum, rich with opportunity to explore their emotional health and build social bonds again.

The PESW Development Team are now tasked with looking at the individual progress of students who have been identified during assessment and working with teachers, parents, carers and other professionals to ensure that these children have access to the necessary resources, interventions and therapies to enable them to build their confidence and emotional resilience. The introduction of the Thrive Programme and the Wellness Award will help to facilitate these aims.

Digital Literacy

Another area showing slightly more students at 'working towards' expected progress is Digital Literacy. Teacher conversations have shown that Online Safety is taught well through the comprehensive PESW and Project Evolve curriculum, however it has highlighted a lack of confidence in teaching some areas of the Computing Skills Curriculum. There have also been ongoing difficulties in having access to the range of fully-functional hardware (laptops, iPads) and necessary software packages to facilitate some aspects of the curriculum. The Digital Literacy Lead is working with the SLG support and Omnicom to remedy the resources issues and address the training needs of staff.

Examination Results

GCSE & Entry Level

Of the 34 learners that were based at Walker Terrace in academic year 2020-21, 88% learners achieved a pass in qualification in Functional English reading at the level that they had been entered.

Of the 34 learners that were based at Walker Terrace in academic year 2020-21, 94% learners achieved a pass in qualification in Functional English writing at the level that they had been entered.

Of the 34 learners that were based at Walker Terrace in academic year 2020-21, 76% learners achieved a qualification in Functional Maths at the level that they had been entered.

21 College learners achieved a portfolio-based qualification in Skills for Employment, Training and Personal Development.

11 College learners achieved a portfolio-based qualification in Independent Living Skills.

7 Key stage 4 learners accessed a WJEC Pathways qualification at Pass level.

6 passes at Step Up to English

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
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**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

Notably at GCSE:

- 5 passes at GCSE Mathematics, three at Level 4 or above
- 1 pass at GCSE Citizenship at Grade 7

1 learner passed Level 2 certificate in Mental Health Awareness and 1 learner achieved a Level 2 CACHE Early Years Practitioner qualification.

3 learners accessed successful work experience placements last academic year in spite of Covid. From the placements, 2 young people gained paid employment which is an extremely positive achievement.

A brief breakdown of the results demonstrates significant achievement across all key areas of the curriculum.

**Destination Summary**

Of the 16 learners that left Cedars College in Summer 2021:

6 progressed to a supported placement at the Dryden Centre within Gateshead Council Adult Learning skills.

7 learners progressed to a vocational course within a mainstream College environment (Gateshead/ Newcastle/ New College Durham).

3 learners accessed a supported learning course at a College (e.g Project Choice Stage 2, Gateshead College/ Kirkley Hall).

Of the young people that left Cedars School in July 2021 and did not progress to Cedars College, 4 young people progressed to another specialist provision (Dryden School/ Durham Trinity), 3 young people accessed mainstream vocational courses at local Colleges (Gateshead, Newcastle and New College Durham) and 1 young person accessed a supported course at Kirkley Hall College.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial position**

Most of the academy trust's income is obtained from the Department of Education (DfE) via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants and Local Authorities (LA) in the form of top up funding and fixed costs. The use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE/ESFA/LA during the year ended 31 August 2020 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The academy trust also received grants for fixed assets from the DfE/ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019), such grants are shown under the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the year ended 31 August 2021, total expenditure of £4,094,000 was in excess of recurrent grant funding from DfE/ESFA/LA together with other incoming resources. The excess of income over expenditure for the year (excluding pension reserve movements and restricted fixed asset funds) was £311,000.

All of the expenditure shown in the Statement of Financial Activities is in furtherance of the academy trust's objectives.

At 31 August 2021, net book value of fixed assets was £5,289,000 and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 14 to the Financial Statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the academy trust.

The provisions of Financial Reporting Standard (FRS) 102 have been applied in full in respect of LGPS pension scheme, resulting in a deficit of £2,580,000 recognised on the Balance Sheet.

The academy trust held fund balances as at 31 August 2021 of £3,344,000 comprising £480,000 of restricted general funds, £5,288,000 of restricted fixed asset funds, a pension deficit of £2,580,000 and £156,000 of unrestricted funds.

**Investment Policy and Objectives**

The Academy has an approved Investment Policy and if the Academy is able to generate better returns than currently provided in the deposit account, it may undertake other investments. All investments, outside of the deposit account, will be made on a risk-averse basis, taking ethical considerations into account and need board of trustee's approval.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that funds which the academy does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested in such a way as to maximise the school's income but without risk. Our aim is to spend the publicly funded monies with which we are entrusted for the direct education benefit of students as soon as is prudent. The academy does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather it is the result of best practice as and when circumstances allow.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Reserves Policy**

The academy trust holds restricted and unrestricted funds (the attached financial statements detail these funds). Unrestricted funds are held:

- To provide funds which can be designated to specific areas such as rolling program investment in repairs and maintenance and building improvements
- To cover ongoing costs in relation to the running of the academy trust including catering provisions, school trips and uniform costs

The level of reserves is reviewed by Trustees regularly throughout the year. The minimum level of reserves for the ongoing needs of the academy trust is reviewed by the Trustees on an annual basis.

