(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

GOVERNORS' REPORT AND AUDITED ACCOUNTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members Sister B Coughlin

Sister J Grainger Sister B Wallace

Board of Governors (Trustees) Mrs K Bliss (resigned 5 December 2022)

Ms J Johnson (resigned 20 December 2022) Vice Chair

Mrs E McCarthy Staff Governor

Mrs E Brett (4 January 2023 to 31 August Interim Headteacher

2023)

Mr W Ewen (appointed 1 March 2023)

Mr B Hickey (resigned 20 December 2022) Interim Headteacher Sister B Wallace Chair of Governors

Ms L Malone

Mrs K Jones (resigned 20 September 2023) Mr M Kennedy (term ended 30 September 2023)

Miss S Kilgallon Ms C Braggs

Sister L Baron (appointed 1 September 2022)
Sister M McDermott (appointed 1 September 2022)

Ms H Marshall (appointed 6 July 2023) Mrs P Young (resigned 14 March 2023)

Sister B Halligan Exec Head (Ex-officio)

Interim Headteacher

Interim Headteacher

Exec Head (ex officio)

School leadership team Mr B Hickey (1 September 2022 to 20

December 2022)

Mrs E Brett (4 January 2023 to 31 August

2023)

Sister B Halligan Mrs H Taylor Mr P McMenamin

Mrs J Westood (resigned 30 April 2023)

Mrs S Kelly Mr I Withers Mrs J Walker Mr P Lucas Mrs C Brennan

Company Secretary M Broom

Company registration number 08028387 (England and Wales)

Registered office Bellerive FCJ Catholic College

1 Aigburth Drive Sefton Park Liverpool L17 3AA

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent auditor Gardiner Russell Accounting Limited

First Floor 2 Castle Buildings 147-149 Telegraph Road

Heswall CH60 7SE

Bankers Royal Bank of Scotland

Liverpool Group of Branches

1 Dale Street Liverpool L2 2PP

GOVERNORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Governors present their annual report together with the accounts and independent auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the Companies Act 2006 and the Statement of Recommended Practice, "Accounting and Reporting by Charities", SORP 2015 (FRS 102).

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Academy Trust (Bellerive FCJ Catholic College) is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust herewith referred to as Bellerive FCJ Catholic College.

The Governors act as trustees for the charitable activities of Bellerive FCJ Catholic College and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the Governors who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Governors' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees, governors and officers from claims arising due to negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring on school business.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Principal activities

The principal objective of the school is to advance the educational opportunities and achievements of its pupils by providing a broad and balanced curriculum developed within a context of an educational establishment with a designated Catholic religious character. The broad and balanced curriculum is in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Catholic Church both generally and in particular the arrangements for religious education and daily acts of worship and in accordance with the advice of the religious order, Sisters Faithful Companions of Jesus. Funding for 2022-23 was based on 759 pupils in Yrs 7-11 and 126 pupils in the sixth form.

The School Development Plan states that as a Catholic school, our fundamental aim is the education of the 'whole person', spiritually and morally, intellectually, emotionally, socially and physically.

We seek to identify and cater for each pupil's needs as they arise during her/his school life, and to encourage each individual to develop her/his talents for her/his own sake and so that she/he can help make the world a better place, according to the values embedded in the Gospels.

The Bellerive Community's aims are based on the FCJ values of Excellence, Hope, Dignity, Justice, Gentleness and Companionship.

We aim:

- 1. To create an environment in which people work collaboratively, experience a sense of self worth and respect and are encouraged to make a positive contribution to the life of the school and to that of the wider community in accordance with the Christian values that are at the heart of its philosophy.
- 2. To encourage its members to offer support and encouragement to each other as each makes a Journey of faith that includes Identifying and nurturing her/his own unique gifts.
- 3. To ensure that all pupils feel safe and secure in the knowledge that they have equality of opportunity to develop as a 'whole person', acquire mental resilience and a zest for life.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

The Governing Board is comprised of Foundation Governors and 2 elected Parent Governors. Governors are appointed to reflect the skills required of a modern academy.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Governors

New Governors meet the Chair of Governors and the Headteacher and are provided with the DfE guide to the law. The Headteacher shall be treated for all purposes as being an ex-officio Governor. They receive copies of minutes of previous meetings. The Governors have access to the governors' training provided in Liverpool, Wirral, St Helens, Knowsley and the Archdiocese of Liverpool. Membership of NGA is provided as is access to the Governors' section of The Key. The FCJ Sisters are also in the process of developing their own bespoke training on the expectations of governorship in FCJ schools which complements and extends DfE documentation. This commenced in October 2021.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Organisational structure

The organisation structure consists of three levels, the Academy Trust Board (the trustees/governors), the Governing Body and the School Leadership Team.

The Academy Trust Board (the trustees/governors) is responsible for those statutory duties which may not have been delegated to the Governing Body.

The key purposes of the Governing Body include:

- Helping Bellerive to provide the best possible education for its pupils.
- Setting the Bellerive vision and strategic aims, and agreeing plans and policies (including the annual budget) and making creative use of available resources.
- Monitoring and evaluating the overall performance of Bellerive and acts as a critical friend to the Headteacher to support and challenge her in her role.
- Ensuring that Bellerive is accountable for its performance especially its financial and academic capacities.
- Making major decisions including capital expenditure.
- Overseeing and participating in staff appointments.
- Promoting the school and making links with the wider community.

