
AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Members:	Mr K B Hardern Mr J Cragg Mrs G M M Miscampbell (deceased 13.01.2023) Mr R D Williams Mr J R Collins (representing the Aylesbury Grammar School Foundation Trust) Sir Francis Habgood Dr N Laljani Mr T Batty (resigned 05.05.2023) Ms J Durden Moore (appointed 07.08.2023)
Governors:	Mr R D Williams, Appointed Governor, Chair of Governors Mr T Batty, Appointed Governor, (appointed 05.05.2023) Mr P A Bown, Foundation Governor Mr M Brock, Co-opted Governor, (resigned 11.10.2022) Wing Commander L Cobley, Foundation Governor Mr J R Collins, Foundation Governor Mr D Conely, Parent Governor (appointed 05.05.2023) Mr A Fails, Parent Governor, Chair of Resources (including Finance) Committee Mr N Gibbs, Staff Governor Mr A Hall, Parent Governor, (resigned 01.02.2023) Mr K B Hardern, Foundation Governor Mrs C Hart, Staff Governor Miss M Hayat, Co-opted Governor, (appointed 23.02.2023) Mr P Jennings, Parent Governor Ms J Moore, Appointed Governor (resigned 18.04.2023) Mr Y Odukoya, Parent Governor, (resigned 05.12.2022) Mr D Outschoorn, Parent Governor, (appointed 05.05.2023) Mr M J Sturgeon, Headmaster; Staff Governor Mr E Walter, Appointed Governor, Chair of Learning & Teaching Committee Mrs A Ward, Co-opted Governor, Vice-Chair of Governors, Chair of Personnel & Pay Review Committee Mr S Winman, Co-opted Governor, Chair of Community & Development Committee
Company Secretary:	Mrs C Cobb
Senior Leadership Team:	Mr M J Sturgeon, Headmaster and Accounting Officer Mrs P A Venning, Deputy Head Dr K J Smith, Assistant Head Mr G Singh, Assistant Head Mr G Dallas, Assistant Head Mr I Digby, Resources Director and Chief Financial Officer Mrs V Beckley, Assistant Head
Company Name:	Aylesbury Grammar School
Registered Office:	Walton Road, Aylesbury, HP21 7RP
Company Registration Number:	07538386
Independent Auditor:	BKL Audit LLP 35 Ballards Lane London N3 1XW

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

Bankers:	Lloyds Bank Market Square Aylesbury HP20 2PN
Solicitors:	Veale Wasbrough Vizards Barnards Inn 86 Fetter Lane London EC4A 1AD

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Governors of Aylesbury Grammar School (who are also 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 Governors' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

Aylesbury Grammar School (the "School" or the "Academy Trust") is an academy for pupils aged 11 to 18 serving a catchment area of Aylesbury and surrounding towns and villages. It has a pupil capacity of 1,336 and had a roll of 1,332 in the school census in January 2023.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents. The members of the Aylesbury Grammar School Governing Body (the "Governors") are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Aylesbury Grammar School.

Details of the Governors who served during the financial year are included in the Reference and Administrative details on page 1.

Members' Liability

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

Directors' Indemnities

The Articles of Association state that every Governor shall be indemnified out of the assets of the charitable company against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which he or she is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him or her by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of Aylesbury Grammar School.

Aylesbury Grammar School also has employers' liability insurance, public liability insurance and professional indemnity insurance. In accordance with normal commercial practice the School has purchased insurance to protect Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on School business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim.

Organisational structure

The organisational structure consists of three levels: the Members of the Academy Trust, the Governors (who are also Directors and Trustees) and the Senior Leadership Team ("SLT"). The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

Members of the Academy Trust

The membership of the Academy Trust is defined in the charitable company's Articles of Association. The Articles of Association were updated in the year following discussion with the Department for Education, the revised articles being adopted with effect from 7 August 2023.

As at 31 August 2023, consistent with the revised articles, the membership of the Academy Trust comprised the Chair of Governors, the Chair of the Aylesbury Grammar School Foundation Trust, a nominated representative elected from the trustees of the Foundation Trust and four independent members. Any member can resign provided that at least three members remain in office. The members of the Academy Trust have an oversight responsibility over the operation of the Academy Trust but take no active part in this capacity in the governance or management of the School.

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

Structure, Governance and Management (continued)

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Governors

Sections 50 to 58 of the charitable company's revised Articles of Association outline the constitution of the Governing Body and clarify the rules of the Governing Body. The membership of the Governing Body is appointed as follows:

- The Headmaster, if appointed by the Members
- Up to four Appointed Governors appointed by the Members
- Up to four Foundation Governors appointed by the Trustees of the Aylesbury Grammar School Foundation Trust (the "Foundation")
- A minimum of two and a maximum of four Parent Governors appointed by the adults who are parents or carers of pupils at the School following an election
- Co-opted Governors appointed by the Governing Body with no minimum or maximum number.