The Governing Body will ensure that the levels of reserves that can be carried forward at the end of the financial period will be in line with the guidance received from the DfE on the treatment of General Annual Grant [GAG] income and other grants. The Governing Body will consider the improvement plan for capital developments required.

The Governing Body will always try to match income with expenditure in the current period and will only carry forward reserves that it considers are necessary for future period's expenditure. The Governing Body may accumulate reserve funds raised from private sources to defray for the benefit of the Academy in future years.

As at 31 August 2021 the academy trust holds available reserves of £636,000, comprising of restricted general funds (excluding pension reserves) of £480,000 and unrestricted funds of £156,000.

The trustees continue to consider additional activities related to the academy trust's objectives to which the excess reserves may be applied including:

- a) To facilitate the opening of additional accommodation for our Key stage 4/5 provision at 11 Walker Terrace
- b) To develop accommodation suitable for a transition programme for learners at Key stage 4/5 who are not ready to immediately access 11/13 Walker Terrace.

In addition a designated fund has been established for an equal pay provision. It is intended to increase this in line with any compensation claims received.

The Academy considers it prudent to hold £100,000 of free unrestricted reserves to cover unforeseen costs.

**Going Concern**

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

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The trust has the following plans in the medium term:

- Become a Research Engaged Learning Community to be at the forefront of pedagogical and curriculum development in Specialist Education
- To have a fully integrated therapeutic offer that will maximise outcomes and opportunities for all students
- To become a centre of excellence for communication development
- To provide a purpose build EYFS Unit for children aged 3+ with complex needs
- Development of a Post 19 provision that is widely accessed and caters for a range of young adults with additional needs
- To create a KS4 Transition Base at Ivy Lane

#### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

##### **Constitution**

The Academy Trust was incorporated on 3 August 2012 and is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity, 8168042. The company commenced operation as an Academy on 1 September 2012. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The articles of association require the members of the Charitable Company to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs of the charitable company and management of the Academy.

The Governors act as Trustees for the charitable activities of Cedars Academy and are also known as the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as The Cedars Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the period between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021, except as noted, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on Page 1.

##### **Members' Liability**

Each member of the academy trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the 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 cease to be a member.

##### **Trustees' Indemnities**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 every Trustee or other officer or auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Special Academy Trust against any liability incurred by him in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees**

Membership is determined in accordance with the composition set out in the memorandum and articles. This states that the Academy Trust composition is comprised as follows:

The number of Trustees shall be not less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum.

Subject to Articles 48-49 and 64, the Academy Trust shall have the following trustees:

- Up to 10 Trustees, appointed under Article 50;
- Any Staff Trustees, if appointed under Article 50A;
- Up to 1 LA Governor if appointed under Article 51
- a minimum of 2 Parent Trustees appointed under Articles 53-58;
- the Headteacher;
- up to 3 Co-opted Trustees if appointed under Article 59
- any Additional Trustees, if appointed under Article 62, 62A or 68A;
- any Further Trustees, if appointed under Article 63 or Article 68A
- The Special Academy Trust may also have any Co-opted Governor appointed under Article 59.

Future Trustees shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these Articles. Where it is not possible for such a Trustees to be appointed or elected due to the fact that an Academy has not yet been established or the Headteacher has not been appointed, then the relevant Article or part thereof shall not apply.

**Appointment of Trustees**

- The Members may appoint up to 10 Trustees.
- The Members may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine, provided that the total number of Trustees (including the Headteacher) who are employees of the Special Academy Trust does not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.
- The Headteacher shall be treated for all purposes as being an ex officio Trustee.
- Subject to Article 57, the Parent Trustees shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Trustees must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when he is elected.

**Co-opted Trustees**

The Trustees may appoint up to 3 Co-opted Trustees. A 'Co-opted Trustees' means a person who is appointed to be a Trustees by being Co-opted by Trustees who have not themselves been so appointed. The Trustees may not co-opt an employee of the Special Academy Trust as a Co-opted Trustees if thereby the number of Trustees who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Trustees (including the Headteacher).

The term of office for any Trustees shall be 4 years, save that this time limit shall not apply to the Headteacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustees, any Trustees may be re-appointed or re-elected.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Organisational Structure**

The Academy's unified management structure consists of the Trustees and the Senior Leadership Group [SLG], defined within three main sub committees; Curriculum and Pupils, Finance & Staffing and Business & Partnership Development Group.

The trustees are responsible for determining general policy, adopting an annual School Improvement Plan following a self-evaluation review, monitoring the practices and procedures adopted by the Special Academy, determining strategic direction of the Academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The SLG consists of the Headteacher, Assistant Head Teacher (AHT) Teaching & Learning KS1&2, AHT Teaching & Learning KS3&4, AHT Quality of Education, AHT Post 16/Business Partnership and Development Manager (BPDM), AHT Access to Learning (x2 PT posts).

The SLG controls the Academy at an executive level, implementing the policies laid down by the trustees and reporting back to them. The SLG and trustees are responsible for the agreement of spending with agreed budgets and appointment of staff as stated in the finance handbook.

