# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

# ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

# **CONTENTS**

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 14
Governance statement	15 - 18
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	19
Statement of Trustees' responsibilities	20
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	21 - 23
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	24 - 25
Statement of financial activities	26 - 27
Balance sheet	28
Cash flow statement	28
Notes to the accounts	29 – 53

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

**Members** Peter Goodwin

Clive Rockliffe

Devinia Curtis (Appointed 22/07/2024)

Trustees Andrea Harris (CEO)

Sandra Clements (Resigned 07/12/2023)

**Brendan Collins** 

Devinia Curtis (Resigned 16/06/2024) Scott George (Resigned 22/07/2024)

Susan Hannay Naureen Khalid William Mitchell

Scott Pinder (Chair of Trustees)
Jo-Anne Penn (Resigned 15/12/2023)
Marie Powell (Vice-Chair of Trustees)

**Senior Leadership Team** 

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

Chief Financial Officer (CFO)

Executive Headteacher

Andrea Harris

Rachael Finan

Wendy Giles

Headteacher Susan Sargent – Crofton Infant School and Crofton Junior School

Headteacher Stephen Jackson – Valley Primary School
Headteacher Matt De Freitas – Raglan Primary School
Headteacher Suzanne Leader – River Mill Primary School
Headteacher Joanna Styles – Cage Green Primary School

Company registration number 07824714 (England and Wales)

Registered office Crofton Junior School

Towncourt Lane Orpington BR5 1EL

Academies operated Crofton Junior School, Bromley

Crofton Infant School, Bromley Valley Primary School, Bromley Raglan Primary School, Bromley Cage Green Primary School, Kent River Mill Primary School, Kent

Independent auditor Baxter & Co

Lynwood House Crofton Road Orpington BR6 8QE

Bankers Lloyds Bank Plc

6-9 Market Square

Bromley BR1 1NA

Solicitors VWV

24 King William Street

London EC4R 9AT

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the Financial Statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The Trust operates six primary schools in Bromley and Kent. The academies in the Trust have a combined pupil capacity of 2780 and had a total roll of 2748 in the school census on October 2023

#### Structure, governance and management

#### Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. It was set up under a memorandum of association on 26 October 2011. The principal regulator of the charitable company is the Department for Education ('DfE'). The Education and Skills Funding Agency ('ESFA') (an executive agency of the DfE) carries out the role of principal regulator on behalf of the DfE. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The Trust has four Members to give further strength to this layer of governance. The Members comprise the Chair of the Board of Trustees plus three independent Members drawn from the community.

The Articles of Association allow for a Board of Trustees comprising up to eleven Trustees, including the CEO.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these financial statements are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

#### Members' liability

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

#### Trustees' Indemnities

No indemnities or guarantees have been provided to third parties by the charitable company in respect of any of its Trustees.

#### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The Trustee structure under the terms of the Articles of Association is referred to above.

There are currently seven Trustees, including the CEO.

An independent Trustee's term of office is four years but a Trustee is eligible for re-election at the meeting at which they retire.

Appropriate training is provided to all new Trustees, as required.

#### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

During the 2023-2024 academic year, Trustees were advised to undertake safeguarding training and a comprehensive safeguarding training session was held on Teams (online) for Trustees to attend. All Trustees received updates on the changes to Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) and were required to sign to say that they had read and understood the guidance. The Board of Trustees met six times.

**In** 2023-2024 there were six Crofton Schools' Local Governing Body meetings, six Raglan Primary School Local Governing Body meetings, six Valley Primary School Local Governing Body meetings, six River Mill Primary School Local Governing Body meetings and six Cage Green Primary School Local Governing Body meetings.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trust Audit and Risk Committee met four times in **2023-2024** the Trust Finance and Resources Committee met five times, the Trust Achievement and Standards Committee met three times and the Trust Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committee met four times.

A training and induction programme is provided for new Trustees and Local Governors. This provides training on the role of a Trustee and Local Governor as well as information on national and Trust developments

#### Organisational structure

During the 2023-2024 year, the Academy Trust consisted of six academies, Crofton Infant School, Crofton Junior School, Valley Primary School, Raglan Primary School, Cage Green Primary School, River Mill Primary School. The Chief Executive Officer is the Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust as a whole, and each academy has its own Head Teacher, with the exception of Crofton Infant School and Crofton Junior School who share a Head Teacher.

The Trustees of the Academy Trust are supported by a Local Governing Body at each school, with the exception of the Crofton Schools, who share a Local Governing Body.

The organisational structure consists of three governance levels: the Members, the Trustees and Local Governors.

The Trustees are responsible for the vision and direction of the Trust, adopting an annual strategic plan and budget, monitoring the Academy Trust by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the development of the Academy Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. At a Trust level, leadership consists of the CEO, the Executive Head Teacher and the CFO. These managers control the academies at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them. There **was** also one part time Lead Practitioner in 2023-2024, a Compliance Officer as well as the HR and Finance Teams who form part of the central team and support school improvement, effectiveness and efficiency across the Trust.

At academy level, senior leadership consists of Head Teachers, Deputy Head Teachers in five of the schools and Assistant Head Teachers. As a group, the Senior Leadership Team are responsible for the strategic vision within their schools, authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff up to teacher level.

The Middle Management Team is the Curriculum Leaders Along with the Senior Leadership Team, these leaders are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Academy Trust, in particular organising the teaching staff, facilities and pupils.

The Trust does not own or partially own any subsidiary company.

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

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and Senior Leadership Team as disclosed on page 1.

The remuneration policy, setting the terms and conditions for the key management personnel, was developed and approved by the Board of Trustees, after taking advice from the Chief Executive Officer and following guidance from the relevant professional pay review bodies. Naturally the Chief Executive Officer was not involved in setting her own remuneration package.

The only Trustee who is remunerated is the Chief Executive Officer, and she only receives remuneration in respect of services provided under her contract of employment, and not in respect of her role as a Trustee. Specific disclosures concerning Trustees' remuneration are included in notes to the financial statements.

The day to day running of the remuneration policy is delegated to the Chief Executive Officer and monitored by the Chief Financial Officer and the Trust Finance and Resources Committee. All details for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel are set out in the Pay and Reward Policy and the Teacher Appraisal Policy. The Pay and Reward Policy is reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees.

Remuneration of key management personnel is set at an individual level, and where possible the Trustees have taken external professional advice which includes benchmarking, market trends and advice on structuring of incentives.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Senior management salaries are linked directly to pay spines, helping Trustees conclude that each individual receives remuneration at an appropriate level. As such, salaries are linked to factors such as length of service and experience. Total remuneration packages include employer pension contributions rates at specific approved rates.

The Board always bear in mind the charitable status of the Academy Trust and in that recognise the fact the Trust receives funding under a funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education. The Board therefore ensures the remuneration paid to senior management personnel never exceeds a reasonable amount and provides value for money to the Trust. The performance of senior management personnel is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure continuing value for money.

Total remuneration paid to senior management personnel is set out in notes to the financial statements.

#### **Trade Union facility time**

#### Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
0	0

#### Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of Employees
0%	0
1% - 50%	0
51% - 99%	0
100%	0

#### Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	£0
Total pay bill	£14,031k
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	0%

#### Paid trade union activities

_										
	Time	spent	on	paid	trade	union	activities	as	а	(
	percei	ntage o	f tota	al paid	facility	time ho	ours.			١,

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

The following entities are established as separately registered charities, which organise various fundraising events to provide facilities for the pupils of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust:

- Parent-Teacher Association, Crofton Junior School PTA, registration number 1052857
- Crofton Infant School Parent Staff Association, registration number 1052854
- Valley Primary School PTA, registration number 286963
- Raglan Primary School (Friends of Raglan) PTA registration number 1020379
- Cage Green Primary School PFTA, registration number 1138202
- Phoenix Autism Centre Tonbridge, registration number 1001590 (Cage Green)
- Raglan Voluntary Funds registration number 1056549

#### Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trust is committed to ongoing engagement with all staff, adopting the key principles of Investors in People by providing platforms to collaborate and communicate. Staff are provided with appropriate training and secondments, with an emphasis on equality of opportunity for all, ensuring that staff feel valued through recruitment and retention policy and procedures. Leadership development and succession planning is targeted at all levels of management, with support across the Trust and opportunities provided externally. The Trust commits to the regular review of contracts and HR policy, in consultation where appropriate with relevant unions and professional bodies.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

All staff assist in the development of the actions to achieve the strategic objective of the Trust to ensure that all children make good or better progress. This is achieved by the staff participating in the regular monitoring of achievements and standards, school improvement discussions and key data analysis. The Trust is keen to promote employee wellbeing. It subscribes to Health Assured Employee Assistance Programme and contributes towards gym memberships. The Trust recognises the importance of communication in these uncertain times and every effort is made to keep employees informed about the latest developments.