In fulfilling the above the Governing Body discharges the following responsibilities:

- Review and monitor the financial position on a regular basis.
- Monitor the education performance of Bellerive in line with outcomes and success criteria (including seeking 100% good/outstanding teaching).
- Contribute to the development and review of Bellerive's Improvement Plan.
- Monitor the effective management of Bellerive's site and buildings.
- Consider any contractual matters.
- Approve and review the implementation of and effectiveness of key operational policies.
- Monitor the effectiveness of staff policies.
- Maintain an overview of Bellerive's risk management procedures.

The Governors meet at least six times per year. They establish an overall framework for the governance of the Academy and determine membership, terms of reference and procedures of Committees and other groups. They receive reports including proposals from its Committees for ratification and monitor the activities of the Committees through the minutes of their meetings. The Governing body may from time to time establish Working Groups to perform specific tasks over a limited timescale.

Bellerive's Leadership Team consists of 2 Deputy Head Teachers, 4 Assistant Head Teachers and a School Business Manager. These Leaders manage Bellerive at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Governing Board and report back to them. The Interim Headteacher and the Audit, Finance, Staffing and Resources Committee are responsible for the the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets, Departmental spending control is devolved to individual budget holders. The Interim Headteacher is responsible for the appointment of staff and will be a member of the appointment panel which will include a Governor. The Senior Leadership Team is responsible for relevant aspects of spending within their remit.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Arrangements for pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The pay ranges for the Headteacher, Deputy Headteachers and Assistant Headteachers is determined in accordance with the criteria specified in the STPCD and ensuring fair comparisons. The Governing Board does not offer the headteacher discretionary payments. In the event that a decision were made to do so, the payments would be determined in accordance with the provisions of the STPCD and would be reviewed annually.

The Governing Board will pay teachers as Deputy or Assistant headteachers only where the Governing Board is satisfied that, in the context of teachers' duties, the role includes significant responsibility that is not required of all classroom teachers or Teaching and Learning (TLR) holders. In the case of the Deputy Headteacher posts, the Governing Board must also be satisfied that this significant responsibility features a job weight which exceeds that expected of an Assistant Headteacher employed in the same school, including responsibility for discharging in full the responsibilities of the Headteacher. The Finance staff are paid under the pay and conditions of service for Support Staff in accordance with the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

Trade Union Facility Time

For the period September 2022 to August 2023, the Academy contributed £3,051 to the LA shared central pot, which represents 0.05% of total income.

Three members of staff have been appointed as Trade Union representatives. The Headteacher meets with one for one period per fortnight.

Risk management

Governors are responsible for the management of risks and are assisted in this role by the Leadership Team. Professional advice is sought on matters of HR and Health & Safety and, where necessary, legal advice is obtained to reduce risks for the Academy.

- 1. The financial and cash position at Bellerive FCJ Catholic College is monitored carefully on a regular basis.
- 2. Merseyside Pension Fund liability of £289K.
- Increasing employers' costs (on-costs) and pay rises which are not reflected in the GAG funding makes the management of the budget a bigger risk.
- 4. Competition for pupils arising from selection/partial selection of pupils in the Liverpool area. Eight of the 30+ schools have some form of selection.
- 5. Competition for Sixth Form pupils arising from the growth in UTCs, Studio Schools, Free Schools, etc.
- 6. Buildings being of the required standard to meet the needs of the future. The lack of space for outdoor activities has the potential to reduce our attractiveness.
- 7. Increase of planned admission number in other local schools.
- 8. The risk of examination results not being of the required standard to remain competitive.
- 9. The school has a fully comprehensive insurance policy in place to cover claims.

Connected organisations and related party relationships

The Governing Body works closely with Liverpool LA, the FCJ Society, the ESFA and many primary and secondary schools in the area and the Archdiocese of Liverpool and the Gaudete Trust.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities

Bellerive seeks to:

- Promote Christian moral values among its pupils.
- Offer a broad and balanced curriculum, in line with statutory requirements, which is intellectually challenging, enjoyable and leads to academic success.
- Forge links between school and home which will support the school's philosophy and help achieve its stated aims.
- Support pupils in the development of a sense of self-discipline based on the values of self-respect and respect for others.
- Develop independent learners and creative thinkers who are self-motivated and capable of solving problems.
- Educate pupils about how they can safeguard themselves and others.
- Prepare pupils for Higher Education, a future career and economic well-being.
- Encourage its pupils to adopt healthy lifestyles, to promote their mental and physical wellbeing and their personal safety.
- Try to educate pupils and parents about e-safety.
- Offer pupils the opportunity for community service and links with the wider community so they can develop an appreciation of the world in which they live and an understanding of their role in improvement.
- Offer an environment which is safe, secure, welcoming and stimulating.
- Organise management systems and administrative systems which support the alms of the school.

Public benefit

The Governors confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Academy Trust's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

its

The school community supports the work of charities at local, national and international levels. From September 2022 until July 2023, £4,227 was collected for charities. Collections also took place for good causes, such as Macmillan Cancer Support, Cafod's Turkey appeal and Syria's appeal. The Sixth Form are working with the local FCJ Sisters during enrichment.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Achievements and performance

KEY STAGE 4 HEADLINES (GCSE)

2023

Eng 5+ = 73% (Nat = 55%)

Ma 5+ = 43% (Nat = 52%)

Eng & Ma 5+ = 42% (Nat = 43%)

Eng 4+ = 82% (Nat = 72%)

Ma 4+ = 70% (Nat = 72%)

Eng & Ma 4+ = 68% (Nat = 65%)

Destinations
University
Apprenticeship
Employment

Where 5+ means a high pass and 4+ means a standard pass

61% of all GCSE entries were graded 5+ which is securely above JCQ Provisional National figure of 52%.

