Registered number: 10359418

# LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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# REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Members Mrs S Barr

Mr J Thurgood Mrs J Baker Mr P Myers

**Trustees** Mrs S Barr, Chair of Trustees

Mr J Thurgood, Vice Chair of Trustees

Miss L Barr Mrs J Baker Mr P Myers Mr J Walker Mrs L Williams

Mr S Trimble, Head Teacher

Mr S Jacobs

Company registered

**number** 10359418

Company name Larwood Academy Trust

Principal and registered

office

Stevenage Hertfordshire SG1 5QU

Webb Rise

Company secretary Mrs S Fitzpatrick

Accounting officer Mr S Trimble

**Senior Management** 

Team

Mr S Trimble, Head Teacher/Accounting Officer Mr P van der Merwe, Deputy Head Teacher Mrs B Osobu, Assistant Head Teacher Mrs S Fitzpatrick, Business Manager Mr I Reid, Head of Care/Premises Manager

Independent Auditors Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants
Causeway House
1 Dane Street
Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire
CM23 3BT

Bankers Lloyds Bank PLC

3 Town Square Stevenage SG1 1BG

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## TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditor's Report of Larwood Academy Trust (the Trust, the Academy or the Charitable Company) for the year ended 31 August 2018. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report, and a Directors' Report under company law.

The Trust operates one single special needs, primary academy (the School) serving a catchment area in Stevenage but also including the East and North of Hertfordshire. The School has a capacity of 68 and had a roll of 66 in the 2018 census.

## Structure, Governance and Management

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents. The Trustees of The Charitable Company are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. The terms Trustee and Director are interchangeable. Constitutied a Multi Academy Trust there is only one school in existence at present being:

Larwood School converted on 01/11/2017

The operation of The School and employment of staff are the responsibility of the Trustees. The Trust retains control of budgets and finances, and monitors these through its Finance Committee. Throughout this report the Board of Trustees is referred to as the Main Governing Body (MGB).

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the period are included in the Reference and Administrative Details section.

#### Members' Liability

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

## Trustees and Officers' Indemnities

The 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 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.

## Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

In accordance with the Articles of Association, members may appoint by ordinary resolution, up to 8 Trustees. Any election of Parent Trustees will be held by secret ballot.

The arrangements are as set out in the Articles and Funding Agreement.

Trustees are appointed for a fixed term. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is an ex officio member of the MGB. Other Trustees are elected to office or appointed if there are insufficient candidates offering themselves for election. The Articles of Association make provision for up to 8 Trustees plus the CEO. The current structure comprises of four Co-Opted Trustees, three Parent Trustees, one Staff Trustee and the Headteacher.

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

The Trust is committed to providing adequate opportunities for Trustees to undertake and receive suitable training so as to enable them to perform their role effectively. To this end The Trust links with a number of local training providers. New Trustees are required to attend a training programme. The induction programme would involve a tour of the School, meetings with students and staff and provision of policy and procedures documents that are appropriate to the role they undertake with particular emphasis on the committee work that they will undertake.

A range of documents are supplied to Trustees which demonstrate how the School operates.

- Relating to the day-to-day running of the School we provide policies on Child Protection and Behaviour Management amongst others.
- Policies outlining the Terms of Reference for our committees Finance, Premises & Personnel and PASC are provided
- Regarding the financial management of the Trust, policies covering Staff Pay and Appraisal, Financial Delegation and Accounting, Investment and Tendering, Fraud, Debt Control are supplied to Trustees.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## **Organisational Structure**

The governance of the Trust is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the Funding Agreement with the Department of Education.

The day to day running of operational matters are conducted by the School's Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and led by the Headteacher. The Business Manager oversees and directs all matters connected to finance. Therefore the Trust structure consists of the following layers:

- The Board of Trustees (MGB)
- The Headteacher
- The Senior Leadership Team

The MGB meets on at least 5 occasions per year and its 2 sub committees meet at least 3 times per year, with the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee meeting at least 5 times per year. The MGB is responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust. The Trustees are responsible for setting strategic policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring The Trust's income and expenditure by the use of the budget monitoring process and making major decisions about the direction of The Trust and senior staff appointments.

Trustees continue to apply appropriate models of good governance and due diligence, by providing challenge and support to the Trust's strategic direction and all matters that underpin this. There are two committees that report to the MGB. They are:

**Finance, Premises and Personnel (FPP):** This Committee receives reports and information related to all matters within its remit from the Head Teacher, Business Manager and Premises Manager. It then makes appropriate decisions that are related to such matters including: signing off the annual budget, approving maintenance and building works (particularly capital projects costing over £10,000) reviewing and approving the appraisal process for all staff. This Committee also reviews relevant School policies, has input into the review and adjustment of the School staffing structure, aspects of the School's development plan relating to this Committee and how spending makes an impact on pupil progress and attainment. This Committee is led by the Vice Chair of Governors and meets five times per year.

**Pupil Progress and Attainment Sub-Committee (PASC):** This Committee receives reports related to pupil progress, attainment, and all matters related to behaviour in terms of social, mental and health related well-being. It also oversees and approves all policies relating to such matters. This Committee is led by the Deputy Headteacher and meets three times per year.

**The MGB:** The MGB approves all matters raised and discussed by the committees and any other matters relating to the strategic direction of the School. All final decisions are made/approved by the MGB which meets five times per year.