Every possible step will be taken to ensure that all employees, whether full time, part time, temporary or contracted, are treated equally and fairly and that decisions on recruitment, selection, training, promotion, career development or employment benefits are based solely on objective and job-related criteria. The Trust wholeheartedly supports the principle of equality of opportunities and opposes all forms of unlawful or unfair discrimination. This includes protection to people with 'protected characteristics' like disability.

#### Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the trust

The Trust recognises that stakeholders like suppliers, parents, local authority, and other members of the community contribute to the success of its schools. The Trust tries to build trusting and enduring relationships by:

- · Paying suppliers in a timely manner.
- Ensuring visiting professionals like therapists, contractors and music teachers are treated with respect keeping in mind their health and safety.
- Participating in community events like local fairs.
- Working closely with Parent Teacher Associations.
- · Communicating with parents.
- Working collaboratively with the Local authority and other organisations such as universities and corporate partners

#### Objectives and activities

#### Objects and aims

The principal object of the charitable company is the advancement of education in the United Kingdom. It achieves this object principally through the operation of schools within the Mosaic Schools Learning Trust, the aim being to provide the highest possible standard of education to pupils between the ages of 2 and 11.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities

The Mosaic Schools Learning Trust's main strategy is encompassed in its school vision which is to provide exciting and challenging educational opportunities for all children. To this end its aims include:

- to help pupils acquire knowledge and skills with understanding at a level appropriate to each pupil's age, aptitude and ability;
- to help pupils become balanced and independent young people, who are able to keep themselves safe and have respect for themselves and for others; and
- to help pupil's develop lively, enquiring minds, the ability to question and debate rationally, a range of physical stills and apply themselves to a range of tasks.

The main objectives, strategies and activities of the Academy Trust during the year ended 31 August 2024 are summarised below:

#### **Outcomes**

KS1 and KS2 results were strong across all schools in July 2024, including phonics and the good level of development in Early Years. In addition to this, internal systems provided evidence that children were also achieving well in subjects across the wider curriculum including the most vulnerable children in our schools. Also supporting our evidence for our success has been the positive Ofsted reports received for Rivermill, Cage Green, Valley and Crofton Junior Schools.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

These strong outcomes have been regularly monitored over the year through school improvement work and Trust reviews as well as regular data presentation at Trust board meetings.

#### **Teaching and Learning**

There is strong teaching within all trust schools,

This year all schools have embarked on a journey to use the latest research to further align with best practice when considering teaching and learning in our schools. All schools are embedding the work of Rosenshine into their daily practice and this can be seen to be having a huge impact.

Early Years Teachers (ECT's) continue to be a focus of the Trust with all ECT's completing their training successfully. The Trust has readjusted its programme over the year to align with the new guidance as it is very committed to growing high quality teachers of the future.

There has been a renewed focus on the assessment of the wider curriculum this year with all Trust schools now effectively evaluating the progress of children through the wider curriculum. This has ensured that the majority of the children are keeping up with the robust curriculums that have been implemented.

All teaching and learning activities are monitored through regular school improvement activities, trust reviews, and through regular update to the Achievement and Standards Board.

#### **Leadership and Management**

Over the year we have worked collaboratively with another Trust with a view to combining both as of September 2024. Leaders have come together to create a joined-up approach in terms of schools improvement and business services and this has been overseen by a project manager who has fed back to Trustees alongside the CEO's.

The Trust has developed a clear list of advocates over the year that are best practice practitioners that are able to support and disseminate best practice across the Trust. The Trust has advocates across all subject areas but will look to expand this further this year to more global areas such as safeguarding and pupil premium.

The Trust has been proactive over the year and developed a range of cross trust subject leader forums to support and develop expertise within subjects. This has ensured that leaders have a strong network across the Trust.

Many Trust leaders now have roles beyond the Trust and this has supported recognition and credibility of the Trusts work into the wider community.

The Trust continued its strong focus on Equality, Diversity and Inclusion over the year with the remaining Trust schools taking part in the Equali teach programme. Every school has an individual plan in relation to priorities in this area. Progress towards these actions are monitored by the board.

#### **Exceptional systems and processes**

Over the year finance and HR systems and procedures have been standardised in line with best practice in readiness for the combining of Trusts. This includes the merging of policies which now reflect the new joint entity. The process has been overseen by a Project Manager and a Merger Working Party who have met regularly to discuss progress.

The Trust has taken decisive action over the year to ensure that budgets are balanced and where they are not consideration has been given to appropriate solutions and actions taken as needed. The financial position of the Trust moving forward is strong.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Compliance continues to be a strength of the Trust with regular compliance activities being undertaken and fed back to the Audit and Risk Committee. Outcomes from these are robust. The Trust is clear about its risk and this is reviewed regularly. All schools also have an individual risk register which is reviewed and reported back to LGB's regularly.

#### Investment in people

The Trust continues to be proactive in supporting the career development of its staff. Over the year we have offered in house training, directed staff to NPQ's where appropriate and offered in school CPD opportunities and secondments.

The Trust has developed an HR newsletter over the year which keeps all staff up to date and provides regular reminders of how they can access support.

As a group of leaders we have considered our organisational health as part of our strategic work over the year and produced documentation to support how this looks in practice across the trust. Next year we look to develop a diagnostic tool to enable us to be more forensic about the thoughts and views of stakeholders which will in turn help us as an organisation to develop further.

#### Safeguarding

All Trust systems and process with regards safeguarding have been reviewed this year with appropriate training being provided to all staff, Governors and Trustees. This included updates to KCSIE 2024. Our own safeguarding audits have been updated and now include attendance. Trustees regularly monitor safeguarding with the Audit and Risk Committee receiving internal safeguarding audits termly and Trustees in addition receiving a termly safeguarding summary.

Over the year we have worked with Local Authorities to ensure that our schools receive regular updates on contextual safeguarding issues that enables them to adjust work in school as necessary.

The Trust has set up a safeguarding team this year to ensure that there is a support network for this very challenging role and to ensure that best practice is shared amongst our schools.

#### Public benefit

Mosaic Schools Learning Trust strives to promote and support the advancement of education within Orpington, Bromley and Kent. The Trust provides an extensive programme of educational and recreational activity designed to contribute to the overall education of our students in areas such as academic distinction, music, the arts and sport.

Wherever possible, the Trust also aims to contribute to the benefit of the wider public, through the provision of incidental educational and other planned activities. Over the year, the contributions that benefitted the local community included extensive involvement and support for school sporting activities including regular fixtures in the local primary school football league and taking part in the Crystal Palace cross country.

# TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Strategic Report

#### **Achievements and performance**

KPI	Measure against expectation
To maintain high standards	Outcomes at KS1 and KS2 were strong this year in all schools including the school we took on a directed academy order The Academy Trust reviews over the year also indicate that standards have remained high and significant development in subject expertise has been achieved across our schools. The Trust is clear that children make good progress in all subjects.
	Children's personal development has been a focus this year and the Trust is producing well rounded pupils that are ready for the next stage of their development. Our success in personal development is also evidenced through the recent Ofsted reports.
Pupils numbers (leading directly to the Education Skills and Funding Agency ("ESFA") funding level)	Our schools remain popular with several being over-subscribed although there continues to be some change in demographics as a result of families moving out of London following the pandemic. Pupil numbers at Cage Green have stabilised with a full cohort of children for 2024-2025.
	Numbers in Additional Resourced Provision however remain inconsistent with empty places effecting funding levels. We are working with the Local Authorities to find solutions to this.
Pupil attendance rate September 2023 -	Crofton Infant School — 94.81%
August 2024	Crofton Junior School — 94.03%
	Valley Primary School — 94.35%
	Raglan Primary School — 93.49%
	Cage Green Primary School — 92.38%
	River Mill Primary School —95.47%
Staff costs	Detailed reviews of budgets, with a particular focus on staffing, has taken place in schools where there were budget challenges. Where needed, steps have been taken to reduce the costs and rigorous monitoring is in place to review budgets regularly.  The Trust bench marks against the DfE KPIs. As at the end of last year comparisons were as follows:
Financial stability of the Academy Trust	Budgets for 2023/2024 showed in year surpluses in 5 out of 6 schools with the 6 <sup>th</sup> academy just showing a small deficit. This is a huge improvement on previous years. Energy costs have now started to stabilise and we continue to look at efficiencies as we head towards a combination with another multi-academy trust in 2024/2025

