

Company Registration Number: 06336693 (England & Wales)

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	A Price (appointed 21 February 2012, resignation 28 February 2023) J Nair (appointed 3 August 2016) Z Akhtar (appointed 12 July 2016) B Sandhu (appointed 25 November 2019) K Egan (appointed 27 March 2023)
Trustees	A Dennis, Chair of Trustees (appointed 15 October 2019) ^{1,2} M Conway-Jones (re-appointed 12 July 2020) ^{1,2,3,4} Sir M Grundy, Accounting Officer, Trustee (Ex-Officio) (appointed 7 August 2007) ¹ J Nair, Board Vice Chair (re-appointed 18 July 2022) ^{1,2,3,4} J Hunt (appointed 21 May 2020) ^{1,2,3,4} A Savell-Boss (re-appointed 21 October 2019) ^{1,2,3,4} R Till (appointed 30 November 2021) ^{2,3} J McLeod (appointed 31 March 2023) ²

¹ Resources

² Remuneration and Performance Management

³ Standards and Performance

⁴ Audit and Risk

Company registered number

06336693

Company name

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust

Principal and registered office

Waterloo Road
Smethwick
West Midlands
B66 4ND

Company secretary

J Kellas

Chief executive officer

Sir M Grundy

Senior management team

Sir M Grundy, Chief Executive Officer
D Irish, Secondary Director of Safeguarding and SEND
G Faux, Secondary Director of Education
M Adams, HR Director
Lady K Grundy, Primary Director of Education
J Kellas, Finance & Operations Director (resigned 31 January 2023)
J Taylor, Chief Finance Officer (Appointed 01 February 2023)
A Ballard, Chief Operations Officer
H Panjwani, Chief Strategy Officer

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Independent auditor Cooper Parry Group Limited
Cubo Birmingham
Office 401
4th Floor
Two Chamberlain Square
B3 3AX

Bankers Lloyds Bank PLC
293 High Street
West Bromwich
West Midlands
B70 8NA

Solicitors Browne Jacobson
44 Castle Gate
Nottingham
NG1 7BJ

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust's head office is at Shireland Collegiate Academy. The Articles of Association enable the Trust to operate on a federal basis and to include more than one Academy.

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust (S-CAT) is the legal entity, which governs three secondary academies, five primary academies, one university technical college, and two private nurseries. Four primary academies, two nurseries, the university technical college and two secondary academies are within Sandwell and the other secondary and primary academies are within Dudley. We serve a student population of birth to year 13 (18-year-olds).

The eight Academies are Shireland Collegiate Academy, Thorns Collegiate Academy, West Bromwich Collegiate Academy, Holyhead Primary Academy, Tameside Primary Academy, Shireland Technology Primary, Wallbrook Primary Academy and Lightwoods Primary Academy. The one university technical college is Shireland Biomedical who joined the Trust in April 2022. The two nurseries are Tinywoods Nursery and First Steps Nursery.

We have a total student population as of October 2023 of 5,383 students from a student capacity of 5,711. We are currently 94% full, as we have two free schools who are in their fourth year of operation and are growing, a university technical college that has four vacant year groups, plus we are downsizing two primary schools due to low birth rates within their local areas.

Structure, governance, and management

a. Constitution

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital. It was incorporated on 7 August 2007 and was registered as a charity on 6 February 2008. S-CAT is an exempt charity whose Principal Regulator is the Secretary of State for Education. S-CAT commenced operations on 1 September 2007.

The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents. Members of the charitable company are any original signatories of the Memorandum of Association who are still members and any persons appointed by Special Resolution of the members.

The Articles of Association state the Trust Board may comprise of up to 7 Trustees appointed by the Members and up to 2 Trustees appointed by the Trust Board. The Board can also appoint co-opted Trustees. Under section 57 of the articles. The CEO of the Trust is also a Trustee.

The Articles allow the Trust to establish Local Governing Bodies for each Academy within its control. These Local Governing Bodies are called Standards and Performance Committees. Their role includes the monitoring of the educational performance of the Academies and the implementation of policies agreed by the Trust Board. The Standards and Performance Committees each comprise up to nine governors, which include trustees, family, and staff members.

The Trustees are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Company law and Trustees for the purposes of charity legislation. The details of the Trustees who served throughout the year are included in the references and administrative details on page 1.

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

Structure, governance, and management (continued)

b. 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.

c. Trustees' indemnities

Every Trustee, Governor or other officer of the Academy shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy. The Academy has a third-party indemnity in place for all Trustees. The limit of the indemnity is £5,000,000.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Trustees are appointed to ensure the objects of the Trust as set out in the Articles of Association and Funding Agreements are adhered to.

Trustees are appointed for a 4-year period, except that this time limit does not apply to the CEO who is appointed as part of holding this office under the Articles of Association.

Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee can be re-appointed or re-elected.

Any individual wishing to become a Trustee is asked to attend an induction interview with either the Chair of the Board, the Chief Executive Officer and the Company Secretary and complete a skills matrix. On the basis of this induction meeting and skill matrix the Trustee's appointment is then either endorsed by the Board or the Members as appropriate or rejected.

All Trustees are asked to complete an inventory of their skills and experience periodically thereafter. The resulting overall profile of Board and Committee expertise enables Trustees and members to appoint persons who will ensure that the Board can discharge its duties efficiently and effectively.

The Board has continued this year to use - Governors for Schools Service, Inspiring Governance, and the National Governance Association, to help with recruitment and ensure that any skills gaps that have been identified can be filled accordingly.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance, and management (continued)

e. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Technology is central to the Trust governance structure. To ensure the best use of Members, Trustees and Governors time we aim to make all training and information as accessible as possible and easy to understand. To achieve this, we use an online governance environment which all Members Trustees and Governors are required to use. Each Member/Trustee/Governor on appointment is issued with guidance on its use and are directed to the induction area on this environment.

We require all Members/Trustees/Governors to undertake compulsory induction training plus on an annual basis mandatory training which is supplemented by other training linked to their skills analysis. The skills analysis is reviewed annually and mapped to the requirements of the Governors Handbook and Competency Framework.

In addition to the online support and training, all new Members, Trustees and Governors are offered a one-to-one induction meeting with the Assistant Company Secretary or Company Secretary. The training and induction provided for new Trustees will always include an opportunity for a tour of the academies and a chance to meet staff and pupils.

Access to relevant policies and procedures, meeting agendas, Board and Committee minutes are available in real time by using the online governance portal.

The Trust's training plan, over and above the mandatory training, includes opportunities for face to face, home learning and on-line learning sessions. Before every meeting a level of training is made available plus we provide a bank of training resources from the National Governance Association.

The Trust is a member of The Key, which holds a wealth of information and support and also has links with SGOSS which have a governance support structure.

This year the training has included, for Trustees: Safeguarding including updates from Keeping Children Safe in Education, Changes in the Scheme of Delegation, Changes in the Academies Handbook , SEND, Exclusions, Cyber Security, Grant funding, budget setting and internal scrutiny for the Standards and Performance Committees (Local Governing Body)

In addition to the in-year training courses, the governance portal has been regularly updated so that Members, Trustees and Governors can be informed of national developments in education and related legislation.

Members, Trustees and Governors are all encouraged to visit the Trust and individual academy websites as often as possible due to the wealth of information available.

At the end of each year, we review the training programme. This information is used to plan future training activities. The review at the end of this year has resulted in a request for more support for training on challenging leaders, finances and SEND.

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Structure, governance, and management (continued)

f. Organisational structure

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring compliance with the Trust's duties under company and charity law and any agreements made with the DfE, in particular the Funding Agreements, for setting the strategic direction of the Trust and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy Trust.

To discharge these duties, Trustees approve, on an annual basis, structure, policies development plans and budget and in year monitor the implementation by the use of financial, education and operational data. They also agree annually a Governance Structure and a Scheme of Delegation at the first meeting of the Board of Trustees in the autumn term.

Trustees are actively encouraged to propose ways in which the governance arrangements can be improved to increase the level and effectiveness of challenge and support.

The Governance structure establishes the overall framework for the governance of the Academy Trust and determines membership, terms of reference and procedures of its committees and other groups

The scheme of delegation states the responsibilities of the Board and the powers delegated to its committees, the Chief Executive Officer and other senior staff.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the Accounting Officer.

The Board of Trustees normally meet a minimum of four times per year.

During the year under review, the Trust held in addition to the five Board meetings, three Resources Committee meetings, three Audit and Risk Committee meetings, three Remuneration meetings and three meetings of Shireland Learning Board (the subsidiary company). Plus, each SPC held 3 meetings, one per term.

The Trust's organisational structure is comprised of four levels, which are, the:

- Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust Board of Trustees (including 3 supporting committees - Resources, Audit and Risk and Remuneration);
- Academy Standards and Performance Committees (SPC) (Local Governing Bodies);
- Executive Leadership Team (an Operational arm and an Educational arm); and
- Senior Leadership Teams at academy level.

The aim of this structure is to give clear management accountability that allows the relevant responsibilities to be devolved and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) consists of 9 staff: the Chief Executive Officer, the Finance and Operations Director (left role in January 2023), Director of Human Resources, Secondary Director of Safeguarding and SEND, Secondary Director of Education, Primary Director of Education, Chief Finance Officer (appointed February 2023), Chief Operating Officer (in post from February 2023), Chief Strategy Officer (in post from February 2023) and Director of Marketing & Communications (in post from January 2023).

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Structure, governance, and management (continued)

These individuals have responsibility for the implementation of decisions made by Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust Board in relation to any aspect of the Academies' management and organisation, in respect of the curriculum, financial management, human resources and the development of partnership working.

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) meets to plan, deliver, and evaluate the provision of the work of the Trust. This group report on the Trust's overall performance at Board level.

Each Academy has a Senior Leadership team (SLT). SLT implement the strategy set by Board and ELT within each academy and report back on performance to ELT.

Shireland Learning Limited (SLL) which is the trading subsidiary of the Trust has its own Board of directors but adopt the governance structure and Scheme of Delegation from the Trust and as such the management organisation. SLL is expected to comply with all relevant Trust policies.

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel are defined as the Executive Leadership Team and the Senior Leadership Teams of each school. Trustees and governors are not paid for their role, but in line with trustee's expenses policy can claim expenses incurred in relation to the discharge of their duties. Details of Trustees' remuneration and expenses are disclosed in the notes of the financial statements.

The Remuneration and Performance Management Committee of the Trust Board determines the salary of those on Executive Leadership Positions. The teaching members of staff follow the conditions of service for Leadership Posts and the non-teaching members follow the conditions of the National Joint Council. All members of ELT, in addition to their annual salary, have an element of performance related pay.

Principals who are not members of ELT are paid on Trust defined salaries and follow conditions of service for leadership posts.

The senior leadership team of each academy are paid in line with the current national pay scales for teaching staff and in accordance with the Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document, non-teaching members of staff are paid in line with the national NJC pay scales and NJC terms and conditions.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance, and management (continued)

h. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

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

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	-
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-
Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	30,619,094
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours - %

i. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust is the sole member of Shireland Learning Limited (SLL), a company incorporated in England (registration no. 06052021). As reported in the audited accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023, SLL made a profit of £270,031 (year ended 31 August 2022: £0). The total profit has been gifted back to the Trust for use across our academies in line with SLL Articles of Association.

SLL makes donations and contributions to support particular projects and facilities of the Academy Trust and its pupils and is therefore treated as a related party of the Academy Trust for the purposes of the financial statements.

SLL provides an E learning school improvement function and back-office support for Finance and HR administration. Details of the transactions are disclosed in the notes to the financial statement.