The Headteacher remains the CEO and Chief Accounting Officer.

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

Key management personnel include Trustees and those staff to whom the Trustees have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day-to-day running of the Trust.

All Trustees are non-salaried, with expenses being reimbursed via the established authorisation procedure.

The MGB has adopted a 'Pay and Appraisal Policy' to provide a clear framework for the management of pay and appraisal for all staff employed in the Trust. Any amendments are approved by the FPP committee and ratified by the MGB.

Trustees recognise the requirement that all pay progression decisions for employees must be linked to annual appraisal of performance; indeed for teachers it is statutory. This policy sets out the framework for a clear and consistent assessment of the overall performance of staff, including the Headteacher, and for supporting their development within the context of the School's plan for improving educational provision and performance, and the standards expected. It also sets out the arrangements that will apply when staff fall below the levels of competence that are expected of them.

The policy complies with the School Teachers' Pay & Conditions Document (STPCD) and the accompanying statutory quidance and with national and local pay agreements for support staff.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

When recruiting a new member of staff, the SLT and MGB will take into account a range of factors when setting the appropriate salary level, including:

- · the nature of the post
- · the level of qualifications, skills and experience required
- market conditions
- the wider school context
- (for teachers) any specific restrictions set out in the School Teachers' Pay & Conditions Document.

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

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the MGB being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time to time transactions will take place with organisations in which a Trustee may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where the Trustee may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academies Financial Handbook.

All Trustees provide an annual declaration of business or other interests they have with organisations, individuals and charities for complete transparency. Any pecuniary interests which may overlap with the operations of the Trust are identified and published on the School website. Any potential conflicts of interest are recorded in the minutes of committee meetings where a decision is required and the appropriate steps to avoid any such conflict of interest are in place.

The Trust cooperated with the following organisations during the academic year in pursuit of its charitable activities:

- Greenside School, Stevenage.
- The Giles Nursey and Infant School, Stevenage.
- Jubilee Court Care Home, Stevenage.
- Slimming World.
- Mary Kirsten School of Dance.
- Thurley Dance.
- Stevenage Borough Council.
- GlaxoSmithKline.
- Tesco.

The Trust does not have a formal sponsor.

## **Objectives and Activities**

#### **Objects and Aims**

The principal object and aim of the Charitable Company is the operation of the School to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities within its local community between the ages of 5 and 11. Larwood School is a special school for primary aged children with social, emotional and mental health related difficulties.

## Objectives, Strategies and Activities

During the year the Trust has worked towards the following aims:

- To provide a dynamic and flexible curriculum with emphasis on literacy, numeracy and creativity.
- Ensure that every child has a strong and respectful relationship with the adults that work with them.
- Provide a safe and secure environment which allows children to relax, have fun and enjoy themselves. All members
  of the School community are valued. We ensure that pupils are rewarded for getting things right and we apply
  consequences when they don't.
- Challenge children to succeed in all areas of School life, ensuring that pupils understand that we all make mistakes
  and that success comes in many forms. This may include improved behaviour, subject progression, and could be
  related to relationships and trust. All staff will ensure that Hertfordshire Steps is consistently used to engage, modify
  and aid pupils on their journey of improved progress.
- Collaborate with other parties to ensure we get the very best out of our children. This includes parents, other
  professionals such as the Educational Psychologist, Attendance Officer, School Nurse, SEN Officers and Speech
  and Language specialists.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Our success in fulfilling our aims can be measured by:

- The progress that our pupils make in relation to a range of factors including, but not exclusive to, behaviour, attendance, subject specific progress, individual life based skills.
- Attainment tests sat at key times such as Standard Attainment Tests at the end of Key Stage
- Independent reporting mechanisms that review the progress of the school such as our School Improvement Partner and Ofsted.
- Continued progress and success at partner SEMH secondary schools or for some pupils by returning to mainstream schools
- The ability of our pupils to play a meaningful and contributory role in their local community and society.

#### **Public Benefit**

The Trustees believe that by working towards the objects and aims of the Trust as detailed above, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

## Strategic Report

#### **Achievements and Performance**

The Trust continued its mission to ensure that students achieved their potential in public examinations, encouraged a wide range of extra-curricular activities, developed and retained suitable staff and guided students in suitable progression when they left the School.

Specific achievements were as follows:

- Achieving a third consecutive annual Oftsed 'outstanding' Care inspection report in Feb 2018 with no development points noted.
- Achieving the National Autistic Society accreditation in March 2018.
- Awarded 'Best Sportsmanship' award for all primary schools in Stevenage from Stevenage Sporting Futures.
- A reduction of 71% for the need for any restrictive physical intervention and 21% in the number of incidents when compared to 2016-17
- Attendance at 93%.
- 1 pupil returned to mainstream education.
- A range of curriculum enhancements including The Big Idea, Pobble and a series of events deigned to promote
  independence and engagement. These included 'living off the land', hammer time and go kart production.

## **Key Performance Indicators**

The Trustees receive regular information at each Committee meeting to enable them to monitor the performance of the Trust compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.

As funding is based on pupil numbers this is a key performance indicator. Total pupil numbers for 2018 were 66 against a forecast of 64.

The School was inspected for its residential element in February 2018 and received outstanding in all areas for the third year in succession. The School remains classed as 'good' for the day school based on its report in Jan 2014.