4+ figure of 79% is also securely above JCQ Provisional National average of 68%.

Progress 8 score of -0.17 implies students make 'average' progress.

Key stage 5 headlines (Advanced level & Vocational)

A-Level grades 2 A* to E = 98%. 3 A*to E = 82%

Average Grade = C-

Year	13	
91%	-	
1%	-	
4%	-	
4% - Took a gap year		

Degree courses undertaken include: Accounting & Finance, Adult Nursing, Animal Behaviour, Architecture, Biomedical Science, Business Management, Childhood & Youth and Psychology, Childhood & Youth Studies, Criminology, Criminology and Law, Criminology and Psychology, Dance, Education, English Literature, Environmental Science, Fine Art, Forensic Psychology, Forensic Science, Geography, Health & Social Care, History, Interdisciplinary Science, Law and Criminal Justice, Marketing, Mathematics, Multimedia Sports Journalism, Orthoptics, Paramedic Practice, Pharmacy, Philosophy & Ethics and Religious Studies, Primary Education, Psychology, Sociology, Sports Therapy.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Key performance indicators

The Academy will continue to sustain appropriate staffing levels to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of the pupils whilst maintaining the Catholic religious character of the school. The academy will continue to maintain high performance in external examinations and will continue to provide an education that is safe and secure.

The main financial performance indicator is the level of reserves held at the Balance sheet date. In particular, the management of spending against General Annual Grant (GAG) requires special attention when considering restricted reserves. The Academy is keen to ensure the income received in any year is spent for the benefit of those students in the Academy in that year. If there are reserves leftover, they are directed to support future projects for the Academy and for the benefit of the students. The monthly management accounts are generally in line with projected budget spend which is another main indicator.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governing Board has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the Governing Board continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

The financial position of Bellerive is detailed in the following pages.

Most of Bellerive's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of the GAG, the use of which is restricted to specific purposes. The grants received during the period and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Capital grants received from the ESFA during the period amounted to £26,000. CIF money was received to refurbish the windows in the Bellerive building. Work on this commenced prior to Christmas 2021 and has now been completed. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Accounting and Reporting by Charities SORP 2015 (FRS 102), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation over the expected useful life of the assets concerned. The depreciation charge for this period was £110,000.

Grants of £5,710,000 were received from ESFA and local authority. Expenditure covered by this income amounted to £5,778,000. Such grants and expenditure are shown in the restricted general fund in the Statement of Financial Activities.

At 31 August 2023 the net book value of fixed assets was £2,948,000 and movement in fixed assets are shown in Note 11 of the Financial Statements.

The Academy Trust will continue to sustain appropriate staffing levels to deliver a broad and balanced curriculum that meets the needs of the pupils whilst maintaining the Catholic religious charter. The Academy Trust will continue to strive for high performance in external examinations and will continue to provide an environment that is safe and secure.

Staffing costs as a percentage of General Annual Grant (GAG) is calculated at 93.6% for 2022/23.

Bellerive held a surplus on fund balances at the end of 31 August 2023 of £367,000 comprising of restricted and unrestricted income funds of £656,000 offset by the pension reserve deficit of £289,000. This compares to a deficit on fund balances of £713,000 at 31 August 2022.

Unrestricted general funds at the year-end were £610k. Unrestricted reserves increased by £593k in the year.

The pension reserve which is considered part of the restricted funds was £289k in deficit, which is a significant improvement from the 2021/22 financial year £844k in deficit)

The Finance Committee and Governors examine the financial performance of Bellerive at each meeting.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal financial aim of the Academy Trust is to ensure its long-term ability to deliver a high quality education to its students and to upgrade/develop its buildings/sites.

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy Trust are as follows:

- Financial the Academy Trust relies on continued Government funding through the ESFA and whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.
- · Possible increased competition for pupils. Seek effective ways of marketing the Academy Trust.
- Reputation the continuing success of the Academy Is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk Governors ensure that student success and achievement are closely monitored and reviewed.
- Safeguarding and child protection the Governors continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health and safety and behaviour.
- Failure in governance and/or management the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Academy Trust's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns etc. The Governors and management continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.
- Staffing the success of the Academy is reliant on the quality of its staff. The governors seek to ensure that the
 continued development and training of staff is a priority and a means of developing potential and curriculum.
- Capital availability of funds to extend and improve provision and availability of funds to ensure that buildings
 are properly maintained.
- The inability of the academy to control the Merseyside Pension Fund past service deficit will affect the balance of combined reserves in future years.
- The Governors/Accounting Officer seek the help and advice of the auditors during the year on matters such as pensions and leases and any other issues which require advice.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Academy Trust has a Risk Management Policy and has identified a number of risks. An assessment of the risks shows that these include finance, pupil recruitment, pupil performance and well-being. The governors' awareness of these risks informs their decisions to focus on finances, pupil recruitment, pupil well-being and attention to pupil performance and to make every effort to minimise those risks. Operational risks and controls are referred to previously. Where significant risks still remain in particular those with financial implications the Governors have made sure that these are properly covered by insurance cover.

