

Company Registration No. 10455740 (England and Wales)

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Haines Watts
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Bridge House
157A Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2UT

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 – 12
Governance statement	13 – 16
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	17
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	18
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	19 – 21
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	22 – 23
Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account	24 – 25
Balance sheet	26
Statement of cash flows	27
Notes to the accounts including accounting policies	28 – 49

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Richard Collins Majid Bani Mike Cladingbowl Melanie Sproston (appointed 23 October 2020) Kathryn Farrar (resigned 4 October 2021) Gwenda Mayers (resigned 1 November 2020)
Trustees	Karen Tomlinson - Chair of trustees David Waugh (resigned 31 December 2020) Lesley Kincey (resigned 22 September 2021) Alan McGarvey Martin Witter (appointed 23 October 2020, resigned 27 July 2021) Andrew Wilson (resigned 4 October 2021) Jay Rooney – Vice chair of trustees Shiona McGillivray Karen Glasgow Julie Sutton (appointed 23 October 2020) David Spendlove (resigned 12 September 2020) Grenville Page (appointed 13 January 2021) Richard Middlebrook (appointed 1 January 2021 resigned 31 August 2021) Peter Cox (appointed 1 October 2021)
Senior management team	
Trust Leader/CEO	David Waugh (resigned 31 December 2020) Richard Middlebrook (1 January 2021 to 31 August 2021) Peter Cox (appointed 1 September 2021)
Chief Financial Officer	Jill Ingram (resigned 16 April 2021) Chris Trask (appointed 24 May 2021)
Director of HR and Personnel	Alison Ferneyhough
Head teacher - Secondary	David Waugh (resigned 31 December 2020) Matthew Dean (appointed 1 January 2021)
Head teacher - Secondary	Debbie McGloin (converted 1 December 2020)
Head teacher - Primary	Graham Hamilton
Head teacher – Primary	Heather Taylor (resigned 31 August 2021) Louise Carberry (resigned 31 August 2021) Jake Nicklin (appointed 1 September 2021)
Head teacher – Primary	Rachel Parry (converted 1 November 2020)
Company name	The TRUE Learning Partnership
Registered address	Poynton High School, Yew Tree Lane, Poynton, Stockport SK12 1PU
Company registration number	10455740 (England and Wales)
Independent auditor	Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road, Hale, Altrincham WA14 2UT
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC, 60/62 Mersey Way Shopping Centre, Stockport SK1 1PL
Solicitors	Elderflower Solutions Limited, Chestnut House, 23 Ryles Park Road Macclesfield SK11 8AH

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of The TRUE Learning Partnership ('the trust') for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

During the period covered by this report, the trust has expanded from operating three schools to operating five schools. One secondary school (Poynton) and two primary schools (Lostock Hall and Disley) for the full duration of 12-months of the accounts and one primary school (Hague Bar) from 1 November 2020, 10-months of the accounting period and one secondary school (Glossopdale) from 1 December 2020. These financial statements reflect the activities of the trust from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021.

- Lostock Hall Primary School; Before and After School care, Nursery 1 through to Year 6
- Poynton High School and Performing Arts College; Years 7 through to Years 13
- Disley Primary School; Before and After School care, Reception through to Year 6
- Hague Bar Primary School, Reception through to Year 6
- Glossopdale School and Sixth Form, Years 7 through to Years 13

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the trust. The trustees of The TRUE Learning Partnership are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The TRUE Learning Partnership.

Details of the trustees who served throughout the year except as noted are included in the reference and administrative details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

Details of trustees' indemnities during the period are provided in note 11 to the financial statements. For the period from 1 September 2020 the trust has opted into the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA). Under this arrangement, the trustees are indemnified up to a liability of £10m.

Principal activities

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of The TRUE Learning Partnership to advance, for the public benefit, education for students of different abilities between the ages of 2 and 19.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The trust, on identifying a need to recruit an additional or replacement trustee, refers to the trustee skills audit. This identifies key skill areas that the trust believes are important to have on the board to ensure effective governance. Trustees will then consider offers of service received from within and beyond the school community and the trust may choose to advertise locally through the schools' website and other media channels. Selection will be by interview with the chair and Chief Executive before the candidate is presented to the trust board for its consideration. Trustees vote on whether to recommend a potential candidate to members for appointment. Members have the authority to appoint trustees to the board by ordinary resolution. Before confirming selection, all new trustees will be required to undertake an Enhanced Disclosure via the DBS (Disclosure Barring Service).

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

All trustees receive induction training on joining the trust from the Chief Executive through the 'TTLP Trustee Induction Procedure' which aims to build an understanding of the nature of TTLP; its purposes and the communities in which it operates, to develop an understanding of the role, including legal duties, to build a link with TTLP's people - senior leadership teams, teachers, other staff, pupils, parents – and to provide a significant deep understanding of roles, responsibilities, vision and values in order to carry out their role effectively. A link to the induction procedure for trustees is available on the TTLP website

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Organisational structure

The governance of the trust is defined in the Articles of Association and Memorandum. The members of the trust are responsible for reviewing the articles if and when required and ensuring that the academy trust's charitable objectives are being met. They provide oversight of the governance arrangements for the trust, appoint trustees and the external auditors. Members receive and adopt the Annual Report and Accounts from the board of trustees and hold the trust board to account for the progress and outcomes for pupils.

The trustees ensure the trust delivers on its aims and provide support and challenge to the central trust team as well as holding individual schools to account when required; they have a key oversight role. They are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the trust using budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

Each academy in the trust has a local governing body (LGB). The LGBs are focused on the interests of the individual academy and include parental, community and staff representatives.

The chief executive is the multi-academy trust's accounting officer who manages the trust at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the trustees and reporting back to them. The executive management group is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff. Some spending control and authorisation is devolved as per the trust's Financial Procedures Manual and Operational Controls Manual that are underpinned by the Trust's Scheme of Delegation. Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined in these documents.

The trust has two main groups of central teams; the executive management team and the executive leadership group (ELG). The executive leadership group is made up of the trust chief executive, and the headteachers (or their representatives) of each partner school. The aim of the ELG is rigorous pursuit of excellence in every element of school(s) life, setting the highest of expectations for all members of the family with a relentless focus on improving student, pupil, staff, governor and community outcomes and abilities through an uncompromising drive and a highly ambitious vision for the future of the trust.