Another key financial performance indicator is staffing costs as a percentage of total income. For 2017/18 this was 78% against budgeted parameters of 81%. The Trustees are confident that staffing levels are closely monitored to agreed Full Time Equivalents and staffing structures all approved by the MGB.

The Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee also monitor premises costs to General Annual Grant (GAG) income, capitation spend for curriculum departments, total income less grants and cash flow on a regular basis to ensure that the budget is set and managed appropriately. All of the above KPI's were within the parameters set by the MGB.

## **Going Concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Trustees have a reasonable expectation that the 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.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### **Financial Review**

The principal source of funding for the Trust is the General Annual Grant (GAG) and other grants that it receives from the Education Funding Agency (ESFA). For the year ended 31 August 2018 the Trust received £1,747,842 of GAG, other funding and locally generated income (excluding capital funding and amounts on conversion). A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Trust's primary objective of the provision of education. During the year the Trust spent £1,425,107 (excluding capital and depreciation) and transferred £52,076 to support improvement projects on the school site. The Trust brought forward £NIL restricted funds and £248,523 unrestricted funding. The carry forward for 17/18 is £NIL restricted funding and £289,583 unrestricted funding.

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the Trust is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £744,000. This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises and such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years

## **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs and always aim to set a balanced budget with annual income balancing annual expenditure. The Trustees monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures via the monthly reports from the Business Manager. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

The Trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £289,583. This has been built up from a mixture of locally raised income and balances transferred from the predecessor school.

The Trustees have made a decision to designate unrestricted balances of £65,000 for future capital projects in 2018/19, and is holding other unrestricted funds of £224,583 to cover future increases in costs and expenditure that may arise from uninsurable losses. The Trust holds £8,000 for in year contingencies and always plans to have a carry forward of between 7% and 11% to assist in making strategic decisions to keep in line with national funding changes and curriculum needs. The Trust has also budgeted to hold £10,000 per annum as savings towards future large item maintenance expenditure.

The cash balance of the Trust has been very healthy all year, ending the year with a balance of £324,508. A significant proportion of this cash is held against specific projects and is not available to meet normal recurring expenditure. The Trustees monitor cash flow as part of the finance committee Business Manager reports and attempt to hold a minimum of £130,000 to cover short term cash flow variances.

## **Investment Policy**

An Investment Policy was approved by the MGB May 2017.

The aim of the policy is to ensure funds that the Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested to maximise its income but with minimal risk. The aim is to research where funds may be deposited applying prudency in ensuring there is minimum risk. The Trustees do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather as good stewardship and as and when circumstances allow.

## **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Trust works with SLT maintaining a central risk register identifying the major risks, to which the Trust is exposed, and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. This register is approved and monitored by the MGB via the FPP Committee with a formal review of the process undertaken on an annual basis. The internal control systems and the exposure to identified risks are monitored on behalf of the Trustees at each FPP Committee meeting. The principal risks facing the Trust are outlined below; those facing the School at an operational level are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls.

The Trustees report that the Trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

As a single school within the multi academy trust, the level of financial risk is low. Cash flows can be reliably forecast, monitored and reported. Staff costs make up the majority of expenditure and are relatively stable with contingencies in place to cover such items as sickness and maternity.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

The Trustees assess the other principal risks and uncertainties facing the Trust as follows:

- the Trust has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA and there is no assurance
  that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on
  the same terms;
- failures in governance and/or management the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage
  the Trust's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, etc. The
  Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks;
- reputational the continuing success of the School is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk Trustees ensure that student progress and outcomes are closely monitored and reviewed;
- safeguarding and child protection the Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline;
- staffing the success of the School is reliant on the quality of its staff and the Trustees monitor and review policies and procedures and recruitment to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning;
- fraud and mismanagement of funds The Trust has appointed Price Bailey and Herts for Learning Ltd to carry out independent and external checks on financial systems and records as required by the Academies Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area;
- financial instruments the Trust only deals with bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. The risk in this area is considered to be low; and
- defined benefit pension liability as the Government has agreed to meet the defined benefit pension liability of any Academy ceasing to exist the main risk to the Trust is an annual cash flow funding of part of the deficit. Trustees take these payments into account when setting the annual budget plan.

The Trust and the School have continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness.

## **Plans for Future Periods**

Following on from a successful transition from a Foundation school to a Multi-Academy Trust during 2016/17, Trustees and SLT have reviewed the future plans from both an operational and strategic perspective.

Our overall aim is to continue to be an outstanding school, offering a safe and secure environment for our pupils to thrive and succeed in every aspect of school life.