There is a business continuity strategy incorporating an agreement with a local school and an insurance policy to provide temporary teaching accommodation.

Whilst the Academy Trust is over-subscribed, numbers can vary, particularly in the 6th form, and this is a matter discussed regularly by the Academy Trust Governors and Leadership Team, bearing in mind the reduction in post-16 funding levels, the freeze on the Government's overall education budget, changes in funding arrangements for special education needs and increasing employment and premises costs mean that budgets will be increasingly tight in coming years.

The Governors consider the financial position of Bellerive on a formal basis every term. At each full Governors' meeting and Finance Committee meeting they review performance against budgets and overall expenditure. The Governors also review cash flow forecasts and make sure that sufficient funds are held to coverall known and anticipated commitments.

At the period end, the Academy Trust had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be a significant effect on liquidity.

The Governing Body recognises that the defined benefit scheme (Local Government Pension Scheme), which is set out in the Notes to the Financial Statements, represents a significant potential liability. However, as the Governors consider that the Academy Trust is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, this risk from this liability is kept to a minimum.

Reserves policy

Governors review the reserves annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income to commitments and the nature of the reserves. The governors will ensure that the reserves policy continues to conform to the requirements laid down in the Academies Financial Handbook. The academy may carry forward up to 12% of current GAG, of which 2% may be used for any purpose and the remaining 10% for premises and capital improvement projects.

It is Governors' policy to build unrestricted reserves for use in future education purposes in accordance with the development plan. The Governors believe it to be prudent to set aside up to 5% of GAG for unforeseen revenue cost pressures.

Bellerive's pension liability is £289,000. The academy pays off an agreed figure per year towards this deficit.

Investment policy and powers

Governors are committed to ensure that all funds under their control are managed in such a way as to safeguard Bellerive's cash assets. Day to day management of surplus funds is delegated to the Director of Business and Finance under approvals agreed by the Governing Body. Bellerive has a positive cash balance to cover eventualities and unforeseen expenses. All surplus cash balances (bar £200) are cleared to a high interest account daily and interest receivable is accrued and paid quarterly in arrears.

Governors continue to review the situation on investments and to consider the opening of additional short term bank investment accounts to benefit from higher interest rates. Governors are committed to maximising returns whilst minimising risks.

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Plans for the future

The budget for 2023/24 has been approved by the Governing Board.

The increase in the PAN to 180 continues. The Governors recognise that through very careful and thorough financial management over the past number of years they have been able to invest in and improve very significantly the quality of the building environment and the upgrading of areas of the school. They have ambition for this to continue, especially with regard to PE space and ICT capacity and provision but recognise, however, that future plans will be dependent on funding availability.

Governors have ambition to develop the site even further, especially outdoor PE facilities, to enable more young people to experience the quality of education on offer at Bellerive FCJ Catholic College. They are actively seeking to enhance fitness and exercise to encourage healthier lifestyles.

Funds held as custodian trustee

The school holds no funds on behalf of others.

Auditor

In so far as the Governors are aware:

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

- the Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

A resolution proposing that Gardiner Russell Accounting Limited be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

Approved by order of the Governing Board on 07 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Sister B Wallace

Chair of Governors

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Scope of responsibility

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

The Governing Board has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Bellerive FCJ Catholic College and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Board any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities. The Governing Board has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Governing Board was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Sister B Wallace (Chair of Governors)	6	6
Mrs P Young (Resigned 14 March 2023)	3	3
Mr M Kennedy	5	6
Mrs K Bliss (Resigned 5 December 2022)	2	2
Ms J Johnson (Resigned 20 December 2022)	2	2
Mrs K Jones	3	6
Mrs L Malone	4	6
Miss S Kilgallon	5	6
Miss C Braggs	6	6
Mr B Hickey (Appointed 1 September 2022 and resigned 20 December	_	_
2022)	2	2
Mrs E McCarthy	4	6
Sister L Baron (Appointed 1 September 2022)	6	6
Sister M McDermott (Appointed 1 September 2022)	4	6
E Brett (Appointed 4 January 2023)	3	4
W Ewen (Appointed 1 March 2023)	4	4
Ms H Marshall (Appointed 6 July 2023)	1	2
Sister B Halligan (Accounting Officer)		

Governors challenge the leadership of the school to drive change and improvements for pupils at the correct pace. Governors along with the Leadership team develop the long term aims and priorities of the school development plan and this is monitored and reviewed annually.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Attendance at Audit, Finance Staffing and Resources Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs K Bliss (Resigned 5 December 2022)	1	1
Miss S Kilgallon	3	3
Miss C Braggs	3	3
Mr B Hickey (Appointed 1 September 2022 and resigned 20 December		
2022)	1	1
Sister M McDermott (Appointed 1 September 2022)	3	3
E Brett (Appointed 4 January 2023)	3	3

Review of Value for Money

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

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

- All expenditure is subject to the "Scheme of Delegation" as set-out in the Academy's Financial Manual which sets the limits for expenditure. For expenditure over £10,000 competitive quotations are sought to ensure that the best value for money is obtained and that the investment will generate the best possible results for the school. The Academy has made a decision to buy back services from the Local Authority and the Liverpool Archdiocese at a cost which is lower than going to an external provider; for example, the subject collaborative forums and management of schools admission appeals.
- The Senior Leadership Team and Governing Body are committed to seeking to ensure that funds are used in a way that maximises the benefits to our pupils. Monthly finance reports, highlighting actual performance against budgets, are used to make informed decisions about the best use of the academy's funds. The Audit, Finance, Staffing and Resources Committee receive termly budget monitoring reports and monthly management accounts.
- The Internal Audit Controls Health-check undertaken in the year gave assurance that robust financial controls are in place at the Academy with no major control weaknesses highlighted.
- Scrutinising the catering accounts in order to achieve best value without compromising the quality of food provided for our young people.
- The Director of Business and Finance completed and returned the Resource management Self-Assessment toolkit as provided by the ESFA.