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

KPI	Measure against expectation
Ofsted inspection results	Crofton Infant School - "Outstanding" November 2021
	Crofton Junior School - "Outstanding" July 2024
	Valley Primary School - "Good" March 2024
	Raglan Primary School - "Good" July 2023
	River Mill 'Good' with outstanding elements Dec 2023
	Cage Green 'Good' with outstanding elements Nov 2023
To ensure equality of opportunity	The Academy Trust has a clear equality statement to which all of its schools adhere. The aims of the policy are that all schools in the Academy Trust aim to meet their obligations by having due regard to the need to:  • Eliminate discrimination and other conduct that is prohibited by the Equality Act 2010.  • Advance the equality of opportunity between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not.  • Foster good relations between different people when carrying out their activities.  Employee and parent surveys have been undertaken to test how embedded the policy is.  Five of the Six schools are taking part in an Equally Safe programme to ensure we are actively seeking to improve our policies and practice in this area. The other school is completing the Anti-Bullying Quality Mark.  We continue to work within our Trust Anti-Discrimination Strategy which clearly articulates our vision and commitment to equality.  All staff have had access to training to support this agenda.  The Academy Trust's commitment is ongoing and as a result of being proactive in this matter we have seen many gaps in achievement get smaller or indeed in some cases vanish altogether.

#### Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)

#### Going concern

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

#### Promoting the success of the company

The Trustees of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust are clear regarding their strategic role to move the Trust forward in a timely manner. The Trustees meet regularly to formulate decisions.

The wellbeing of the employees is at the heart of the Trust vision. Trustees ensure that relevant information is cascaded to all Trust employees. Robust policies and clear procedures are in place to address concerns from employees.

The Trust's relationship with external stakeholders helps it to improve stakeholder satisfaction. The Trustees consider a range of factors such as best value, equality and diversity, in order to offer more holistic approach to governance.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Trustees address and act on environmental concerns within our schools. Air quality has been tested and remedial action taken to rectify deficits.

The Trustees will endeavour to maintain a high level of probity in adherence to standards, submitting returns in accordance with DfE and following other relevant guidelines and legislation.

The Trustees will continue to maintain the highest standards of practice and to expand when opportunities arise.

#### Financial review

We receive our income from a number of different sources. The majority of our income comes from central government via the Education and Skills Funding Agency who provide us with grant, based largely on our student numbers to cover our staffing and other general running costs (General Annual Grant - GAG). The ESFA may provide us with additional grants, which are earmarked for specific purposes (such as Pupil Premium, which must be used to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils). These appear in the accounts as DfE/ESFA grants. Where we receive grant or other funding from the Local Authority (such as where we undertake responsibilities on their behalf in respect of our students) this appears in the accounts as other government grants. Such income is collectively referred to as "Restricted Funds".

Other income is received from parents (for example as contributions to trip or other costs) and from third parties (for example from our bank for interest on our account balances or from others who are charged for their use of our facilities). Such other income may be restricted or unrestricted, depending on whether it comes to us with conditions as to its use or whether it is available for spending at the discretion of the Trustees.

We hold funds in two broad categories, funds which are available for spending and other funds which are not available for spending.

Spendable funds are in turn sub-categorised between those which are available for spending at the discretion of trustees ("Unrestricted Funds") and those which are subject to condition or restriction, ("Restricted Funds").

Funds not available for spending include the book value of fixed assets such as land, buildings and equipment. These have a value and are therefore included as assets in the accounts but clearly, we cannot spend this value. In common with all academies and Local Authorities, our share of the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit must also be reflected in our accounts and as this is not a conventional liability, it does not need to be deducted from spendable funds. We meet our obligations in respect of the LGPS by paying over pension contributions due as calculated by the scheme's actuaries.

The following balances held were held at 31 August:

Fund	Category	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
GAG Other DfE / ESFA Grants	Restricted General Funds Restricted General Funds	18 -	77 -
	Sub-total General Restricted Funds	18	77
Unspent Capital Grants Other Income	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund Unrestricted General Fund	576 1,999	871 1,287
	Sub-Total Spendable Funds	2,593	2,235
Net Book Value of Fixed Assets Share of LGPS Asset / (Deficit)	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund Restricted Pension Reserve	52,817 -	52,753 -
	Total All Funds	55,410	<u>54,988</u>

During the year under review there was a decrease of £59k (2023: increase of £77k) on general restricted funds, an increase of £712k (2023: decrease of £576k) on unrestricted funds and after LGPS valuation adjustments,

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

depreciation and capital income and expenditure, an overall increase of £422k (2023: increase of £793k) on total funds.

The financial position of the Trust has improved over the past financial year despite reserves being accessed to deliver CIF contributions and projects within individual schools.

Staffing structures continue to be adapted to ensure staffing levels are moving towards a more financially sustainable model. There has been a reorganisation at Valley Primary School to ensure financial stability going forward. All premises related expenditure is managed through the individual schools to ensure it is directed to areas of need and that programmes of works are organised strategically through estate management plans.

During the year, two schools were successfully awarded Condition Improvement Funding (CIF) for significant capital projects including the replacement of windows and heating works. Funding was accrued at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024, in the year in which the project was awarded.

The most significant areas of increased expenditure in-year were supply cover relating to staff long term sickness absence and unfilled staffed vacancies. The Trust does not buy into absence cover therefore wherever possible sickness was covered internally to reduce cost. The Trust also has a high number of SEN children. Funding is not always issued in a timely manner nor does it cover the full extent of the need, therefore the Trust absorbs this cost.

The key factors that are likely to affect the Trust's financial position going forward are staff pay awards, reduced funding as a result of pupil numbers and the cost of inflation affecting services and supplies. The increasing level of children with SEND needs also puts a financial pressure on the Trust especially when they are accessing the main stream school provision.

#### Reserves policy

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually. The review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of the reserves. The Trustees have determined that the permitted level of free reserves for recurrent costs should be maintained in order to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants, and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. The Trustees have agreed that a minimum of 4 weeks operational costs will be kept by each academy at all times. Our current reserves are in excess of the required amount.

#### Investment policy

There are no investments held beyond cash and short-term money market deposits retained with the major UK clearing banks. Speculative investments are not permitted.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks that the Academy Trust is exposed to are summarised below. For each of these risks the probability, impact and seriousness have been considered together with appropriate action and avoidance plans.

Strategic and reputational — this covers unfavourable Ofsted reports, risk of uncontrollable events and insufficient demand for academy services, competition from other schools with similar objects and little scope for differentiations. This risk also includes the capacity of existing buildings to deliver teaching and learning to students particularly in light of the increased levels of children with significant need within the mainstream environment. School Improvement and the strengths and weaknesses of schools are constantly under review by Executive Leaders and the Trust Board. This enables swift action to be taken where necessary. As a larger Trust in September 2024 we will develop a clear process for allocating our capital funding to support the quality of existing buildings within the Trust. Processes to access risk are robust and intentional with regular Trustee oversight.

Finance risk— the risk of the Academy Trust not operating within its budget and running a deficit. Risks are linked to income not increasing at the same rate as inflation over the coming years. There are also risks in connection with the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme. Management accounts are looked at monthly by Exec Leaders and Trustees. Any concerns are brought up quickly to enable timely resolutions to be found. The Executive Team are proactive in looking at additional income streams and actions that support stability of numbers such as holiday clubs and nurseries.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Financial and risk management objectives and policies

As the nature of the financial instruments dealt with by the company is relatively simple (bank balances, debtors and "trade" creditors), Trustees consider the associated risk in this area to be minimal.

The risk resulting from the company's share of the LGPS deficit is managed by following the advice of the scheme's actuaries, specifically as regards the level of contributions payable, ensuring that annual budgets are drawn up to

#### **Fundraising**

The Trustees are committed to ensuring that fundraising activities are carried out in a responsible and ethical manner.

Individual academies organise fundraising events and appeals on behalf of the Trust, some of which may be supported by a Parent-Teacher Association. The individual Academy will oversee and co-ordinate the activities of our supporters both within the Academy and in the wider community.