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# TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

Key areas of focus over the next 3 years 2018 - 2020 are as follows:

- Curriculum approach after careful consideration, it was decided to implement a new approach to the style and delivery of the curriculum based on the Chris Quigley model and associated Depth of Learning assessment procedures. This will enable a bespoke learning environment aligned to the needs of our specific pupils.
- Pupil progress continued improvement in quality and quantity of writing through the implementation of events / software / moderation as part of an ongoing literacy programme;
- Pupil progress & wellbeing during 2018/19 to develop further POD Learning, a different learning area for a small group pf complex needs pupils. This will be achieved by creating the ethos and culture associated with POD learning, monthly progress reviews and the embedding of procedures for POD staff;
- Pupil wellbeing during 2018/19 to further develop our knowledge base of mental health and align our CPD program to meet and develop our staff further.
- Behaviour Management –continue the work that has already driven down the need for restrictive physical intervention (RPI), through continued safeguarding training for staff, consistent coaching support, and targeted risk assessments / anxiety maps to avoid the need for RPIs;
- Staff professional development provision of on-going training in terms of legislation and compliance to ensure that we are leaders in the field of excellence in SEMH provision;
- Residential provision after a strategic review in April 2018 of declining pupil demand levels and related reduced funding, it was decided by the Governing Body to consult on the future of the Residential provision. At the year end in August 18, this process was still ongoing. Subsequently, in Oct 18 the MGB have confirmed a final decision to close the Residential provision and the Trust has been granted permission by the DfE to change the purpose of this provision into a new 'day school' for pupils with autism needs. The strategic plan is to refurbish and reopen this area by Dec 2018 to accommodate an additional 12 pupils, thus providing much needed additional provision within the locality.
- Additional Commissioned Services The Trust has successfully won the contract to provide Outreach support within
  the DSPL 2 area from Sept 2018 onwards for 3 years. Appropriate staffing resource has already been put in place at
  the end of 17/18 to ensure a high standard of delivery for local pupils. This service is aligned to the Trust's aim to
  share best practice and knowledge to support the needs of our local community.
- Governance continue our program of Trustee training to ensure our Trustees are equipped to move the School forward as rapidly as possible in an increasingly changing and complex landscape. Review our succession plan and possibly host a Trustee open evening to explore options within the local community for recruiting new Trustees.
- Risk assessment after completing a comprehensive risk assessment review by the end of Aug 18, appropriate action on contingency training will be the focus during 18/19.
- MAT structure The Trust has been supporting another SEMH maintained school in special measures since June 18. At the year end in Aug 18, an application to expand the MAT to include this school was in progress. It is anticipated that any change to the future MAT structure within 18/19 will become finalised in early 2019.

## **Auditor**

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditor is unaware, and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by the MGB on 13 December 2018 and signed on the Board's behalf by:

Mrs S Barr Chair of Trustees

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#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

## **SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY**

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

The MGB has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Head Teacher, 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 Larwood Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the MGB 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 MGB has formally met 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the MGB was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs S Barr, Chair of Trustees	5	5
Mr J Thurgood, Vice Chair of Trustees	5	5
Miss L Barr	5	5
Mrs J Baker	5	5
Mr P Myers	3	5
Mr J Walker	4	5
Mrs L Williams	4	5
Mr S Trimble, Head Teacher	5	5
Mr S Jacobs	4	5

All existing members of the MGB continued in their roles in 2017/18. The MGB have been supportive and readily available for all relevant actions and decision making during the course the year.

During 2017/18 we had some challenging decisions to make, affecting the future strategy of the MAT and our employees. After detailed analysis of the declining funding income for the residential provision, we took the difficult decision to embark on a consultation to close this provision and change the use to an 'autism' specialist day school. At the end of the year, this was still ongoing and awaiting approval for the change from the DfE (subsequently received in October 2018).

We have also had the opportunity to consider MAT expansion, involving a special needs secondary school in Hertfordshire due to their 'inadequate' Ofsted inspection result. Senior leadership staff members have been supporting the school in question on immediate improvements and Trustees have discussed future strategy before the sponsorship application was submitted to the DfE in October 2018.

A member of the MGB conducted a skills audit based on the DfE Governance Handbook in July 2018, which involved assessing the 'Twenty key questions for a board to ask itself'. Follow up actions were identified, primarily for the PASC committee, and succession planning. These will continue into 2018/19.

The MGB will conduct a review of skills competency, with reference to the 'Competency Framework for Governance' during the course of 2018/19 as we potentially expand the Trust to two Schools.

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## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**

The FPP Committee is a sub-committee of the MGB. Its purpose is the following:

- Finance: to consider and approve the Trust's annual budget, monitor expenditure against budget; review benchmarking quotations and projects to ensure best value is achieved; to review and input into the School Development Plan; to approve reimbursements to the Head Teacher.
- Personnel: to review annually and consult on the Staff Pay Policy and annual staff appraisal results; to implement
  procedures dealing with staff discipline and grievances, to provide input into the staffing structure; to participate in
  the recruitment process through interview stage to final selection.
- Premises: to provide support and guidance for the Head Teacher on all matters relating to the School premises and grounds, security, health and safety. To inspect the premises and grounds annually and prepare a report of the conditions and a proposed order of priorities for maintenance. To undertake a safety audit of the School premises on a termly basis and report to the MGB, and to ensure that the School complies with health and safety regulations. To prepare a 'Lettings and Charges' Policy for the approval of the MGB and to oversee the implementation of that policy.

The original members of the Committee have remained unchanged. This Committee has probably experienced the most significant impact following academisation, with increased documentation to scrutinise and approve. We have met all submission deadlines during 2017/18 and captured all aspects of monitoring and approvals.

Key challenges during 2017/18 include the review of the Residential area, and the difficult decision to embark on a consultation to close and change the use of that area for the long term benefit of special needs children in our locality and the financial sustainability of the Trust.