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 Bellerive FCJ Catholic College for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Governing Board 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 Governing Board is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Board.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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 Governing Board;
- regular reviews by the finance & buildings committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- · setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- · clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- · delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- · identification and management of risks.

The board of trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Langtons Professional Services Ltd.

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:

- a review of financial governance and the Finance Manual with a particular focus on purchasing and procurement
- · a review of the payroll system

On a termly basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the Audit, Finance, Staffing and Resources 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.

Review of effectiveness

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

- · the work of the School Business Manager,
- · the work of the internal auditor;
- · the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the Governing Board on 07 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Sister B Wallace Chair of Governors Sister B Halligan Accounting Officer

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

As accounting officer of Bellerive FCJ Catholic College I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Governing Board and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust's Governing Board 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.

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

Sister B Halligan

Accounting Officer

07 December 2023

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Governors (who act as trustees for Bellerive FCJ Catholic College and are also the directors of Bellerive FCJ Catholic College for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' Report and the accounts in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the Governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- · make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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 that grants received from the 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 accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the Governing Board on 1 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Sister B Wallace

Chair of Governors

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BELLERIVE FCJ CATHOLIC COLLEGE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Bellerive FCJ Catholic College for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 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 the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts' 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 accounts 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 governors' 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 Governors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The Governors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts 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. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the course of 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 accounts 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BELLERIVE FCJ CATHOLIC COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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 governors' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the governors' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Governors

As explained more fully in the statement of governors' responsibilities, the Governors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the Governors are responsible for assessing the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Governors either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses, and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

However, it is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BELLERIVE FCJ CATHOLIC COLLEGE (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

 obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the charitable company operates in and how the charitable company is complying with the legal and regulatory

 inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;

 discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and when the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Education and Skills Funding Agency's Academies Financial Handbook and Annual Accounts Direction. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements including the Trustees Report.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to the Education Inspection Framework, under the Education Act 2005 (as amended), Keeping Children Safe in Education under the Education Act 2002, the UK General Date Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. We performed the audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the charitable company is in compliance with these laws and regulations and inspected correspondence with regulatory authorities.

The audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud,. Audit procedures performed included, but were not limited to, testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business and challenging judgements and estimates.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Benjamin Russell BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Gardiner Russell Accounting Limited

7 December 2023

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

First Floor
2 Castle Buildings
147-149 Telegraph Road
Heswall
CH60 7SE

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BELLERIVE FCJ CATHOLIC COLLEGE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Bellerive FCJ Catholic College during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 Bellerive FCJ Catholic College and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Bellerive FCJ Catholic College and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Bellerive FCJ Catholic College and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Bellerive FCJ Catholic College's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Bellerive FCJ Catholic College's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, 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 2022 to 2023. 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Confirmation that the lines of delegation and limits imposed internally and by the ESFA have been adhered to;
- Review of minutes of committees, management accounts and discussions held with key personnel;
- Evaluation of internal control procedures and reporting lines, and the implementation of such controls as were considered relevant, was checked;
- Ensure that key staff and trustees declared their interest in related parties and followed this up with discussion and testing:
- · Review of financial transactions for any unusual transactions which maybe improper;
- · Ensure that expenditure does not contravene the funding agreement.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BELLERIVE FCJ CATHOLIC COLLEGE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Gardiner Russell Accounting Limited

Dated: 07 December 2023

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		Unrestricted Funds	General	Restric	ted funds: Pension	Total 2023	Total 2022
	Notes	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
income and endowments from:							
Donations and capital						= 40	000
grants Charitable activities: - Funding for	4	717	-	26	-	743	338
educational operations	5	-	6,527	-	_	6,527	6,014
Other trading activities	3	191	-	-	-	191	168
Investments	7	10		· •		10	
Total income and endowments		918	6,527	26	_	7,471	6,520
endownienco		===	====				===
Expenditure on: Charitable activities: - Educational							
operations	8	325	6,595	110	35	7,065	6,552
Total expenditure	6	325	6,595 ====	110	35 ====	7,065 ——	6,552 ====
Net income/(expenditure)		593	(68)	(84)	(35)	406	(32)
Other recognised gains losses	s and						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	-	, -	590	590	1,537
Net movement in funds	;	593	(68)	(84)	555	996	1,505
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		17	114	3,032	(844)	2,319	814
Total funds carried forward		610	46	2,948	(289)	3,315	2,319