The Academy (BPDM) is responsible for the management of the financial systems and ensuring efficient and effective use of resources. The Head Teacher and BPDM are responsible for the authorisation of spending up to agreed limits as stated in the Financial Handbook. The Academy Staffing and Facilities Manager is responsible for the efficient operation of the school office.

The Senior Management Team is as follows:

- M Flowers, Principal (Chief Executive) and Accounting Officer
- J Carr, Assistant School Principal
- D Hearne, Assistant College Principal
- M O'Reilly, School Principal
- E Neale, Services Principal
- K Vincent, Services Principal
- J Vincent, College Principal and Chief Financial Officer

**Arrangements for Setting Pay and Remuneration of Key Management Personnel**

The Governing Body will determine those posts that have substantial strategic responsibilities for school leadership. These will comprise the Senior Leadership Group and include the Head Teacher, Assistant Head Teacher(s) and School Improvement Teacher (SIT) Leads (Teaching and Learning Responsibilities (TLR) holders, Middle Management).

The Finance and Staffing Committee will establish, and recommend to the whole Governing Body for approval, the appropriate pay ranges for members of their Senior Leadership Group. The pay award must be in line with the Academy's Pay and Conditions document.

**Policies and Procedures for the Induction and Training of New Trustees**

The training and induction provided for new Trustees depends on their existing experience. Where necessary induction and training is provided on charity, educational, legal and financial matters. All new Trustees are given a tour of the academy and the chance to meet with staff and students. All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees.



**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Trade Union Facility Time**

The Cedars Academy Trust does not have any information to disclose under the provisions of the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017.

**Related Parties and Other Connected Charities and Organisations**

Trustees have declared business interests to date and where trustees have declared an interest, procedures are in place to address this. The school have adopted a policy that if there are any interests declared the Trustee would remove themselves from the decision-making process.

Cedars Academy has a number of relationships with related parties and any other charities/ companies/ organisations with which it cooperates in the pursuit of shared charitable activities; representatives of these partners sit on our Governing Body.

These core partners play a significant role in governance and in meeting our wider aims:

- Gateshead Autism Group (GAG): provides enhanced information, advice, guidance and advocacy to parents/carers and other professionals/organisations working with young people and adults with autism;
- Be inspired to....: provides access to a variety of vocational and personal development opportunities, work placements, training & FE pathways, advocacy arrangements, life skills improvement, support and social networks;
- WinG (Wayout in Gateshead) provides CPD, leadership training and accreditation opportunities, leadership and employment pathways and access to a wide range of challenging activities and experiences. Learning outside the classroom can take place in many locations, from the school grounds to Hadrian's Wall, to the highlands of Scotland, or further to the ski slopes of the Alps.
- SEND Support aims to provide knowledge, independent impartial information, advice, support and disability advocacy to young people and their families to embed preparing for adulthood from the earliest years;
- Re:SEND aims to create strong partnerships and collaboratives between local NE specialist schools and colleges to develop an ongoing professional learning community that sees practitioners collectively sharing and developing practice on an ongoing basis.

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN FOR OTHERS**

There are no funds held.

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **FINANCIAL AND RISK MANAGEMENT OBJECTIVES AND POLICIES**

The Trustees recognise that the LGPS pension deficit, which is set in the pension note 19, represents a significant liability. However, the Trustees consider that the Academy is able to meet its liabilities in respect of paying its annual contributions for the foreseeable future, and the risk from this liability is minimised.

##### **Purposes**

- To ensure adequate cash balances are maintained in the current account to cover day to day working capital requirements
- To ensure there is limited risk of loss in the capital value of any cash funds invested
- To protect the capital value of any invested funds against inflation
- To optimise returns on invested funds

Regular cash flows are to be prepared and monitored to ensure there are adequate funds to meet all payroll related commitments and outstanding creditors that are due for payment. Where the cash flow identifies a base level of cash funds that will be surplus to requirements these may be invested only with Lloyds Bank who are the current banking providers for the school. The Academy Business & Partnership Development Manager will seek approval from the Finance & Staffing Committee [F&S] before investing such funds and will provide a statement on any monies invested to the F&S Committee at their regular termly meetings. Periodically (at least every 3 months) the Academy Business & Partnership Development Manager will review the interest rates being achieved and will compare with other investment opportunities to ensure the investment funds are delivering value for money.

The Academy Business, Partnership Development Manager shall take independent financial advice for any fixed term investment for a period longer than six months in line with the Articles of Association 5 (m) and (n) and observe any guidance in the Academies Financial Handbook. In addition, these investments shall be restricted to ones that guaranteed return of capital rather than any equity-based investment. All investments must be authorised by either the Chief Executive or the Academy Business, Partnership & Development Manager and be approved by the F&S Committee.

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

The principal risks and uncertainties are centred on changes in the level of funding from DfE/ESFA. In addition, the academy trust is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which results in the recognition of a significant deficit on the academy trust Balance Sheet.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks, to which the academy trust is exposed, in particular those relating specifically to teaching provision of facilities and other operational areas of the academy trust, and its finances. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the school faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school visits) and in relation to the control of finance. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The academy trust has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement.

The Academy Trust has fully implemented the requirements of the Safe Recruitment procedures and all staff have received training in this area in addition to training on Child Protection.