SLL had a connected party relationship with Coscole Limited up to 17th November 2022 when it was agreed by the Board of SLL for Coscole to be dissolved by allowing Groupcall to take ownership of SLL shares (27%) in return for a settlement of £10,000 and unlimited access to the intellectual property rights.

Any services provided in this period by Coscole has been free of charge.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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j. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Academy Trust's policy is to consult and discuss with employees, through unions, staff councils and at meetings, matters likely to affect employees' interests. Information about matters of concern to employees is given through information bulletins, reports and meetings which seek to achieve a common awareness on the part of all employees of the financial and economic factors affecting the Academy Trust's performance.

Structure, governance, and management (continued)

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons) (continued)

During employment, the Trust seeks to work with employees, taking into account their personal circumstances, to ensure appropriate training, development and advanced employment opportunities are available to them to reach their full potential.

Applications for employment by disabled persons are always fully considered, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the applicant concerned. In the event of members of staff becoming disabled, every effort is made to ensure that their employment within the Academy Trust continues and that the appropriate training is arranged. It is the Academy Trust's policy that the training, career development and promotion of disabled persons should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees.

Full details of these policies are available from the Academy Trust and its individual schools.

Equal Opportunities Policy

The Trustees recognise that equal opportunities must be an integral part of good practice within the workplace. The Trust aims to establish equality of opportunity in all areas of activity including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued. The Trust has an Equal Opportunities policy.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

S-CAT is based at Shireland Collegiate Academy within Sandwell. Sandwell is an area of extreme deprivation, where students have historically had lower than average outcomes.

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust has at its core, a mission to secure high performance and raise aspiration. The Trustees' underpinning ethos within the Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust is a belief in the potential of all learners and a commitment to provide the environment, which unlocks that potential and develops the individual and collective self-esteem and confidence, which is the prerequisite of an enterprising culture.

The Trust aim is to ensure through education, students' life chances are improved and through community engagement, the chances of families are improved.

The Trustees have an absolute commitment to the concepts and principles that every single person that comes through the doors of one of our academies is to have left having grown as an individual, in terms of their skill set and their respect for others. Our aim is that everyone will have participated in a "Whole Education" that prepares him or her both personally and professionally and they are well placed for a successful and happy life.

The Trust has a full vision statement as stated above. This vision is at the heart of the Trust's strategy, and it is central to the aims and objectives of the Trust.

Trustees have established the following objectives for the MAT.

- Outcomes for young people in terms of progress are above the national average.
- Our academies are either good or outstanding within 3 years of joining.
- All academies are financially healthy and stable.
- Technology is used for both teaching and non-teaching aspects to improve workload
- A governance and compliance structure to allow for rapid growth
- Building partnerships working to achieve outstanding educational outcomes.

At its core, the Trust believes in an inclusive education for students at every ability level, with a rigorous grounding in academic fundamentals to ensure every student is equipped for the future through teaching relevant and innovative skills for the era in which they live. This is supported by the ethos of ensuring every student will be safe, happy, ambitious for themselves and respectful of all.

The Trust has chosen to remain as a "Local Medium sized Trust" and works locally within the West Midlands.

Our aim is for all our academies within our family to be at least good and have a clear process for improving educational outcomes whilst ensuring financial sustainability.

Trustees' planning covers a five-year period with an emphasis on phased growth and a detailed marketing and communication strategy, linking into delivery planning and staff appraisals.

At the heart of this strategy is the need to ensure the environment within the academies allows the delivery of a high quality and personalised curriculum that enables all our students to succeed. To ensure success, we have developed process driven solutions that give consistency of approach and help minimise the overall impact of risks to the academies and the Trust. We work collaboratively with our local and neighbouring schools to achieve best use of resources and maximise value of all of our assets. Recruitment and retention and professional development of high-quality staff with a clear path for progression is central to our management approach.

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

The Trust's core principles are that all students should have access to a fully rounded, personalised, and creative education. We try to bring together individuals and organisations that are committed to all students having access to a 'whole education'. By this, we mean an education that:

- Develops a range of skills, competencies (teamwork and communication skills) and qualities (resilience and empathy), knowledge and associated qualifications that young people will need for their future.
- Makes learning more relevant and engaging for young people, with them at the centre of their own learning, providing a mix of practical and theoretical learning in context.
- Recognises that learning takes place in various settings, not just the classroom, and that the best schools engage the wider community in learning and pushes learning out into the community.

Alongside the work within the local community, the Trust has created a number of business partners and are fully committed to creating partnerships that make the best use of technology and are innovative. We see partners in research and development as being central to our work to help break down barriers to learning and accelerate student progression.

The Trust's key aims for each of its academies are to develop an innovative curriculum, which will:

- Develop key competences in an interactive context driven curriculum framework.
- Grow an enterprise environment.
- Offer a curriculum based not upon the more common model of multiple intelligences but upon an emotional intelligence model.
- Provide just in time delivery to learners wherever they are through the development of an online Learning Gateway.
- Raise aspirations, recognising the importance of Arts in the development of individuals and providing support for individual, economic and community development through performing arts and links to creative industries.
- Ensure pedagogy is as creative and adaptable as the curriculum and staff are supported by a rounded programme of training and coaching.

In addition to the above, the Trust is fully committed to the concept of its academies working collaboratively with local partner schools. Students and their families benefit significantly from the activities, which are located and distributed around and within the Trust. The provision of study support, childcare, adult training, sport, art related activities and community partnership are both unusual and inspiring.

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

The Trustees of the Trust (S-CAT) have embraced a growth strategy, which stated by the end of 2022 the Trust should contain the original Outstanding Secondary School (Shireland Collegiate Academy), plus another nine schools. As of August 2023, the Trust has grown to a Trust of nine schools.

Number	Name	Academy	Ofsted Rating	Joined Trust
1	Shireland Collegiate Academy	Secondary	Outstanding	2007
2	Thorns Collegiate Academy	Secondary	Special Measures	2017
3	Holyhead Primary Academy	Primary	Good with outstanding features	2017
4	Tameside Primary Academy	Primary	Good with outstanding features	2018
5	Shireland Technology Primary	Primary	Not Rated – Free School	2019
6	West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	Secondary	Not Rated – Free School	2019
7	Wallbrook Primary Academy	Primary	Not yet rated - (special measures directed to convert)	2021
8	Lightwoods Primary Academy	Primary	Not yet rated (special measures directed to convert)	2021
9	Shireland Biomedical UTC	Secondary	Special measures	2022

In addition to the above, the Trust has two privately run Nurseries with one graded as Outstanding at the point of joining the Trust and one Good. The Trust also has approval to open three further free schools over the next one to two years (one secondary and two primary schools), with the secondary school having opened on 1st September 2023 as Shireland CBSO Academy.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities (continued)

Principal Activities

The Articles of Association describe the Academy Trust's purposes which include: 'to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum'.

The admissions policy and arrangements for the Academies are in accordance with admissions law and the DfE Code of Practice, as they apply to maintained schools.

Under the terms of the Funding Agreements agreed with the Department for Education (DFE), the Academies must provide a broad educational curriculum for pupils of different abilities who are drawn mainly from the local area. The Trust has a planning process which links the Trust's strategy, aims, objectives and targets in respect of school improvement, governance, financial health and compliance, people, and leadership into the delivery of each academy. Each Academy has its own Raising Attainment Plan (RAP) with objectives and targets that derive from those of the Trusts, focusing on improving the quality of delivery, enhancing levels of engagement, progress for all, and partners in learning. The Trust and the individual Academies' development plans are approved annually by the Board of Trustees. Plans at all levels are supported with risk management plans and the annual budget.

The Raising Attainment Plans (RAP) state how the Academies will unlock the potential of pupils, promote their wellbeing, raise aspirations and self-esteem, and achieve high standards. Each Academy is at the heart of its community, promoting community cohesion and sharing facilities with other schools and the wider community, developing new directions for teaching and learning, and establishing continuous improvements in standards. Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust has developed two key statements, upon which the vision for the Trust is based.

These are:

"Leading Learning, Changing Attitudes, Promoting Cohesion".
"Aim Higher, See Further, Be Concerned for Everyone".

The first statement broadly aims to guide the work of the Academies' staff and the second has been developed for students.

In addition to the above the Trust have adopted values to "inspire, innovate and collaborate".

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

b. Objectives, strategies, and activities

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust has a comprehensive five-year strategy, which commenced September 2017, and was reviewed and updated in July 2021 to take the Trust to 2025

Our strategy is to:

- ensure the growth of the Trust to no more than 16 schools within a West Midlands hub-based structure
- evolve the operating model to ensure proactive and process driven whole organization improvement
- ensure the organisation has the capacity to deliver the operating model in a way that enables and protects
- create a structure for collaboration (staff and students) within sectors and across the Trust
- create an environment for staff to develop professionally, personally and with a sense of purpose
- create a structure that ensures Technology is used to maximise organisational improvement for the academic year 2022/23

For the academic year 2022/2023 our key foci have been:

- To improve communication and collaboration across our Academies
- To streamline our reporting processes and improve data collection to allow leaders and Trustees/Governors to make better decisions quicker
- To evaluate our services and ensure everything is done to achieve value for money or best value and costs can be sustained
- To continue creating a robust compliance and monitoring framework that all Academies abide by
- To prepare our Academies for Outstanding under the Ofsted framework and ISBL framework
- To attract the best staff and develop opportunities to enhance all staff both professionally and personally
- To develop internal structures which create efficiencies and can respond to growth

The above foci then created a number of key objectives of developing and or embedding the following:

1. A collaboration model of working within and across sectors
2. A framework to drive student and staff recruitment
3. A framework for reporting at all levels with clear service and impact measures
4. An operating model that is process driven with a focus on maximising all resources with a clear road map for growth
5. An estates strategy to support the learning and business environment
6. A monitoring and evaluation framework for compliance
7. A success plan for all key leadership roles
8. An accountability framework for all leadership and management
9. A professional training programme for staff at middle and senior management levels
10. The primary and secondary education briefs
11. The use of the Edu school curriculum into both primary and secondary
12. The provision for EYFS, SEND inclusion support and COVID catch up

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Over and above the Trust objectives, each academy had a number of focus areas which were agreed by the Board to add to their own Raising Attainment Plan. These were:

- To participate in collaborative events for staff and students
- Work with families to enhance the uptake of Passport to Success
- Establish the use of Trilby TV to communicate with students and staff including Trust values
- To continue work on becoming carbon neutral by 2030 – making builds more efficient and achieve energy savings of at least 3%
- Focus on 4 vulnerable students to work with central officer looking at preventative action
- Focus on 4 families to work with central officer to engage in P2S and develop their life aspirations to fully engage in school life
- To work with staff around wellbeing and mental health

The Board also agreed the key priorities from each Academy Raising Attainment Plan, as below:

Shireland Collegiate Academy

- Develop a CPD programme to incorporate better use of Technology to enable Teaching and Learning,
- Enhance boys progress and subject knowledge around the new inspection framework.
- Improve the delivery of underperforming subjects through targeted support
- Investigate T Levels within 6th form provision
- Introduce the Edu school platform at KS3 and KS4

Thorns Collegiate Academy

- Reduce the number of fixed term exclusions to below national average
- Embed the delivery of PHSE, RE and SRE
- Reduce the P8 gap for SEND students
- Priorities wellbeing of staff and students
- Ensure staff deliver lessons in line with SOPs

West Bromwich Collegiate Academy

- Develop a programme for vulnerable students to counteract the negatives influences and raise their aspirations
- Develop a careers strategy for the Academy
- Create opportunities for students to showcase talents at a regional and national level
- Create an options process with advice and guidance which meets the students' needs and aspirations
- Embed the immersive room across all curriculum areas

Shireland Biomedical UTC

- To focus on CPD for teachers around the L4L structure
- To improve attendance rates
- To increase the examination results
- To reduce the financial deficit
- To recruit both staff and students to ensure full capacity

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Holyhead Primary Academy

- Continue to develop oracy through encouraging deeper discussion and reasoning and further improve provision for rapid graspers / greater depth children.
- Further develop the ability of staff to select most appropriate task or activity.
- Continue to implement the new mental Maths strategy as well as ready to progress.
- Improve writing outcomes across school by improving writing stamina and spellings.
- Continue to provide pastoral support for children, families, and staff to ensure mental health remains a priority.
- Reduce persistent absence to be in line with national 10.9% and continue to improve overall attendance.
- Continue to plan for Covid19 gaps such as additional pastoral support and practical Science To improve the approach to safeguarding.