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information		Unrestricted _.			Restricted funds:	Total
***************************************		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Pension	2022
Year ended 31 August 2022	Notes	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
lu	Notes	LUUUS	20005	20005	20005	20003
Income and endowments from:	4 .			338	_	338
Donations and capital grants	4 .	=	-	330	_	000
Charitable activities:	_	-	6,014	_	_	6,014
- Funding for educational operations	5 3	168	0,014	_	_	168
Other trading activities	3	100	-			
		168	6,014	338		6,520
Total income and endowments		100				
F						
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:	8	279	5,962	124	187	6,552
- Educational operations	0	219	5,902	124		
Tatal assessmentitus	6	279	5,962	124	187	6,552
Total expenditure	O		5,902	===	===	===
		·——				
Net income/(expenditure)		(111)	52	214	(187)	(32)
Net income/(expenditure)		()	02		(,	\ /
Transfers between funds		_	(94)	94	_	_
Hansiers between funds			(0-1)	,		
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined						
benefit pension schemes	22	-	-		1,537	1,537
benefit pension sonomes						
Net movement in funds		(111)	(42)) 308	1,350	1,505
Het movement in fanae		(,	•	•	·	
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		128	156	2,724	(2,194)	814
.om land broagin lands						
Total funds carried forward		17	114	3,032	(844)	2,319
					==	===

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023	}	2022	
	Notes	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		2,948		3,032
Current assets					
Debtors	14	118		156	
Cash at bank and in hand		926		432	
		1,0 44		588	•
Current liabilities	•	•			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one	40	(0.00)		(457)	
year	13	(388)		(457)	
No. 4			656		131
Net current assets					
Net assets excluding pension liability			3,604		3,163
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22		(289)		(844)
Total net assets			3,315		2,319
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds	15				
- Fixed asset funds			2,948		3,032
- Restricted income funds			46		114
- Pension reserve			(289)		(844)
Total restricted funds			2,705		2,302
Unrestricted income funds	15		610		17
Omegatotsa moomis tunas					
Total funds			3,315		2,319
. Tour : MIIMO					

The accounts were approved by the Governors and authorised for issue on 07 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:

Sister B Wallace

Chair of Governors

Sister B Halligan Accounting Officer

Company registration number 08028387

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023	3	2022	
	Notes	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	18		484		113
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investment	s	10		-	
Capital grants from DfE Group		19		19	
Capital funding received from sponsors and o	thers	7		319	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(26)		(432)	
, a		<u>`</u>		<u> </u>	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing a	ctivities		10		(94)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of long term bank loan		-		(2)	
-					
Net cash used in financing activities			-		(2)
_					
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents	in the				4=
reporting period			494		17
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the	e vear		432		415
The same of the sa	- ,				
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the ye	ear		926		432
The state of the s					

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

Bellerive FCJ Catholic College is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the governors' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern. The Governors make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the accounts.

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

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 the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Other income

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 accounts until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Bellerive has decided to adopt a de-minimus limit of £500 for capitalising asset purchases. Any item above this value will be considered for capitalisation purposes. In certain circumstances, assets that fall below the de-minimus limit may be considered for capitalisation if Bellerive considers that its "useful life" is long enough to warrant this.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its expected useful economic life, as follows:

Land and buildings Computer equipment Fixtures, fittings & equipment 50 years straight line 3 years straight line Between 5 and 10 years straight line

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.9 Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

Pensions benefits (continued)

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 quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in Note 17, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the Academy Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions are recognised as they are paid each year.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

3	Other trading activities	Unrestricted funds £000s	Restricted funds £000s	Total 2023 £000s	Total 2022 £000s
	Catering income General Sales	181 10 ———	- -	181 10 ———	164 4
		191 		191 ——	168 ——
4	Donations and capital grants	Unrestricted funds £000s	Restricted funds £000s	Total 2023 £000s	Total 2022 £000s
	Capital grants Other donations	717	26 -	26 717	338
		717	26	743	338
5	Funding for the Academy Trust's charitab	le activities			
		Unrestricted funds £000s	Restricted funds £000s	Total 2023 £000s	Total 2022 £000s
	DfE/ESFA grants General annual grant (GAG) Other DfE/ESFA grants:	-	5,400	5,400	5,278
	- Pupil premium - Others	-	294 406	294 406 ——	270 297
			6,100 ====	6,100 ====	5,845 ——
	Other government grants Local authority grants Special educational projects	<u>:</u>	13 - - 13	13 - - 13	9 3 ———————————————————————————————————
	Other incoming resources		414	414	157
	Total funding	-	6,527 ====	6,527 ———	6,014 ====

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

6	Expenditure					
	•		Non-pay	expenditure	Total	Total
	Sta	aff costs	Premises	Other	2023	2022
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	Academy's educational operations					
	- Direct costs	4,335	-	650	4,985	4,496
	- Allocated support costs	707	568	805	2,080	2,056
	,					
		5,042 ====	568 ———	1,455 ———	7,065 =====	6,552 ———
	Net income/(expenditure) for the yea	r include	s:		2023 £000s	2022 £000s
	Fees payable to auditor for:				20003	
	- Audit				10	8
	- Other services				3	3
	Operating lease rentals				1	1
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				110	124
	Net interest on defined benefit pension	liability			32	37
7	Investment income			Do atalata d	Tatal	Tota
			Unrestricted	Restricted	Total 2023	2022
			funds £000s	funds £000s	£000s	£000s
			20005	LUUUS	20003	20003
	Short term deposits		10		10	
			==	===		
8	Charitable activities		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Tota
			funds	funds	2023	2022
			£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	Direct costs			2000		
	Educational operations		-	4,985	4,985	4,496
	Support costs		205	4 755	2.090	2,056
	Educational operations		325	1,755 	2,080	
			325	6,740	7,065	6,552
				===	===	
					2023	202
					£000s	£000s
	Analysis of support costs				718	918
	Support staff costs				110	124
	Depreciation Premises costs				458	39
	Legal costs				27	
	Other support costs				753	610
	Governance costs				14	9
	Cofemano costs					