The academy trust is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties in common with other academies. The academy trust has in place procedures to identify and mitigate financial risks.

The Academy maintains a risk register which is reviewed by the Health & Safety Officer to ensure that satisfactory arrangements are in place to manage risk. There is an annual review of all risk management issues led by various staff e.g. Headteacher, Health & Safety Officer and Administration and Facilities Manager as well as teaching staff; there is ongoing review in response to situations or new legislation or information.

The Academy considers all risks and the trustees have implemented a number of systems to access risks that may impact the Academy, particularly operational areas, e.g. in relation to teaching, management of IT security, safeguarding, health & safety, including educational visits and in relation to the control of finance. The trustees are satisfied that systems are in place to mitigate exposure to major risk.

#### **AUDITOR**

So far as the trustees are aware, there is no relevant information (as defined by Section 418 of the Companies Act 2006) of which the academy trust's auditors are unaware, and each Trustee has taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as a trustee in order to make them aware of any audit information and to establish that the academy trust's auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 6 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs G Morton - Trustee

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**Scope of Responsibility**

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

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of the 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 The Cedars Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 3 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G D Morton	2	3
G Neale	2	3
M Hall	3	3
J Vincent	2	3
P Finn	1	3
P Hills	1	3
N Kelly	3	3
R Lane	1	3
J MacCabe	2	3
J Cairns	2	3
M Flowers	3	3
M P O'Reilly	2	3

There have been no major changes to the Board composition. The Board receives information of good quality and sufficient detail to enable effective decision making. An annual governance audit is carried out to ensure the Board and Governing body have the skills required to adequately challenge and support the school.

In addition to the three Full Governing Body Meetings held annually the Board also held three Finance & Staffing Meetings and a further five Business Partnership Development Group Meetings; these meetings provided the means by which the Board maintained effective oversight of funds during the year.

The Finance & General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to ensure efficient and effective use of resources whilst seeking ways to ensure outstanding sustainable provision. It also stands as the Audit Committee. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Hall	2	4
G D Morton	3	4
J Vincent	3	4
J Cairns	1	4
G Neale	3	4
M O'Reilly	4	4
M Flowers	4	4
P Hills	3	4
P Finn	1	4

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**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 obtaining quotes from at least 3 professionals before work is carried out.

**The Purpose of the System of Internal Control**

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

**Capacity to Handle Risk**

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

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**The Risk and Control Framework**

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Inspire Compliance Limited.

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

- testing of procurement processes.
- testing of control account/bank reconciliations.
- testing of other financial systems.

On a 6 monthly basis, the auditor reports to the Board of Trustees, through the audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**


**Review of Effectiveness**

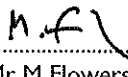
As accounting officer, the principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the internal auditor.
- the work of the external auditor.
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the audit and risk 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 6 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mrs G Morton- Trustee

  
.....  
Mr M Flowers - Accounting Officer



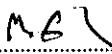
**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

As accounting officer of The Cedars Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with 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 2020.

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

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

  
.....  
Mr M Flowers - Accounting Officer

Date: 6 December 2021

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

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 and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021
- 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 with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on 6 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
.....  
Mrs G Morton - Trustee

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of The Cedars Academy Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and 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, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

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 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

### **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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

### **Other information**

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **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 Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

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

### **Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

## **Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of The Cedars Academy Trust**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. Our audit must be alert to the risk of manipulation of the financial statements and seek to understand the incentives and opportunities for management to achieve this.

We undertake the following procedures to identify and respond to these risks of non-compliance:

- Understanding the key legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Trust. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We determined the most significant of these to be the regulations set out by the DfE/ESFA. Our audit focuses on financial matters as set out in our regularity opinion. Other key laws and regulations included safeguarding, Health & Safety, GDPR and employment law
- Enquiry of trustees and management as to policies and procedures to ensure compliance and any known instances of non-compliance
- Review of board minutes and correspondence with regulators
- Enquiry of trustees and management as to areas of the financial statements susceptible to fraud and how these risks are managed
- Challenging management on key estimates, assumptions and judgements made in the preparation of the financial statements. These key areas of uncertainty are disclosed in the accounting policies
- Identifying and testing unusual journal entries, with a particular focus on manual journal entries.

Through these procedures, we did not become aware of actual or suspected non-compliance.

We planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards but owing to the inherent limitations of procedures required in these areas, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected a material misstatement in the accounts. The further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve concealment, collusion, forgery, misrepresentations, or override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

### **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 2006. 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.

Kevin Shotton BA BFP FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of Clive Owen LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditors  
140 Coniscliffe Road  
Darlington  
County Durham  
DL3 7RT

Date: .....

## **Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Cedars Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 September 2020 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Cedars Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to The Cedars Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Cedars Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Cedars Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### **Respective responsibilities of The Cedars Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Cedars Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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 2020 to 2021. 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 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the 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.