As with the trend in many schools, this committee conducts an annual affordability test when assessing national / county level pay awards, in line with long term financial sustainability considerations.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs S Barr	3	5
Mr J Thurgood	5	5
Miss L Barr	3	5
Mrs J Baker	4	5
Mr S Trimble	5	5

## **REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY**

As Accounting Officer, the Head Teacher 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 the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the MGB where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Security blinds 3 styles quoted best value option provided long term durability, low maintenance costs, added security for the School building and improved class environment for pupils.
- Review of cleaning contract benchmarking of current contract after 2 years' service and poor performance Jan –
  Jun 18. New contractor chosen based on staffing structure, contingency planning, ability to meet changing
  requirements of evening cleaning, provision for holiday deep cleaning included.
- Review of various educational online subscriptions in line with our strategic curriculum format changes, so we are now aligned with our curriculum aims for 2018/19.

## 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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 Larwood Academy Trust for the year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and financial statements.

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## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**

## **CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK**

The MGB has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The MGB is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks, that has been in place for the year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the MGB.

#### THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

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

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

The MGB has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal Auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed a Trustee, as an Responsible Officer as well as the Trust's financial services support partner, Herts For Learning Ltd (HFL).

The checks carried out were to be aligned to the 'musts' in the Academies Financial Handbook. The review in September 2017 reviewed 'Governance and financial oversight'. The audit in June 2018 reviewed 'internal control, risk management and assurance process'. The third planned peer review was not able to proceed until a suitable school business manager agreed to partner us for this activity – this has now been established for review in early 2019.

On a termly basis, the Responsible Officer will report to the MGB through the FPP Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the MGB' financial responsibilities.

The first internal self-evaluation took place in September 2017, by a member of the MGB, not part of the FPP Committee. This evaluation covered the area of 'Governance & Financial Oversight' and reviewed our practice in line with the 'musts' in the Academies Financial Handbook Sept 2017. The report was issued to the FPP Committee 28 September 2017 and to the MGB on 10 October 2017. Follow up actions were updated via the FPP Committee. This was delivered as planned.

The second review was conducted on 22nd June 2018 by HFL. This focused on internal control, risk management and the assurance process. The report was received on 4 September 2018 and shared with governors in the first FPP and MFG meetings of the new academic year. The main actions from this review have already been completed as per our resource plan by September 18. Remaining actions relevant to contingency training are ongoing throughout 2018/19.

The key findings from the Responsible Officer's work during 2017/18 have been addressed as follows:

- monthly reports for budget monitoring to be provided to SLT and Govs regularly.
  - We changed the finance processing support contract to provide additional resource for our School Business Manager to achieve monthly monitor reports. HFL have been able to support this change from Sept 18 onwards.
- risk management review / updated contingency plan.
  - We were aware of these actions during 2017/18, and regularly discussed our resource planning at FPP Committee meetings. Both a Risk Register and Emergency Resource Plan are now in place from Sept 18. An action plan to reduce any high priority risks and key contingency training is ongoing through 2018/19.
- creation of a financial regulations manual.

We have linked this low risk recommendation to our contingency planning during 2018/19. It will take the format of process flowcharts for key finance, HR and payroll activities and include additional training for staff members. Our existing range of policies provide a robust structure for finance management and we do not purpose to create standard operating manuals for finance processing, as we have identified external experienced support in this area with our HFL Financial Services contractor.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**

## **REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS**

As Accounting Officer, the Head Teacher 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 Responsible Officer;
- the work of the external Auditors;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- 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 FPP and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 13 December 2018 and signed on their behalf, by:

Mrs S Barr Chair of Trustees Mr S Trimble Accounting Officer

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Larwood Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the MGB and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

I confirm that I and the MGB are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

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 MGB and ESFA.

Mr S Trimble Accounting Officer

Date: 13 December 2018

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

The Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law and who act as Governors of Larwood School) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; 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 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 the MGB on 13 December 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs S Barr Chair of Trustees

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST

## **OPINION**

We have audited the financial statements of Larwood Academy Trust (the 'Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2018 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

#### **BASIS FOR OPINION**

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

## **CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN**

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

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

### **OTHER INFORMATION**

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our Report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST

#### OPINION 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 Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the 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 our knowledge and understanding of the Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the 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 (who are also the Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## AUDITORS' 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 Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST

## **USE OF OUR REPORT**

This Report is made solely to the Trust's Members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trust's Members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trust and its Members, as a body, for our audit work, for this Report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Gary Miller (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of **Price Bailey LLP**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Causeway House
1 Dane Street
Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire
CM23 3BT
14 December 2018

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 7 November 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Larwood Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 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 Larwood Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Larwood Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Larwood Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this Report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

## RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST'S ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Larwood Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 November 2016, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2017, 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 2017 to 2018. 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 year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

## **APPROACH**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusions includes:

- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officers statement on regularity, propriety and compliance.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Trust, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, propriety and compliance in particular checking that selected items were appropriately authorised, and appropriate.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LARWOOD ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (continued)