Tameside Primary Academy

- Improve the quality of delivery of class-based learning
- Ensure quality of delivery of Foundation Subjects
- Embed the new EYFS curriculum
- Improve attendance to 96%
- Develop links with local nurseries and preschools to increase numbers in Nursery and the Reception class.
- Increase numbers in all year groups to full capacity (see financial target setting).
- Ensure comprehensive COVID Catch Up strategy is appropriate and targeted for all teachers to be graded as at least good.

Shireland Technology Primary

- Improve Attendance / Persistent Absenteeism / Punctuality post COVID
- Ensure COVID Catch Up Measures and Interventions are appropriate and implemented with the progress of pupils carefully monitored and evaluated regularly to close identified gaps and support mental health
- Pupil Premium Identification Improved and % raised
- Focus on Writing and Phonics (improve subject knowledge and modelling to exceed age related expectations and implement Rocket Phonics)

Lightwoods Primary Academy

- Implement a curriculum which is well planned, and sequenced and meets the needs of all learners.
- Develop quality of strategic leadership so school is effectively led and managed at all levels.
- Develop teaching approaches so that school practice is effective (QFT).
- Improve provision for children with SEND.
- Engage and target families so attendance rises.
- Smoothly implement the transition to the Trust portal and SharePoint environment.
- Ensure financial sustainability.
- Manage COVID risks to minimise disruption and keep everyone safe.

Wallbrook Primary Academy

- To improve the quality of teaching and learning through support in modelling, questioning and feedback.
- To introduce and implement a new behaviour policy.
- To develop and implement a robust approach to improve attendance.
- To improve attainment in reading and writing across key stages.
- To improve relationships and communication with families using technology
- Ensure appropriate measures are put in place to support pupil progress and wellbeing affected by Covid

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First Steps Nursery and Tinywoods Nursery

- The installation of a brand new purpose built nursery facility to include a dedicated EYFS training space for First steps
- Develop the use of technology to support delivery
- Develop the curriculum in line with EYFS at our Academies (E3L)

c. Public benefit

The Academy Trust aims to advance for the public benefit education within the West Midlands area, offering a broad curriculum and an excellent education environment for its pupils. The Academy Trust allows use of its facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large in the interests of social welfare and with the interest of improving the life of that community.

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

In setting our objectives, the Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. All Trustees have been issued with the relevant information and this has been translated in the workings of the Academy via the development planning process.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The Academy Trust continues to evolve and to adapt to the ever-changing educational environment. The Trust is in its sixth year of operation since conversion to a Multi Academy Trust in 2017.

The Academy Trust is committed to continual improvement, which is achieved in a number of ways, including improvement planning, review meetings, continual professional development, lesson observations, performance management, self-evaluation, data analysis and action planning.

As a Trust below are a few examples of our achievements this year

Restructured the Executive Leadership Team to strengthen areas of the Trust
Achieved a Good Ofsted Rating for TPA with two Outstanding features
Work around SEND and provision maps has been fantastic and highlighted as a strength
Pockets of amazing CPD and student development
Central Team structure has been finalised, new roles and responsibilities in place and team working well
Clearer budgeting process that ensure leaders are accountable for their school budgets
In the context of a national recruitment crisis we have very few vacancies into the new Academic year.
Surveys have also shown positive perceptions of the Trust and the wellbeing of staff
Estates work in strengthening our site management in specific Academies and created a more effective centralised model at the Trust – New roof at SCA, new turf at STP, new canopy at WBCA, new site manager at WBCA, TCA, CBSO/SBU, new Trust estates manager, agreed installation of solar panels across estate

Increase in lettings interest – Girls football club at WPA, increased lettings at TCA
Process improvements implemented in Finance, HR and Governance
Introduction of Gym discount scheme and Osteopath services
Agreement to work with Smile MSP to support our supply requirements, reduce costs and increase quality
Student progress has been good across all our schools

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

a. Key performance indicators

The Trust sets annually key performance targets covering students' performance in all five key stages, EYFS, English, math, attendance, and behaviour. For staff, performance targets are set for individual teacher performance, overall quality of teaching and learning and quality of leadership and management. These targets are reported regularly throughout the year to the Board.

The Resources Committee monitors the resources of S-CAT through the review of monthly management accounts to include reports on creditors and debtors, breaches of expenditure limits and budget movements, along with a cash flow, balance sheet, income, and expenditure statements, forecast year end out turn and projections for the coming four academic years.

A key financial performance indicator for the Trust is the level of reserves held at the balance sheet date and, in particular, the number of unrestricted reserves plus restricted income reserves at year end. At 31 August 2023, the balance of the unrestricted and restricted income reserves was £2,573,360 (2022: £2,832,670), which is after transfers of £400,118 to the restricted fixed asset fund to fund capital expenditure during the year. Further details on the level of reserves held by the Academy Trust are set out in the Reserves Policy section below.

Within these reports, Trustees receive information on the following financial performance indicators

	2023	2022
Reserves as a % of total Income	7%	8%
Leadership Cost as % Total staff costs	26%	23%
Management Cost as % Total staff costs	6%	5%

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

We also use the following indicators for this this period which we have summarised below:

	2023	2022
Pupil numbers	5,106	4,780
Staff to Student Ratios		
Pupils: Teachers	19.6:1	15.07:1
Pupils: Management	86.17:1	104.80:1
Pupils: Executive/Governance	567.33:1	849.62:1
Income per Student	£12,605	£11,858
GAG Income per Student	£5,852	£5,667
Spend per Student	£7,559	£7,453
GAG spend per Student	£5,852	£5,843
Average FTE Cost	£36,951	£39,349
Staffing costs as a percentage of Expenditure	76%	76%
Staffing costs as a percentage of GAG Income	99%	97%

b. 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, they continue 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 accounting policies within the financial statements.

c. Promoting the success of the company

The Trustees have acted in the way which they consider, in good faith, promotes the success of the Academy Trust for the benefit of its pupils and their parents, the Department for Education and the Education and Skills Funding Agency as principal funders and regulators, its suppliers and local wider school community as a whole, and in doing so have given regard to (amongst other matters):

Our educational business relationships and community

With a highly committed and dedicated workforce, the Academy Trust takes great pride in listening to what our pupils, parents and local community want and continues to provide the level of education outcomes and results that they have come to expect. The Academy Trust continues to evolve and to adapt to the ever-changing educational environment, leading to the continued increase in the awareness of the Academy Trust's overall activities and educational performance.

As an educational focused charitable organisation, public benefit is also at the heart of all we do. The details in the "Objectives and Activities" and "Achievements and Performance" section of the Trustees' report above provide full details of the impact of our activities and our achievements for the year.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

With respect to suppliers, the Academy Trust's policy for the payment of suppliers is to agree to terms of payment in advance in line with normal commercial practices and, provided a supplier performs in accordance with the agreement, to abide by such terms.

The Academy Trust is also committed to contributing towards combating the threat of global warming by using energy efficient measures to reduce CO2 emissions throughout its buildings, facilities, and operations.

Our stakeholders

In addition to our pupils, parents, suppliers and wider local community, the Trustees also recognise the importance of their relationship with the Department for Education (DfE) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as principal funders, regulators, and stakeholders. The Trustees are committed to the effective engagement with the DfE and the ESFA (and their representatives) and recognise that its success depends on the Trustees and senior management's ability to engage with them effectively and to work with them constructively, taking into account their guidance and best practice initiatives, whilst also working in line with the specific requirements of the Academy Trust's Funding Agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook.

The Academy Trust's key asset is its people. It employs over 790 staff, excluding agency workers, and it is only through the combined effort of this workforce, together with our supporters and volunteers, that we can change the lives of the children under our care. The Academy Trust encourages the involvement of all employees in decision making processes that impact on them directly and further details on our engagement with our people is detailed in the "Engagement with Employees (including Disabled Persons)" section of the Trustees' report above.

Our Members

The Trustees are committed and openly engaged with our Members through the active involvement of some Members as Trustees and regular dialogue with them, including an invitation to the Annual General Meeting and annual strategy and vision day. The Members are actively engaged in understanding our strategy and vision for the future, our culture and ethos, our people and our educational performance and standards.

Maintaining a reputation for high standards

The Multi Academy Trust has been in existence for six years and is fully committed to continual improvement, which it achieves in a number of ways, including improvement planning, review meetings, continual professional development, lesson observations, performance management, self-evaluation, data analysis and action planning. The Academy Trust also continually develops strategies to maintain and grow its pupil base, including looking for new schools and academies to join the Trust, and further improve relationships with our suppliers.

The information in the "Achievements and Performance" section of the Trustees' report above provide full details of our achievements during the year and the standards of educational performance we have achieved for all our stakeholders.

Financial review

The majority of the Academy Trust's income is received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency ('ESFA') in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure of these grants are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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

Strategic report (continued)

The Academy Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA and other organisations / funders - and these are shown as restricted fixed asset funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. The balance of the restricted fixed asset fund is reduced by the depreciation charges on the assets acquired using these funds.

For the year ended 31 August 2023, the Academy Trust's total income (excluding capital grants and the net assets transferred from academies joining the Trust in the year) was £38,579,368 (2022: £33,710,728) while the total expenditure (excluding depreciation and LGPS FRS102 pension cost charges) was £38,654,614 (2022: £34,074,419), resulting in a net deficit (after transfers to restricted fixed asset funds) for the year of -£295,363 (2022: -£363,691).

The fixed asset fund excess of expenditure over income for the year was £906,461.

Total excess of income over expenditure for the year is £3,876,175.

The balance of reserves at 31 August 2023, excluding the restricted fixed asset funds and LGPS liability fund was £2,537,306 (2022: £2,832,120).

At 31 August 2023, the net book value of fixed assets was £94,794,319; movements in tangible and intangible fixed assets are shown in notes 14 and 15 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust held balances at 31 August 2023 of £97,730,898 comprising; restricted fixed asset fund of £95,193,592, restricted general fund of £883,497 a pension reserve surplus of £Nil and £1,653,809 of unrestricted funds.

We have continued with our work on developing and embedding a process driven compliance model to create the capacity and infrastructure to allow for the continued growth of the Trust. We have also continued our work of creating business and community partnerships to help support the work force reform agenda and to break down the barriers to learning and accelerate student progression. We have project managed the transfer of a university technical college into the trust and continued our work on improving our estates and bringing them up to standard. This includes our continued investment into technology and the ICT infrastructure of our schools.

The focus of funding for the Trust has been our continuing the drive for improving standards and outcomes for all our students and development of the environments to allow effective teaching and learning and back-office support. As always, all our work is underlined by the use of technology with the objective of improving life chances for all and reducing workload for all staff.