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8	Charitable activities	(Continued)
		2,080 ====	2,056
9	Staff		
	Staff costs		
	Staff costs during the year were:	2023 £000s	2022 £000s
	Wages and salaries	3,540	3,403
	Social security costs	324	365
	Pension costs	804	934
	CA-# acata amulayasa	4,668	4,702
	Staff costs - employees Agency staff costs	362	153
	Staff restructuring costs	12	-
	•		
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	5,042	4,855
	Staff development and other staff costs	11 	13
	Total staff expenditure	5,053 =====	4,868 ====
	Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
	Severance payments	12 ——	
	Severance payments The Academy Trust paid 1 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following	bands:	
	0 - £25,000 1		
	Staff numbers The average number of persons employed by the Academy Trust during the year was	as follows:	
		2023 Number	2022 Number
	Teachers	65	63
	Administration and support	42	43
		107	106

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

9 Staff (Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

N	2023 lumber	2022 Number
£60,000 - £70,000	3	3
£70,001 - £80,000	2	-
£90,001 - £100,000	-	1
•		

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £637,218.

10 Governors' remuneration and expenses

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

The value of governors' remuneration was as follows:

Mrs E Brett (Acting Headteacher and staff governor - appointed 1 January 2023): Remuneration £60,000 - £70,000 (2022: n/a) Employer's pension contributions £10,000 - £15,000 (2022: n/a)

Mrs E McCarthy (Staff governor):

Remuneration £40,000 - £50,000 (2022: 30,000 - £40,000)

Employer's pension contributions £10,000 - £15,000 (2022: £5,00 - £10,000)

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

11 Governors' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £500,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £1,100 (2022: £1,100).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

12	Tangible fixed assets				
-		Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	Cost	2 227	400	205	4 040
	At 1 September 2022	3,337 26	496	385	4,218 26
	Additions				
	At 31 August 2023	3,363	496 ———	385	4,244
	Depreciation				
	At 1 September 2022	360	465	361	1,186
	Charge for the year	67	31	12	110
	At 31 August 2023	427	496	373	1,296
	Net book value			4.5	40
	At 31 August 2023	2,936 ——		12 ——	2,948 =====
	At 31 August 2022	2,977	31	24	3,032
		===	===		
40	Creditors are unto folling due within one year				
13	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year			2023	2022
				£000s	£000s
	Trade creditors			12	49
	Other taxation and social security			90	86
	Other creditors			91	86
	Accruals and deferred income			195	236
				388	457
				===	
14	Debtors				
14	Dentois			2023	2022
				£000s	£000s
	Trade debtors			-	3
	Other debtors			30	8
	Prepayments and accrued income			88	145
				118	156

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

15	Funds					
		Balance at			Gains,	Balance at
		1 September	lucama	Expenditure	losses and transfers	31 August 2023
		2022 £000s	Income £000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	Restricted general funds	20005	20003	2000	20000	2000
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	114	5,400	(5,468)	_	46
	Pupil premium	•	294	(294)	-	_
	Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	406	`(16)	-	390
	Other government grants	-	13	(403)	-	(390)
	Other restricted funds	-	414	(414)	-	-
	Pension reserve	(844)	-	(35)	590	(289)
		(730)	6,527	(6,630)	590	(243)
		===				
	Restricted fixed asset funds					
	DfE group capital grants	657	26	(35)	-	648
	Capital expenditure from GAG	345	-	(30)	-	315
	Private sector capital	0.000		(4E)		1,985
	sponsorship	2,030		(45)		1,900
		3,032	26	(110)	_	2,948
		3,032 ====		(110)		===
						
	Total restricted funds	2,302	6,553	(6,740)	590	2,705
	Total Total otto a Tallao	===	=	===	==	<u> </u>
	Unrestricted funds					
	General funds	17	918	(325)	-	610
				===	===	===
	Total funds	2,319	7,471	(7,065)	590	3,315
		===	==	===	====	===

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) is used to meet the day to day working capital commitments of the Academy Trust. 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 2023.

The other ESFA grants are made up of amounts received for pupil premium and other revenue grants such as rates relief, 6th form bursary fund and year 7 literacy top up funding.

Other government grants are received to help meet costs relating to Looked After Children (LAC).

Other restricted income relates to other specific academy activities such as contributions to trips and bus income.

The pension fund relates to the Academy Trust's share of the deficit of the Local Government Pension Scheme (note 20).

ESFA capital grants are for DFC funding which were used as a contribution towards the purchase of various fixtures and fittings.