The Governors' terms of office are four years in all cases.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Governors

All new Governors attend an induction program run by the nominated Development Governor. New Governors are provided with an information pack which includes information on all School policies and their responsibilities under academy status. Governors have access to advice and on-line training via the National Governors Association. Safeguarding is a key part of the induction in all cases and given the highest priority. Governors are expected to undertake continuous and/or further training in their areas of specific interest or in relation to the committee or role in which they operate.

All Governors also complete a regular skills audit which identifies any areas of knowledge within the Governing Body as a whole that need to be improved.

Arrangements for Setting Pay and Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The Key Management Personnel of Aylesbury Grammar School comprise the Members of the Academy Trust, the Governors and the Senior Leadership Team. Neither Members nor Governors receive any remuneration for this role beyond the reimbursement of reasonable expenses incurred directly in connection with their role.

The remuneration of the SLT is set on appointment within a salary range agreed by Governors and detailed in their contract. Pay progression within this scale is subject to an annual performance review by a committee of Governors formed by the Personnel & Pay Review Committee (to include the Chair of Governors) for the Headmaster, and by the Headmaster for all other members of the SLT.

Staff Governors are paid for their teaching or support staff roles in accordance with their contracts, with all staff subject to annual performance review.

Trade Union Facility Time

No time has been spent on facility time.

Related Parties and Other Connected Charities and Organisations

Aylesbury Grammar School exists as a single entity and is not part of a wider federation of academies.

The Academy Trust has close links with the Aylesburian Annual Fund charity, formerly known as the Aylesbury Grammar School Support Fund charity, which has the following Mission Statement:

"At the discretion of the Aylesbury Annual Fund Trustees and by the provision of funds, services, facilities and training, to advance the education of the students of Aylesbury Grammar School and improve their moral development, so that they may grow to full maturity as responsible citizens."

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

Related Parties and Other Connected Charities and Organisations (continued)

The Aylesburian Annual Fund charity regularly donates funds to the School for a range of projects which are mainly capital-related in nature, using income generated by private fundraising, parental donations and grants. The Trustees of the Aylesburian Annual Fund are senior staff members of the Academy Trust and the Chairman of the Aylesbury Grammar School PTA, a separate registered charity which makes donations to the School from funds raised from events.

The Academy Trust is also closely linked to the Aylesbury Grammar School Foundation Trust, a separate registered charity which has the following objects:

- Providing such special benefits for the School as may from time to time be agreed by the Trustees;
- Awarding to beneficiaries Scholarships, Bursaries or Maintenance Allowances tenable at any School, University, or other place of learning, approved by the Trustees;
- Providing financial assistance, outfits, clothing, tools, instruments or books to enable beneficiaries to prepare for, or to assist their entry into or advancement in, a profession, trade or calling;
- Awarding Scholarships and Maintenance Allowances to enable beneficiaries to travel abroad to pursue their education;
- Providing, or assisting the provision of, facilities for recreation and social and physical training including the provision of coaching for athletics, sports and games, for beneficiaries who are receiving primary, secondary or further education;
- The provision of financial assistance to enable beneficiaries to study music or other arts;
- The provision of accommodation for any one or more persons employed at the School as a residence for such member of staff and any member of his or her family during the period of his or her employment if in the Trustees opinion it would be for the benefit of the School to do so.

In the above, "beneficiaries" means persons who have not attained the age of 25 years who attend or have attended Aylesbury Grammar School and who, in the opinion of the Foundation Trustees, are in need of financial assistance. The Foundation Trust has income and investments which are separately controlled and can donate funds to the Academy Trust for the benefit of the students and the School at the discretion of the Foundation Trustees. The Headmaster can apply to the Foundation Trust for funds when there is an established need, but the granting of such requests remains at the discretion of the Foundation Trustees.

The Foundation Trust owns all the land and buildings used by the School, apart from a single rugby pitch which is on a forty-year licence from Buckinghamshire Council with a potential two years' notice period. The Foundation Trust has leased the land and buildings to the Academy Trust on a one hundred and twenty-five year lease at nil cost, which commenced on 1st July 2011.

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The Academy Trust's main object is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular (but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing) by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum. A further object is to promote, for the benefit of the inhabitants of Aylesbury and the surrounding areas, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the inhabitants.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The strategic direction of the School is documented in 'Our Vision & Strategy 2019 -2024' publication and was further enhanced by Brand Strategy work during 2020 and 2021. The long-term objectives of the Academy Trust that were applicable during the year ended 31st August 2023 and which have now been redefined to apply in the year to 31st August 2024 are set out in the Academy's School Development Plans (SDP) 2022-23 and 2023-24.