Included within the Trust's balance sheet at year end is a defined benefit pension scheme deficit of £Nil (2022: £5,078,000), which arises from the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS") that is attributable to the Academies. Further details regarding the deficit in the LGPS at 31 August 2023 are set out in note 29 to the financial statements.

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

Strategic report (continued)

The pension reserve fund has surplus balance at 31 August 2023 of £Nil, which represents the surplus in the LGPS at the balance sheet date. As a result of the LGPS surplus, no additional pension contributions will be required to be funded from the Trust's annual recurring income.

The key financial policies were reviewed and adopted during the period which lays out the framework for the Academy Trust's financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board of Trustees, CEO, Principals, CFO, managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as the delegated authorities for spending.

a. Reserves policy

The Trustees have reviewed the reserve levels of the Trust. This review encompassed the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments, the status of the Academy Trust and the nature of reserves. The outcome of the review has been encompassed within the Trust Reserves policy.

The policy states our academies should have a minimum level of reserves of 2% of GAG Funding with the recommended level being 5% of total funding. The maximum level to be held in reserves by an academy should be no more than 8% of GAG funding. New opening schools should hold in the first year a minimum of 3% of reserves as required by Free School regulations.

Based on the Trustees' recommended level of reserves of 5% of total income this equates to £2,013,671 based on the current year's results for the Charitable Company. The reserves policy is monitored through termly reports to the Resources Committee. This is to ensure there is provision to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

The Trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and pension reserve) is £2,537,306.

b. Investment policy

The investment objectives of the Trust are:

- To achieve the best financial return available whilst ensuring that security of deposits takes precedence over revenue maximisation.
- Only invest funds surplus to operational need based on all financial commitments being met without the Academy bank account becoming overdrawn.

Investment risk will be managed through asset class selection and diversification to ensure that security of deposits takes precedence over revenue maximisation.

To ensure the security of any investment, assets will only be considered with banking institutions, which have credit ratings assessed by Fitch, Moody, and Standard and Poor's to show good credit in the short and long term.

Investments will be based on the highest level of return but with the maximum protection to the funds.

Investment within banking organisations will be made on both short and long-term base. Short-term deposits will allow immediate access to funds. Long-term investment will be based on the annual cash flow and as such will be reviewed annually at the beginning of each academic year.

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

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed, especially in the operational areas, such as teaching, health & safety, safeguarding and school trips, and in relation to the control of finances and strategic development of the Trust. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk, and have agreed a Risk Management Strategy and Risk Management Plan, which incorporates a Risk Register. The Risk Management Plan is constantly reviewed in light of any new information and formally reviewed annually

Detailed consideration of risk has been delegated to the Audit and Risk Committee and members of the Executive Leadership Team and Senior Leadership Team. Strategic Risks are managed on a Central Trust Risk Management Plan, while more operational risks associated with individual Academies are incorporated into their local development plan (RAP). Trustees via the Audit and Risk Committee review the high risks identified from each Academy alongside the strategic Trust risks to ensure adequate measures are being put in place to mitigate the risks described.

The key controls used by Trustees to inform this process, include:

- A clear governance structure.
- Detailed terms of reference for the Resources and Audit Committees, with clear levels of financial delegation.
- Termly reports on risk management to the Board and Audit Committee. Effective systems of internal financial control.
- A clear Development Planning process.
- A Trustees' induction process.
- Performance Management process for staff with targets linked into the Development Planning process. A training programme for managers.
- Three to five-year financial planning linked to the overall objectives of the Charity. Clear organisational structure with defined lines of reporting.
- A detailed review of policies to ensure all relevant legislation is complied with; to include human resources, finance, health and safety, and student care.
- Review and challenge by an independent external consultant.
- Half yearly and annual audit by external auditors and termly reviews by the Responsible Officer. Self-evaluation through the Risk Management process, the Trustees of Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust are satisfied the major risks around educational standards, safeguarding, finances, retention of good staff, misuse of funds and poor management have been identified and steps taken to mitigate where necessary. Trustees recognised that systems could only provide reasonable, but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

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

Educational

The continuing success of the Academy Trust is dependent on continuing to attract pupil applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards across all key stages. To mitigate this risk, the Trustees ensure that pupil success and achievement are closely monitored and reviewed, with corrective actions embedded at an early stage, and that relationships and partnerships with parents, the local community and other organisations and groups are maintained and are effective in producing a cohesive and supportive community.

Safeguarding and child protection

The Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety, and discipline.

Financial

The Academy Trust has considerable reliance on continued Government funding. Whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms, particularly in light of continuing changes in the National Funding Formula for schools.

Continuing increases in employment costs, including pension costs association with both the Teachers' Pension Scheme and the Local Government Pension Scheme, and premises costs will also continue to place significant pressure on the Trust's financial position and its ability to deliver balance budgets in the future.

The Trustees examine the financial health of the Academy Trust formally every term reviewing performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of regular update reports at all full Trustees and Finance and Resources Committee meetings.

At the balance sheet date, the Academy Trust had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be a significant effect on the Academy Trust's liquidity.

Staffing

The success of the Academy Trust is reliant on the quality of its staff, so the Trustees monitor and review policies and procedures to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning.

Failures in governance and / or management

The risk in this area arises from the potential failure to effectively manage the Academy Trust's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns etc. The Trustees continue to review and ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks, which includes those relating to fraud and mismanagement of funds.

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

Fraud and mismanagement of funds

The Academy Trust has engaged David McVean (external independent consultant) to perform a programme of work aimed at checking and reviewing the financial systems and records as required by the Academies Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and to develop their skills in this area.

However, there are a number of areas where it has been felt that the work carried out would still not be enough to mitigate the risk to an acceptable level. These risks have been kept high and carried forward into next year as Treatable items, these are as follows:

1. Inability to monitor the organization effectively and make correct strategic decisions due to the lack of management information (data) – correct data in the right place at the right time.
2. Financial impact due to low pupil numbers particularly in the primary sector.
3. Financial impact due to increasing prices, pay award and poor budget monitoring
4. Potential noncompliance with legislation
5. Inability to respond to growth in schools in a consistent and process driven model of delivery.
6. Cost base and deployment of Leadership and management.
7. Poor internal communication leading to duplication of effort or lack of collaboration

Work will continue through 2023/24 to mitigate these risks, plus the challenges we now face with regard to recruitment of high-quality staff.

During the year, the Trust has taken the following actions to ensure the Trust's estate is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations:.

- The appointment of a Trust Estates Manager;
- The creation of our own management platform to track compliance more effectively;
- The move of energy consumption tracking and management in-house; and
- The use of smart campus consultants.

Fundraising

The Academy Trust raises funds for specific projects that will enhance the learning experience and environment for existing and future students, where funds cannot be accessed via existing channels such as government education funding. Fundraising is primarily undertaken by staff or parents; no professional fundraisers or commercial participators work with the Trust currently. Fundraising is undertaken in line with the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice. The Academy Trust is mindful of the requirement to protect the public, particularly vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches or undue pressure to donate. No complaints have been received in respect of fundraising activities; the general complaints policy of the Trust would be applicable if so. All funds received have been paid intact to this organisation. Any fundraising has been carried out in accordance with Charity Commission guidance.

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

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023		
	2022/23	2021/22
<u>Energy consumption used to calculate (KWh)</u>	5,418,038	6,860,805
<u>Energy consumption break down (KWh)</u> <u>(optional)</u>		
• Gas	3,231,417	3,805,089
• Fuel oil	74,044	95,295
• Electricity	2,071,663	2,939,901
• Transport fuel	40,915	20,521
<u>Scope 1- Emission in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
• Gas consumption	589.86	696.94
• Owned transport (minibuses)	9.96	3.27
• Fuel oil	19.86	25.55
<u>Total scope 1</u>	616.68	662.40
<u>Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Purchased electricity	400.62	624.23
<u>Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Business travel in employee-owned vehicles	3.22	1.80
<u>Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>	1,020.51	1,351.79
<u>Intensity ratio</u>		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.20	0.30

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 2022 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.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have invested in Smart Meters for all schools to monitor our energy usage through an interactive dashboard. All of our Academies have been given access to this and tasked with finding solutions to reduce consumption, including simple behavioural changes of staff to more active measures such as timed laptop trolleys etc. We have signed a contract with Solar4Schools to supply and install PV across all buildings, we are currently in the surveying and planning stages but we expect installations to start in the new year.

Plans for future periods

The Academy Trust strives to continually improve levels of attainment for all pupils, equipping them with the qualifications, skills, and character to follow their chosen pathway, whether it is into further and higher education or employment, as well as promoting the continued professional development of its staff.

To plan for the future, we look at the progress from previous years, the key risks and challenges to our organisation and individual schools and the opportunities to progress all of our schools to our goal of outstanding. This evaluation includes an analysis of student and staff data, OFSTED and financial status and any changes in level of achievement.

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

The Trust plans for the forthcoming year are split into 4 key areas:

Delivering an outstanding education:

- Ensuring we use the correct SEND and Safeguarding frameworks to maximise the achievement of specific cohorts
- Improve reading at all levels
- Raising the awareness of curriculum and consistency in its delivery across our estate
- Develop meaningful partnerships

Management of Growth

- Planning for people as we grow, including an employee offer, consistent models of pay and career structures
- Reviewing centralisation vs autonomy and which areas benefit from centralizing
- Creating a map to understand our data better
- Reviewing Governance structure to ensure fit for growth

Sustainability

- To review high spend areas including catering and energy usage
- Rationalise nursery provision
- Plan our estates to serve us better
- Training of key stakeholders including Trustees and Governors

Processes and Systems

- Project and process managing the implementation of key systems and integrating where possible (including EveryHR, Dataplan, IMP)
- Reviewing 4 processes for improvement
- Continuing to establish standard operating procedures for offices

Each Academy within their planning for the coming year are set mandatory foci to ensure a base standard is met. These are:

- A focus on Teaching practice including processes on reviewing teacher quality
- A focus on attendance, persistent absence, and exclusions
- A focus on engagement of specific cohorts of pupils including SEND and vulnerable and engagement of families and partners
- A focus on operational sustainability, financial, environmental and people

As part of our internal processes, Academies are also asked to complete a compliance tracker bi-annually. This includes a list of requirements to ensure the Academy is fully compliant with external and internal requirements, for example in the areas of H&S, Safeguarding, GDPR etc.

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

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

The Academy Trust holds Post 16 Bursary Funds on behalf of the ESFA, which are distributed to students as required and in line with the terms and conditions of the funds.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware, and that 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.

Auditor

The audit business of Haines Watts Birmingham LLP was acquired by Cooper Parry Group Limited on 14 November 2023. Haines Watts Birmingham LLP has resigned as auditor and Cooper Parry Group Limited has been appointed in its place.

The auditors, Cooper Parry Group Limited, will be proposed for reappointment.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



A Dennis
Chair of Trustees

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Shireland Collegiate 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.

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, 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 Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust 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.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities.

The Board recognises the importance of building its capacity and expertise and continues to address this as a high priority.

The Board of Trustees reviewed the Trust's governance structure during the year to evaluate its impact and effectiveness and is satisfied the Trust has in place a wide range of skills that contribute to the successful governance of the Trust and are satisfied that the current structure in place is appropriate and effective for the Trust.

On an annual basis, the Trustees ask the Governance Officer to complete an evaluation of the terms of reference to ensure that the responsibilities of committees have been discharged in year correctly, the effectiveness of meetings, the value of the training received and ways in which governance can be improved.

The full Board of Trustees has been supported in its effective financial oversight and governance through the formal work undertaken by the Resources Committee, Audit and Risk Committee and the Standards and Performance Committees of each academy. These are Committees of the Board of Trustees, and they met 3 times respectively during the year. The minutes of these Committee meetings are provided to the full Board of Trustees and the Chairpersons of these Committees report to each full Board of Trustee meeting on the key matters considered at their meetings and the impact for consideration by the full Board of Trustees. In addition to this Trustees are provided with monthly management accounts.

The main foci for the year included; enhanced marketing to combat the low birth rates and impact on recruitment, particularly at Primary level, preparing schools for OFSTED inspection, several of which might be in the new year ensuring the longer-term sustainability of the Trust and its schools whilst developing a strategy for growth and continuing to work on SEND and Safeguarding to strengthen provision across all schools.

Conflict of Interest

The Trust within its governance structure has a policy on how to manage conflicts and asks all Members/Trustees/Governors/all staff to declare any interest as soon as they become known. The pecuniary interest registers are held centrally and available to all stakeholders to enable them to discharge their roles and responsibilities effectively. A separate register is held for the trading subsidiary but adheres in full to the Trust pecuniary interest policy. Processes for appointment of staff and awarding of contracts takes into account any declared conflicts.

The Board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Dennis (Chair)	5	5
J Nair (Vice Chair)	4	5
Sir M Grundy, Accounting Officer, Trustee (Ex-Officio)	5	5
I Foyle	4	5
Michael Conway-Jones	4	5
R Till	5	5
J Anadou	0	2
J Hunt	5	5
A Savell-Boss	3	5
J McLeod	1	1

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

The Resources Committee reports directly to the Board. Its main function is to provide scrutiny and challenge in respect of the Academy Trust's finances and to ensure compliance with statutory and contractual obligations under the terms of the Funding Agreement with the DfE.

During the year, the Committee reviewed a wide range of detailed finance reports and recommended to the Board the approval of the annual budget and the year-end accounts. The key issues dealt with by this committee were the monitoring of the approved deficit plans to ensure the financial stability of the Trust and the review of the 5-year forecasts addressing the change in the pupil population.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
I Foyle (Chair)	3	3
A Savell-Boss	1	3
Sir M Grundy	2	3
J Hunt	3	3
M Conway-Jones	1	3
J Nair	2	3
M O'Hanlon	1	3
A Dennis	2	3

The Audit and Risk Committee is also a subcommittee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to maintain an oversight of the Trust's governance, risk management, internal control, and value for money framework. It reports its findings annually to the Board of Trustees and the Accounting Officer as a critical element of the Trust's annual reporting requirements.

The Chair of the Trust Board and the CEO (Accounting Officer) are not members of this committee but attend. The key issues dealt with by the Audit Committee during the year was the review of the reports received from the RO in relation to the Trust's systems of internal control and the actions undertaken to address the control weaknesses identified, the appointment of new auditors and a review of our approach to compliance. Review of Risk and the actions taken to mitigate this plus approval of relevant policies.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J Hunt (Chair)	3	3
J Nair	2	3
M Conway-Jones	2	3
I Foyle	2	3
A Savell-Boss	1	3

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy 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 as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the Academy'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 value for money during the year by developing a best value statement which describes the key delivery mechanisms for achieving value for money including the linking of development plans into the budget, purchasing arrangements to including a tendering process, and challenge by senior leaders, the Responsible Officer, and the auditors. The statement directs all senior leaders to ensure value for money is demonstrated in all of the following areas:

- Staffing
- Use of accommodation
- Use of assets
- Quality of teaching
- Quality of learning
- Students' welfare
- Health and safety
- Purchasing

In addition to this statement, the Academy continually seeks to work with national and local businesses to enhance its achievements, improve standards and collaborate to maximise use of all resources.

The Responsible Officer on behalf of the board also regularly monitors value for money, as Trustees see this as integral to the achievements of the Trust.

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 a reasonable and not an absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal controls is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives. It enables the Board to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and their potential impact, and to manage them efficiently, effectively, and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in for the period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy 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's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust's system of internal financial and governance control is based on the framework set by the ESFA 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 monthly financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Trustees.
- Regular reviews by the Trustees and Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecast and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- High level reporting to Standards and Performance Committees
- Clearly defined Best Value and Tendering guidelines.
- Clear delegation of authority and segregation of duties via the scheme of delegation
- Identification and management of risks.
- Use of 5-year financial planning, linking into the development planning of the Academies.

In addition to the above the Trustees have considered the guidance for directors contained within the Turnbull Report. They believe that although it is not mandatory for the Trust it should, as a publicly funded body, adopt these guidelines as best practice and tries to do this by assessing the likely risks and then implementing policies and processes to embed the principles of control. Explaining to employees that they have responsibility for internal control as part of their accountability for achieving objectives and embedding the control systems identified in the financial manuals, via use of the Learning Gateway, so that it becomes part of the Academies' culture, with minimal use of administrative time.

The Trustees have considered the need for a specific internal audit function and have decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed Mr David McVean, an external consultant, to carry out a series of internal checks until August 2024. The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial and operational matters and performing a range of checks on the Trust's financial systems. The reviewer reported, in accordance with guidance from the ESFA, to the Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities in 2022/2023. Mr McVean produced termly detailed reports and reported directly to Trustees throughout the year. The Governance Officer produced an annual summary report outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations, and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress of actions required for the year.

Mr D McVean has delivered his program of work during the year ended 31 August 2023 as planned covering Value for money and ordering processes, inventory processes, contract management at the Academy level, Onboarding and Offboarding, Online safety for both staff and students and S-CAT school improvement planning and reporting processes.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

There were no significant internal control weaknesses identified from the work completed. The following were recommendations from the Responsible Officer's report:

- **Performance Management**
Consider the alignment of all Performance Management systems for teaching and non-teaching staff
- **Governance Training**
The Board should ensure there is a clear and established succession plan in place for the more critical governance roles
The Skills Audit should be more adaptive and support the overall strategy for the Trust

These arrangements can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities either are prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

Review of effectiveness

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

- The work of the Trust's School Improvement Partner (SIP) and Responsible Officer (RO)
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process
- The work of the Trust Strategy Team and Senior Leadership teams within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- The work of the external auditor
- Correspondence from the ESFA

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 14 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



A Dennis
Chair of
Trustees



Sir M Grundy
Accounting Officer

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement received by the Academy, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy 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 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2022.

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.

Sir M Grundy
Accounting Officer
Date: 14 December 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Grundy', with a long vertical line extending downwards from the end of the signature.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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 Group and the charitable company and of their incoming resources and application of resources, including their income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently.
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent.
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements.
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the group will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Group and the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Group and 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 Group and 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 their conduct and operation the Group and the charitable company apply 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 group's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 14 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



A Dennis
Chair of Trustees

**REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Trust Balance Sheet, the Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and the 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, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the Parent charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company'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. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

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 Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST - CONTINUED

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Group and the Parent charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Group's and the Parent charitable company'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 Group or the Parent charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

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:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to both the charitable company itself and the sector in which it operates. We identified areas of laws and regulations that could reasonably be expected to have a material effect on the financial statements from our sector experience and through discussion with the Trustees and other management. The most significant were identified as the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Accounts Direction and Academy Trust Handbook issued by the ESFA.

We considered the extent of compliance with those laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statements. Our audit procedures included:

- making enquires of management and Trustees as to where they consider there to be a susceptibility to fraud and whether they have any knowledge or suspicion of fraud;
- obtaining an understanding of the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- assessing the design effectiveness of the controls in place to prevent and detect fraud;
- assessing the risk of management override including identifying and testing journal entries;
- challenging the assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates.

Whilst our audit did not identify any significant matters relating to the detection of irregularities including fraud, and despite the audit being planned and conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK), there remains an unavoidable risk that material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected owing to inherent limitations of the audit, and that by their very nature, any such instances of fraud or irregularity would likely involve collusion, forgery, intentional misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST - CONTINUED

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 auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the 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.



Kevin Hodgetts (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Cooper Parry Group Limited
Cubo Birmingham
Office 401, 4th Floor
Two Chamberlain Square
B3 3AX

Date..... 20 December 2023

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO
SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Shireland Collegiate 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 Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 26 September 2018 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across the Trust's activities;
- A review of governance procedures;
- A review of financial budgeting and monitoring procedures;
- A review of related/ connected party transactions in accordance with internal processes and the Academy Trust Handbook;
- A review and sample testing of internal financial controls; and
- A review and sample testing of procurement procedures.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Cooper Parry Group Limited
Reporting Accountant
Cubo Birmingham
Office 401, 4th Floor
Two Chamberlain Square
B3 3AX

Date... 20 December 2023

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

**CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2022/23 Total funds £	2021/22 Total funds £
Income and endowments from						
Donations and capital grants	3	125,129	-	1,772,519	1,897,648	1,439,011
Transfers into the Trust		-	-	-	-	18,066,264
Charitable activities						
- Educational operations	4	297,297	36,244,925	-	36,542,222	31,525,887
- Teaching schools		-	-	-	-	-
Other trading activities	5	2,042,831	28,220	-	2,071,051	1,759,741
Investment income	6	20,966	-	-	20,966	1,491
Total income		2,486,223	36,273,145	1,772,519	40,531,887	52,792,394
Expenditure on						
Raising funds	7	3,009,439	1,784,148	244,887	5,038,474	4,276,727
Charitable activities						
- Educational operations	7	-	34,444,027	2,834,211	37,278,238	33,704,257
Total expenditure		3,009,439	36,228,175	3,079,098	42,316,712	37,980,984
Net income/(expenditure)		(523,216)	44,970	(1,306,579)	(1,784,825)	14,811,410
Transfers between funds			(400,118)	400,118	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	29	-	5,661,000	-	5,661,000	18,930,000
Net movement in funds		(523,216)	5,305,852	(906,461)	3,876,175	33,741,410
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		2,177,025	(4,422,355)	96,100,053	93,854,723	60,113,313
Total funds carried forward		1,653,809	883,497	95,193,592	97,730,898	93,854,723

The Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 45 to 65 form part of these financial statements.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible fixed assets	14	580,962	1,605
Tangible fixed assets	15	94,213,357	95,289,400
		<u>94,794,319</u>	<u>95,291,005</u>
Current assets			
Stock	17	65,701	49,074
Debtors	18	2,154,891	2,129,328
Cash at bank		4,107,464	4,095,923

		<u>6,328,056</u>	<u>6,274,325</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	19	(3,275,656)	(2,490,647)
		<u>3,052,400</u>	<u>3,783,678</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>97,846,719</u>	<u>99,074,683</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(115,821)	(141,960)
		<u>97,730,898</u>	<u>98,932,723</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			
Pension liability	29		(5,078,000)
Total Net assets		<u>97,730,898</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund	21	1,653,809	2,177,025
Restricted funds:			
General restricted funds	21	883,497	655,645
Restricted fixed asset funds	21	95,193,592	96,100,053
Pension reserve	21		(5,078,000)
Total funds carried forward		<u>97,730,898</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf:



A Dennis
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration Number - 06336693

The notes on pages 45 to 65 form part of these financial statements.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