The executive management team (EMT) is made up of the trust Chief Executive, the CFO, the Executive Assistant, the Director of HR and Personnel, the Director of ICT and Network Operations, the Director of Health and Wellbeing and the Financial Controller. The aim of the EMT is the delivery a central service to all partner schools in order to support the delivery of the aims and objectives of the Trust.

The trust CEO is the multi-academy trust's accounting officer. These managers control the trust at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the trustees and reporting back to them. The EMT is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets. Some spending control is devolved as per the trust's financial manual and operations manual.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel for the trust are defined as trustees and the executive groups. Trustees do not receive remuneration for their role as trustees.

The key management personnel are subject to an annual performance review which is carried out in accordance with good practice for headteachers and other senior staff. Any adjustments to their pay and remuneration and the performance management process is reviewed by a specific pay review committee at local governing body level and at trust level through the Trust Pay Committee. The trust committee ensures a robust and transparent performance management process, including an assessment of individual performance and setting of benchmarked salary levels where appropriate.

Trade Union facility time

Relevant union officials:

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time employee number
3	1.95 FTE

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Percentage of time spent on facility time:

Percentage of Time	Number of employees
0%	-
1% – 50%	3
51% – 99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time:

Total cost of facility time	£4,937
Total salary costs within the trust	£13,330,000
Percentage of total costs spent on facility time	0.04%

Paid trade union activities:

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facilities time	100%
---	------

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There are no related parties or connected charities and organisations.

Engagement with employees and disabled persons

The TRUE Learning Partnership is an equal opportunities employer and communicates this throughout its recruitment processes. The trust encourages applications for employment from people from disabled groups and from a diverse range of backgrounds.

The trust is responsive to changes to an employee's individual circumstances through becoming disabled, which included making appropriate adjustments to working conditions. All employees of the trust including those with disability can expect to be afforded development and career progression that benefits their skills and expertise.

The trust acknowledges the trade unions that represent all of its employees. A Joint Consultative Negotiating Committee comprising of senior leaders and regional and national employee union representatives is an established mechanism to consult employees on matters affecting their employment with the trust. Individual school leaders meet regularly with the school-based union representatives.

Our employees are vital to the future success of our schools, providing our students with rich learning opportunities and equipping them to achieve their maximum potential.

All trust schools have formal and informal forums for collecting, considering and responding to the views of their workforce. Examples include the use of independently commissioned staff surveys. The trust actively encourages each local governing body and senior leadership team to engage with staff on issues of school improvement, working conditions and wellbeing. We have a Director of Health and Wellbeing who works across the trust supporting school leaders with their work in this area.

As a trust board, we aim to listen to the views of and provide clear information to employees, being honest and transparent as to the performance of the business.

Objectives and activities

Object and aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of The TRUE Learning Partnership to advance, for the public benefit, education for students of all abilities between the ages of 2 and 19.

The academy trust's objects ("the Objects") are specifically restricted to the following:

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

"to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum ("the mainstream Academies") or educational institutions which are principally concerned with providing full-time or part-time education for children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless alternative provision is made for them ("the alternative provision Academies") or 16 to 19 Academies offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students ("the 16 to 19 Academies") or schools specially organised to make special educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs ("the Special Academies"), or Early Years provision."

The aims and values of the trust are:

INSPIRE - ACHIEVE - CELEBRATE

COMMUNITY - CREATIVITY - CELEBRATION

Values - Serve our communities with "...an unswerving commitment to ensure every young person achieves their goals, whatever their circumstances".

Vision - A community focused, values based, learning organisation that meets the needs of all its members so that all will achieve.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The trust's activities are led through both the Executive Leadership Group and the Executive Management Group.

The overarching function of the Executive Leadership Group is the pursuit of excellence in every element of school life. Setting the highest expectations for all members of our school family with a relentless focus on improving student, pupil, staff, governor and community outcomes and abilities through an uncompromising drive and highly ambitious vision for our future. Our work is framed through the 'S-P-A-C-E' framework, i.e. support, protect, anticipate, challenge, empower.

The trust's strategic objectives for 2020-21 covered the following areas:

1. Successful integration of all schools into TTLP with robust, secure and sustainable financial monitoring and transactional systems.
2. Build sustainable capacity for school improvement across the trust
3. Continuity of support and challenge to academy schools through 2021 transition period and the recruitment of a permanent, full time CEO from Sept 2021 onwards
4. The expansion of the central services team in line with trust growth and the recruitment of a full time CFO from May 2021 onwards.
5. Successful completion of 2020 £1.1M CIF project in addition to a successful 2021 application and project completion.
6. Embedding a culture of health and wellbeing for a sustainable and successful workforce.
7. To consider and explore future growth opportunities, either through the joining of existing schools, expansion, or the development of new schools in response to local need.
8. Appointment of internal and external auditors with a successful completion of their required duties with Trust input.
9. In-year balanced budgets in all schools through ICFP led efficiency savings and benchmarked analysis for staffing KPIs.
10. Improving the performance of all disadvantaged learners (progress, attainment, attendance, and participation).
11. Ensuring inspection readiness and the highest possible outcomes in all schools but with a specific focus on Glossopdale, Lostock Hall Primary and Poynton High.
12. A seamless progression between Key Stage 2 and Key Stage 3 transition with specific focus on curriculum mapping.
13. Successfully embedding TTLP trust wide H&S compliance monitoring and response systems through our Every Compliance Framework and in partnership with Compliance UK H&S partners.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

COVID-19

The 2020-21 academic year presented ongoing significant challenges and changes to the operating models and achievements of our schools in light of the continued Covid-19 pandemic. In addition to the objectives as detailed above, further strategic objectives were established specific to the Covid-19 impact:

1. A full remote learning provision for all young people in order to ensure continued effective learning progression
2. Effective remote welfare services in order to ensure the health, safety and welfare of all of our young people.
3. Develop our health, well-being, and workload initiatives to support remote working and isolation circumstances

As with most other schools across the land, the trust was significantly impacted on in 2020-21 by the pandemic and subsequent lockdowns namely:

- school closure between January and March;
- the cancellation of exams;
- the implementation of a testing regime and growing numbers of pupils, teachers and staff testing positive and/or isolating all impacted;
- ensuring school deep cleans, improved ventilation; and
- the Covid testing regime across all schools and rolling out a vaccination programme to pupils aged 12 to 15.

The trust adapted its working practices by teaching online and supporting pupils when working from home. The trust coordinated its response across its schools in line with government guidance and advice. Actions taken were appropriate and proportionate with the over-riding principle being the safety of pupils and staff.