## **Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Cedars Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency**

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of governing body and committee minutes;
- Review of termly Internal Assurance reports;
- Completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer;
- Review documentation provided to Governors and Accounting Officer setting out responsibilities;
- Obtain formal letters of representation detailing the responsibilities of Governors;
- Review of payroll, purchases and expenses claims on a sample basis;
- Confirmation that the lines of delegation and limits set have been adhered to;
- Evaluation of internal control procedures and reporting lines;
- Review cash payments for unusual transactions;
- Review of credit card transactions;
- Review of registers of interests;
- Review related party transactions;
- Review of borrowing agreements;
- Review of land and building transactions;
- Review of potential and actual bad debts;
- Review an instance of gifts/hospitality to ensure in line with policy;
- Review whistleblowing procedures;
- Review pay policy and factors determining executive pay;
- Review of staff expenses;
- Review other income to ensure is in line with funding agreement;
- Review governance structure and number of meetings held; and
- Review whether there is a risk register in place.

### **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 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Clive Owen LLP  
Reporting Accountant  
140 Coniscliffe Road  
Darlington  
County Durham  
DL3 7RT

Date: .....

The Cedars Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities  
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

					31.8.21	31.8.20
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted		
	Notes	Funds	Fixed	General	Total	Total
		£'000	Asset	Funds	funds	funds
		£'000	funds	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>INCOME AND</b>						
<b>ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	35	-	35	81
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Funding for the academy's educational operations	4	16	-	3,727	3,743	3,200
Other trading activities	5	13	-	1	14	23
Investment income	6	-	-	-	-	1
<b>Total</b>		29	35	3,728	3,792	3,305
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>						
Raising funds		-	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Academy's educational operations	4	53	286	3,755	4,094	3,660
<b>Total</b>	7	53	286	3,755	4,094	3,660
<b>NET</b>						
<b>INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>		(24)	(251)	(27)	(302)	(355)
Transfers between funds	18	-	738	(738)	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes		-	-	(94)	(94)	(708)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(24)	487	(859)	(396)	(1,063)

The notes form part of these financial statements



**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Statement of Financial Activities  
(Incorporating an Income and Expenditure Account)  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

				31.8.21	31.8.20
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Total funds £'000
				Total funds £'000	Total funds £'000
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>					
<b>Total funds brought forward</b>		180	4,801	(1,241)	3,740
		<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>156</u>	<u>5,288</u>	<u>(2,100)</u>	<u>3,344</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

The Cedars Academy Trust

Balance Sheet  
31 August 2021

				31.8.21	31.8.20
		Unrestricted	Restricted		
	Notes	Funds	Fixed	Restricted	Total
		£'000	Asset	General	funds
		£'000	funds	Funds	funds
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	14	-	5,289	-	5,289
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Debtors	15	-	-	309	309
Cash at bank		<u>156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>822</u>	<u>978</u>
		156	-	1,131	1,287
<b>CREDITORS</b>					
Amounts falling due within one year	16	-	(1)	(651)	(652)
		<u>-</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>(651)</u>	<u>(109)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>156</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>480</u>	<u>635</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		156	5,288	480	5,924
<b>PENSION LIABILITY</b>	19	-	-	(2,580)	(2,580)
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,580)</u>	<u>(2,124)</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>156</u>	<u>5,288</u>	<u>(2,100)</u>	<u>3,740</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

# The Cedars Academy Trust

## Balance Sheet - continued 31 August 2021

				31.8.21	31.8.20
	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Total funds £'000
	18				
<b>FUNDS</b>					
Restricted funds:					
Pension Reserve				(2,580)	(2,124)
Restricted Income Fund				480	881
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund				<u>5,288</u>	<u>4,803</u>
				<u>3,188</u>	<u>3,560</u>
Unrestricted funds:					
General fund				<u>156</u>	<u>180</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>				<u><u>3,344</u></u>	<u><u>3,740</u></u>

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

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 6 December 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:

  
Mrs G Morton - Trustee

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

Notes	31.8.21 £'000	31.8.20 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>		
Cash generated from operations	<u>1,194</u>	<u>(469)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>1,194</u>	<u>(469)</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>		
Interest from investment	-	1
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(773)	(369)
Capital Grants	<u>34</u>	<u>77</u>
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(739)</u>	<u>(291)</u>
	-----	-----
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>	455	(760)
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>	<u>523</u>	<u>1,283</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>	<u><u>978</u></u>	<u><u>523</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Cash Flow Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET EXPENDITURE TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31.8.21 £'000	31.8.20 £'000
<b>Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	(302)	(355)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	286	249
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	338	(444)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	543	(113)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	363	272
Capital Grant	(34)	(77)
Interest	<u>-</u>	<u>(1)</u>
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operations</b>	<u><u>1,194</u></u>	<u><u>(469)</u></u>

**2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.9.20 £'000	Cash flow £'000	At 31.8.21 £'000
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	<u>523</u>	<u>455</u>	<u>978</u>
	<u>523</u>	<u>455</u>	<u>978</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>523</u></u>	<u><u>455</u></u>	<u><u>978</u></u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**  
**Notes to the Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The Cedars Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

**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 charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus, they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

**Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received 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.

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.

**Sponsorship income**

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Donations**

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

##### **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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

##### **Charitable activities**

Costs of charitable activities are 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.

##### **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:

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **I. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Tangible fixed assets**

- Freehold buildings: 20 years
- Furniture and equipment: 4 years
- Plant and machinery: 2 to 4 years
- Motor vehicles: 4 years

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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.