Fundraising events and appeals may include one or more of the following:

- Letters to parents noting a voluntary contribution to a trip or event would be welcome.
- Events organised by staff, students or a school Parent-Teacher Association.
- Student-led events with the objective of raising funds for charity.
- Engagement with corporate partners for sponsorship.

Contact is made through letters to parents, email, academy newsletters, the Trust websites and via students. Contact may be direct or via a Parent-Teacher Association. The Trust does not use professional fundraisers or involve commercial participators.

There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

The Trust complies with the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice and UK law.

#### Streamlined energy and carbon reporting (SECR)

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024	1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	2535549	2,574,202
Energy consumption break down (kWh) (optional)      Gas     Electricity     fuel oil     transport fuel	1655637 874326 5228	1,854,410 719,453 - -
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e Gas consumption Fuel Oil consumption Owned transport – mini-buses  Total scope 1	298.01 - 0 298.16	338.54 - 0.4 338.58
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e Purchased electricity	181.05	148.98
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e Business travel in employee owned vehicles	1.10	-
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	479.06	487.56
Intensity ratio Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.18	0.18

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Quantification and Reporting Methodology**

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2024 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

#### Intensity measurement

In the financial year 2022/23 the intensity ratio was 0.18, this has remained the same in 2023/2024

- There was a reduction in total energy consumption by 1.5%, mainly driven by lower gas usage (a significant 10.7% decrease), but electricity consumption increased by 21.5%.
- Scope 1 emissions dropped substantially, by 12%, largely due to lower gas consumption and the elimination of emissions from owned transport.
- Scope 2 emissions (from electricity) increased, reflecting the higher electricity usage across the Trust.

Despite the increase in electricity use, the overall **total gross emissions** dropped by 1.7%, reflecting efforts to reduce the carbon footprint from gas consumption.

#### Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

In order to improve energy efficiency, Mosaic Schools Learning Trust has taken the following steps:

- The window replacement at Cage Green is expected to reduce heat loss, contributing to improved energy
  efficiency.
- Crofton Infants is currently replacing its heating system. Upgrading to a modern system is anticipated to enhance both energy usage and heating efficiency.
- BMS systems will be programmed to better reflect highest occupation times E.g. 7.30am-3.30pm.

We will continue to pursue energy efficiency measures whenever this is practically and economically possible. Measures planned to improve energy efficiency include:

• Trust wide condition survey will highlight key areas for energy conservation and improvement.

#### Plans for the future

The Trust aims to grow further as we would like to create hubs of schools in Dartford and Tonbridge where we currently only have one school in each Over the year we have sought the engagement of Kent schools but with limited interest. For the coming year we are seeking to engage Kent schools in our SEND training programme to initiate some engagement. We are mindful of slow and steady growth (especially in these uncertain times) but at the same time are clear that the growth is needed to provide the Trust with ongoing financial stability in the future. During 2021/2022 MSLT started working with another multi-academy Trust with a view to seeing whether a possible combination was of benefit to both. This work continued into 2022/2023 and we have now combined in September 2024. This has brought our Trust to 10 schools.

The Trust has a clear staff development plan and provides substantial in-house training to ensure that staff are trained ready to take up new positions as they arise. This strategy not only supports capacity for the future but ensures that highly skilled personnel move around the Trust rather than having to seek promotion elsewhere. The Trust also has a clear succession plan for key roles in the future.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Funds held as custodian trustee

No funds are held on behalf of others.

#### **Auditor**

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and signed on the Board's behalf by:

S Pinder

**Chair of Trustees** 

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Mosaic Schools Learning Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Andrea Harris, CEO	6	6
Sandra Clements	0	1
Brendan Collins	6	6
Devinia Curtis	4	6
Scott George	5	6
Susan Hannay	5	6
Naureen Khalid	4	6
William Mitchell	5	6
Jo-Anne Penn	2	2
Scott Pinder	6	6
Marie Powell	6	6

In addition to these meetings there has been a Merger Working Party group who have met regularly to specifically discuss actions around the merger. As a result of this there is now a joint Trust Board ready to Lead the newly formed Trust in September 2024

#### **Conflict of interest**

The Trust maintain a register of interests for all Members, Trustees, Governors and Senior Staff. This published on the Trust website as well as the individual school websites. The register is updated annually and also when there are new appointments. This is driven by the Trust Governance Manager. If a significant conflict of interest was declared, it would be shared with Trustees and the CEO to consider appropriate action.

#### Governance reviews

Trustees and Governors complete a skills audit periodically and this informs any decision making about additional governance personnel needed. The Trustees have used the outcome of the audit to ensure that all the necessary skills needed are covered in terms of the Trust Board. Internal reviews and assessments of governance are held and regular review of impact is encouraged.

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is to assess the risks the Academy Trust faces and introduce necessary controls and procedures to ensure that these risks are adequately managed. The Audit and Risk Committee has formally met three times during the year. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Trust Audit and Risk Committee

Committee Member	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Andrea Harris, CEO	3	3
Devinia Curtis	3	3
Naureen Khalid	3	3
William Mitchell	3	3

#### The Finance and Resources Committee

Committee Member	Meetings attended	Out of possible
AndreaHarris, CEO	4	4
William Mitchell	4	4
Scott Pinder	4	4
Marie Powell	4	4
Brendan Collins	4	4

#### **Review of Value for Money**

As Accounting Officer, the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources provides good value for money over the course of each academic year, and regularly reports to the Board of Trustees where value-for-money could be improved. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Targeting resources in key subjects, such as literacy and numeracy, to include one to one support and small groups;
- Further increased capacity of Before and After School Clubs, to generate additional income and to satisfy parental demand;
- · Regularly reviewing contracts and service level agreements;
- Ensuring appropriate procurement procedures have been undertaken when securing larger contracts;
- Developing curriculum led financial planning to provide a clear process for bench marking across the academies; and,
- Planning for the centralisation of finance and HR across the Trust to ensure economies of scale.

DFE offered the Trust SRMA (Schools Resource Management Advisor) support in 2022/23. The Trustees have reflected on and accepted some of the recommendations put forward by the advisor.

#### 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 Mosaic Schools Learning Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

#### The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and for the year ended 31 August 2024 this service was provided by Azets LLP.

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

 HR functions – focus on starters, leavers and contractual changes especially with the implementation of a new payroll provider as well as policies and controls.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on HR matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's policies and controls. The internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities. One point was raised in regards to the final sign off of the payroll report with the new provider. This has been rectified going forward.

#### **Review of effectiveness**

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- · the work of the external auditor;
- · the financial management and governance self-assessment process; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Audit and Risk Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Conclusion

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 4<sup>th</sup> December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

S Pinder

**Chair of Trustees** 

A Harris

**Accounting Officer** 

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

As accounting officer of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust's Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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

A J Harris

**Accounting Officer** 

Mams

4th December 2024

## MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024:
- · 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 Financial Statements; and
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 4th December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

S Pinder
Chair of Trustees

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the Financial Statements of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the Financial Statements, 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 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the Financial Statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 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 2023 to 2024.

#### **Basis for opinion**

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the Financial Statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the Financial Statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the Financial Statements or our knowledge obtained in the 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 Financial Statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the Financial Statements are prepared is consistent with the Financial Statements; and
- the Trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report 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 Trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

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

#### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

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

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements

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

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

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of management to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing internal assurance reports.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

MAROL

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.

Louise Hallsworth FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Baxter & Co

**Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor** 

17 December 2024

Lynwood House Crofton Road Orpington Kent BR6 8QE

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 14 November 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Mosaic Schools Learning Trust during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 Mosaic Schools Learning Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Mosaic Schools Learning Trust 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 Mosaic Schools Learning Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

# Respective responsibilities of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Mosaic Schools Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 27 February 2019 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. 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 2023 to 31 August 2024 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:

- Review of payments to staff;
- · Review of payments to suppliers and other third parties;
- Review of grant and other income streams:
- Review of some key financial control procedures:
- Discussions with finance staff;
- Consideration of the record maintained by the Accounting Officer of the oversight they have exercised;
- Consideration of the programme of internal scrutiny implemented by the Academy Trust in order to comply with its obligations under 3.1 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, issued by the ESFA.

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 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 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Bouter & Co.