General funds comprise of those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Academy Trust at the discretion of the trustees.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

5	Funds					(Continued)
	Comparative information in respe	ect of the prece	ding period	is as follows:		
		Balance at September 2021 £000s	Income £000s	Expenditure £000s	Gains, losses and transfers £000s	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000s
	Restricted general funds			(5.000)	(0.4)	114
	General Annual Grant (GAG)	156	5,278	(5,226)	(94)	114
	Pupil premium	-	270	(270)	-	
	Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	297 12	(297)	- -	
	Other government grants Other restricted funds	-	157	(12) (157)	-	
	Other restricted funds Pension reserve	(2,194)	-	(187)	1,537	(844
	T Chaint reserve			``	<u></u>	
		(2,038)	6,014	(6,149) ====	1,443 =====	(730 ====
	Restricted fixed asset funds					
	DfE group capital grants	349	338	(30)	-	657
	Capital expenditure from GAG	299	-	(48)	94	349
	Private sector capital sponsorship	2,076		(46)		2,030
		2,724	338	(124)	94	3,032
	Total restricted funds	686	6,352	(6,273)	1,537	2,302
	Unrestricted funds					
	General funds	128	168	(279)	-	17
		==	==	===	==	=
	Total funds	814 	6,520 ====	(6,552) ——	1,537	2,319
16	Deferred income				2023	2022
					£000s	£000s
	Deferred income is included within:					
	Creditors due within one year					10 ₄
	Deferred income at 1 September 20	n22			104	10
	Released from previous years				(104)	(10
	Resources deferred in the year				89	104

Deferred income at 31 August 2023

104

89

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17	Analysis of net assets between funds				
		Unrestricted		ricted funds:	_ Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are				
	represented by:			2,948	2,948
	Tangible fixed assets	- 699	345	2,340	1,044
	Current assets	(89)	(299)	_	(388)
	Current liabilities	(09)	(289)	_	(289)
	Pension scheme liability		(209)		
	Total net assets	610	(243)	2,948	3,315
	iolai net assets	===	===	===	===
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£000s	£000s	£000s	£000s
	Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,032	3,032
	Current assets	17	571	-	588
	Current liabilities	-	(457)	-	(457)
	Pension scheme liability	-	(844)	-	(844)
	Total net assets	17	(730) ====	3,032 ====	2,319 ====
18	Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure	e) to net cash flow fro	om operating	activities	
	1/00011011121011 of flot filodillo/axportation	0, 00 1101 011011 11011 110		2023	2022
			Notes	£000s	£000s
	Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting p statement of financial activities)	eriod (as per the		406	(32)
	Adjusted for:			40.01	4000
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital inc	come	_	(26)	(338)
	Investment income receivable		7	(10)	-
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable		22	3	150
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cos	st	22	32	37
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets			110	124
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors			38	(64)
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors			(69) ——-	236
	Net cash provided by operating activities	3		484	113

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

Analysis of changes in her funds	1 September 2022 £000s	Cash flows £000s	31 August 2023 £000s
Cash	432	494	926
	==		

20 Related party transactions

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

During the year there were no related party transactions to be reported.

21 Members' liability

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

22 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 Merseyside Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined-benefit schemes. The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019. There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

Contributions amounting to £74,498 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £72,387) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academy trusts. 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.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

22 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £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 2024.

The pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £633,373 (2022: £608,770).

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 contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 16.48% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2023	2022
	£000s	£000s
Employer's contributions	181	174
Employees' contributions	47	45
,		
Total contributions	228	219
		=
Principal actuarial assumptions	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.3	4.4
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	3.0
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.4	4.3
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.8	2.9
,		_

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

. 22	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
	The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvem assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:	ents in mortali	ty rates. The
		2023	2022
		Years	Years
	Retiring today		
	- Males	20.8	20.9
	- Females	23.3	24
	Retiring in 20 years	20.0	
	- Males	22.1	22.4
	- Females	25.1	25.9
		==	===
	Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:	:	
		2023	2022
		£'000	£'000
	Discount rate + 0.40/		
	Discount rate + 0.1%	(48)	(64)
	Discount rate - 0.1%	49	65
	Mortality assumption + 1 year	65	75 (70)
	Mortality assumption - 1 year	(64)	(73)
	CPI rate + 0.1%	49	65
	CPI rate - 0.1%	(49) ====	(64) ——
	Defined benefit pension scheme net liability	2023	2022
		£000s	£000s
	Scheme assets	2,930	2,710
	Scheme obligations	(3,219)	(3,554)
			
	Net liability	(289)	(844)
			
	The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2023	2022
		Fair value	Fair value
		£000s	2000s
	Equities	1,523	1,305
	Government bonds	167	252
	Other bonds	53	95
	Cash/liquidity	32	60
	Property	352	293
	Other assets	803	705
	Total market value of assets	2,930	2,710
	•	===	

The actual return on scheme assets was £34,000 (2022: £(115,000)).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

22	Pension and similar obligations	(0	Continued)
	Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2023 £000s	2022 £000s
	Current service cost	180	320
	Interest income	(121)	(47)
	Interest cost	153	84
	Administration expenses	4	4
	Total operating charge	216	361
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2023 £000s	2022 £000s
	At 1 September 2022	3,554	4,843
	Current service cost	180	320
	Interest cost	153	84
	Employee contributions	47	45
	Actuarial gain	(677)	(1,699)
	Benefits paid	(38)	(39)
	At 31 August 2023	3,219	3,554
	Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets		
	,	2023	2022
		£000s	£000s
	At 1 September 2022	2,710	2,649
	Interest income	121	47
	Actuarial loss	(87)	(162)
	Employer contributions	181	174
	Employee contributions	47	45
	Benefits paid	(38)	(39)
	Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses	(4)	(4)
	At 31 August 2023	2,930	2,710
	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		===

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 2023 the trust received £25,323 (2022: £26,380) and disbursed £25,323 (2022: £26,380) from the fund. An amount of £nil (2022: £nil) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds.