

Registration number: 09809895

The Heath Academy Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST
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THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	N Musselwhite A Risby Salisbury Diocese Board of Education J McCall
Trustees (Directors)	L Crossley I Dale J Horn, Accounting Officer and CEO (accounting officer) N Musselwhite, Chair of Trustees M O'Brien C Sims (Resigned 31/08/2024) H Jones
Company Secretary	S White (Chief Financial Officer)
Senior Management Team	J Horn, Accounting Officer, CEO and Head Teacher - Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School A Clark, Head Teacher - Oakhurst First and Nursery School L Crossley, Head Teacher - St Ives Primary and Nursery School J Hudson, Head Teacher - St James First School and Nursery R Musselwhite, Head Teacher - Sixpenny Handley First School and Nursery R Sewell, Head Teacher - St Mary's First School and Nursery S White, Business Manager
Principal and Registered Office	St James CE First School Park Lane Aldershot Dorset SP6 3AJ
Company Registration Number	09809895
Auditors	Albert Goodman LLP Goodwood House Blackbrook Park Avenue Taunton TA1 2PX
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc 25 High Street Ringwood Hampshire BH24 1BD

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

On 1 December 2015 a multi-academy trust was established with St Mary's C of E First School, St Ives Primary School, St James' C of E First School, Oakhurst Community First School, Sixpenny Handley First School and Three Legged Cross First and Nursery School as members.

Justine Horn, Head Teacher at Three Legged Cross became Accounting Officer and CEO on 1 September 2016.

Heath Academy Trust operates a six nursery, first and primary school academy trust in the East Dorset area. The trust has a pupil capacity of 885 primary age places and had a roll of 736 in the school census in October 2023. There is also capacity for 200 nursery places and 156 nursery age pupils were on roll at the October 2023 census date.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Academy Trust was incorporated on 5 October 2015 and opened as an Academy on 1 December 2015. The Heath Academy 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 Academy Trust.

The trustees of The Heath Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The Heath Academy Trust.

Details of the trustees who served throughout the year are included in the Reference and Administration Details page.

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

The Academy Trust is a member of the DfE's Risk Protection Arrangement with a limit of £10,000,000.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Academy Trust has the following trustees as set out in our Articles of Association:

- 8 trustees appointed by the Members;
- No fewer than 3 trustees appointed by the Diocesan Board of Education;
- and the Chief Executive Officer.

Trustees serve for a period of four years.

In order to fully contribute to the development of the Trust the recruitment process for new trustees ensures that the experience and skills of individuals are taken into account prior to appointment. A skills audit highlighted the areas where additional skills were required, and the Trust has actively sought to recruit appropriately to fill those gaps. Recruitment of skilled trustees is an ongoing process.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

When new trustees are appointed, an analysis of requirements of their role and current skills is conducted to determine the necessary induction. Our induction procedures and support are outlined in our induction handbook and a new trustee is assigned an existing, experienced trustee to act as mentor.

Organisational structure

The Trust operates a clear scheme of delegation which clarifies the level at which certain decisions are made.

The School Improvement Group is made up of Head Teachers of all the schools, including the CEO and the Trust Business Manager. The Board of Trustees meets at least 6 times a year and the Finance and Audit Committee meet immediately before the Full Board meetings. The Full Board, including those who are part of the Finance and Audit Committee, also meet in December for the presentation of financial statements by the Trust's accountants. The Trust Board retains responsibility for: approving terms of reference for the Local School Committees; approving the Trust scheme of delegation; approving the Trust Pay, Finance and Health and Safety policies and the overview for strategic direction.

The Full Board take responsibility for monitoring achievement data, Health and Safety and Financial compliance, employment, staff development and recruitment across the Trust and its schools.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Pay and remuneration for key personnel remains the responsibility of the Trust Board. Head Teachers and the CEO are paid in line with the School Teachers Pay and Conditions. Non-teaching key personnel are remunerated in line with local government agreed pay scales. The CEO is responsible for performance management of the leadership team and the Head Teachers are responsible for performance management of the staff in the individual schools. All staff pay increases are subject to successful performance management and appraisal and are in line with National agreements.

Trade union facility time

The Heath Academy Trust does not have any union representatives.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Trust supports school centred teacher training in conjunction with Winchester University and works with the Diocese of Salisbury.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Trust aims to achieve outstanding performance from our children within a high quality, effective learning environment, producing a love of learning and a passion for excellence in all areas of school life. Our school leaders ensure a culture of high aspiration and clear lines of accountability, underpinned by strong, tailored school improvement and management systems within a professional learning environment.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trust is committed to working to the principle of 'inspire, transform, together'. Our Trust works to embed a strong culture of consistent high expectations, strong academic achievements while offering a wide range of sporting, artistic and cultural opportunities. Our Trust supports a strong commitment to high quality professional development based on rigorous self-evaluation, challenge and support in order to ensure school improvement.

The Trust is continuing to further improve systems to standardise routines and procedures and apply consistent high expectations and standards across all our schools. Shared expertise, staff and resources continued to be deployed to raise pupil outcomes.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

The Trust supports school improvement through its commitment to the self-improving system.

The Trust schools have continued to prioritise high quality teaching and learning. This means that school statutory achievement data continues to be good.

Key performance indicators

School achievement data shows our children achieve well in comparison with national benchmarks.

Year 1 Phonics	
Heath Academy Trust	93%
National 2024	79%

Year 4 Multiplication	
Heath Academy Trust	70%
National 2024	34%

End of Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessment

End of Key Stage Two Attainment	Reading	Writing	Mathematics
Heath Academy Trust	93%	90%	93%
National 2024	74%	72%	73%

Two Heath Academy Trusts schools received school inspections during the 2023-24 academic year:

School	Date	Outcome
St Marys First and Nursery School	October 2024	Ungraded, remains good
St Ives Primary and Nursery School	December 2024	Outstanding

We continue to work on some strategic priorities across our schools:

1. To ensure statutory school attainment is at least in line with national averages
2. To ensure all our schools have challenging, broad and balanced curriculum
3. To continue to streamline services and procedures, where possible, whilst still ensuring central funds remain as low as reasonably possible

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

Going concern

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

Financial review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Department for Education via the Education and Skills Funding Agency in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to the purposes of education. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds (non-fixed assets) in the statement of financial activities.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. In accordance with the SORP, such grants are shown in the statement of financial activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During this accounting period all six schools operated nurseries from their sites and this funding is received from the local authority and is shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Other income is received from the provision of additional paid nursery hours, after school and breakfast clubs, parental donations, catering and the hire of facilities at the schools.

The Trust submitted bids on behalf of two of the schools to the DfE Condition and Improvement Funding 23/24 round – neither of which were successful. The Trust has been working with a firm of Chartered Surveyors to strengthen these bids, which they plan on resubmitting to the DfE Condition and Improvement Funding in the 2024-25 round.

During the year the Academy Trust received income of £5,698,733 (2023: £5,521,912) and incurred expenditure of £6,120,078 (2023: £5,642,277) which, together with an actuarial pension fund gain of £107,000 (2023: £593,000), results in a net decrease in funds of £314,345 (2023: increase of £470,814). By fund these figures are broken down as:

- Unrestricted income, generated through activities such as educational trips and clubs, of £469,899 less attributable expenditure, including transfers, of £532,658 to leave a deficit of £62,759.
- Restricted income of £5,195,533 less expenditure, transfers and pension adjustments of £5,261,441 to leave deficit of £65,608.
- Restricted fixed asset income of £33,301 less expenditure and transfers of £219,549 to leave a deficit of £185,978.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

Reserves policy

The trustees review the reserve levels of the academy annually. The review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments, and the nature of the reserves. The trustees aim to have sufficient reserves to meet ongoing commitments. The academy aims to hold a contingency fund of £300,000 to cover unexpected expenditure which is based on one month's operating costs.

The academy's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £182,593. Additionally, within restricted funds the academy holds £160,838 of reserves (including the General Annual Grant) that are considered freely available for general purposes.

The academy's aim is to use the allocated funding each year for the full benefit of our current students. However, we also consider it necessary to carry forward some reserves to:

- Provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants;
- To invest in future years' priorities for the children of our schools, for example capital projects; and have plans in place for how this will be spent over the next three years;
- To have a contingency reserve to cover expenditure required for unforeseen circumstances such as urgent maintenance.

Investment policy

The financial model of the academy is to optimise working capital whilst ensuring easy access of the funds. In balancing risk against return the Academy Trust's policy is clearly geared to avoiding risk rather than maximising income.

Monies surplus to the working requirements at the academy can be invested in an account with the approved institutions authorised by the Board. This may be a higher interest-bearing account operated by the same bank that the Trust operates its current account with, or an alternative approved institution.

The academy will not take out any long-term investments until a reliable cash flow pattern has been established; monies will only be paid into approved fixed rate investment accounts i.e. Sterling Money Market, allowing access to funds within a term not exceeding six months.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust has developed a Risk Register and Business Continuity Plan to fully assess the risks and uncertainties and provide a clear plan of action in the event of major incidents. Risk is discussed at all Board Meetings and Local School Committees also consider their own school's individual risks regularly reporting any changes to the Trust either immediately or on a termly basis dependent on the reason for change. Current risks highlighted in our assessment include:

- Failure of a school to meet national achievement targets and achieve financial stability will threaten the viability of the Trust
- Reducing pupil numbers in some areas and the small size of the schools put at risk the stability of schools within the Trust
- Reduction in funding across the schools combined with increased staffing costs such as unfunded pay and pension increases.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

Plans for future periods

The Trust is committed to providing high quality education throughout the local area. We continue to develop our systems to support our current schools with consistency in order to provide high pupil outcomes and safe school buildings and working practices within a viable financial environment. Our Trust continues to be committed to improving our schools, introducing consistent practices where necessary and using high quality CPD to improve the learning of all pupils. We have now ensured all our schools provide high quality and sustainable Early Years provision from two years old and continue to look towards further growth as opportunities arise.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The academy and its trustees do not act as the Custodian Trustee of any other charity.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Reappointment of auditor

The auditor, Albert Goodman LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the Annual General Meeting.

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 6/12/24 and signed on its behalf by:



N Musselwhite
Trustee

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

Governance

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
L Crossley	5	6
I Dale	5	6
J Horn	6	6
H Jones	4	6
N Musselwhite	6	6
M O'Brien	4	6
C Sims (Resigned 31/08/2024)	3	6
S White (Chief Financial Officer)	6	6

The multi-academy trust continues to ensure all appointments to the Trust Board enhance the current skills base.

A register of business interest is maintained by the Clerk. All Trustees are required to complete a business interests form at the start of the academic year, declaring any business or conflicts of interest. This is maintained throughout the year and is a standing point on the Board's agenda.

The Trust Board receives information in a variety of ways to ensure it fulfils its responsibilities to support, monitor and challenge the work of its schools. Achievement data is provided by the CEO in a consistent and user friendly format which allows all trustees to participate in the oversight of progress. Financial data is provided in a comprehensive format and includes the use of KPI's and benchmarking. Information is held in a central secure area to reduce the use of paper and allow Trustees to access the data at their own convenience.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

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

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

- **Collaboration** - The Trust continues to secure high quality continuous professional development across our Trust at all levels to promote a shared collaborative approach to raising standards, for example by shared learning walks and writing exemplification.
- **Shared expertise** - The Trust has utilised some shared staff to maximise high expectations across all schools.
- **Buildings** - The Trust has secured Trust wide contracts for shared health and safety, maintenance and buildings contracts to ensure compliance and best value and continues to look at ways of increasing this working practice.
- **Administration Contracts** - The Trust have transferred the single central register to an established cloud based provider. The software operates in accordance with the latest Ofsted guidance and allows records to be shared easily between schools, helping the Trust to provide a safe working environment for our pupils and staff.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 Heath Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

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

There were no material control or other issues reported by the Responsible Officer to date.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks;
- a clear finance policy and set of financial procedures;
- ongoing training and support for staff with financial responsibilities.

The Trust Board decided to employ School Business Services as their internal auditor for the year ended 31 August 2024. In line with the Board's rolling programme of review, the internal audit for this academic year focused on the Trust and school websites, review of the gifts and hospitality policy and register, the whistleblowing policy, safeguarding policy and GDPR policy. The internal audit found that majority of areas audited were fully effective. The internal controls for gifts and hospitality were found to be robust, with clear evidence that procedures were being followed by employees. Processes for the other policies were also found to be robust, with the minor recommendations made by the internal auditor being taken on-board to enhance the processes already in place. The website reviews highlighted strengths and weaknesses across all schools and the strengths have been shared across the Trust to ensure good practice across all sites.

Any recommendations from the auditor's Management Letter and the Trust's rolling plan for internal audit will be used to form the action plan for the up-and-coming internal audit and will be monitored by the Audit Committee.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal and external auditors;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the finance and audit committee and the accounting officer, the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the Trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustee on 6/12/24 and signed on its behalf by:

J Horn

J Horn
Trustee

N Musselwhite

N Musselwhite
Trustee

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of The Heath Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustee and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

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



.....
J Horn, Trustee
Accounting officer

Date: 6/12/24

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board on 6/12/24 and signed on its behalf by:

N. Musselwhite

N Musselwhite
Trustee

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Heath Academy Trust (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy trust's affairs at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.

Basis for opinion

We have been appointed as auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with regulations made under that act. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Strategic Report and Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 14], the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

The extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Academy through discussions with trustees and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the Academy, including the Companies Act 2006, Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, Charities SORP 2019, taxation legislation, data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the Academy's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the academy's legal advisors.

There are inherent limitations in our audit procedures described above. The more removed that laws and regulations are from financial transactions, the less likely it is that we would become aware of non-compliance. Auditing standards also limit the audit procedures required to identify non-compliance with laws and regulations to enquiry of the trustees and other management and the inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

Material misstatements that arise due to fraud can be harder to detect than those that arise from error as they may involve deliberate concealment or collusion.

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy's Trustees, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Academy's trustees 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 Academy and its Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Joseph Doggrell BSc (Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Albert Goodman LLP, Statutory Auditor

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
TA1 2PX

Date: 6/12/2024

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Heath Academy Trust during the year to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of the Governing Body's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Board of Trustees' funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated and the Academy Trust Handbook extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY (CONTINUED)

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Reviewing compliance against the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook (September 2023);
- A review of the governance policies and procedures with specific consideration of financial planning, monitoring and control;
- Gaining assurance that the lines of delegation and the limits set both internally by the academy and by ESFA have been adhered to;
- A review of all meeting minutes of the board trustees;
- An examination of financial transactions to identify any unusual items which may be improper; and
- A review of the declaration of interests completed by the trustees.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Joseph Doggrell BSc (Hons) FCA

For and on behalf of Albert Goodman LLP, Chartered Accountants

Goodwood House
Blackbrook Park Avenue
Taunton
TA1 2PX

Date: 6/12/2024

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	94,155	-	33,301	127,456
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	5,146,033	-	5,146,033
Teaching schools		-	49,500	-	49,500
Other trading activities	4	375,624	-	-	375,624
Investments	5	120	-	-	120
Total		469,899	5,195,533	33,301	5,698,733
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	532,658	5,283,729	303,691	6,120,078
Net expenditure		(62,759)	(88,196)	(270,390)	(421,345)
Transfers between funds		-	(84,412)	84,412	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain/(losses) on defined benefit pension scheme	23	-	107,000	-	107,000
Net movement in deficit		(62,759)	(65,608)	(185,978)	(314,345)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2023		298,770	(273,554)	10,011,722	10,036,938
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2024		236,011	(339,162)	9,825,744	9,722,593

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

(INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/23 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	57,911	7,000	167,243	232,154
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	4,916,648	-	4,916,648
Teaching schools		-	52,600	-	52,600
Other trading activities	4	320,392	-	-	320,392
Investments	5	118	-	-	118
Total		378,421	4,976,248	167,243	5,521,912
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	350,864	5,014,128	277,285	5,642,277
Teaching schools		-	1,821	-	1,821
Net income/(expenditure)		27,557	(39,701)	(110,042)	(122,186)
Transfers between funds		-	(26,457)	26,457	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	593,000	-	593,000
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		27,557	526,842	(83,585)	470,814
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2022		271,213	(800,396)	10,095,307	9,566,124
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2023		298,770	(273,554)	10,011,722	10,036,938

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST
(REGISTRATION NUMBER: 09809895)
BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	9,871,764	10,041,822
Current assets			
Debtors	13	142,081	145,119
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>711,638</u>	<u>1,126,864</u>
		853,719	1,271,983
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(502,890)</u>	<u>(603,867)</u>
Net current assets		<u>350,829</u>	<u>668,116</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>10,222,593</u>	<u>10,709,938</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability		10,222,593	10,709,938
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	<u>(500,000)</u>	<u>(673,000)</u>
Total net assets		<u>9,722,593</u>	<u>10,036,938</u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	15	(339,162)	(273,554)
Restricted fixed asset fund	15	<u>9,825,744</u>	<u>10,011,722</u>
		9,486,582	9,738,168
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	15	<u>236,011</u>	<u>298,770</u>
Total funds		<u>9,722,593</u>	<u>10,036,938</u>

The financial statements on pages 21 to 49 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 31/12/24 and signed on their behalf by:

N. Musselwhite

N Musselwhite
Trustee

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	18	(312,830)	104,884
Cash flows from investing activities	19	<u>(102,396)</u>	<u>(12,493)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(415,226)	92,391
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>1,126,864</u>	<u>1,034,473</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	20	<u>711,638</u>	<u>1,126,864</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their 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 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

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

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 year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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

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

Expenditure

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

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 HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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.

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £3,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, per the table below. Where an asset comprises of two or more components which have substantially different useful lives, each component is depreciated separately over its useful economic life.

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.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Long leasehold land	over 125 years straight line
Long leasehold buildings	2% straight line
Furniture & equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment & software	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line

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.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Leased assets

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

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.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pension 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. 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. 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 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/(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.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****1 Accounting policies (continued)*****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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Capital grants	-	33,301	33,301	167,243
Other donations	94,155	-	94,155	64,911
	<u>94,155</u>	<u>33,301</u>	<u>127,456</u>	<u>232,154</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	3,880,657	3,880,657	3,850,314
Other DfE/ESFA grants	255,221	255,221	71,672
Pupil Premium	197,812	197,812	218,443
UFSM	137,174	137,174	164,409
PE Grant	102,070	102,070	102,090
	<u>4,572,934</u>	<u>4,572,934</u>	<u>4,406,928</u>
Other government grants			
Early years	468,048	468,048	407,347
Other Local Authority Grants	105,051	105,051	102,373
	<u>573,099</u>	<u>573,099</u>	<u>509,720</u>
Total grants	<u>5,146,033</u>	<u>5,146,033</u>	<u>4,916,648</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Facilities and services income	310,900	310,900	283,846
Educational trips and activities	37,789	37,789	36,546
Other income	26,935	26,935	-
	<u>375,624</u>	<u>375,624</u>	<u>320,392</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Short term deposits	<u>120</u>	<u>120</u>	<u>118</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

6 Expenditure

	Non Pay Expenditure			2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £		
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	3,593,199	-	397,175	3,990,374	3,696,736
Allocated support costs	883,010	772,947	473,747	2,129,704	1,945,541
Teaching school hub					
Teaching school expenditure	-	-	-	-	1,821
	<u>4,476,209</u>	<u>772,947</u>	<u>870,922</u>	<u>6,120,078</u>	<u>5,644,098</u>

Net Income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Operating lease rentals	6,687	5,162
Depreciation	305,875	278,902
Fees payable to auditor - audit	11,500	8,500
- other audit services	<u>3,400</u>	<u>2,825</u>

7 Charitable activities

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Direct costs - educational operations	3,990,374	3,696,736
Support costs - educational operations	<u>2,129,704</u>	<u>1,945,541</u>
	<u>6,120,078</u>	<u>5,642,277</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

7 Charitable activities (continued)

	Educational operations £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Analysis of direct costs			
Teaching and educational support staff costs	3,593,199	3,593,199	3,368,180
Educational supplies	124,613	124,613	116,345
Educational consultancy	138,730	138,730	100,164
Other direct costs	42,873	42,873	33,959
Technology costs	38,794	38,794	33,565
Trip costs	52,165	52,165	44,523
Total direct costs	<u>3,990,374</u>	<u>3,990,374</u>	<u>3,696,736</u>
	Educational operations £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	883,010	883,010	824,005
Depreciation	305,875	305,875	279,885
Recruitment and support	1,361	1,361	1,576
Rent, rates and utilities	130,567	130,567	111,468
Insurance	18,953	18,953	17,724
Catering	169,698	169,698	191,047
Maintenance of premises and equipment	219,921	219,921	171,220
Cleaning	116,584	116,584	110,759
Technology costs	127,205	127,205	102,775
Professional fees	64,304	64,304	43,792
Other support costs	92,226	92,226	91,290
Total support costs	<u>2,129,704</u>	<u>2,129,704</u>	<u>1,945,541</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****8 Staff****Staff costs**

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	3,335,491	3,093,639
Social security costs	291,979	262,333
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	755,135	792,746
	<u>4,382,605</u>	<u>4,148,718</u>
Supply staff costs	93,392	43,467
	<u>4,475,997</u>	<u>4,192,185</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2024 No	2023 No
Charitable Activities		
Teachers	47	40
Administration and support	81	91
Management	7	7
	<u>135</u>	<u>138</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2023/24 No	2022/23 No
£60,001 - £70,000	2	1
£70,001 - £80,000	2	2
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£90,001 - £100,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)**

8 Staff (continued)**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 £679,581 (2023: £632,107).

9 Central services

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

The academy trust charges for these services based on a percentage of the General Annual Grant that each school received.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Oakhurst Community First School	44,337	39,910
Sixpenny Handley First School	27,375	27,698
St Ives Primary & Nursery School	57,617	55,018
St James' CE First School and Nursery	27,214	26,339
St Mary's CE First School & Nursery	41,603	39,687
Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School	32,233	30,483
	<u>230,379</u>	<u>219,135</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

10 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

No trustee is paid for undertaking their role as a trustee.

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

J Horn (Accounting Officer, CEO and Head Teacher at Three Legged Cross First and Nursery School)):

Remuneration: £95,000 - £100,000 (2023 - £90,000 - £95,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £25,000 - £30,000 (2023 - £20,000 - £25,000)

L Crossley (Deputy CEO, School Improvement Lead and Head Teacher at St Ives Primary School and Nursery)):

Remuneration: £80,000 - £85,000 (2023 - £75,000 - £80,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £20,000 - £25,000 (2023 - £15,000 - £20,000)

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 24.

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 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.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024 (CONTINUED)

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Property improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost						
At 1 September 2023	10,162,451	1,255,506	58,990	189,434	19,250	11,685,631
Additions	-	55,902	18,412	31,370	30,133	135,817
Disposals	-	-	-	(3,500)	-	(3,500)
At 31 August 2024	10,162,451	1,311,408	77,402	217,304	49,383	11,817,948
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2023	1,096,477	328,831	41,745	160,073	16,683	1,643,809
Charge for the year	140,605	130,498	9,588	16,590	8,594	305,875
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	(3,500)	-	(3,500)
At 31 August 2024	1,237,082	459,329	51,333	173,163	25,277	1,946,184
Net book value						
At 31 August 2024	8,925,369	852,079	26,069	44,141	24,106	9,871,764
At 31 August 2023	9,065,974	926,675	17,245	29,361	2,567	10,041,822

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****13 Debtors**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	4,583	923
VAT recoverable	33,521	34,975
Prepayments and accrued income	103,977	109,221
	<u>142,081</u>	<u>145,119</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	118,477	264,142
Other taxation and social security	64,194	62,093
Other creditors	93,827	77,770
Accruals and deferred income	226,392	199,862
	<u>502,890</u>	<u>603,867</u>

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred Income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	134,290	131,790
Amounts released from previous periods	(134,290)	(131,790)
Resources deferred in the period	163,265	134,290
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>163,265</u>	<u>134,290</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for Universal Infant Free School Meals and Early Years funding for the autumn term 2024.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	326,313	3,880,657	(3,961,720)	(84,412)	160,838
Pupil premium	3,096	197,812	(200,908)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	255,221	(255,221)	-	-
Other Local Authority Grant	68,781	570,161	(638,942)	-	-
Teaching school	-	49,500	(49,500)	-	-
Other restricted funds	1,233	2,938	(4,171)	-	-
PE Grant	23	102,070	(102,093)	-	-
UIFSM	-	137,174	(137,174)	-	-
Pension reserve	(673,000)	-	66,000	107,000	(500,000)
Total restricted general funds	(273,554)	5,195,533	(5,283,729)	22,588	(339,162)
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Inherited fixed assets	9,065,974	-	(141,480)	-	8,924,494
Conditions Improvement Fund	533,132	-	(42,617)	-	490,515
Capital expenditure from other restricted funds	275,951	-	(89,782)	84,412	270,581
DFCG	136,665	33,301	(29,812)	-	140,154
Total restricted fixed asset funds	10,011,722	33,301	(303,691)	84,412	9,825,744
Total restricted funds	9,738,168	5,228,834	(5,587,420)	107,000	9,486,582
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
General	243,171	469,899	(530,477)	-	182,593
Capital expenditure	55,599	-	(2,181)	-	53,418
Total unrestricted funds	298,770	469,899	(532,658)	-	236,011
Total funds	10,036,938	5,698,733	(6,120,078)	107,000	9,722,593

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

15 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	341,577	3,649,266	(3,638,073)	(26,457)	326,313
Pupil premium	2,900	220,065	(219,869)	-	3,096
Other Local Authority Grant	38,894	407,347	(377,460)	-	68,781
Teaching school	-	52,600	(52,600)	-	-
Other restricted funds	1,233	380,471	(380,471)	-	1,233
PE Grant	-	102,090	(102,067)	-	23
UIFSM	-	164,409	(164,409)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,185,000)	-	(81,000)	593,000	(673,000)
Total restricted general funds	(800,396)	4,976,248	(5,015,949)	566,543	(273,554)
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Inherited fixed assets	9,207,454	-	(141,480)	-	9,065,974
Conditions Improvement Fund	503,551	57,453	(30,083)	2,211	533,132
Capital expenditure from other restricted funds	283,544	76,320	(83,995)	82	275,951
DFCG	100,758	33,470	(21,727)	24,164	136,665
Total restricted fixed asset funds	10,095,307	167,243	(277,285)	26,457	10,011,722
Total restricted funds	9,294,911	5,143,491	(5,293,234)	593,000	9,738,168
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
General	213,236	378,421	(348,486)	-	243,171
Capital expenditure	57,977	-	(2,378)	-	55,599
Total unrestricted funds	271,213	378,421	(350,864)	-	298,770
Total funds	9,566,124	5,521,912	(5,644,098)	593,000	10,036,938

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****15 Funds (continued)****Analysis of academies by fund balance**

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Oakhurst Community First School	99,118	169,924
Sixpenny Handley First School	11,092	41,151
St Ives Primary & Nursery School	98,833	158,285
St James' CE First School and Nursery	121,382	95,251
St Mary's CE First School & Nursery	38,772	90,531
Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School	(2,612)	65,604
Central services	<u>(23,154)</u>	<u>21,871</u>
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	343,431	642,617
Restricted fixed asset funds	9,825,744	10,011,722
Unrestricted fixed asset fund	53,418	55,599
Pension reserve	<u>(500,000)</u>	<u>(673,000)</u>
Total	<u>9,722,593</u>	<u>10,036,938</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****15 Funds (continued)****Total cost analysis by academy**

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2024 £
Oakhurst Community First School	778,745	93,507	25,121	254,573	1,151,946
Sixpenny Handley First School	381,469	126,967	15,051	152,148	675,635
St Ives Primary & Nursery School	879,584	213,585	44,342	310,746	1,448,257
St Mary's CE First School & Nursery	608,645	157,438	16,778	260,330	1,043,191
Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School	582,220	88,281	18,787	159,015	848,303
St James' CE First School and Nursery	393,575	154,214	5,626	113,830	667,245
Central services	-	35,545	-	10,082	45,627
Academy Trust	<u>3,624,238</u>	<u>869,537</u>	<u>125,705</u>	<u>1,260,724</u>	<u>5,880,204</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****15 Funds (continued)**