#### **Reporting Accountant**

Baxter & Co Lynwood House Crofton Road Orpington Kent BR6 8QE

Dated: 17 December 2024

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restrict General Fi £'000	ted funds: ixed asset £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	245	7	809	1,061	1,982
- Funding for educational operations	4	162	16,816	_	16,978	15,571
Other trading activities	5	1,916	-	_	1,916	1,566
Investments	6	14	-	-	14	-
Total		2,337	16,823	809	19,969	19,119
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	-	4	-	4	5
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	1,641	16,365	1,278	19,284	18,633
Total	7	1,641	16,369	1,278	19,288	18,638
Net income/(expenditure)		696	454	(469)	681	481
Transfers between funds	19	16	(254)	238	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial gains on defined benefit						
pension schemes	21	-	457	-	457	1,828
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	21	-	(716)	-	(716)	(1,516)
Net movement in funds		712	(59)	(231)	422	793
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		1,287	77	53,624	54,988	54,195
Total funds carried forward		1,999	18	53,393	55,410 =====	54,988

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Comparative year information		Unrestricted		ricted funds:	Total
Year ended 31 August 2023		funds		Fixed asset	2023
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:	_				
Donations and capital grants Charitable activities:	3	45	45	1,892	1,982
- Funding for educational operations	4	175	15,396	-	15,571
Other trading activities	5	1,566			1,566
Total		1,786	15,441	1,892	19,119
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	-	5	-	5
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	2,362	15,154	1,117	18,633
Total	7	2,362 ———	15,159 ———	1,117 ———	18,638
Net income/(expenditure)		(576)	282	775	481
Transfers between funds	19	-	(277)	277	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	21	-	1,828	-	1,828
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	21		(1,516)	·	(1,516)
Net movement in funds		(576)	317	1,052	793
Reconciliation of funds Total funds brought forward		1,863	(240)	52,572	54,195
Total funds carried forward		1,287	77	53,624	54,988

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) BALANCE SHEET

#### AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	2024		4	2023	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		52,817		52,753
Current assets					
Debtors	15	1,544		2,163	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,844		2,885	
		4,388		5,048	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	r 16	(1,782)		(2,778)	
Net current assets			2,606		2,270
Total assets less current liabilities			55,423		55,023
Creditors: amounts falling due after more	4=		(40)		(0.5
than one year	17		(13)		(35)
Net assets excluding pension asset			55,410		54,988
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	21		-		-
Total net assets			55,410		54,988
			===		====
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds	19				
- Fixed asset funds			53,393		53,624
- Restricted income funds			18		77
Total restricted funds			53,411		53,701
Unrestricted income funds	19		1,999		1,287
Total funds			55,410		54,988
			====		====

The Financial Statements on pages 26 to 53 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 4 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

S Pinder

**Chair of Trustees** 

Company registration number 07824714 (England and Wales)

# MOSAIC SCHOOLS LEARNING TRUST (FORMERLY CONNECT SCHOOLS ACADEMY TRUST) STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities  Net cash provided by/(used in) operating					
activities	22		481		(409)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investmen	nts	14		-	
Capital grants from DfE Group		809		1,892	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,342)		(1,888)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing a	activities		(519)		4
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of long term government loan		(3)		(1)	
1,					
Net cash used in financing activities			(3)		(1)
_					
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalent	ts in the		(44)		(400)
reporting period			(41)		(406)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the	ne year		2,885		3,291
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the y	/ear		2,844		2,885

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1 Accounting policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their Financial Statements 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 2023 to 2024 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 charitable company to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the Financial Statements and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Financial Statements.

#### 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.

#### **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.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

#### 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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### 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

Assets costing £2,500 or more per item (or less if they form part of a larger purchase or project where the total cost exceeds £5,000) are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired / funded by other income, the fixed asset fund is also credited. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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

Freehold Land and buildings 2%
Leasehold Land and buildings 2%
Computer equipment 33.33%
Fixtures, fittings & equipment 20%

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

#### 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 and the liabilities are held separately from those of the Academy Trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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 based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 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 funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

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

#### 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 21, will impact on 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

#### Critical areas of judgement

In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees have not needed to exercise any subjective judgements that would be critical to the Academy Trust's Financial Statements.

# FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		Unroctricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		Unrestricted funds	funds	2024	2023
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Capital grants	-	809	809	1,892
4	Other donations	245 ———	7 	252 ———	90
4		245 ———	816 ———	1,061	1,982
	Funding for the Academy Trust's educational	operations			
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
		funds	funds	2024	2023
	DfE/ESFA grants	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	General annual grant (GAG) Other DfE/ESFA grants:	-	12,598	12,598	11,976
	- UIFSM	-	457	457	433
	- Pupil premium	-	480	480	482
	- Start up grants	-	29	29	42
•	- Others		980	980	691
			14,544	14,544	13,624
	Other government grants				
	Local authority grants	-	1,690	1,690	1,441
	Mayor of London FSM		506	506	
			2,196	2,196	1,441
	COVID-19 additional funding DfE/ESFA				
	Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	<del>-</del>	<u>-</u>	<del>-</del>	55 ———
	Other funding				
	Catering income	-	60	60	276
	Trips income	162	-	162	175
(	Other incoming resources		16	16	
		162	76	238	451
	Total funding	162	16,816	16,978	15,571

Unrestricted funds   Total funds   2024   2023   2024	5	Other trading activities					
Hire of facilities   107   - 107   100				Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
Hire of facilities				funds	funds	2024	2023
Income from facilities and services   186   . 186   . 94     Other income   1.594   . 1.594   . 1.594   . 1.372     Insurance claims   29   .   .   .   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .   .   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .   .   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .   .   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .   .   .   .     Insurance claims   1.916   .     Ins				£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Other income Insurance claims         1,594 29 - 29 - 29 - 29 - 29 - 29 - 29 - 29		Hire of facilities		107	-	107	100
Insurance claims		Income from facilities and services		186	-	186	94
1,916		Other income		1,594	-	1,594	1,372
Investment income   Unrestricted   Restricted   Total   Total   funds   funds   2024   2023   £'000		Insurance claims		29		29	
Short term deposits   14   -   14   -   -   14   -   -   15   15     15   15     15					<u>-</u>	1,916	1,566
Short term deposits   14   -   14   -   14   -   15   15   15   15   15   15   15	6	Investment income					
Short term deposits   14   -   14   -   14   -     -							
Short term deposits							
7 Expenditure    Staff costs   Premises   Other   2024   2023				£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Staff costs		Short term deposits		14	-	14	-
Staff costs							
Staff costs £'000         Premises £'000         Other £'000         2024 £'000         2023 £'000           Expenditure on raising funds         -         -         -         4         4         5           Direct costs         12,088         1,022         1,006         14,116         13,202           - Allocated support costs         2,151         1,541         1,476         5,168         5,431           14,239         2,563         2,486         19,288         18,638           Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:         2024         2023           E'000         £'000         £'000           Operating lease rentals         33         16           Depreciation of tangible fixed assets         1,278         1,117           Fees payable to auditor for:         -         4         16         15           - Audit         16         15         6         6	7	Expenditure					
£'000         £'000 <th< td=""><td></td><td></td><td>01-111-</td><td></td><td>-</td><td></td><td></td></th<>			01-111-		-		
Expenditure on raising funds - Direct costs 4 4 4 5 Academy's educational operations - Direct costs 12,088 1,022 1,006 14,116 13,202 - Allocated support costs 2,151 1,541 1,476 5,168 5,431						-	
- Direct costs			£ 000	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000	£ 000
Academy's educational operations - Direct costs 12,088 1,022 1,006 14,116 13,202 - Allocated support costs 2,151 1,541 1,476 5,168 5,431    14,239 2,563 2,486 19,288 18,638							
- Direct costs 12,088 1,022 1,006 14,116 13,202 - Allocated support costs 2,151 1,541 1,476 5,168 5,431			-	-	4	4	5
- Allocated support costs 2,151 1,541 1,476 5,168 5,431    14,239   2,563   2,486   19,288   18,638			40.000	4 000	4 000	4.4.40	40.000
Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:       2,563       2,486       19,288       18,638         Operating lease rentals       2024       2023       £'000       £'000         Operating lease rentals       33       16         Depreciation of tangible fixed assets       1,278       1,117         Fees payable to auditor for:       - Audit       16       15         - Other services       6       6							
Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:         2024 £'000         2023 £'000           Operating lease rentals         33         16           Depreciation of tangible fixed assets         1,278         1,117           Fees payable to auditor for:         - Audit         16         15           - Other services         6         6		- Allocated support costs	2,151	1,541	1,476	5,168	5,431
E'000         £'000           Operating lease rentals         33         16           Depreciation of tangible fixed assets         1,278         1,117           Fees payable to auditor for:         - Audit         16         15           - Other services         6         6			14,239	2,563	2,486	19,288	18,638
E'000         £'000           Operating lease rentals         33         16           Depreciation of tangible fixed assets         1,278         1,117           Fees payable to auditor for:         - Audit         16         15           - Other services         6         6							
Operating lease rentals 33 16 Depreciation of tangible fixed assets 1,278 1,117 Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit 16 15 - Other services 6 6		Net income/(expenditure) for the	year include	s:			
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets 1,278 1,117 Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit 16 15 - Other services 6 6						2 000	2 000
Fees payable to auditor for: - Audit - Other services  16 15 6		. •					
- Audit 16 15 - Other services 6 6			6			1,278	1,117
- Other services 6 6							
inet interest on defined benefit pension liability (107) (13)			ion link!!!#			_	
		iver interest on defined benefit pens	ion liability			(107)	(13)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

7	Expenditure		(Continued)
	Included within expenditure are the following transactions:		
		Total	Individual
		2024	2024
		£	£
	Gifts made by the Academy Trust - total	16	

Clarification – While the majority of disclosure in these accounts are rounded to £'000, the disclosure of gifts made is not. The value of gifts for the year is £16 (and not £16k).