TRUST BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible fixed assets	14	1,275	1,605
Tangible fixed assets	15	94,213,357	95,289,400
		<u>94,214,632</u>	<u>95,291,004</u>
Current assets			
Stock	17	65,701	49,074
Debtors	18	2,653,069	2,044,306
Cash at bank		4,102,543	4,089,249
		<u>6,821,313</u>	<u>6,182,629</u>
Creditors			
Amounts falling due within one year	19	(3,189,226)	(2,398,950)
Net current assets		<u>3,632,087</u>	<u>3,783,679</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>97,846,719</u>	<u>99,074,683</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(115,821)	(141,960)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>97,730,898</u>	<u>98,932,723</u>
Pension liability	29		(5,078,000)
Total Net assets		<u>97,730,898</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>
Funds			
Unrestricted funds:			
General fund	21	1,653,809	2,177,025
Restricted funds:			
General restricted funds	21	883,497	655,645
Restricted fixed asset funds	21	95,193,592	96,100,053
Pension reserve	21		(5,078,000)
Total funds carried forward		<u>97,730,898</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14 December 2023 and were signed on its behalf:



A Dennis
Chair of Trustees

Company Registration Number - 06336693

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	23	<u>824,044</u>	<u>18,230,185</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		<u><u>824,044</u></u>	<u><u>18,230,185</u></u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) Investing activities	25	<u>(788,927)</u>	<u>(18,839,786)</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u><u>(788,927)</u></u>	<u><u>(18,839,786)</u></u>
Cash flows from financing activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities	24	<u>(23,576)</u>	<u>33,980</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) financing activities		<u><u>(23,576)</u></u>	<u><u>33,980</u></u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>11,541</u>	<u>(575,621)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>4,095,923</u>	<u>4,671,544</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period	26, 27	<u><u>4,107,464</u></u>	<u><u>4,095,923</u></u>

The notes on pages 45 to 65 form part of these financial statements.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

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 preparing the financial statements

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

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Consolidated statement of financial activities (SOFA) and Consolidated balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the Academy and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

The Trust has taken advantage of the exemption allowed under section 408 of the Companies Act 2006 and has not presented its own Statement of financial activities in these financial statements.

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 academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy'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 income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the Group has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants

Grants are included in the Consolidated 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 Consolidated 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 recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Other income

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

Transfer on conversion

Where assets and liabilities are received by the Group on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Group. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets received.

Transfer of existing academies into the Group

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the Group, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Group. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the Group within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets acquired.

Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Group)

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 Capital Grants' and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Group's accounting policies.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies - continued

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

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.

Raising funds

Raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Group to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities, events and non-charitable trading.

Charitable activities

Costs of charitable activities are incurred on the Group's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the group apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Group; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

Taxation

The Academy 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 is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 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.

Intangible assets

Intangible assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment. Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Computer software	- 20% per year (5 years)
Intellectual property	- 10% per year (10 years)

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5,000 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. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy's depreciation policy.

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 lives, as follows:

Leasehold property	- 2% per year (50 years)
Leasehold land	- 125 years
Freehold property	- 2% per year (50 years)
Furniture and equipment	- 10% per year (10 years)
Computer equipment	- 20% per year (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.

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 Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies

Investments

The Academy's holding in its wholly owned subsidiary, Shireland Learning Limited is included in the balance sheet at nil cost as the company is a company limited by guarantee. There is no readily available market value and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived. Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust is the sole member of Shireland Learning Limited.

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

Debtors

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

Cash at bank and in hand

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

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 Group anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Group 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.

Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 18. 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 as detailed in note 19. 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. Amounts due to the Academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less impairment.

Agency arrangements

The 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 Trust can use a percentage of allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received, paid and any balances held at period end are disclosed in note 33.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Group 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 Education and Skills Funding Agency/Department for Education.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

1 Accounting policies

Pension benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the Group 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 Group 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 Consolidated 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.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 29, will impact upon 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 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension

The judgements that have had a significant effect on amounts recognised into the financial statements are those concerning depreciation policies and asset lives.

2 General Annual Grant (GAG)

Until March 2021, under the original funding agreement with the Secretary of State, there were academies within the Trust which were subject to limits on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes. From March 2021, following a deed of variation and supplemental funding agreements, there is no longer a limit on the amount of GAG that can be carried forward for any of the Trust's academies.

No academies within the Trust exceeded the limits during the year ended 31 August 2023.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Restricted Fixed asset funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£	£	£
Capital grants	-	-	1,772,519	1,772,519	1,335,672
Other donations	125,129	-	-	125,129	103,339
Transfer on conversion	-	-	-	-	18,066,264
	<u>125,129</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,772,519</u>	<u>1,897,648</u>	<u>19,505,275</u>

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

4 Funding for the Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
DfE/ ESFA grants				
General annual grant	-	29,881,237	29,881,237	26,011,535
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Pupil Premium	-	1,914,968	1,914,968	1,717,697
Teaching School Direct	-	-	-	24,000
Free school meals	-	205,078	205,078	200,542
Teachers pay grant	-	3,125	3,125	22,116
Teachers pension grant	-	70,791	70,791	62,499
Trust capacity funding	-	-	-	286,371
PE Sports grant	-	82,893	82,893	92,370
Supplementary grant	-	842,378	842,378	-
Tutoring programme	-	-	-	208,692
Supplementary grant	-	212,425	212,425	327,136
Maintstream schools additional grant	-	380,411	380,411	-
Free School grant	-	270,000	270,000	76,096
Others	-	238,018	238,018	276,919
	-	34,101,324	34,101,324	29,305,973
Other Government grants				
Local authority grants	-	1,763,094	1,763,094	1,812,030
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch up premium	-	380,507	380,507	217,430
COVID Workforce	-	-	-	40,784
Other income from the Trust's educational operations	297,297	-	297,297	149,670
	<u>297,297</u>	<u>36,244,925</u>	<u>36,542,222</u>	<u>31,525,887</u>

The Trust received £380,507 (2022: £217,430) of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £380,507 (2022: £217,430).

5 Income from trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Nursery	544,223	-	544,223	529,031
Catering	500,000	-	500,000	407,742
Leisure centre	-	-	-	1,100
Hire of facilities	132,794	-	132,794	107,878
Trade other	186,848	-	186,848	172,294
Other income	-	28,220	28,220	22,220
Shireland Learning Limited	678,966	-	678,966	519,476
	<u>2,042,831</u>	<u>28,220</u>	<u>2,071,051</u>	<u>1,759,741</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	2023 Total funds	2022 Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Bank interest receivable	20,966	-	20,966	1,491
	<u>20,966</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,966</u>	<u>1,491</u>

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	2023 Total £	2022 Total £
Raising funds:					
Direct costs	3,801,126	244,887	992,461	5,038,474	4,276,727
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	21,998,454	2,265,203	2,493,742	26,757,399	22,589,230
Allocated support costs	5,455,103	2,655,515	2,410,221	10,520,839	11,115,027
	<u>31,254,683</u>	<u>5,165,605</u>	<u>5,896,424</u>	<u>42,316,712</u>	<u>37,980,984</u>

8 Expenditure - continued

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2023 £	2022 £
Auditors' remuneration	22,145	18,850
Auditors' remuneration for non audit work	5,000	5,000
Depreciation - owned assets	3,060,755	2,435,200
Amortisation - owned assets	18,343	6,614
Operating lease rentals	51,918	28,288
	<u>57,162</u>	<u>33,768</u>

9 Charitable activities - academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023 Total funds £	2022 Total funds £
Direct costs	-	26,757,399	26,757,399	22,589,230
Support costs	-	10,520,839	10,520,839	11,115,027
	<u>-</u>	<u>37,278,238</u>	<u>37,278,238</u>	<u>33,704,257</u>

	2023 £	2022 £
Analysis of support costs		
Pension interest	223,000	374,000
Staff costs	5,232,103	6,536,523
Depreciation	550,995	439,527
Recruitment and support	261,632	318,761
Maintenance of premises and equipment	649,800	415,335
Cleaning	126,346	169,199
Rent and rates	228,089	144,087
Heat and light	924,984	547,792
Insurance	105,234	97,903
Security	70,067	70,388
Transport	116,328	91,667
Catering	750,263	670,744
Technology costs	612,611	631,014
Bank interest and charges	784	697
Other support costs	572,404	449,411
Legal and professional fees	94,525	156,553
Governance costs	1,674	1,426
	<u>10,520,839</u>	<u>11,115,027</u>

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

10 Trustees' remuneration and benefits

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

		2023	2022
		£	£
Sir M Grundy	Remuneration	200,000 - 205,000	200,000 - 205,000

During the year ended 31 August 2023 no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022: £Nil)

11 Staff costs

	Group 2023	Group 2022	Academy 2023	Academy 2022
	£	£	£	£
Wages and salaries	22,530,845	19,006,551	22,359,123	18,873,268
Social security costs	2,335,357	1,977,225	2,320,818	1,934,302
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	5,168,495	6,471,705	5,145,868	6,397,678
	<u>30,034,697</u>	<u>27,455,481</u>	<u>29,825,809</u>	<u>27,205,248</u>
Agency staff costs	1,093,922	1,222,076	1,093,922	1,222,076
Staff restructuring costs	126,064	83,858	126,064	83,858
	<u>31,254,683</u>	<u>28,761,415</u>	<u>31,045,795</u>	<u>28,511,182</u>
Staff restructuring costs comprise:				
Redundancy payments	126,064	-	126,064	-
	<u>126,064</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>126,064</u>	<u>-</u>

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Group and the Trust during the year was as follows:

	Group 2023	Group 2022	Academy 2023	Academy 2022
Teachers (FTE)	313 (296)	287 (291)	309 (296)	287 (291)
Admin and support (FTE)	477 (316)	445 (295)	474 (316)	445 (295)
Management (FTE)	9 (9)	6 (5)	9 (9)	6 (5)
	<u>799 (622)</u>	<u>738 (592)</u>	<u>799 (622)</u>	<u>738 (592)</u>

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

	Group	Group
	2023	2022
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	19	14
£70,001 - £80,000	8	4
£80,001 - £90,000	3	2
£90,001 - £100,000	2	3
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-
£110,001 - £120,000	1	1
£120,001 - £130,000	-	-
£130,001 - £140,000	1	-
£140,001 - £150,000	-	-
£150,001 - £250,000	1	1

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

11 Staff costs (continued)

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the executive management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £1,271,769 (2022: £881,710).