## CONCLUSION

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

**Price Bailey LLP** 

**Chartered Accountants** 

14 December 2018

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

		Unrestricted funds 2018	Restricted funds 2018	Restricted fixed asset funds 2018	Total funds 2018	Total funds 2017
	Note	2016 £	2016 £	2016 £	2016 £	£
INCOME FROM:		~	~	~	~	_
Donations & capital grants: Transfer on conversion Other donations and capital	2	-	-	-	-	4,403,450
grants	2	-	6,577	6,160	12,737	11,094
Charitable activities	3	-	1,686,898	-	1,686,898	1,388,701
Other trading activities	4	53,900	-	-	53,900	50,131
Investments	5	172	-	-	172	159
TOTAL INCOME		54,072	1,693,475	6,160	1,753,707	5,853,535
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities		13,012	1,735,649	194,142	1,942,803	1,601,423
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	13,012	1,735,649	194,142	1,942,803	1,601,423
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS Transfers between funds	15	41,060	(42,174) (47,826)	(187,982) 47,826	(189,096)	4,252,112 -
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		41,060	(90,000)	(140,156)	(189,096)	4,252,112
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	196,000	-	196,000	(27,000)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		41,060	106,000	(140,156)	6,904	4,225,112
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:						
Total funds brought forward		248,523	(744,000)	4,720,589	4,225,112	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		289,583	(638,000)	4,580,433	4,232,016	4,225,112

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 10359418

## BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2018

	Note	£	2018 £	£	2017 £
FIXED ASSETS	Note	2	2	~	~
	12		4,580,433		4,720,589
Tangible assets	12		4,300,433		4,720,369
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	68,754		72,738	
Cash at bank and in hand	18	324,509		281,266	
		393,263		354,004	
<b>CREDITORS:</b> amounts falling due within one year	14	(103,680)		(105,481)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			289,583		248,523
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		•	4,870,016	•	4,969,112
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	19		(638,000)		(744,000)
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION SCHEME LIABILITIES			4,232,016		4,225,112
FUNDS OF THE TRUST					
Restricted income funds:					
Restricted income funds excluding pension liability		4,580,433		4,720,589	
Pension reserve		(638,000)		(744,000)	
Total restricted income funds			3,942,433		3,976,589
Unrestricted income funds	15		289,583		248,523
TOTAL FUNDS			4,232,016		4,225,112

The financial statements on pages 20 to 40 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 13 December 2018 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Mrs S Barr Chair of Trustees

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

		2018	2017
	Note	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	17	97,055	335,750
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Interest received Purchase of tangible fixed assets		172 (53,984)	159 (54,643)
Net cash used in investing activities		(53,812)	(54,484)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		43,243	281,266
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		281,266	-
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	18	324,509	281,266

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Larwood Academy Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

#### 1.2 Company status

The Trust is a private company limited by guarantee. The Members of the Company are named on page 1. In the event of the Trust being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £ 10 per Member.

The Trust's registered office is Webb Rise, Stevenage, Hertfordshire, SG1 5QU. The registeredn number is 10359418.

#### 1.3 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Trust 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 Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the 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 .

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### 1.4 Income

All income is recognised once the Trust has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Where assets are received by the trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet at the point when the risk and rewards of ownership pass to the trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within Income from donations and capital grants.

## 1.5 Expenditure

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

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

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

## 1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the Government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold property - 20 - 50 years straight line Furniture and fixtures - 10 years straight line

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account.

### 1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

## 1.8 Cash at Bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

## 1.9 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities and provisions 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 Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. 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 costs as detailed in note 14. 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 instruments.

#### 1.11 Taxation

The 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 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.

#### 1.12 Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 19, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account 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.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

### 1.13 Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the 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.

## 1.14 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2018. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### 2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds	Total funds
	2018 £	2018 £	2018 £	2018 £	2017 £
Transfer on conversion					4,403,450
Donations Capital grants	- -	6,577 -	- 6,160	6,577 6,160	2,570 8,524
Subtotal	-	6,577	6,160	12,737	11,094
	<u>-</u>	6,577	6,160	12,737	4,414,544
Total 2017	227,145	(657,430)	4,844,829	4,414,544	

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 3. FUNDING FOR ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

		Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
	DfE/ESFA grants				
	General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DfE / ESFA grants Start up grant	- - -	654,335 72,229 -	654,335 72,229 -	550,485 44,829 25,000
			726,564	726,564	620,314
	Other government grants				
	Local Authority grants	-	960,334	960,334	768,387
		-	960,334	960,334	768,387
		-	1,686,898	1,686,898	1,388,701
	Total 2017	<u> </u>	1,388,701	1,388,701	
4.	OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES				
			Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
	Hire of facilities Rental income Other income		12,578 29,273 12,049	12,578 29,273 12,049	10,996 23,228 15,907
			53,900	53,900	50,131
	Total 2017		50,131	50,131	
5.	INVESTMENT INCOME				
			Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £	Total funds 2017 £
	Bank interest		172	172	159
	Total 2017		159	159	

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 6. EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs	Premises	Other costs	Total	Total
	2018	2018	2018	2018	2017
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs	1,285,486	-	72,756	1,358,242	1,053,398
Support costs	147,814	272,514	164,233	584,561	548,025
Total 2018	1,433,300	272,514	236,989	1,942,803	1,601,423
Total 2017	1,138,424	262,605	200,394	1,601,423	

In 2017, of total expenditure, £28,912 was to unrestricted funds, £1,396,195 was to restricted funds and £176,316 was to restricted fixed asset funds.

## 7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITES

8.