Staff and trustee meetings continued to operate online throughout the period, albeit ensuring the principle of the Academies Financial Handbook were adhered to in terms of segregation of duties and appropriate approval of expenditure.

Public benefit

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance and key performance indicators

This last year has presented a significant and unique set of challenges for all of our schools, our staff and the young people we serve. At the start of the academic year, all five schools (three schools from September five schools by December) were impacted by COVID and operated as 'bubbles' including a blend of on line learning. Schools opened briefly in January but closed soon after due to COVID. At that point full remote learning commenced having benefitted from the earlier blended learning strategies. Student achievement remained the highest priority but was impacted by remote learning particularly for practical subjects. Parents continued to indicate that the schools in the Trust provide high quality learning, care and progress in a secure, safe environment. We were making strong progress in relation to our objectives, strategies and activities developed through internal self- assessment.

Following changes to the accountability and assessment frameworks, outcome data for all phases was not available nationally. The last national data was in 2019. During this time each school monitored closely their pupils' performance to ensure secure readiness their next stage in education. Remote inputs included teaching and learning, open days parents' evenings and careers options were all delivered remotely and well received. Following an extensive process of Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs) students in key stage 4 and key stage 5 in both secondary schools performed above anticipated expectations.

The challenges of continuing provision throughout the Covid-19 crisis and the national lockdown were exceptional and the Executive Management Team successfully supported all schools to ensure an effective, robust and accurate learning provision.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

From January 2021 onwards, the trust has secured the services of Liverpool School Improvement Service to provide external review support to advise the board, on the performance of the trust and the schools within it.

Going concern

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

Financial review

The academy's principal source of funding is the GAG (General Annual Grant) received from the ESFA (Education and Skills Funding Agency). The academy also has undesignated funds mainly generated from consultancy income, fundraising activities and donations.

During the year Hague Bar Primary School joined the trust, from 1 November 2020 and Glossopdale on 1 December 2020.

During the period ending 31 August 2021, total recurrent expenditure (excluding restricted fixed asset funds and non-cash defined benefit pension scheme adjustments) of £15,388,000 was covered by recurrent grant funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources. The surplus of income over expenditure for the year (excluding restricted fixed asset funds restricted pension reserves) was £534,000.

At 31 August 2021, the net book value of tangible fixed assets was £43,433,000 with movements being shown in note 12 to the financial statements. The assets were used for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the trust.

The trustees have considered the implications of the existing, and potential future, defined pension liability and continue to keep it under review. They do not believe any proactive intervention is required at this time.

Covid-19 management led to significant costs incurred by the academy trust and successful bids for support from DfE were achieved in order to offset against these incurred costs as detailed in note 4.

The grants received were spent on extensive PPE and safety equipment expenditure and cleaning, IT provision (laptops, webcams, headsets and speakers), extra resources (electronic text books, revision books) for pupils and staff. Additional teaching support has been brought in alongside mentoring for newly qualified teachers. Funding was spent to meet additional costs of exams given Covid restrictions and also baseline assessments to establish gaps in learning. We incurred expenditure against the National Tutoring programme providing one to one and small group tuition.

Savings were achieved in supply expenditure, utility bills expenditure and learning resources. Income was lost from Before and after School Clubs and Nursery.

The trustees have considered the impact of all virus related control measures. They have had an impact on a number of contracts and networks, such as catering and cleaning contracts across the trust. They do not consider the impact on these contracts to be substantial.

Reserves policy

The trustees review the reserve levels of the trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

The trustees have determined that an appropriate level of free reserves should be maintained to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. Trustees aspire to a level of reserves that reflects 3% of General Annual Grant (GAG) income. In the period ending 31 August 2021 this equated to a target of £391,000 which the trustees believe represents an acceptable and achievable target. As of 31 August 2021, the trust held free reserves of £2,065,000.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Unrestricted funds held at 31 August 2021 were £1,122,000 and restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) were £943,000. Therefore, a net surplus of £2,065,000 is available to the trust which constitutes free reserves.

Trustees regularly review financial reports and projections. Trust reserves have increased over the accounting period.

Financial position

The trust held fund balances at 31 August 2021 of £40,562,000 comprising of £943,000 restricted funds and £1,122,000 unrestricted funds. Included amongst these numbers is a pension reserve deficit of £7,002,000 and restricted fixed asset fund of £45,499,000.

Investment policy

The trust has delegated authority to the chief financial officer to utilise the following accounts for deposit and investment:

- Main GAG deposit account
- High interest deposit account

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Finance Audit and Risk Committee undertake a comprehensive review of the financial risks to which the trust is exposed. The full trust board undertakes a comprehensive review of the full TTLP Risk Register covering all identified risk priority areas. They identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential impact on the trust. The internal controls are then implemented and the subsequent year's appraisal will review their effectiveness and progress against risk mitigation actions. In addition to the annual review, the Finance Audit and Risk Committee will also consider any risks which may arise as a result of a new area of work being undertaken by the trust.

A risk register is maintained at the trust level which is fully reviewed at least three times per year but is considered and updated at alternative meetings. The risk register identifies key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the trust. The internal controls are then implemented and the risk re-assessed with further mitigating actions established. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system.

Outlined below is a description of the principal risk factors currently categorised as most prevalent that may affect the trust. Not all the factors are within the trust's control. Other factor beside those listed below may also adversely affect the trust.

- Loss of key personnel to the trust (red)
- Demands on the executive management team exceed capacity (amber-red)
- Unable to operate within an annual balanced budget (amber-red)
- Changes to strategic leadership positions within the trust (amber-red)
- Fire abatement work

All other risks identified within the risk register are categorised below.

1. Loss of key personnel to the trust

The main areas for concern would be:

- Transition to new CEO and CFO
- Teaching staff in key subject areas (namely English, maths, science, geography, history, early years, Yr6)
- Potential single points of vulnerability in CFO and Director of HR and Personnel
- Senior leadership
- TTLP Operations Team
- Potential loss of organisational knowledge from the change in CEO

Further risk would be through the loss of key staff and the subsequent reduction in productivity during a handover period.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Mitigating actions include, but are not exhaustive to:

- Transition to permanent CEO to include full induction including support from departing temporary CEO through secondment of services for 6 months
- Transition to new CFO is supported by departing CFO on a consultancy basis
- Engagement with Teach Cheshire and possible restructure for SCITT and GTP schemes
- Engagement with Teaching School Alliance and CEASH working group
- Development of succession planning framework and talent spotting tools
- Embedding TTLP Central Services Team
- Develop documented written procedures within all Central Services functions to develop specific contingency plans in trust business critical posts
- Early identification of HR replacement services

2. Demands on the executive management team exceed capacity

The Executive Management Team is working at full capacity all of the time which leaves little, or no, time to deal with additional incoming requirements. In some areas, TTLP can manage priorities, but in others such as inspection, safeguarding, political interference and critical incident, demand may put serious pressure on staff at peak times.

Mitigation actions include, but are not exhaustive to:

- Key priorities identified through the MAT development plan
- Staffing structure reviewed regularly
- School performance dashboard developed to identify easily key trends and trustee challenge
- Cross training of staff
- Temporary staff can be employed where possible
- Appointment of TTLP Exec Assistant and CEO PA
- "back fill" plan to be implemented
- COO appointed at earliest opportunity
- Full-time CEO and CFO posts recruited

Further additional mitigating actions:

- Staffing level analysis and associated structure planning
- SMRA response plan
- Deployment of successful TCaF2 bid
- COO to be established at earliest opportunity

3. Unable to operate within an annual balanced budget

Financial challenges will continue for the foreseeable future across the education sector. Nationally, schools must find savings to offset unfunded cost pressures (e.g. Covid-19, annual pay awards, national insurance contributions, pension contributions, inflationary pressures, increased central service costs, apprenticeship levy).

Mitigation actions include, but are not exhaustive to:

- Continue to review all procurement
- Develop commercial income streams
- Continue with monthly detailed financial information monitored by the CFO and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee
- Maintain close working relationships with Lloyds Bank and closely monitor cashflow
- Establish monthly financial monitoring metrics
- Robust 12-month cash flow forecast in place

Further additional mitigating actions:

- Full ICFP analysis undertaken
- Additional external support for growth in systems established

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Specific Covid-19 risks are identified, and several mitigation actions are established:

If there is an epidemic or contagious illness, enough staff may be off ill that it impacts TTLP's ability to function. Covid-19 specific and wider seasonal contagions.

Mitigation actions include, but are not exhaustive to:

- Referred to full Covid-19 Risk Assessment & Management frameworks
- Purchased "employer assistance programme"
- Worked towards "valued people" standard (NASUWT)
- Established TTLP JNC
- Established TTLP Welfare Committee
- Signed up to TTLP Trade Union Recognition Agreement and established H&S TTLP Committee
- TTLP Trustees linked to each partner school
- Regular Chair and CEO KIT meetings
- Opened an early recruitment process for replacement CEO
- Induction and handover programmes undertaken between CEO

Additional mitigating actions include:

- HR procurement for 2020-21 to be undertaken
- On-going Covid management
- CEO active dissemination of Covid-19 best practice
- Active Covid-19 monitoring & tracking
- Increased capacity of CFO to facilitate
- Regular Exec Leadership Group Meetings

4. Fire abatement work

The trustees are performing all they reasonably can to ensure that all schools are compliant with fire safety to ensure all pupils, staff and visitors remain safe on Trust property. This is our primary responsibility. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Government funding (CIF) was applied for and awarded (£487,583) for fire abatement work to progress compliance at Poynton. This builds on work already performed on the site over the last few years. Work will commence in December 2021.
- An enhanced mitigation plan is in place and updated regularly: this involves additional measures around ensuring the safety of all persons, and also includes updates on progress made to date.
- The DfE and Fire service have been contacted directly and informed, and their advice followed in all cases.
- Training is being undertaken in September 2021 so that a member of staff can sign off an extension to the Fire Risk Assessment required actions. This means that the school can soon move to an official position of compliance, works underway.

Fundraising

The schools in The TRUE Learning Partnership undertake several fundraising initiatives which include fundraising on behalf of the schools themselves and fundraising on behalf of charities and good causes.

Trustees are committed to ensuring that fundraising activities are carried out in a controlled and ethical manner and are mindful of the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in relation to fundraising standards.

Whenever parents and pupils donate to charitable collections, monies are carefully accounted for and remitted to the beneficiaries as soon as is possible.

Activities to raise funds collected for use by trust schools are carefully considered by school leaders and appropriate and sensitive communication made with potential donors. The trust is sensitive to its local communities and their varying contexts and ensures that funds raised are always done so on a completely voluntary basis.

If significant new or novel fund-raising initiatives are planned these are referred to local governors for approval.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

Background

The trust has 5 academies, which use 29 boilers in total, for heating and hot water, across all the academy buildings. There is a mixture of lighting options installed within the 5 academies.

The trust also owns 2 diesel-powered minibuses.

This methodology follows the GHG Reporting Protocol and uses the 2021 Government emission conversion factors for greenhouse gas company reporting.

Disclosure of information

	1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021	1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020
<u>UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data</u>		
<u>for the period</u>		
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kW)	4,078,857	2,448,613
Energy consumption break down (kWh) (optional)		
• gas,	3,178,228.00	1,964,681
• electricity,	896,095.00	468,684
• transport fuel	4,534.11	15,248
<u>Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Gas consumption	599.21	361.25
Owned transport – mini-buses	0.12	1.53
<u>Total scope 1</u>	599.33	362.78
<u>Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Purchased electricity	190.27	109.27
<u>Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	1.09	2.22
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	790.69	474.27
Intensity ratio		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.287	0.258

Quantification and reporting methodology

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2021 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have ensured teachers have portable devices to allow home working as needed which allows buildings to be closed sooner in the evening and during some holiday times, thus reducing heating and lighting requirements

The trust has taken part in switch off fortnight to educate staff and students about the importance of saving energy.

During school partial closure times we have limited areas of school in use to reduce the need for heating and lighting.

The trust operates buildings which greatly vary in age. As such the energy efficiency and technologies employed across the trust varies.

We have begun a full window replacement programme in 2 academies through successful CIF applications. Halogen lighting is being replaced with LED, detection sensors are installed in some buildings for turning lights on/off or if sufficient daylight is detected. The use of video calling has reduced the need for travel.

Plans for future periods

Covid-19 has had significant impact on the future plans of the trust through its impact on both staffing levels and student attendance. Multiple bubble closures, a number of positive cases within the staffing body, a number of negative cases and more impacting, a number of self-isolation due to close contact/close proximity has led to a significant set of challenges to the opening of the schools.

The trust has identified potential schools that may be interested in joining the trust. These range from 'double RI' schools within a 10 mile radius that would benefit from the at least good quality of education offered by TTLP and the effective Central Services offered.