##### **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 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

##### **Taxation**

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph i Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

##### **Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the academy trust. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.



## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

##### **Hire purchase and leasing commitments**

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

##### **Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

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

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

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

#### **2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY**

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

##### **Critical accounting estimates and assumptions**

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

# The Cedars Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

### 2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING JUDGEMENTS AND KEY SOURCES OF ESTIMATION UNCERTAINTY - continued

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 notes to the accounts, 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 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

#### Critical areas of Judgement

Land and buildings are held on a 125 year lease from the local authority. These assets are included on the balance sheet of the academy trust due to the significant risks and rewards of ownership belonging to the academy, the lease term being the major part of the economic life of the assets and the assets being of such a specialised nature that only the academy trust could use them without major modification.

### 3. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Donations	-	4
Grants	<u>35</u>	<u>77</u>
	<u>35</u>	<u>81</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Other DfE/ESFA grants	35	-
Other grants	<u>-</u>	<u>77</u>
	<u>35</u>	<u>77</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**4. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

			31.8.21	31.8.20
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General Annual Grant(GAG)	-	1,900	1,900	1,461
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	2	2	13
Pupil Premium	-	129	129	87
UFSM	-	11	11	5
Summer School	-	73	73	-
Teachers Pay Grant	-	19	19	40
Teachers Pension Grant	-	54	54	56
PE & Sports Grant	-	17	17	17
	<u>-</u>	<u>2,205</u>	<u>2,205</u>	<u>1,679</u>
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Other Government grant	-	23	23	-
Local Authority grants	-	1,450	1,450	1,472
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)</b>				
Catch-up premium	-	49	49	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,522</u>	<u>1,522</u>	<u>1,472</u>
<b>Other income from the academy trust's educational operations</b>	<u>16</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>49</u>
	<u>16</u>	<u>3,727</u>	<u>3,743</u>	<u>3,200</u>

**5. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Educational visits	-	4
Other income	<u>14</u>	<u>19</u>
	<u>14</u>	<u>23</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**6. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Short term deposits	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

**7. EXPENDITURE**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	Non-pay expenditure	
	Staff costs	Other costs
	£'000	£'000
	Premises	Total
	£'000	£'000
<b>Charitable activities</b>		
<b>Academy's educational operations</b>		
Direct costs	3,035	126
Allocated support costs	<u>189</u>	<u>261</u>
	<u>3,224</u>	<u>387</u>
	<u>4,094</u>	<u>3,660</u>

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Auditors' remuneration	9	9
Depreciation - owned assets	286	249
Other operating leases	<u>43</u>	<u>31</u>

There were no individual transactions exceeding £5,000 for:

- Compensation payments
- Gifts made by the academy trust
- Fixed asset losses
- Stock losses
- Unrecoverable debts
- Cash losses

There were no ex-gratia payments in the year.

**8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds
	£'000	£'000
	Total funds	Total funds
	£'000	£'000
Direct costs	-	3,161
Support costs	<u>53</u>	<u>880</u>
	<u>53</u>	<u>4,041</u>
	<u>4,094</u>	<u>3,660</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**8. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS - continued**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	Total	Total
	£'000	£'000
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	189	169
Depreciation	286	249
Technology costs	31	81
Premises costs	217	214
Other support costs	128	142
Governance costs	<u>82</u>	<u>79</u>
Total support costs	<u>933</u>	<u>934</u>

**9. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS**

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31 August 2021 nor for the year ended 31 August 2020.

**Trustees' expenses**

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2021 nor for the year ended 31 August 2020.

**10. STAFF COSTS**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	2,239	1,923
Social security costs	204	168
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	<u>774</u>	<u>650</u>
	3,217	2,741
Other staff costs	<u>7</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>3,224</u>	<u>2,743</u>

Included in operating costs of defined pension scheme is a charge of £327,000 (2020: £252,000) relating to the pension deficit actuarial adjustment. Also included is an accrual of £Nil (2020: £Nil) relating to pension costs.

# **The Cedars Academy Trust**

## **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

### **10. STAFF COSTS - continued**

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the academy trust during the year was as follows:

	31.8.21	31.8.20
Management	7	7
Teachers	23	21
Teaching Assistants	44	47
Administrative Support	4	3
Other	<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u><u>85</u></u>	<u><u>84</u></u>

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

	31.8.21	31.8.20
£60,001 - £70,000	5	-
£70,001 - £80,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>
	<u><u>6</u></u>	<u><u>1</u></u>

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed in the Trustees Report. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £642,000 (2020: £534,000).