CHARITABLE ACTIVITES		
	2018 £	2017 £
Direct costs Support costs	1,358,242 584,561	1,053,398 548,025
Total	1,942,803	1,601,423
Analysis of support costs	2018 £	2017 £
Support staff costs Depreciation Governance costs Technology costs Premises costs Other support costs	147,814 194,140 13,137 6,475 78,372 144,623	140,312 170,359 11,948 6,624 92,246 126,536
Total	584,561	548,025
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		
This is stated after charging:		
Danna siation of ton sikla fixed accets.	2018 £	2017 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:     - owned by the Trust Auditors' remuneration - audit Auditors' remuneration - non-audit	194,140 5,085 4,700	170,359 5,000 4,500

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 9. STAFF COSTS

#### a. Staff costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2018 £	2017 £
Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	1,078,927 101,849 252,524	875,597 82,034 180,793
	1,433,300	1,138,424

#### b. Staff numbers

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

	2018	2017
	No.	No.
Teaching	8	7
Admin & Support	28	28
Management	3	6
	39	41

## c. Higher paid staff

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

	2018	2017
	No.	No.
In the band £ 70,001 - £ 80,000	0	1
In the band £ 90,001 - £100,000	1	0

2017 represented a 10 month period which accounts for the significant increase in employee benefits disclosed within this note.

## d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and national insurance) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £426,901 (2017 - £398,457).

Included in the above are employer pension contributions of £48,773 (2017 - £46,625) and employer National Insurance of £39,834 (2017 - £36,910).

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 10. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Trust. The Principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Principal and other staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2018 £	2017 £
Mr S Trimble	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	95,000-100,000 15,000-20,000	75,000-80,000 10,000-15,000
Mr S Jacobs	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	35,000-40,000 0-5,000	25,000-30,000 0-5,000

During the year ended 31 August 2018, expenses totalling £649 (2017 - £449) were reimbursed to 3 Trustees (2017 - 3).

## 11. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

The 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 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.

## 12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Freehold property £	Fixtures and fittings	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2017 Additions	4,795,246 22,721	95,702 31,263	4,890,948 53,984
At 31 August 2018	4,817,967	126,965	4,944,932
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2017 Charge for the year	138,193 166,484	32,166 27,656	170,359 194,140
At 31 August 2018	304,677	59,822	364,499
Net book value			
At 31 August 2018	4,513,290	67,143	4,580,433
At 31 August 2017	4,657,053	63,536	4,720,589

Included in the value of freehold property is land valued at £875,000 which is not depreciated.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 13. DEBTORS

2018	2017
£	£
Trade debtors 12,484 VAT recoverable 23,626 Prepayments and accrued income 32,644	975 38,108 33,655
68,754	72,738
14. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	
2018 £	2017 £
Trade creditors 1,130 Other taxation and social security 23,904 Other creditors 19,117 Accruals and deferred income 59,529	23,736 14,387 67,358
103,680	105,481
2018 £	2017 £
Deferred income	
Deferred income at 1 September 2017 1,006 Resources deferred during the year 10,763 Amounts released from previous years (1,006)	1,006 -
Deferred income at 31 August 2018 10,763	1,006

Deferred income consists of income towards school trips, refunds and parent contributions.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	248,523	54,072	(13,012)	-	-	289,583
	-					
Restricted funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	654,335	(606,509)	(47,826)	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA	-	20,282	(20,282)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	51,947	(51,947)	-	-	-
SEN funding	-	749,170	(749,170)	-	-	-
Residential funding	-	211,164	(211,164)	-	-	-
Restricted donations	(744.000)	6,577	(6,577)	-	400.000	(000,000)
Pension reserve	(744,000)	-	(90,000)	-	196,000	(638,000)
	(744,000)	1,693,475	(1,735,649)	(47,826)	196,000	(638,000)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted fixed asset Devolved Formula Capital	4,720,589	- 6,160	(194,142) -	53,986 (6,160)	-	4,580,433
Beverved i ermana capitar				(0,100)		
	4,720,589	6,160	(194,142)	47,826	-	4,580,433
Total restricted funds	3,976,589	1,699,635	(1,929,791)	_	196,000	3,942,433
Total of funds	4,225,112	1,753,707	(1,942,803)	-	196,000	4,232,016

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

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

#### **General Annual Grant (GAG)**

This represents funding from the ESFA to cover the costs of recurrent expenditure.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2017.

#### Other DFE/ESFA

Other DFE/ESFA grants represent funding from Government agencies to be used for specific purposes.

### **Pupil Premium**

This represents funding to be used to help raise achievement and improve outcomes for pupils from low income families who are eligible for free school meals.

### **SEN** funding

This represents allocated funding for special educational needs pupils, transport services, residential operations and strategic school development.

#### Residential funding

This represents funding to provide boarding for a select number of pupils on the Trust's premises to help aid development.

## **Restricted donations**

This represents contributions made by parents to the running of educational visits for the pupils of the School and the associated costs of running the trips.

## **Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)**

The Trust is to use the DFC allocation to maintain and improve its buildings and facilities.

## Restricted fixed asset funds

Resricted fixed asset funds represent resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the DfE/ESFA.

The transfer between funds represents the net adjustment for additions and disposals of fixed assets purchased using GAG funding.