Further key objectives for the trust over the next period include, but are not exclusive to:

- Ensure that any school or phase that is below PAN is improved through effective advertising and marketing campaigns
- Drive school improvement so that each school is on track to secure outstanding overall effectiveness
- Provide deep, rich and broad curriculum, experiences and knowledge for all young people within the trust
- Ensure the schools in the trust are the first choice for students, parents and potential employees
- Respond positively to any free school applications
- Develop a robust plan for contributing to reduced carbon footprint and other environmental initiatives
- Embed SPACE model of leadership across all academy schools
- Embed environmental impact and education strategy planning across all partner schools
- Embed equality-diversity-inclusion strategy planning across all partner schools
- Embed 'Leadership CPD @ TTLP' framework across all partner schools
- Establish TTLP leadership succession planning framework

Other detailed objectives are set out in the Trust Strategic Plan which is reported upon at least termly to trustees.

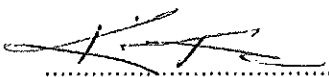
Auditors

Haines Watts has indicated its willingness to continue in office.

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware; and
- the trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, at its meeting on 9/12/21 and signed on its behalf by:



Karen Tomlinson
Chair of trustees

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the trust CEO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The TRUE Learning Partnership and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the trustees' report and in the statement of trustees' responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 7 times during the year (note, subcommittee meetings were affected by Covid-19 national lockdown).

Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of possible
David Waugh	3	3
Richard Middlebrook	4	4
Karen Tomlinson	7	7
Shiona McGillivray	5	7
Alan McGarvey	6	7
Andrew Wilson	6	7
Lesley Kincey	6	7
Karen Glasgow	5	7
Thomas Jay Rooney	7	7
Julie Sutton	6	6
Martin Witter	4	4
Grenville Page	3	4

The trust board has three sub-committees, namely:

- Finance, Audit and Risk Committee
- Human and Physical Resources Committee
- Standards and Curriculum Committee

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee		
Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Andrew Wilson	4	4
A McGarvey	4	4
K Tomlinson	4	4
Thomas Jay Rooney	4	4
David Waugh	1	1
Grenville Page	3	3
Richard Middlebrook	2	3

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Human and Physical Resources Committee		
Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of possible
A Wilson	3	3
K Glasgow	3	2
J Sutton	3	3
K Tomlinson	2	3
R Middlebrook	2	3
S McGillivray	3	3
Standards and Curriculum Committee		
Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Martin Witter	2	3
L Kinsey	3	3
D Waugh	1	1
Karen Tomlinson	2	3
Richard Middlebrook	2	2
Julie Suttie	1	3

Governance review

The NGA framework for governance reviews in multi academy trusts was utilised for the governance review.

The trust board has ensured that through its governance review process, any necessary areas of focus have been addressed, for example, through the analysis of the skills assessment this led to the board ensuring that recruitment of new trustees further supported key areas, namely secondary school experience, primary school experience and financial accounting experience. All trustees are able to access key training and professional development within the trust to support their roles and further enhance their effectiveness.

As a result of the review the board has introduced a full trustee quality assurance framework for 2020-21 to support its overall work.

Future plans for governance reviews include continuing with an annual review, but with a focus on an external independent review of governance at both trust level and local governing body level during 2022.

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the trust CEO has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of internal control. During the last financial period the review has been informed by appointing external consultants, Lighthouse Education Consultancy Limited to undertake internal audit of control. This work has focussed on the following areas within the financial time period under review:

- Income systems and controls
- Purchase to Pay controls
- Payroll checks

Findings and recommendations are reported in full to the trust board and the local governing bodies.

As accounting officer, the trust CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received. We have not identified any areas where Covid-19 adversely impacted on value for money.

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 board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the period covered by this report has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1. Improving the effectiveness of resource use.
2. Robust governance and oversight of trust finances.
3. Ensuring the operation of the trust demonstrates good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources.
4. Reviewing controls and managing risks.
5. Reviewing operations to maximise use of resources.
6. Effective horizon scanning to mitigate risk and take opportunity.
7. Minimising risk and expenditure during Covid-19 critical incident management

The accounting officer is fully confident that the financial and other processes for the academy are effective.

The purpose of the system of internal control

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

Capacity to handle risk

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

The risk and control framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees
- Regular reviews by the finance, audit and risk committee of reports which indicate performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- Identification and management of risk

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

- Testing of payroll systems
- Testing of purchase systems
- Testing of income systems

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

Following the newly revised FRC Ethical Standard for auditors, the board of trustees has appointed Beaver and Struthers as the internal auditor to carry out the academy trust's internal checks from 1 September 2021.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

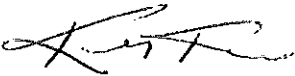
Review of effectiveness

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

- The work of the external auditor
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process
- School Resource management self-assessment tool
- The work of the executive managers with the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 9/12/21.... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Karen Tomlinson
Chair of trustees



.....
Peter Cox
Chief Executive & Accounting officer

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

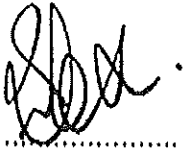
STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

As accounting officer of The TRUE Learning Partnership, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

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



.....
Peter Cox
Accounting officer

Date: 9/12/21

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of The TRUE Learning Partnership for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

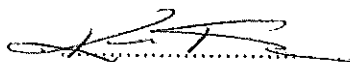
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 9/12/21 and signed on its behalf by:



Karen Tomlinson
Chair of trustees

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The TRUE Learning Partnership for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the 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 accounts 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.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

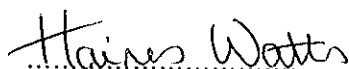
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the group's or the parent charitable company's financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Identify and test journal entries, in particular any journal entries posting with unusual account combinations.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group's or parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

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

Use of our report

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



John Whittick BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Haines Watts

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Bridge House

157A Ashley Road

Hale

Altrincham

Cheshire WA14 2UT

Date: 9 December 2021

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 January 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The TRUE Learning Partnership during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of The TRUE Learning Partnership's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The TRUE Learning Partnership's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 17 September 2018 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- We have confirmed that the activities conform to the academy trust's framework of authorities. As identified by review of minutes, management accounts, discussion with the accounting officer and other key management personnel.
- We have carried out an analytical review as part of the consideration of whether general activities of the academy trust are within the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- We have considered the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and have evaluated the general control environment of the academy trust and extended the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- We have assessed and tested a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity. In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have considered whether the activity is permissible within the academy trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the academy trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the board of trustees, and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the board of trustees and the accounting officer acknowledging their responsibilities including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence is not available.
- In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have reviewed against specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement. We have reviewed the list of suppliers and have considered whether supplies are from related parties and have reviewed minutes for evidence of declaration of interest, and whether or not there was involvement in the decision to order from this supplier.
- We have performed sample testing of other income and tested whether activities are permitted within the academy trust's charitable objects.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Haines Watts