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 8 Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- human resources;
- · financial services;
- · CEO / Executive HT;
- · Growth & standards;
- · Compliance officer.

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

Human resources and Financial services - salary recharge on a per pupil basis.

Other services - topslice per pupil depending on OFSTED rating - a charge of £130 per pupil for schools that are graded good or outstanding by Ofsted and £170 per pupil for schools that are graded as requiring improvement by Ofsted.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Crofton Junior School	206	162
Crofton Infant School	173	130
Valley Primary School	130	107
Raglan Primary School	127	99
Cage Green Primary School	75	71
River Mill Primary School	72	58
	783	627

Charitable activities	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Direct costs	2 000	2 000	2 000	2 000
Educational operations	175	13,941	14,116	13,202
Support costs				
Educational operations	1,466	3,702	5,168	5,431
	1,641 ———	17,643 ———	19,284	18,633
Analysis of costs			2024	2023
Pinest and			£'000	£'000
<b>Direct costs</b> Teaching and educational support staff costs			12,088	11,191
Staff development			45	38
Depreciation			1,022	894
Technology costs			42	157
Educational supplies and services			249	231
Educational consultancy			398	399
Other direct costs			272	292
			14,116	13,202
Support costs				
Support staff costs			2,303	2,225
Defined benefit pension scheme - staff costs (	FRS102 adjustmen	t)	(152)	85
Depreciation			256	223
Technology costs			206	227
Maintenance of premises and equipment			286	241
Cleaning			315	289
Energy costs			346	612
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs			252	210
Insurance			65	69
Security and transport			21	-
Catering			1,121	883
Defined benefit pension scheme - finance cost	ts (FRS102 adjustm	nent)	(107)	(13)
Other support costs			238	345
Governance costs			18 	35 ———

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Staff	costs a	nd emplo	yee benef	its

10

Staff

		_	-	
Staff costs	during	the	year	were:

etali eeste daliing the year were.	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Wages and salaries	10,518	9,882
Social security costs	1,024	927
Pension costs	2,489	2,224
Defined benefit pension scheme - staff costs (FRS102 adjustment)	(152)	85
Staff costs - employees	13,879	13,118
Agency staff costs	351	379
Staff restructuring costs	9	4
Total staff expenditure	14,239	13,501
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
otali restructuring costs comprise.		
Redundancy payments	9	-
Severance payments	-	4
	9	4

### Staff numbers

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
	Number	Number
Teachers	115	118
Administration and support	247	258
Management	26	27
	388	403
	====	
The number of persons employed, expressed as a full time equivalent, was as follows:	lows:	
	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Teachers	98	105
Administration and support	175	199
Management	24	24
	297	328

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 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:

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	5	4
£70,001 - £80,000	5	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	4
£100,001 - £110,000	3	-
£120,001 - £130,000	-	1
£130,001 - £140,000	1	-

### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £1,095k (2023: £938k).

#### 11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The CEO and other Staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of CEO and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

A Harris (CEO):

- Remuneration: £130,000 £135,000 (2023: £120,000 £125,000)
- Employer's pension contributions: £30,000 £35,000 (2023: £25,000 £30,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totalling £nil (2023: £67) were reimbursed to no Trustees (2023: 1 Trustee).

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

#### 12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	computer software £'000
Cost	
At 1 September 2023 and at 31 August 2024	15
Amortisation	
	45
At 1 September 2023 and at 31 August 2024	15
Carrying amount At 31 August 2024	
At 31 August 2023	
7.1 0 1 7.1dgddt 2020	

### 14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land and buildings	Leasehold Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2023	30,110	24,559	1,463	3,284	59,416
Additions	506	517	-	319	1,342
At 31 August 2024	30,616	25,076	1,463	3,603	60,758
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	1,657	2,213	1,206	1,587	6,663
Charge for the year	257	324	161	536	1,278
At 31 August 2024	1,914	2,537	1,367	2,123	7,941
Net book value					
At 31 August 2024	28,702	22,539	96	1,480	52,817
					====
At 31 August 2023	28,453	22,346	257	1,697	52,753

Included in land and buildings is freehold land at a valuation of £16,484k and leasehold land at a valuation of £8,193k which are not depreciated.

### 15 Debtors

2023 £'000
27
375
1,761
2,163

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year		
		2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Government loans	3	3
	Trade creditors	322	1,552
	Other taxation and social security	223	201
	ESFA creditors	52	42
	Other creditors Accruals and deferred income	325	267
	Accruais and deferred income	857 ———	713
		1,782	2,778
17	Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year		
		2024	2023
		£'000	£'000
	Government loans	13	16
	Other creditors	-	19
		13	35
		2024	2023
	Analysis of loans	£'000	£'000
	•		
	Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	1	4
	Wholly repayable within five years	15	15
		16	19
	Less: included in current liabilities	(3)	(3)
	Amounts included above	13 ====	16 ——
	Loan maturity		
	Debt due in one year or less	3	3
	Due in more than one year but not more than two years	3	3
	Due in more than two years but not more than five years	9	9 4
	Due in more than five years	1	4
		16	19

The Salix energy loan is repayable over eight years. Annual repayments of £2,872 are made in two instalments of £1,436 each per annum. The loan is interest free.

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18	Deferred income		
		2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	516	320
	Deferred income at 1 September 2023	320	230
	Released from previous years	(320)	(230)
	Resources deferred in the year	516	320
	Deferred income at 31 August 2024	516	320

Deferred Income at 31 August 2024 includes grant income received in advance for UIFSM of £269k (2023: £258k), breakfast and after school club in advance of £115k (2023: £57k), nursery deposits of £nil (2023: £4k), trip income in advance of £9k (2023: £1k) and FSM London Mayor income of £123k (2023: £nil)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19	<b>Funds</b>
	i uiius

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	77	12,598	(12,403)	(254)	18
Start up grants	-	29	(29)	-	-
UIFSM	-	457	(457)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	480	(480)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	980	(980)	-	-
Other government grants	-	2,196	(2,196)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	83	(83)	-	-
Pension reserve			259	(259)	
	77	16,823	(16,369)	(513)	18
		====	===	====	
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	45,315	_	(455)	_	44,860
DfE group capital grants	7,069	809	(606)	_	7,272
Capital expenditure from GAG	,		,		,
and other funds	1,159	-	(196)	238	1,201
Donated and other assets	81		(21)		60
	53,624 =====	809 ———	(1,278) =====	238	53,393
Total restricted funds	53,701 =====	17,632	(17,647) ====	(275)	53,411
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,287	2,337 =====	(1,641) =====	16 ====	1,999
Total funds	54,988	19,969	(19,288)	(259)	55,410
rotal fallas	====	====	====	====	====

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

The Restricted General Funds are used to fund the general operating costs 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 2024.

The Pension Reserve represents the Academy Trust's share of the LGPS pension fund deficit / surplus, as valued by the scheme's actuaries.

The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund represents the net book value of fixed assets plus the unspent element of Capital funds, less Capital Loans. When assets are purchased, the fund is increased, and depreciation charges reduce the fund.

Unrestricted Funds represent balances held at period end that can be applied at the discretion of the Trustees, to support any of the Academy Trust's charitable purposes.