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2023 £
Oakhurst Community First School	617,148	82,224	25,734	219,594	944,700
Sixpenny Handley First School	425,148	84,107	7,212	145,636	662,103
St Ives Primary & Nursery School	824,647	185,290	47,058	288,490	1,345,485
St Mary's CE First School & Nursery	546,301	185,638	22,118	203,598	957,655
Three Legged Cross First & Nursery School	509,633	97,867	9,932	143,796	761,228
St James' CE First School and Nursery	360,569	113,124	4,529	139,221	617,443
Central services	117,062	77,213	-	100,477	294,752
Academy Trust	<u>3,400,508</u>	<u>825,463</u>	<u>116,583</u>	<u>1,240,812</u>	<u>5,583,366</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	53,418	-	9,818,346	9,871,764
Current assets	182,593	663,728	7,398	853,719
Current liabilities	-	(502,890)	-	(502,890)
Pension scheme liability	-	(500,000)	-	(500,000)
Total net assets	236,011	(339,162)	9,825,744	9,722,593

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	55,599	-	9,986,223	10,041,822
Current assets	243,171	1,003,313	25,499	1,271,983
Current liabilities	-	(603,867)	-	(603,867)
Pension scheme liability	-	(673,000)	-	(673,000)
Total net assets	298,770	(273,554)	10,011,722	10,036,938

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****17 Long-term commitments, including operating leases*****Operating leases***

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	7,239	4,705
Amounts due between one and five years	19,267	458
	<u>26,506</u>	<u>5,163</u>

18 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net expenditure	(421,345)	(122,186)
Depreciation	305,875	279,885
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(33,301)	(167,243)
Interest receivable	(120)	(118)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(68,000)	81,000
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	3,038	(22,758)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(100,977)	56,304
Net cash (used in)/provided by Operating Activities	<u>(312,830)</u>	<u>104,884</u>

19 Cash flows from investing activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	120	118
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(135,817)	(179,854)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	33,301	167,243
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(102,396)</u>	<u>(12,493)</u>

20 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>711,638</u>	<u>1,126,864</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>711,638</u>	<u>1,126,864</u>

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****21 Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash	1,128,864	(415,226)	711,638
Total	1,126,864	(415,226)	711,638

22 Member 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.

23 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 Dorset Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £62,532 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023: £66,678) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both 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 HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI.

The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £505,533 (2023: £476,784). A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above, the information available on the scheme.

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £404,000 (2023 - £364,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £326,000 (2023 - £291,000) and employees' contributions totalled £78,000 (2023 - £73,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23.7 per cent for employers and 5.5 per cent for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of an academy trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

(CONTINUED)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.80	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.80	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<u>5.10</u>	<u>5.30</u>

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

	2024	2023
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	21.80	21.80
Females retiring today	23.90	23.90
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	23.10	23.10
Females retiring in 20 years	<u>25.30</u>	<u>25.30</u>

Sensitivity analysis

	2024	2023
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	4,526,000	3,944,000
Discount rate -0.1%	4,737,000	4,125,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	4,753,000	4,132,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	<u>4,510,000</u>	<u>3,936,000</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Equities	2,608,000	2,073,000
Other bonds	270,000	220,000
Property	318,000	295,000
Cash and other liquid assets	69,000	50,000
Other	<u>865,000</u>	<u>722,000</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>4,130,000</u>	<u>3,360,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £499,317 (2023 - £56,784).

THE HEATH ACADEMY TRUST**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****(CONTINUED)****23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)****Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current service cost	231,000	326,000
Interest cost	27,000	44,000
Admin expenses	2,000	2,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>260,000</u>	<u>372,000</u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
At start of period	4,033,000	4,150,000
Current service cost	231,000	326,000
Interest cost	214,000	177,000
Employee contributions	78,000	73,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	132,000	(656,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(58,000)</u>	<u>(37,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>4,630,000</u>	<u>4,033,000</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
At start of period	3,360,000	2,965,000
Interest income	187,000	133,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	237,000	(65,000)
Employer contributions	326,000	291,000
Employee contributions	78,000	73,000
Benefits paid	<u>(58,000)</u>	<u>(37,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>4,130,000</u>	<u>3,360,000</u>

Local government pension schemes**24 Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.