Haines Watts
Reporting Accountant

Date: 9 December 2021

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	50	-	3,222	3,272	243
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	26	14	(3,079)	23,355	20,290	2,402
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	15,348	-	15,348	8,757
Other trading activities	5	450	60	-	510	355
Total		<u>514</u>	<u>12,329</u>	<u>26,577</u>	<u>39,420</u>	<u>11,757</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	105	15,970	665	16,740	9,400
Total	6	<u>105</u>	<u>15,970</u>	<u>665</u>	<u>16,740</u>	<u>9,400</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		409	(3,641)	25,912	22,680	2,357
Transfers between funds	16	(113)	183	(70)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(599)	-	(599)	(289)
Net movement in funds		296	(4,057)	25,842	22,081	2,068
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		826	(2,002)	19,657	18,481	16,413
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,122</u>	<u>(6,059)</u>	<u>45,499</u>	<u>40,562</u>	<u>18,481</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2020	Notes	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds:		Total 2020 £000
			General £000	Fixed asset £000	
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	147	-	96	243
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	26	15	(191)	2,578	2,402
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	8,757	-	8,757
Other trading activities	5	309	46	-	355
Total		<u>471</u>	<u>8,612</u>	<u>2,674</u>	<u>11,757</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	143	8,912	345	9,400
Total	6	<u>143</u>	<u>8,912</u>	<u>345</u>	<u>9,400</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		328	(300)	2,329	2,357
Transfers between funds	16	(31)	30	1	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(289)	-	(289)
Net movement in funds		297	(559)	2,330	2,068
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		529	(1,443)	17,327	16,413
Total funds carried forward		<u>826</u>	<u>(2,002)</u>	<u>19,657</u>	<u>18,481</u>

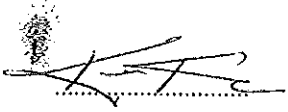
THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£000	£000	£000	£000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		43,433		19,657
Current assets					
Debtors	13	2,347		309	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,765		1,279	
		5,112		1,588	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(981)		(542)	
Net current assets			4,131		1,046
Net assets excluding pension liability			47,564		20,703
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	18		(7,002)		(2,222)
Total net assets			40,562		18,481
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds			45,499		19,657
- Restricted income funds			943		220
- Pension reserve			(7,002)		(2,222)
Total restricted funds			39,440		17,655
Unrestricted income funds	16		1,122		826
Total funds			40,562		18,481

The accounts were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 9/12/21 and are signed on their behalf by:



Karen Tomlinson
Chair of trustees

Company Number: 10455740

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £000	£000	2020 £000	£000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	19		719		666
Cash funds transferred on conversion			429		15
			<u>1,148</u>		<u>681</u>
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		1,425		96	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		<u>(1,087)</u>		<u>(98)</u>	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			<u>338</u>		<u>(2)</u>
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			1,486		679
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			<u>1,279</u>		<u>600</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u><u>2,765</u></u>		<u><u>1,279</u></u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

The TRUE Learning Partnership is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts and have concluded that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Conversion to an academy trust

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £nil consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from Hague Bar Primary School and Glossopdale School to the academy trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Donations – transfer from local authority on conversion in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds. Further details of the transaction are set out in note 26.

1.4 Income

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

Grants

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

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

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

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

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

1.5 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. This includes redundancy and severance payments.

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

Charitable activities

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

Land and buildings	Land - nil; Building - 50 years
Assets under construction	
Computer equipment	3 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	7 years
Motor vehicles	5 years

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

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

1.7 Liabilities

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

1.8 Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

1.9 Financial instruments

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

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

Financial assets

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

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

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.10 Taxation

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

1.11 Pensions benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

1.12 Fund accounting

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

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

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.

1.13 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the ESFA. Payments received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 26.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 18, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
Capital grants	-	3,222	3,222	96
Other donations	50	-	50	147
	<u>50</u>	<u>3,222</u>	<u>3,272</u>	<u>243</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	13,018	13,018	7,636
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
Pupil premium	-	390	390	136
Start up grants	-	181	181	75
Teachers' pension grant	-	427	427	335
Teachers' pay grant	-	152	152	87
Others	-	350	350	239
	<u>-</u>	<u>14,518</u>	<u>14,518</u>	<u>8,508</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	571	571	232
	<u>-</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>571</u>	<u>232</u>
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Catch-up premium	-	189	189	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	70	70	17
	<u>-</u>	<u>259</u>	<u>259</u>	<u>17</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>15,348</u>	<u>15,348</u>	<u>8,757</u>

Local authority grants comprise High Needs funding of £378,000 (2020: £182,000), Early Years funding £169,000 (2020: £49,000) and £24,000 (2020: £nil) exceptional growth grants.

The academy trust received £259,000 (2020: £17,000) of coronavirus related funding being £189,000 (2020: £nil) catch-up premium and £70,000 (£17,000) in other associated income. Costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £259,000 (2020: £17,000) and so no funds are carried forward at the year end.