### **11. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE**

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

The Cedars Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

12. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Total funds £'000
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>				
Donations and capital grants	4	77	-	81
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	-	-	3,200	3,200
Other trading activities	20	-	3	23
Investment income	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Total</b>	25	77	3,203	3,305
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>				
Raising funds	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Academy's educational operations	37	249	3,374	3,660
	<u>37</u>	<u>249</u>	<u>3,374</u>	<u>3,660</u>
<b>Total</b>	37	249	3,374	3,660
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	(12)	(172)	(171)	(355)
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	<u>-</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>(293)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(708)</u>	<u>(708)</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	(12)	121	(1,172)	(1,063)
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
Total funds brought forward	192	4,682	(71)	4,803
	<u>192</u>	<u>4,682</u>	<u>(71)</u>	<u>4,803</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>180</u>	<u>4,803</u>	<u>(1,243)</u>	<u>3,740</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**13. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES**

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees 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:

M Flowers (Principal and Trustee):

Remuneration £75,000 - £80,000 (2020: £70,000 - £75,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid £15,000 - £20,000 (2020: £15,000 - £20,000)

M O'Reilly (Assistant Principal and Trustee):

Remuneration £60,000 - £65,000 (2020: £55,000 - £60,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid £10,000 - £15,000 (2020: £10,000 - £15,000)

J Vincent (Assistant Principal & CFO and Trustee):

Remuneration £60,000 - £65,000 (2020: £55,000 - £60,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid £10,000 - £15,000 (2020: £10,000 - £15,000)

J MacCabe (Staff Trustee)

Remuneration £20,000 - £25,000 (2020: £20,000 - £25,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid £0 - £5,000 (2020: £0 - £5,000)

R Lane (Staff Trustee)

Remuneration £20,000 - £25,000 (2020: £20,000 - £25,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid £0 - £5,000 (2020: £0 - £5,000)



The Cedars Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £'000	Plant and machinery £'000	Fixtures and fittings £'000
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 September 2020	6,142	71	109
Additions	750	21	2
Reclassification	185		
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 August 2021	<u>7,077</u>	<u>92</u>	<u>111</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 September 2020	1,558	55	98
Charge for year	<u>263</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>1,821</u>	<u>72</u>	<u>102</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 August 2021	<u>5,256</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>9</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>4,585</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>

	Motor vehicles £'000	Assets under construction £'000	Totals £'000
<b>COST</b>			
At 1 September 2020	51	185	6,558
Additions	-	-	773
Reclassification	-	(185)	-
Disposals	-	-	-
At 31 August 2021	<u>51</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,331</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>			
At 1 September 2020	45	-	1,756
Charge for year	<u>2</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>286</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>47</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,042</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>			
At 31 August 2021	<u>4</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,289</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>6</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>4,803</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**15. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	25	-
VAT	174	169
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>110</u>	<u>478</u>
	<u>309</u>	<u>647</u>

**16. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Social security and other taxes	51	43
Other creditors	51	22
Accruals and deferred income	<u>550</u>	<u>44</u>
	<u>652</u>	<u>109</u>

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	-	-
Resources deferred in the year	<u>455</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u>455</u>	<u>-</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds of £455,000 received in advance in relation to fixed costs funding for the year ended 31 August 2022.

**17. MEMBERS' LIABILITY**

Each member of the academy trust undertakes to contribute to the assets of the 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 cease to be a member.

The Cedars Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS

	At 1.9.20 £'000	Net movement in funds £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31.8.21 £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
Pension Reserve	(2,124)	(456)	-	(2,580)
General Annual Grant (GAG)	<u>881</u>	<u>337</u>	<u>(738)</u>	<u>480</u>
	<u>(1,243)</u>	<u>(119)</u>	<u>(738)</u>	<u>(2,100)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>				
Transfer on conversion	3,499	(160)	-	3,339
DfE Group capital grants	447	(5)	-	442
Capital expenditure from GAG	851	(85)	738	1,504
Private sector capital sponsorship	<u>6</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
	<u>4,803</u>	<u>(253)</u>	<u>738</u>	<u>5,288</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>3,560</u>	<u>(372)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,188</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	<u>180</u>	<u>(24)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>156</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>3,740</u>	<u>(396)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,344</u>

The Cedars Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains and losses £'000	Movement in funds £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
Pension Reserve	-	(362)	(94)	(456)
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,900	(1,565)	-	335
Pupil Premium	129	(129)	-	-
UIFSM	11	(11)	-	-
Other Grants	1,476	(1,476)	-	-
Summer School	73	(73)	-	-
Teachers Pay Grant	19	(19)	-	-
Teachers Pension Grant	54	(54)	-	-
PE and Sports Grant	17	(17)	-	-
COVID Catch up	49	(49)	-	-
	<u>3,728</u>	<u>(3,755)</u>	<u>(94)</u>	<u>(121)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>				
Transfer on conversion	-	(158)	-	(158)
DfE Group capital grants	35	(40)	-	(5)
Capital expenditure from GAG	-	(85)	-	(85)
Private sector capital sponsorship	-	(3)	-	(3)
	<u>35</u>	<u>(286)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(251)</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>3,763</u>	<u>(4,041)</u>	<u>(94)</u>	<u>(372)</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	29	(53)	-	(24)
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>3,792</u>	<u>(4,094)</u>	<u>(94)</u>	<u>(396)</u>