12 Central services

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

- * Leadership and management to include strategy support, a CEO, FD and HR Director
- * Educational improvement and support including a curriculum framework
- * Compliance
- * Health and Safety
- * E-Learning Support and technology
- * Human resources
- * Finance
- * Governance including a company secretary
- * Internal and external audit
- * All statutory policies and guidance for the above areas

The Group has charged a fee for these services for the period on the following basis:

- * Flat percentage of 5% of GAG income

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Shireland Collegiate Academy	957,501	484,874
Thorns Collegiate Academy	362,579	259,190
Holyhead Primary Academy	84,604	50,303
Tameside Primary Academy	192,316	115,111
West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	272,612	146,921
Shireland Technology Primary	118,048	55,920
Wallbrook Primary Academy	133,379	68,156
Lightwoods Primary Academy	168,422	90,053
Shireland Biomedical UTC	116,929	21,875
	<u>2,406,390</u>	<u>1,292,404</u>

13 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the period ended 31 August 2023 was £nil (2022: £550). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

14 Intangible assets

Group and Trust	Computer software £	Intellectual property £	Group Total £	Trust Total £
Cost or valuation				
At the 1 September 2022	3,302	-	3,302	3,302
Additions	-	597,700	597,700	-
At 31 August 2023	<u>3,302</u>	<u>597,700</u>	<u>601,002</u>	<u>3,302</u>
Amortisation				
At the 1 September 2022	1,697	-	1,697	1,697
Charge for the year	330	18,013	18,343	330
At 31 August 2023	<u>2,027</u>	<u>18,013</u>	<u>20,040</u>	<u>2,027</u>
NBV				
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,275</u>	<u>579,687</u>	<u>580,962</u>	<u>1,275</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>1,605</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,605</u>	<u>1,605</u>

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

15 Tangible fixed assets

Group and Trust

	Land and buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At the 1 September 2022	99,400,771	1,338,789	2,445,331	14,000	103,198,891
Additions	973,745	117,176	863,791	30,000	1,984,712
Disposals	-	(46,545)	(128,679)	-	(175,224)
At 31 August 2023	<u>100,374,516</u>	<u>1,409,420</u>	<u>3,180,443</u>	<u>44,000</u>	<u>105,008,379</u>
Depreciation					
At the 1 September 2022	6,539,406	517,392	849,847	2,846	7,909,491
Charge for the year	2,324,884	192,825	538,372	4,674	3,060,755
Disposals	-	(46,545)	(128,679)	-	(175,224)
At 31 August 2023	<u>8,864,290</u>	<u>663,672</u>	<u>1,259,540</u>	<u>7,520</u>	<u>10,795,022</u>
NBV					
At 31 August 2023	<u>91,510,226</u>	<u>745,748</u>	<u>1,920,903</u>	<u>36,480</u>	<u>94,213,357</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>92,861,365</u>	<u>821,397</u>	<u>1,595,484</u>	<u>11,154</u>	<u>95,289,400</u>

Included within the net book value of Land and Buildings above is:

- Freehold land and buildings: £27,115,203. Land with a value of £3,937,416 is not depreciated.
- Long leasehold land and buildings: £64,395,022.

16 Investments

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust is the sole member of Shireland Learning Limited ("SLL"), a company limited by guarantee. SLL is a company incorporated in England and Wales (Company registration 06052021). The principal activity of SLL is providing an online learning environment.

A summary of the results and the balance sheet position of SLL for the year ended 31 August 2023 is shown below:

Profit and loss Account	2023	2022
	£	£
Turnover	678,966	764,521
Administrative expenses	(408,935)	(764,521)
Operating profit	<u>270,031</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance Sheet		
Non-current assets	579,687	-
Current assets	7,784	256,367
Current liabilities	(587,471)	(256,367)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Represented by		
Profit and loss Account b/f	-	-
Profit for the year	270,031	-
Donation distribution	(270,031)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Members' Funds	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

The audit reports for the year ended 31 August 2023 and the year ended 31 August 2022 were both unmodified.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

17 Stock

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Trust 2023 £	Trust 2022 £
Stock	65,701	49,074	65,701	49,074
	<u>65,701</u>	<u>49,074</u>	<u>65,701</u>	<u>49,074</u>

The above stock relates to ICT equipment, ICT consumables, fuel oil, stationery & resources, catering, and electrical & cleaning.

18 Debtors

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Trust 2023 £	Trust 2022 £
Trade debtors	26,242	289,999	23,610	43,897
Prepayments and accrued income	1,706,881	1,371,233	1,706,651	1,322,988
Amounts owed by SLL	-	-	502,094	44,654
VAT recoverable	420,173	461,454	419,119	502,404
Other debtors	1,595	6,642	1,595	130,363
	<u>2,154,891</u>	<u>2,129,328</u>	<u>2,653,069</u>	<u>2,044,306</u>

19 Creditors: falling due within one year

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Trust 2023 £	Trust 2022 £
Trade creditors	265,316	140,793	265,116	140,622
Other taxation and social security	566,409	507,279	566,409	507,279
Wages and salaries	544,048	461,413	544,048	461,413
Other creditors	21,428	222,184	15,705	224,772
Loans (see note 20)	31,368	28,805	31,368	28,805
Accruals and deferred income	1,847,087	1,130,173	1,766,580	1,036,059
	<u>3,275,656</u>	<u>2,490,647</u>	<u>3,189,226</u>	<u>2,398,950</u>
	<u>2,023.00</u>	<u>2,022.00</u>	<u>2,023.00</u>	<u>2022</u>
Deferred income	£	£	£	£
At 1 September	397,846	360,859	311,191	262,855
Resources deferred	431,247	397,846	358,086	311,191
Amounts released from previous periods	(397,846)	(360,859)	(397,846)	(262,855)
	<u>431,247</u>	<u>397,846</u>	<u>271,431</u>	<u>311,191</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds of £358,086 received in advance for Teaching school funding, trips, and trading income for HR, Finance, safeguarding, technicians, e-learning and mathsflip. Devolved formula capital, Sandwell mentor funding, Free school grant and Nursery parents.

20 Creditors: falling due after more than one year

	Group 2023 £	Group 2022 £	Trust 2023 £	Trust 2022 £
Loans	115,821	141,960	115,821	141,960
	<u>115,821</u>	<u>141,960</u>	<u>115,821</u>	<u>141,960</u>

The Trust was granted Salix Energy Efficient Fund (SEEF) loans during the previous year to support energy efficiency related capital expenditure. The loans provided to Holyhead Primary Academy, Wallbrook Primary Academy and Shireland Collegiate Academy are for a duration of 7 years. The loans provided to Thornss Collegiate Academy and Tameside Primary Academy are for a duration of 6 years. All loans are provided as interest free loans.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

21 Movement in funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	376,654	29,881,237	(29,291,160)	(397,646)	569,085
Other DfE/EFA grants					
Pupil Premium	-	1,914,968	(1,914,968)	-	-
Teaching School Direct	-	-	-	-	-
Free school meals	-	205,078	(205,078)	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	3,125	(3,125)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	70,791	(70,791)	-	-
Trust capacity funding	-	-	-	-	-
PE Sports grant	-	82,893	(82,893)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	842,378	(842,378)	-	-
Tutoring programme	-	-	-	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	212,425	(212,425)	-	-
Maintstream schools additional grant	-	380,411	(380,411)	-	-
Free School grant	-	270,000	(270,000)	-	-
Others	206,875	238,018	(207,200)	3,728	241,421
Catch up premium	-	380,507	(380,507)	-	-
Local authority	19,419	1,763,094	(1,717,309)	-	65,204
Other restricted projects	52,697	28,220	(66,930)	(6,200)	7,787
	<u>655,645</u>	<u>36,273,145</u>	<u>(35,645,175)</u>	<u>(400,118)</u>	<u>883,497</u>
Restricted pension fund	<u>(5,078,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(583,000)</u>	<u>5,661,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>(4,422,355)</u>	<u>36,273,145</u>	<u>(36,228,175)</u>	<u>5,260,882</u>	<u>883,497</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	81,169,842	-	(2,523,698)	-	78,646,144
DfE/Capital grants	3,661,328	1,000,680	33,837	-	4,695,845
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,823,611	-	(261,683)	-	1,561,928
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds	452,135	-	(19,510)	390,190	822,815
Other capital grants	1,464,087	771,839	(264,514)	9,928	1,981,340
Other donations	7,529,050	-	(43,530)	-	7,485,520
	<u>96,100,053</u>	<u>1,772,519</u>	<u>(3,079,098)</u>	<u>400,118</u>	<u>95,193,592</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>91,677,698</u>	<u>38,045,664</u>	<u>(39,307,273)</u>	<u>5,661,000</u>	<u>96,077,089</u>
Unrestricted funds	<u>2,177,025</u>	<u>2,486,223</u>	<u>(3,009,439)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,653,809</u>
Total funds	<u>93,854,723</u>	<u>40,531,887</u>	<u>(42,316,712)</u>	<u>5,661,000</u>	<u>97,730,898</u>

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency, Department of Education, or other funders. These funds are all used in accordance with the specific restrictions of the individual grants and funding provided.

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds are resources which are applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, Department for Education, or other funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to limits on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward at 31 August 2023 or 31 August 2022.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

21 Movement in funds - continued

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	413,538	26,011,535	(25,185,012)	(863,407)	376,654
Other DfE/EFA grants					
Pupil premium	-	1,717,697	(1,717,697)	-	-
Teachers pay	-	22,116	(22,116)	-	-
Teachers pension	-	62,499	(62,499)	-	-
Trust Capacity Funding	-	286,371	(286,371)	-	-
Tutoring programme	-	208,692	(208,692)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	327,136	(327,136)	-	-
PE sports grant	-	92,370	(92,370)	-	-
COVID catch up	-	217,430	(217,430)	-	-
Others	577,546	618,341	(979,465)	(9,547)	206,875
Local authority	215,927	1,812,030	(2,008,538)	-	19,419
Other restricted projects	55,081	22,220	(12,214)	(12,390)	52,697
	<u>1,262,092</u>	<u>31,398,437</u>	<u>(31,119,540)</u>	<u>(885,344)</u>	<u>655,645</u>
Restricted pension fund	<u>(21,649,000)</u>	-	<u>(2,359,000)</u>	18,930,000	<u>(5,078,000)</u>
	<u>(20,386,908)</u>	<u>31,398,437</u>	<u>(33,478,540)</u>	<u>18,044,656</u>	<u>(4,422,355)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	65,408,883	17,745,994	(1,985,035)	-	81,169,842
DfE/Capital grants	2,324,857	1,295,779	40,692	-	3,661,328
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,171,383	-	(211,179)	863,407	1,823,611
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds	466,979	-	(23,748)	8,904	452,135
Other capital grants	1,647,175	39,893	(244,918)	21,937	1,464,087
Other donations	7,546,676	-	(17,626)	-	7,529,050
	<u>78,565,953</u>	<u>19,081,666</u>	<u>(2,441,814)</u>	<u>894,248</u>	<u>96,100,053</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>58,179,045</u>	<u>50,480,103</u>	<u>(35,920,354)</u>	<u>18,938,904</u>	<u>91,677,698</u>
Unrestricted funds	<u>1,934,268</u>	<u>2,312,291</u>	<u>(2,060,630)</u>	<u>(8,904)</u>	<u>2,177,025</u>
Total funds	<u>60,113,313</u>	<u>52,792,394</u>	<u>(37,980,984)</u>	<u>18,930,000</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

21 Movement in funds - continued

Analysis by Fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Shireland Collegiate Academy	792,130	720,789
Thorns Collegiate Academy	(114,467)	147,413
Holyhead Primary Academy	52,897	79,677
Tameside Primary Academy	382,572	197,118
West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	165,624	234,025
Shireland Technology Primary	135,238	168,787
Wallbrook Primary Academy	315,474	239,009
Lightwoods Primary Academy	52,540	148,907
Shireland Biomedical UTC	(153,769)	(134,791)
Central services	909,067	1,031,736
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	2,537,306	2,832,670
Restricted fixed asset fund	95,193,592	96,100,053
Pension reserve	-	(5,078,000)
Total	97,730,898	93,854,723

The Shireland Biomedical UTC deficit is due to low student numbers. The Trust has worked with Baker Dearing and the ESFA to change the delivery structure from a year 9 - 13 model to a year 7 - 13 model. We are anticipating with this change we will attract the students' numbers to ensure a surplus budget within the next 3 years.

The Thorns Collegiate Academy entered into a deficit position during 2022/23. The Academy has taken action to bring the academy back into surplus in 2023/24 primarily through increasing lettings income.