Following the reclassification in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21 of some grants received from the Department for Education and ESFA, the academy trust's funding for Teachers Pay and Pension Grant & Pupil Premium is no longer reported under the Other DfE Group grants heading, but as separate lines under the Other DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies in respect of government grant funding.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

5 Other trading activities	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
Hire of facilities	38	-	38	30
Catering income	-	60	60	46
Parental contributions	99	-	99	117
Other income	313	-	313	162
	<u>450</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>510</u>	<u>355</u>

6 Expenditure	Staff costs £000	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
		Premises £000	Other £000		
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	10,931	599	853	12,383	6,382
- Allocated support costs	2,399	905	1,053	4,357	3,018
	<u>13,330</u>	<u>1,504</u>	<u>1,906</u>	<u>16,740</u>	<u>9,400</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:	2021 £000	2020 £000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	17	11
- Other services	3	4
Operating lease rentals	7	3
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	665	345
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	82	31
	<u>774</u>	<u>704</u>

7 Central services

The academy trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- Human Resources
- Financial Services
- Provision of Accountancy services
- Premises Management support
- School Improvement support
- IT Network Management services
- Health and Wellbeing services
- Project Management services
- Local Governing Body Support
- Governance Quality Assurance

The academy trust charges for these services on the following basis:

- 4% top slice of GAG income

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7 Central services

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Disley Primary School	44	18
Hague Bar Primary School	12	-
Glossopdale School	172	-
Poynton High School	277	262
Lostock Hall Primary School	24	23
	<u>529</u>	<u>303</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds £000	Total 2021 £000	Total 2020 £000
Direct costs				
Educational operations	105	12,278	12,383	6,382
Support costs				
Educational operations	-	4,357	4,357	3,018
	<u>105</u>	<u>16,635</u>	<u>16,740</u>	<u>9,400</u>

Analysis of costs

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	10,976	5,571
Staff development	22	11
Depreciation	599	311
Technology costs	161	66
Educational supplies and services	309	166
Examination fees	204	114
Educational consultancy	6	-
Other direct costs	106	143
	<u>12,383</u>	<u>6,382</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Charitable activities

Support costs

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Support staff costs	2,435	1,862
Depreciation	66	34
Technology costs	-	6
Maintenance of premises and equipment	232	226
Cleaning	191	144
Energy costs	208	121
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	145	81
Insurance	63	42
Security and transport	46	56
Catering	217	82
Finance costs	82	31
Legal costs	391	134
Other support costs	261	184
Governance costs	20	15
	<u>4,357</u>	<u>3,018</u>

9 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Wages and salaries	9,405	5,406
Social security costs	915	518
Pension costs	2,718	1,463
Amounts paid to employees	<u>13,038</u>	<u>7,387</u>
Supply staff costs	289	46
Staff restructuring costs	3	-
Amounts paid to staff	<u>13,330</u>	<u>7,433</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	103	11
Total staff expenditure	<u>13,433</u>	<u>7,444</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>
---------------------	----------	----------

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

9 Staff

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	206	107
Administration and support	209	128
Management	21	13
	<u>436</u>	<u>248</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£70,001 - £80,000	1	3
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£110,001 - £120,000	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,672,000 (2020: £1,021,000).

10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

The actual value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits received during the period was as follows:

D Waugh (Headteacher, trust leader and trustee – Resigned 1 January 2021)
£35,001 - £40,000 (2020: £115,001 - £120,000)

The value of trustees' pension contributions was as follows:

D Waugh (Headteacher, trust leader and trustee – Resigned 1 January 2021)
£5,001 - £10,000 (2020: £25,001 - £30,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £113 (2020: £nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 trustee (2020: nil)

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Assets under construction	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	20,004	60	45	114	15	20,238
Transfer on conversion	23,295	-	-	54	-	23,349
Cost transfer	1,058	(1,058)	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	1,087	-	-	-	1,087
At 31 August 2021	44,357	89	45	168	15	44,674
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	531	-	18	27	5	581
Disley ESFA desktop revaluation	(6)	-	-	-	-	(6)
Charge for the year	626	-	15	22	3	666
At 31 August 2021	1,151	-	33	49	8	1,241
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	43,206	89	12	119	7	43,433
At 31 August 2020	19,473	60	27	87	10	19,657

The net book value of land and buildings comprises:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Long leaseholds (over 50 years)	43,206	19,473

13 Debtors

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Trade debtors	82	74
VAT recoverable	160	52
Prepayments and accrued income	2,105	183
	2,347	309

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

2021 £000	2020 £000
Trade creditors	-
Other creditors	84
Accruals and deferred income	458
<u>981</u>	<u>542</u>

15 Deferred income

2021 £000	2020 £000
Deferred income is included within:	
Creditors due within one year	234
<u>89</u>	<u>234</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	61
Released from previous years	234
Resources deferred in the year	(61)
<u>(234)</u>	<u>(61)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	234
<u>89</u>	<u>234</u>

At the balance sheet date, the trust was holding funds received in advance for Universal Infant Free School Meals from the ESFA for 2021/22 & Local Authority grants in relation to Early Years.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	52	13,018	(12,310)	99	859
Start up grants	23	181	(204)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	390	(390)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	189	(189)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	70	(70)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	145	929	(1,074)	-	-
Other government grants	-	571	(571)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	427	(427)	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	152	(152)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	(104)	104	84	84
Pension reserve	(2,222)	(3,494)	(687)	(599)	(7,002)
	<u>(2,002)</u>	<u>12,329</u>	<u>(15,970)</u>	<u>(416)</u>	<u>(6,059)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	19,500	23,355	(602)	-	42,253
DfE group capital grants	147	3,222	(59)	(70)	3,240
Capital expenditure from GAG	10	-	(4)	-	6
	<u>19,657</u>	<u>26,577</u>	<u>(665)</u>	<u>(70)</u>	<u>45,499</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>17,655</u>	<u>38,906</u>	<u>(16,635)</u>	<u>(486)</u>	<u>39,440</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>826</u>	<u>514</u>	<u>(105)</u>	<u>(113)</u>	<u>1,122</u>
Total funds	<u>18,481</u>	<u>39,420</u>	<u>(16,740)</u>	<u>(599)</u>	<u>40,562</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds

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

Restricted general funds are those resources that have been designated restricted by the grant provider in meeting the objects of the academy and are restricted to both the day to day running of the academy and capital expenditure.

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objects of the academy.

Unrestricted funds are funds which the board of trustees may use in the pursuance of the academy's objects and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees.