The Cedars Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1.9.19 £'000	Net movement in funds £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31.8.20 £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
Pension Reserve	(1,144)	(980)	-	(2,124)
General Annual Grant (GAG)	<u>1,073</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>(293)</u>	<u>881</u>
	<u>(71)</u>	<u>(879)</u>	<u>(293)</u>	<u>(1,243)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>				
Transfer on conversion	3,657	(158)	-	3,499
DfE Group capital grants	405	42	-	447
Capital expenditure from GAG	611	(53)	293	851
Private sector capital sponsorship	<u>9</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>
	<u>4,682</u>	<u>(172)</u>	<u>293</u>	<u>4,803</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>4,611</u>	<u>(1,051)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,560</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	<u>192</u>	<u>(12)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>4,803</u>	<u>(1,063)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,740</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**18. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains and losses £'000	Movement in funds £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
Pension Reserve	-	(272)	(708)	(980)
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,461	(1,360)	-	101
Pupil Premium	94	(94)	-	-
Other Grants	<u>1,648</u>	<u>(1,648)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,203</u>	<u>(3,374)</u>	<u>(708)</u>	<u>(879)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>				
Transfer on conversion	-	(158)	-	(158)
DfE Group capital grants	77	(35)	-	42
Capital expenditure from GAG	-	(53)	-	(53)
Private sector capital sponsorship	<u>-</u>	<u>(3)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(3)</u>
	<u>77</u>	<u>(249)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(172)</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>3,280</u>	<u>(3,623)</u>	<u>(708)</u>	<u>(1,051)</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	<u>25</u>	<u>(37)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(12)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>3,305</u>	<u>(3,660)</u>	<u>(708)</u>	<u>(1,063)</u>

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

Other DfE/ESFA grants received include:

- Pupil Premium is additional funding to be spent as the school sees fit to support deprived students.
- Other DfE/ESFA grants include monies received in relation to Universal Infant Free School Meals grant to provide free school meals for infants, and PE and Sports Premium funding towards making additional and sustainable improvements to the quality of the PE, physical activity and sports provided by the academy trust. Other DfE/ESFA Grants also rates relief, teachers' pay grant and teachers' pension grant.
- The COVID Catch-up Premium must be spend on activities to support pupils' education recovery.

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **19. 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 South Tyneside Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £53,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020 - £45,000) and are included within creditors.

##### **Teachers' pension scheme**

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

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

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued**

##### **Valuation of the teachers' pension scheme**

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £298,000 (2020 - £238,000).

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

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

##### **Local government pension scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £206,000 (2020 - £194,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £149,000 (2020 - £140,000), and employees' contributions totalled £57,000 (2020 - £54,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.80% for employers and 5.50% to 12.50% per cent for employees.

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



**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued**

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	476	392
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	35	20
Past service cost	-	-
	<u>511</u>	<u>412</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>527</u>	<u>(38)</u>

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	4,999	3,843
Current service cost	476	392
Contributions by scheme participants	57	54
Interest cost	84	73
Actuarial losses/(gains)	641	670
Benefits paid	(172)	(33)
Actuarial (gains)/losses due to liability experience	<u>(69)</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>6,016</u>	<u>4,999</u>

The Cedars Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	2,875	2,699
Interest income	49	53
Contributions by employer	149	140
Contributions by scheme participants	57	54
Actuarial gains/(losses)	478	(38)
Benefits paid	(172)	(33)
	<u>3,436</u>	<u>2,875</u>

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
	<u>(94)</u>	<u>(708)</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as amounts of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Equities	1,911	1,538
Property	275	265
Government bonds	72	69
Corporate bonds	691	658
Cash	137	55
Other	350	290
	<u>3,436</u>	<u>2,875</u>

**The Cedars Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

**19. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued**

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	31.8.21	31.8.20
Discount rate	1.70%	1.70%
CPI Inflation	2.60%	2.20%
Future pension increases	2.60%	2.20%
Pension account revaluation rate	2.60%	2.20%
Future salary increases	4.10%	3.70%
Commutation	75.00%	75.00%

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

Retiring today		
Males	21.9	21.8
Females	25.1	25.0
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	23.6	23.5
Females	26.9	26.8

Sensitivity analysis

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(162)	(135)
Discount rate -0.1%	168	140
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	(223)	(180)
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	229	175
CPI rate +0.1%	150	125
CPI rate -0.1%	(144)	(120)

**20. LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS, INCLUDING OPERATING LEASES**

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	31.8.21	31.8.20
	£'000	£'000
Within one year	48	32
Between one and five years	187	10
In more than five years	<u>232</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>467</u>	<u>42</u>

## **The Cedars Academy Trust**

### **Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

#### **21. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

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

Mrs E Neale and Mr K Vincent are members of the senior management team as listed on page 14 and are related to Mr G Neale and Mrs J Vincent who are trustees of the Academy. Their employment predates Mr G Neale and Mrs J Vincent becoming trustees and they have had no subsequent involvement in any aspect of the terms, conditions or remuneration, which have been determined in line with the national agreements on leadership pay scales. Mr A Finn is a teaching member of staff at the Academy and is related to Mrs P Finn who is a trustee of the academy. Mr Finn's employment pre-dates Mrs P Finn becoming a trustee and they have had no subsequent involvement in any aspect of the terms, conditions or remuneration, which have been determined in line with the national agreements on teaching pay scales.

#### **22. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

As at 31 August 2021 the academy trust had entered into capital commitments amounting to £nil (2020: £403,000).

#### **23. AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS**

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the academy trust received £1,649 and disbursed £1,649 from the fund. An amount of £NIL is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA. Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2020 are £1,200 received, £1,200 disbursed and £NIL included in other creditors