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Funds (Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September			Gains, losses and	Balance at 31 August
	2022	Income	Expenditure	transfers	2023
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	11,976	(11,647)	(252)	77
Start up grants	-	42	(42)	-	-
UIFSM	-	433	(433)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	482	(482)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19					
funding	-	55	(55)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	691	(691)	-	-
Other government grants	-	1,441	(1,441)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	321	(296)	(25)	-
Pension reserve	(240)		(72)	312	
	(240)	15,441	(15,159)	35	77
				====	
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	45,258	-	57	-	45,315
DfE group capital grants	5,885	1,892	(708)	-	7,069
Capital expenditure from GAG					
and other funds	1,156	-	(249)	252	1,159
Donated and other assets	273		(217)	25 	81
	52,572	1,892	(1,117)	277	53,624
	====	===	====	===	====
Total restricted funds	52,332	17,333	(16,276)	312	53,701
	====	====			
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,863	1,786	(2,362)	-	1,287
	===	====			====
Total funds	54,195	19,119	(18,638)	312	54,988
			====		

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19	Funds	(	Continued)
	Total funds analysis by academy		
	Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Crofton Junior School	1,014	707
	Crofton Infant School	747	756
	Valley Primary School	68	6
	Raglan Primary School	237	10
	Cage Green Primary School	509	418
	River Mill Primary School	235	210
	Central services	(793)	(743)
	Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	2,017	1,364
	Restricted fixed asset fund	53,393	53,624
	Pension reserve	-	-
	Total funds	<del></del> 55,410	54,988

Connect Schools Academy Trust central services is carrying a revenue deficit of £793k. This has accumulated following a decision to maintain a low top-slice, whilst still providing a high quality central service.

### Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and			Other costs		
	educational	Other support	Educational	excluding	Total	Total
	support staff	staff costs	supplies	depreciation	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Crofton Junior School	2,778	466	68	982	4,294	3,964
Crofton Infant School	2,435	382	45	680	3,542	3,500
Valley Primary School	1,888	351	47	520	2,806	2,789
Raglan Primary School	2,065	336	31	648	3,080	3,029
Cage Green Primary						
School	1,148	126	16	331	1,621	1,687
River Mill Primary School	1,388	241	43	377	2,049	1,651
Central services	386	249	(1)	(16)	618	901
	12,088	2,151	249	3,522	18,010	17,521

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

20 <i>A</i>	Analysis of net assets between funds				
		Unrestricted		ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
_		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
٦	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	52,817	52,817
	Current assets	1,999	1,797	592	4,388
(	Current liabilities	-	(1,779)	(3)	(1,782)
١	Non-current liabilities			(13)	(13)
7	Total net assets	1,999	18	53,393	55,410
		Unrestricted	Rest	ricted funds:	Total
		Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
	Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Т	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	52,753	52,753
(	Current assets	1,287	2,890	871	5,048
C	Current liabilities	-	(2,778)	-	(2,778)
١	Non-current liabilities	-	(35)	-	(35)
7	Total net assets	1,287	77	53,624	54,988

#### 21 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 London Borough of Bromley and Kent County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £292k were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023: £278k) 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.

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 21 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies 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 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million.

The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £1,599k (2023: £1,350k).

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 is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the Academy Trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and 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 20.1% to 20.3% 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 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Total contributions made	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Employer's contributions Employees' contributions	913 243	864 219
Total contributions	1,156 ———	1,083

Rate of increase in salaries   3.90 to 4.10   3.85 to 4.8	(Continu		Pension and similar obligations
Rate of increase in salaries       3.90 to 4.10       3.85 to 4         Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation       2.70 to 2.80       2.85 to 2         Discount rate for scheme liabilities       5.00 to 5.10       5.30 to 5         Inflation assumption (CPI)       2.60 to 2.80       2.80 to 2         The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The current mortality assumptions on retirement age 65 are:       2024       2024         Retiring today       - Males       20.70 to 21.70       20.70 to 21.70         - Females       23.30 to 24.10       23.20 to 24.70         Retiring in 20 years       - Males       22.00 to 22.70       22.00 to 22.70         - Females       24.70 to 25.70       24.60 to 25         Sensitivity analysis       Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Constitute + 0.1%       12,079       10,5         Discount rate + 0.1%       12,573       10,5         Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,573       10,5         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,543       10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,6         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset			Principal actuarial assumptions
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation       2.70 to 2.80       2.85 to 2         Discount rate for scheme liabilities       5.00 to 5.10       5.30 to 5         Inflation assumption (CPI)       2.60 to 2.80       2.80 to 2         The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. To assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:         2024 Years       2024 Years       Years         Retiring today         - Males       20.70 to 21.70       20.70 to 21         - Females       23.30 to 24.10       23.20 to 24         Retiring in 20 years         - Males       22.00 to 22.70       22.00 to 25         - Females       22.00 to 22.70       22.00 to 25         Sensitivity analysis         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Colspan="2">Sensitivity analysis         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         Discount rate + 0.1%       12,079       10.5         Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,545       10.5         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,543       10.5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10.5 <th>%</th> <th>%</th> <th></th>	%	%	
Discount rate for scheme liabilities   5.00 to 5.10   5.30 to 5	.10 3.85 to	3.90 to 4.10	Rate of increase in salaries
Inflation assumption (CPI)  2.60 to 2.80 to 2.	.80 2.85 to 2	2.70 to 2.80	Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation
The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. T assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:    2024   20   Years   Years	.10 5.30 to \$	5.00 to 5.10	Discount rate for scheme liabilities
Retiring today	.80 2.80 to 2	2.60 to 2.80	nflation assumption (CPI)
Retiring today         2024 Years         2026 Years           - Males         20.70 to 21.70         20.70 to 21.70         20.70 to 21.70         21.70 to 21.70         21.70 to 21.70         21.70 to 21.70         22.20 to 24.70 to 21.70         23.20 to 24.70 to 22.70         22.20 to 25.70         24.60 to 25.70         24.60 to 25.70         24.60 to 25.70         25.70	nortality rates.	uture improvements in mortal	
Years       Years       Years         Retiring today       - Males       20.70 to 21.70       20.70 to 21       2 2.00 to 21.70       20.70 to 21       2 2.00 to 24.10       23.20 to 24       2 2.00 to 22.70       2 2.00 to 22.70       2 2.00 to 22.70       2 2.00 to 25.70	)24 2	2024	accumed in a expectation of remainant age of are.
Retiring today - Males 20.70 to 21.70 20.70 to 21 - Females 23.30 to 24.10 23.20 to 24 Retiring in 20 years - Males 22.00 to 22.70 22.00 to 22 - Females 22.00 to 25.70 24.60 to 25 - Females 24.70 to 25.70 24.60 to 25 - Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:    Compare			
- Males 20.70 to 21.70 20.70 to 21 - Females 23.30 to 24.10 23.20 to 24 - Retiring in 20 years - Males 22.00 to 22.70 22.00 to 22 - Females 24.70 to 25.70 24.60 to 25 - Females 24.70 to 25.70 24.60 to 25 - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sensitivity analysis - Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  - Sens			Retiring today
- Females 23.30 to 24.10 23.20 to 24. Retiring in 20 years - Males 22.00 to 22.70 22.00 to 22. Females 24.70 to 25.70 24.60 to 25. Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:    2024 200	.70 20.70 to 2°	20.70 to 21.70 2	
Retiring in 20 years - Males 22.00 to 22.70 22.00 to 22 - Females 24.70 to 25.70 24.60 to 25  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:  2024 20 E'000 E'0 Discount rate + 0.1% 12,079 10,5 Discount rate - 0.1% 12,545 10,5 Mortality assumption + 1 year 12,573 10,5 Mortality assumption - 1 year 12,573 10,5 Pensions rate + 0.1% 12,543 10,5 Pensions rate - 0.1% 12,543 10,5 Pensions rate - 0.1% 11,589 10,6 Defined benefit pension scheme net asset 2024 20	.10 23.20 to 24	23.30 to 24.10 2	Females
- Males			
- Females 24.70 to 25.70 24.60 to 25.70 25.70 24.60 to 25.70		00.00 . 00.70	
Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:    2024   20	.70 22.00 to 22	22.00 to 22.70 2	IVIAIES
Sensitivity analysis         Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:         2024 £'000 £'0         £'000 £'0       £'000 £'0         Discount rate + 0.1%       12,079 10,5         Discount rate - 0.1%       12,545 10,5         Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,573 10,5         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,050 10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543 10,5         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589 10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024 20			
Discount rate + 0.1%       12,079       10,5         Discount rate - 0.1%       12,545       10,5         Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,573       10,5         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,050       10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,5         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024       2024	.70 24.60 to 25	24.70 to 25.70 2	Females Sensitivity analysis
Discount rate - 0.1%       12,545       10,9         Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,573       10,9         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,050       10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,9         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024       2024	.70 24.60 to 29	24.70 to 25.70 2 ===================================	Females Sensitivity analysis
Discount rate - 0.1%       12,545       10,9         Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,573       10,9         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,050       10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,9         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024       2024	.70 24.60 to 29	24.70 to 25.70 2 ===================================	Females Sensitivity analysis
Mortality assumption + 1 year       12,573       10,5         Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,050       10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,5         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024       2024	.70 24.60 to 29 ===================================	24.70 to 25.70 2 ===================================	Females  Sensitivity analysis  Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assum
Mortality assumption - 1 year       12,050       10,5         Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,5         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024       2024	.70 24.60 to 25	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Females  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assum  Discount rate + 0.1%
Pensions rate + 0.1%       12,543       10,9         Pensions rate - 0.1%       11,589       10,6         Defined benefit pension scheme net asset       2024       2024	.70 24.60 to 25	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Females  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assum  Discount rate + 0.1%  Discount rate - 0.1%
Pensions rate - 0.1% 11,589 10,6  Defined benefit pension scheme net asset 2024 20	24.60 to 25  224  200  £  079  10, 645  10, 673	24.70 to 25.70 2  =====  tions as follows:  2024 £'000 12,079 12,545 12,573	Females  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assum  Discount rate + 0.1%  Discount rate - 0.1%  Mortality assumption + 1 year
•	.70 24.60 to 25	24.70 to 25.70 2  =====  tions as follows:  2024 £'000 12,079 12,545 12,573 12,050	Females  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assum  Discount rate + 0.1%  Discount rate - 0.1%  Mortality assumption + 1 year  Mortality assumption - 1 year
•	24.60 to 25  224  2000  £' 079  10, 645  10, 653  10, 6543  10,	24.70 to 25.70 2  =====  tions as follows:  2024 £'000 12,079 12,545 12,573 12,050 12,543	Females  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1%
£'000 £'0	24.60 to 25  224  2000  £' 079  10, 645  10, 653  10, 6543  10,	24.70 to 25.70 2  =====  tions as follows:  2024 £'000 12,079 12,545 12,573 12,050 12,543	Females  Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1%
	24.60 to 25  224  2000  £' 079  10, 0545  10, 050  10, 0589  10, 0589  224  224  224  224  225	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1% Pensions rate - 0.1%
Scheme assets 14,541 12,2	24.60 to 25  224  2000  £' 079  10, 0545  10, 050  10, 0589  10, 0589  224  224  224  224  225	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1% Pensions rate - 0.1%
Scheme obligations (12,309) (10,7	24.60 to 25  24.60 to 25  24.60 to 25  26.70 24.60 to 25  26.71 10,  26.72 10,  26.73 10	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1% Pensions rate - 0.1% Defined benefit pension scheme net asset
	24.60 to 25  24.60 to 25  24.60 to 25  26.70 24.60 to 25  26.71 10,  26.72 10,  26.73 10	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1% Pensions rate - 0.1% Defined benefit pension scheme net asset
Net asset 2.232 1.5	24.60 to 25  24.60 to 25  2000 £'  373 10,  350 10,  3643 10,  3689 10,  369 2000 £'  3641 12,  369) (10,  369	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assum Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1% Pensions rate - 0.1% Defined benefit pension scheme net asset Scheme assets Scheme obligations
Net asset 2,232 1,5	24.60 to 25  24.60 to 25  2000 £'  373 10,  350 10,  3643 10,  3689 10,  369 2000 £'  3641 12,  369) (10,  369	24.70 to 25.70 2  ===================================	Sensitivity analysis Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assume Discount rate + 0.1% Discount rate - 0.1% Mortality assumption + 1 year Mortality assumption - 1 year Pensions rate + 0.1% Pensions rate - 0.1% Defined benefit pension scheme net asset

	Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)
7	he Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2024 Fair value £'000	2023 Fair value £'000
E	Equities	8,176	7,655
(	Sovernment bonds & Gilts	492	259
(	Other bonds	1,682	1,089
(	Cash	999	311
F	Property	936	833
(	Other assets	2,256	2,103
7	otal market value of assets	14,541	12,250
F	Restriction on scheme assets	(2,232)	(1,516
١	Net assets recognised	12,309	10,734
٦	The actual return on scheme assets was £1,401,000 (2023: £203,000).		
ļ	Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
(	Current service cost	727	918
l	nterest income	(679)	(500
ı	nterest cost	572	487
	Administration expenses	34	31
٦	otal amount recognised	654	936
	The net gain recognised on scheme assets has been restricted because the expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.	full pension s	urplus is not
e		full pension s	urplus is not
e	expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.	full pension s	2024
•	expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.	full pension s	2024 £'000
¢	expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.  Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	full pension s	<b>2024</b> <b>£'000</b> 10,734
<i>(</i>	expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.  Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations  at 1 September 2023	full pension s	<b>2024</b> <b>£'000</b> 10,734 727
<i>(</i>	Expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.  Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations  At 1 September 2023  Current service cost	full pension s	2024 £'000 10,734 727 572
( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( ) ( )	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations  At 1 September 2023  Current service cost Interest cost	full pension s	2024 £'000 10,734 727 572 243
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations  At 1 September 2023 Current service cost interest cost Employee contributions	full pension s	
	Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations  At 1 September 2023 Current service cost Interest cost Employee contributions Actuarial loss/(gain)	full pension s	2024 £'000 10,734 727 572 243 265

21	Pension and similar obligations			(Continued)
	Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of sc	heme assets		2024
				£'000
	At 1 September 2023			12,250
	Interest income			679
	Actuarial (gain)/loss			722
	Employer contributions			913
	Employee contributions Benefits paid			243 (232)
	Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses			(34)
	Enoc of non routino octaomente una administration expenses			
	At 31 August 2024			14,541
	Restriction on scheme assets			(2,232)
	Not appete recognised			10.200
	Net assets recognised			12,309
22	Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating	g activities		
		Notes	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of finar activities)	ncial	681	481
	Adjusted for:			
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(809)	(1,892)
	Investment income receivable	6	(14)	-
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	21	(152)	85
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance income	21	(107)	(13)
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		1,278	1,117
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors		619	(933)
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(1,015)	746 ———
	Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		481 ———	(409) ———
23	Analysis of changes in net funds			
		1 September 2023	Cash flows	31 August 2024
		£'000	£'000	£'000
	Cash	2,885	(41)	2,844
	Loans falling due within one year	(3)	-	(3)
	Loans falling due after more than one year	(16)	3	(13)
		2,866	(38)	2,828
		====		====

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 24 Long-term commitments

#### **Operating leases**

At 31 August 2024 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

		2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Amounts due within one year	32	31
	Amounts due in two and five years	32	42
		64	73
			==
25	Capital commitments		
		2024	2023
		£'000	£'000
	Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the Financial Statements	572	779

#### Crofton Infant School:

At 31 August 2024, the Academy Trust was committed to completing a heating project, funded by CIF with total expected costs of £578k. Costs of £381k were incurred during the year, with anticipated costs to completion as at 31 August 2024 of £197k.

### Cage Green Primary School:

At 31 August 2024, the Academy Trust was committed to completing a windows replacement project, funded by CIF and school reserves with total expected costs of £334k. Costs of £12k were incurred during the year, with anticipated costs to completion as at 31 August 2024 of £322k.

#### Cage Green Primary School:

At 31 August 2024, the Academy Trust was committed to completing a urgent water distribution replacement project, funded by CIF with total expected costs of £341k. Costs of £314k were incurred so far, with anticipated costs to completion as at 31 August 2024 of £27k.

#### Crofton Junior School:

At 31 August 2024, the Academy Trust was committed to completing a lighting and fire alarms project, funded by CIF with total expected costs of £395k. Costs of £375k were incurred so far, with anticipated costs to completion as at 31 August 2024 of £20k.

### Valley Primary School:

At 31 August 2024, the Academy Trust was committed to completing a roofing project, funded by CIF with total expected costs of £450k. Costs of £444k were incurred so far, with anticipated costs to completion as at 31 August 2024 of £6k.

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 26 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.

### 27 Post balance sheet events

After the year end, Compass Academy Trust joined Mosaic Schools Learning Trust on the 1st September 2024.

### 28 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.