A balance of £2,066,000 has been carried forward in restricted fixed assets funds in relation to unspent and accrued capital grants in relation to the five CIF projects underway across the trust. £84,000 has been carried forward within restricted general funds in respect of the sinking fund agreement at Glossopdale School for the sports pitch.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	65	7,636	(7,679)	30	52
Start up grants	-	75	(52)	-	23
Pupil premium	-	136	(136)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	661	(516)	-	145
Other government grants	-	249	(249)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	46	(46)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,508)	(191)	(234)	(289)	(2,222)
	<u>(1,443)</u>	<u>8,612</u>	<u>(8,912)</u>	<u>(259)</u>	<u>(2,002)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	17,252	2,578	(330)	-	19,500
DfE group capital grants	75	96	(14)	(10)	147
Capital expenditure from GAG	-	-	(1)	11	10
	<u>17,327</u>	<u>2,674</u>	<u>(345)</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>19,657</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>15,884</u>	<u>11,286</u>	<u>(9,257)</u>	<u>(258)</u>	<u>17,655</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	529	471	(143)	(31)	826
Total funds	<u>16,413</u>	<u>11,757</u>	<u>(9,400)</u>	<u>(289)</u>	<u>18,481</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds

Total funds analysis by academy

	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:		
Disley Primary School	336	66
Hague Bar Primary School	85	-
Glossopdale School	91	-
Poynton High School	838	572
Lostock Hall Primary School	282	239
Central services	433	169
	<u>2,065</u>	<u>1,046</u>
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve		
Restricted fixed asset fund	45,499	19,657
Pension reserve	(7,002)	(2,222)
	<u>40,562</u>	<u>18,481</u>
Total funds		

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies	Other costs excluding depreciation	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Disley Primary School	930	140	28	148	1,246	501
Hague Bar Primary School	227	227	12	65	531	-
Glossopdale School	3,712	956	166	505	5,339	-
Poynton High School	5,395	987	267	1,008	7,657	7,364
Lostock Hall Primary School	571	143	31	175	920	846
Central services	106	189	5	246	546	344
	<u>10,835</u>	<u>2,453</u>	<u>504</u>	<u>1,901</u>	<u>15,693</u>	<u>8,711</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total Funds £000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	43,433	43,433
Current assets	1,122	1,924	2,066	5,112
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(981)	-	(981)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(7,002)	-	(7,002)
Total net assets	1,122	(6,059)	45,499	40,562

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total Funds £000
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	19,657	19,657
Current assets	826	762	-	1,588
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(542)	-	(542)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(2,222)	-	(2,222)
Total net assets	826	(2,002)	19,657	18,481

18 Pension and similar obligations

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £1,626,000 (2020: £935,000)

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.6% 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.

Total contributions made	2021	2020
	£000	£000
Employer's contributions	532	326
Employees' contributions	143	77
Total contributions	675	403

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

Principal actuarial assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6	2.9 - 3.0
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.2 - 2.3
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.3-21.4	21.2
- Females	23.9-24.0	23.6
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.4-22.5	21.9
- Females	25.7-25.8	25

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

Sensitivity analysis – Poynton High School Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2021

	Approximate % increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount (£000)
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	122
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	214
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	12
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	109

Sensitivity analysis – Lostock Hall Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2021

	Approximate % increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount (£000)
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	16
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	27
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	1
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	15

Sensitivity analysis – Disley Primary School Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2021

	Approximate % increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount (£000)
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	16
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	37
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	1
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	15

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

Sensitivity analysis – Hague Bar

Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2021

	Approximate % increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount (£000)
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	10
1 year increase in member life expectance	4%	18
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	1
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	9

Sensitivity analysis – Lostock Hall

Changes in assumptions at 31 August 2021

	Approximate % increase to employer liability	Approximate monetary amount (£000)
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	2%	183
1 year increase in member life expectance	4%	341
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	26
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	2%	154

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

	2021 Fair value £000	2020 Fair value £000
Equities	5,113	1,328
Bonds	2,753	1,210
Property	736	295
Other assets	336	118
Total market value of assets	<u>8,938</u>	<u>2,951</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £996,000 (2020: £63,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Current service cost	1,137	529
Interest income	(104)	(46)
Interest cost	186	77
Total operating charge	<u>1,219</u>	<u>560</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021 £000	2020 £000
At 1 September 2020	5,173	3,706
Obligations acquired on conversion	7,918	507
Current service cost	1,137	529
Interest cost	186	77
Employee contributions	143	77
Actuarial loss	1,491	306
Benefits paid	(108)	(29)
At 31 August 2021	<u>15,940</u>	<u>5,173</u>

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

	2021 £000	2020 £000
At 1 September 2020	2,951	2,198
Assets acquired on conversion	4,424	316
Interest income	380	46
Actuarial gain	616	17
Employer contributions	532	326
Employee contributions	143	77
Benefits paid	(108)	(29)
At 31 August 2021	<u>8,938</u>	<u>2,951</u>

19 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	22,680	2,357
Adjusted for:		
Net surplus on conversion to academy	(20,290)	(2,402)
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(3,222)	(96)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	605	203
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	82	31
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	665	345
(Increase) in debtors	(240)	(112)
Increase in creditors	439	340
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>719</u>	<u>666</u>

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2020 £000	Cash flows £000	31 August 2021 £000
Cash	<u>1,279</u>	<u>1,486</u>	<u>2,765</u>

21 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Amounts due within one year	9	3
Amounts due in two and five years	25	1
Amounts due after five years	1	-
	<u>35</u>	<u>4</u>

22 Capital commitments

	2021 £000	2020 £000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	<u>2,267</u>	<u>1,005</u>

Capital commitments at 31 August 2021 relate to committed expenditure in respect of window replacement & fire upgrades at Poynton High School, roof & heating works at Lostock Hall Primary School and roof works at Disley Primary School.

23 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.

24 Members' liability

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

25 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the trust received £15,198 (2020: £15,851) and disbursed £2,709 (2020: £15,594) from the fund. An amount of £16,015 (2020: £3,526) is included in creditors relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to the ESFA.

THE TRUE LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

26 Conversion to an academy

On 1 November 2020 Hague Bar converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The TRUE Learning Partnership from the Derbyshire Local Authority for £nil consideration.

On 1 December 2020 Glossopdale School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The TRUE Learning Partnership from the Derbyshire Local Authority for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair values and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the statement of financial activities as donations – transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

Academy	Location	Date of conversion		
Hague Bar Primary School	New Mills	1 November 2020		
Glossopdale School	Glossop	1 December 2020		

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total 2021 £000
Net assets transferred:				
Leasehold land and buildings	-	-	23,301	23,301
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	54	54
Cash	14	415	-	429
Pension scheme deficit	-	(3,494)	-	(3,494)
	<u>14</u>	<u>(3,079)</u>	<u>23,355</u>	<u>20,290</u>

	Unrestricted funds £000	Restricted funds: General £000	Fixed asset £000	Total 2021 £000
Funds surplus/(deficit) transferred:				
Fixed assets funds	-	-	23,355	23,355
LA budget funds	14	415	-	429
LGPS pension funds	-	(3,494)	-	(3,494)
	<u>14</u>	<u>(3,079)</u>	<u>23,355</u>	<u>20,290</u>