## Pension reserve

This fund represents the Trust's share of the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) transferred to the Trust on conversion from a state maintained schools.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 15. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

## **STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR**

	Balance at 5 September 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
Unrestricted funds	-	277,435	(28,912)	-	-	248,523
Restricted funds			_			
General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DFE/ESFA Pupil Premium Start up grant SEN funding Residential funding Restricted donations Pension reserve	- - - - - - -	550,485 5,471 39,358 25,000 586,870 181,517 2,570 (660,000)	(498,409) (5,471) (39,358) (25,000) (586,870) (181,517) (2,570) (57,000) (1,396,195)	(52,076) - - - - - - - (52,076)	(27,000)	(744,000)
Restricted fixed asset fund	s					
Restricted fixed asset Devolved Formula Capital	- -	4,836,305 8,524	(170,359) (5,957)	54,643 (2,567)	-	4,720,589 -
Total restricted funds	-	5,576,100	(1,572,511)		(27,000)	3,976,589
Total of funds	-	5,853,535	(1,601,423)	-	(27,000)	4,225,112
16. ANALYSIS OF NET	ASSETS BETWE	EN FUNDS				
Tangible fixed assets			Unrestricted funds 2018 £	Restricted funds 2018 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2018 £	Total funds 2018 £
Current assets Creditors due within one year Provisions for liabilities and c			289,583 - - -	103,680 (103,680) (638,000)	- - -	393,263 (103,680) (638,000)
			289,583	(638,000)	4,580,433	4,232,016

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 16. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

## **ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR**

Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
2017	2017	2017	2017
L	L	L	£
-	-	4,720,589	4,720,589
248,523	105,481	-	354,004
-	(105,481)	-	(105,481)
	(744,000)		(744,000)
248,523	(744,000)	4,720,589	4,225,112
	funds 2017 £ - 248,523	funds funds  2017 2017 £ £  248,523 105,481 - (105,481) - (744,000)	funds funds fixed asset funds 2017 2017 2017 £ £ £  4,720,589 248,523 105,481 - (105,481) - (744,000) -

## 17. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

		2018 £	2017 £
	Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(189,096)	4,252,112
	Adjustment for:		
	Depreciation charges	194,140	170,359
	Interest received	(172)	(159)
	Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,984	(72,738)
	(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(1,801)	105,481
	Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	-	660,000
	Defined benefit pension adjustments	90,000	57,000
	Net assets and liabilities from local authority on conversion	-	(4,836,305)
	Net cash provided by operating activities	97,055	335,750
18.	ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS		
		2018	2017
		£	£
	Cash in hand	324,509	281,266
	Total	324,509	281,266

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### 19. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teacher's Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Hertfordshire County Council. Both are Multi-Employer Defined Benefit Pension Schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016

Contributions amounting to £19,059 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2018 (2017 - 14,081) and are included within creditors.

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

#### Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

## Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay, including a 0.08% employer administration charge;
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to
  the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the
  notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of
  £14,900 million;
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations; and
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £53,257 (2017 - £49,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx).

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

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 19. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2018 was £161,000 (2017 - £117,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £129,000 (2017 - £94,000) and employees' contributions totalled £32,000 (2017 - £23,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 27.8% for employers and 5.5 - 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions:

	2018	2017
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.80 %	2.50 %
Rate of increase in salaries	2.40 %	2.50 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.30 %	2.40 %
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.30 %	2.40 %
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00 %	50.00 %

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

	2018	2017
Retiring today		
Males	22.5	22.5
Females	24.9	24.9
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.1	24.1
Females	26.7	26.7

As at the 31 August 2018 the Trust had a pension liability of £638,000 (2017 - £744,000). The sensitivity analysis detailed below would increase/ (decrease) the closing defined benefit obligation in the following way;

Sensitivity Movement	At 31 August 2018 £	At 31 August 2017 £
Discount rate +0.1% Discount rate -0.1% Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	(41,990) 41,990 12,920	(39,364) 39,364 12,112
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease CPI rate +0.1% CPI rate -0.1%	(12,920) 35,530 (35,530)	(12,112) 30,280 (30,280)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 19. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

The Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	31 August 2018	31 August 2017
	2018 £	£ 2017
Equities	518,000	500,500
Bonds	342,000	192,500
Property	78,000	53,900
Cash	39,000	23,100
Total market value of assets	977,000	770,000
The actual return on scheme assets was £46,000 (2017 - £62,000).		
The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating as follows:	g Income and Expend	diture Account are
	2018	2017
	£	£
Current service cost	(199,000)	(135,000)
Interest income	21,000	16,000
Interest cost	(41,000)	(32,000)
Total	(219,000)	(151,000)
Movements in the present value of the defined benefit obligation were as follow	/s:	
	2018	2017
	£	£ 2017
Opening defined benefit obligation	1,514,000	~
Upon conversion	1,314,000	1,251,000
Current service cost	199,000	135,000
Interest cost	41,000	32,000
Employee contributions	32,000	23,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(171,000)	73,000
Closing defined benefit obligation	1,615,000	1,514,000
Movements in the fair value of the Trust's share of scheme assets:		
	2040	2017
	2018 £	2017 £
	_	L
Opening fair value of scheme assets	770,000	-
Upon conversion Interest income	21,000	591,000 16,000
Actuarial losses	21,000 25,000	46,000
Employer contributions	129,000	94,000
Employee contributions	32,000	23,000
Closing fair value of scheme assets	977,000	770,000

Fair value at

Fair value at

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

## 20. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2018 the total of the Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2018 £	2017 £
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year Between 1 and 5 years	8,297 4,250	9,509 12,547
Total	12,547	22,056

## 21. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

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

## 22. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

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

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.