Analysis of academies by cost

	Teaching and educational support staff costs	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies	Other costs (excluding depreciation)	Total 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Shireland Collegiate Academy	8,128,539	1,747,748	968,073	1,497,759	12,342,119
Thorns Collegiate Academy	3,861,201	1,320,264	601,160	845,590	6,628,215
Holyhead Primary Academy	818,891	262,660	168,687	183,827	1,434,065
Tameside Primary Academy	1,707,074	605,065	173,070	493,354	2,978,563
West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	3,001,082	895,230	473,164	678,447	5,047,923
Shireland Technology Primary	1,006,686	448,258	181,258	234,635	1,870,837
Wallbrook Primary Academy	1,054,359	323,798	160,108	246,419	1,784,684
Lightwoods Primary Academy	1,409,964	725,710	211,051	393,305	2,740,030
Shireland Biomedical UTC	1,149,176	495,823	188,558	410,460	2,244,017
Central services	679,325	796,259	(712,929)	142,540	905,195
	22,816,297	7,620,815	2,412,200	5,126,336	37,975,648

	Teaching and educational support staff costs	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies	Other costs (excluding depreciation)	Total 2022
	£	£	£	£	£
Shireland Collegiate Academy	7,634,679	1,569,723	806,309	1,290,331	11,301,042
Thorns Collegiate Academy	3,797,563	1,063,468	426,987	724,460	6,012,478
Holyhead Primary Academy	728,656	358,647	164,319	181,016	1,432,638
Tameside Primary Academy	1,682,081	673,540	263,650	469,005	3,088,276
West Bromwich Collegiate Academy	2,011,517	631,980	378,033	480,444	3,501,974
Shireland Technology Primary	686,126	286,024	109,852	208,225	1,290,227
Wallbrook Primary Academy	931,250	360,597	174,014	256,703	1,722,564
Lightwoods Primary Academy	1,279,451	721,793	206,228	373,543	2,581,015
Shireland Biomedical UTC	444,643	108,189	75,873	196,612	825,317
Central services	459,865		(333,263)	176,337	302,939
	19,655,831	5,773,961	2,272,002	4,356,676	32,058,470

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Restricted fixed assets fund	Total funds 2023
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	94,794,319	94,794,319
Current assets	2,782,524	3,146,259	399,273	6,328,056
Current liabilities	(1,128,715)	(2,146,941)	-	(3,275,656)
Long term liabilities	-	(115,821)	-	(115,821)
Pension liability	-	-	-	-
	<u>1,653,809</u>	<u>883,497</u>	<u>95,193,592</u>	<u>97,730,898</u>

	Unrestricted fund	Restricted fund	Restricted fixed assets fund	Total funds 2022
	£	£	£	£
Fixed assets	-	-	95,291,005	95,291,005
Current assets	2,600,876	2,864,401	809,048	6,274,325
Current liabilities	(281,891)	(2,208,756)	-	(2,490,647)
Long term liabilities	(141,960)	-	-	(141,960)
Pension liability	-	(5,078,000)	-	(5,078,000)
	<u>2,177,025</u>	<u>(4,422,355)</u>	<u>96,100,053</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(1,784,825)	14,811,410
Adjustments for:		
Amortisation	18,343	6,614
Depreciation	3,060,755	2,435,200
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,772,519)	(1,335,672)
Interest receivable	(20,966)	(1,491)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	360,000	1,985,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	223,000	374,000
Increase in stocks	(16,627)	(7,650)
(Increase)/ decrease in debtors	(25,562)	337,934
Increase/ (decrease in creditors)	782,445	(375,161)
Funds inherited on conversion	-	-
Net cash provided by operating activities	824,044	18,230,184

24 Cash flows from financing activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-	58,877
Repayments of borrowing	(23,576)	(24,897)
Net cash provided by financing activities	(23,576)	33,980

25 Cash flows from investing activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	20,966	1,491
Purchase of tangible fixed assets (net of donated assets)	(1,984,712)	(2,430,955)
Acquisition of intangible fixed assets	(597,700)	-
Donated fixed assets	-	(17,745,994)
Capital grants from DfE Group	1,772,519	1,335,672
Net cash provided by investing activities	(788,927)	(18,839,786)

26 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023	2022
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	3,974,327	2,782,364
Notice deposits	133,137	1,313,559
	4,107,464	4,095,923

27 Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/9/22	Cash flow	Non cash	At 31/8/23
	£	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	4,095,923	11,541	-	4,107,464
	4,095,923	11,541	-	4,107,464
Loans falling due within one year	(28,805)	(2,563)	-	(31,368)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(141,960)	26,139	-	(115,821)
	3,925,158	35,117	-	3,960,275

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

28 Capital commitments	Group 2023	Group 2022	Academy 2023	Academy 2022
	£	£	£	£
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	861,125	45,944	861,125	45,944

29 Pension and similar obligations

The Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teacher's Pension Scheme for England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff, and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Sandwell MBC. Both are Multi-employer Defined Benefit Pension 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 £544,047 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £333,896) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' pension scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2023. 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.

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 2023 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2023. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023. The key elements of the valuation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy);
- 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 SCAPE discount rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4 % above the rate of CPI, and is based on the Office for Budget Responsibility's forecast for long-term GDP growth

The valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £2,899,493 (2022: £2,410,655).

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 T trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Trust has set out above the information available on the scheme. 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.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

29 Pension and similar obligations - continued

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the period ended 31 August 2023 was £1,873,000 (2022: £1,831,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,430,000 (2022: £1,478,000), and employees' contributions totalled £443,000 (2022: £353,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.2% for employers and a range of 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy 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 amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Present value of obligations	(20,335,000)	(23,286,000)
Fair value of plan assets	20,335,000	18,208,000
	-	(5,078,000)

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Current service costs	1,790,000	3,463,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	223,000	374,000
	2,013,000	3,837,000
Actual return on plan assets	(244,020)	(546,000)

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation - brought forward	23,286,000	38,735,000
Current service cost	1,790,000	3,463,000
Contributions by scheme participants	443,000	353,000
Interest cost	1,031,000	669,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(6,293,000)	(19,771,000)
Asset ceiling adjustment	294,000	-
Benefits paid	(216,000)	(163,000)
	20,335,000	23,286,000

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

29 Pension and similar obligations - continued

Changes in the fair value of the Group's share of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets - brought forward	18,208,000	17,086,000
Interest income	808,000	295,000
Actuarial gains	(338,000)	(841,000)
Employer contributions	1,430,000	1,478,000
Employee contributions	443,000	353,000
Benefits paid	(216,000)	(163,000)
	20,335,000	18,208,000

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Actuarial gains/(losses)	5,661,000	18,930,000
	5,661,000	18,930,000

The major categories of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	13,624,450	12,199,360
Bonds	4,270,350	3,823,680
Property	1,626,800	1,456,640
Cash and other liquid assets	813,400	728,320
	20,335,000	18,208,000

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	2023	2022
Discount rate	5.20%	4.25%
Future salary increases	3.95%	4.05%
Future pension increases (CPI)	2.95%	3.05%

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

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
Retiring today		
Males	20.9	21.2
Females	22.6	23.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	20.6	22.9
Females	24.6	25.4

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

29 Pension and similar obligations - continued

Sensitivity analysis as at 31 August 2023

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	501	591
Discount rate -0.1%	(501)	(591)
1 year increase in member life expectancy	(802)	(931)
1 year decrease in member life expectancy	802	931
Salary increase rate +0.1%	(63)	(114)
Salary increase rate -0.1%	63	114

30 Leasing agreements

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

	Group	Group	Academy	Academy
	2023	2022	2023	2022
	£	£	£	£
Within one year	39,231	19,034	39,231	19,034
Between one and five years	44,080	21,607	44,080	21,607
	<u>83,311</u>	<u>40,641</u>	<u>83,311</u>	<u>40,641</u>

31 Related party disclosures

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations 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 trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the trust's financial regulations, the Academy Trust Handbook and normal procurement procedures.

K Grundy, wife of M Grundy, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as Primary Director of Education, K Grundy's appointment was made in open competition and M Grundy was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. K Grundy is paid within the normal pay scale for her role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship to a trustee.

T Grundy, son of M Grundy, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a Head of DT at Shireland Collegiate Academy. T Grundy's appointment was made in open competition and M Grundy was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. T Grundy is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of his relationship to a trustee.

E Tonks, child of spouse of M Grundy, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a support staff member, E Tonks' appointment was made in open competition and M Grundy was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. E Tonks is paid within the normal pay scale for her role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship to a trustee.

During the year, the trust made payments to Ella Savell-Boss Limited for safeguarding services totalling £20,357 (2022: £14,307). The owner of this business, E Savell-Boss, is the sister of A Savell-Boss, a trustee, as at the 31 August 2023 £nil (2022: £nil) was outstanding.

During the year, the trust made payments to APB Machinery totalling £2,576 (2022: £Nil). The owner of this business, is the father of M Grundy, a trustee, as at the 31 August 2023 £nil (2022: £nil) was outstanding.

Shireland Collegiate Academy Trust is the sole member of Shireland Learning Limited (SLL), a company incorporated in England (registration no. 06052021). As reported in the audited accounts for the year ended 31 August 2023, SLL made a profit of £Nil (2022: £Nil). There is no profit to gift back to the Trust for use across the academies in line with SLL Articles of Association.

The Trust has received income of £Nil (2022: £10,000) for the release of its shareholding in Coscole (a company in which the academy trust owned 14.7% of the share capital). No further income or expenditure has exchanged hands.

The trust made the transactions at arm's length and in accordance with its financial regulations. In entering into the transactions, the trust has complied with the requirements of the ESFA's Academies Financial Handbook. There were no other related party transactions for the year ended 31 August 2023 other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

32 Members' liability

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

33 Agency arrangements

The Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2023, the Trust received £67,412 (2022: £48,749) and disbursed £73,042 (2022: £29,229) from the fund. The amount remaining unspent at the 31 August 2022 is £48,417 (2022: £54,047), which is being carried forward.

34 Post balance sheet events

On 1 September 2023, the Trust opened Shireland CBSO Academy. The Academy is in partnership with the City of Birmingham Symphony Orchestra for 11-18 year olds. The first cohort in 2023/24 will be in Year 7 only.

SHIRELAND COLLEGIATE ACADEMY TRUST

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

35 Comparative Consolidated Statement of Income & Expenditure - year ended 31 August 2022

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2021/22 Total funds £	2020/21 Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and capital grants	103,339	-	1,335,672	1,439,011	8,808,897
Transfers into the Trust	320,270	-	17,745,994	18,066,264	7,184,310
Charitable activities					
- Educational operations	149,670	31,376,217	-	31,525,887	26,353,603
- Teaching schools	-	-	-	-	40,000
Other trading activities	1,737,521	22,220	-	1,759,741	1,792,408
Investment income	1,491	-	-	1,491	2,698
Total income	<u>2,312,291</u>	<u>31,398,437</u>	<u>19,081,666</u>	<u>52,792,394</u>	<u>44,181,916</u>
Expenditure on					
Raising funds	2,060,630	2,020,752	195,345	4,276,727	3,436,941
Charitable activities					
- Educational operations	-	31,457,788	2,246,469	33,704,257	26,664,720
Teaching schools	-	-	-	-	40,000
Total expenditure	<u>2,060,630</u>	<u>33,478,540</u>	<u>2,441,814</u>	<u>37,980,984</u>	<u>30,141,661</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	251,661	(2,080,103)	16,639,852	14,811,410	14,040,255
Transfers between funds	(8,904)	(885,344)	894,248	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	-	18,930,000	-	18,930,000	(2,539,000)
Net movement in funds	242,757	15,964,553	17,534,100	33,741,410	11,501,255
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward	<u>1,934,268</u>	<u>(20,386,908)</u>	<u>78,565,953</u>	<u>60,113,313</u>	<u>48,612,058</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u>2,177,025</u>	<u>(4,422,355)</u>	<u>96,100,053</u>	<u>93,854,723</u>	<u>60,113,313</u>