Purpose: To inspire & enable all our students to flourish throughout their lives.

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

Objectives, strategies and activities (continued)

Vision: We will be true to our foundation as a 'free school for Aylesbury' giving every student irrespective of background and circumstance an opportunity to flourish. We will provide an education for all our students which is unparalleled in breadth and quality of opportunity, striving to become international leaders in academic and pastoral development. As a result, we will be the School of choice for local families, preparing our community to succeed.

Promise: We nurture character so our students can define for themselves their place in the world.

Values: RESPECT ourselves, our peers and our community. ASPIRE to achieve the best in our learning, in our relationships, in our community and wider life.

Strategic plan

Enhance our current provision
Extend our influence and impact
Transform our School into a global leader in education

The Brand Strategy to deliver the Strategic Plan is summarised by our Brand Statement:
Nurturing Character since 1598
This is delivered through:

- The AGS Learner
- The Curriculum
- Extra-curricula activities
- Pastoral Care

All activities associated with the School are outlined in sections 5(a) to 5(r) of the Academy Trust's Articles of Association.

Public Benefit

In setting the objectives and planning the activities of the School, the Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. Charity law gives a wide meaning to education and does not limit it to education by a teacher in a classroom, playground or sports field. Broadly, education in charity law means to give knowledge to, or develop the abilities of, somebody by teaching, training or instruction, or to bring up children or young people in particular manners, habits or ways of life. Similarly, education might commonly be taken to mean the systematic instruction, schooling or training of children and young people, or, by extension, the development of mental or physical powers and the moulding of some aspect of character.

The Governors are required to assess the activities undertaken at the School and to confirm whether the aims of the School are for the public benefit.

The Governors, through a framework of senior school leadership and regular committee meetings, discuss the curriculum, local community and school environment and have taken due regard of the Charity Commission guidance. The Governors are satisfied that they can demonstrate that the School's aims and activities are purely for the advancement of education, the development of the student cohort and the satisfaction of the parent body.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

The School is in its thirteenth year of operation as an academy trust and has a capacity of 1,336 students. Total students in the year ended 31st August 2023 numbered 1,335. The School had 1,341 students for the start of the new academic year in September 2023.

In early November 2022 the School was inspected by Ofsted. The Governors are very pleased to report that the conclusion of Ofsted's review was that the School was ranked as "outstanding" in all areas. The full Ofsted report is available on the School's website.

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

Strategic Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

Examination results for 2023 once again met or exceeded the standards which the School expects. At A level there was a 99.6% pass rate, with 52.9% awarded A* - A grade. The average number of points per candidate based on A2 grades only was 144 on the QCA scale.

In terms of added value for A level as measured by ALIS, the School achieved an overall standardised residual of +0.35 (+0.26 for the last proper exam year 2019). At GCSE level, 68% of all GCSEs taken were awarded a grade 7 or higher (66% for the last proper exam year 2019), 78% of students achieved 5 grades 9 - 7 and 96.2% achieved 5 grades 9 - 4, including English and Maths. The total proportion of students achieving the English Baccalaureate was 75% (67% for last proper exam year 2019).

To ensure that standards are continually maintained, the School operates a programme of observation of lessons, and uses data assessment tools such as ALIS and YELLIS to predict grades and monitor student performance at all key stages and assess the added value. The School also participates in national programmes looking at added value through the key stages such as ASP and FFT. Evidence for success in these areas includes:

- Analysis of achievement measures using national comparisons. Whilst standardised data for value added is not yet available on the DIE website preliminary data and FFT suggests that at GCSE students have exceeded the national measure of expected progress (+0.7) and generally met the challenging targets set by YELLIS. At A level raw data suggests that, overall, students are making beyond expected progress following GCSEs.
- Other measures of progress. In the Sixth Form able students have been able to study additional courses beyond the standard three A levels, e.g. a fourth A level, AS Maths or an EPQ. At GCSE all students are able to study for GCSEs in the three separate sciences, with a high number of grades being grade 9.

In terms of staff development, this year has been an exciting year for Continuous Professional Development with teaching and support staff participating in a significant range of opportunities across a wide range of school priorities, deepening and embedding expertise.

As public examination outcomes continue to fall back in line with pre-Covid levels, a number of subject staff have benefited from targeted courses delivered by exam boards to improve student outcomes. Additionally, training has been undertaken by the new Examinations Officer to support them in their new role with the complex examinations landscape. Leaders across eight different areas, including academic subjects, Business Managers and Human Resources, have also enhanced their departments through collaboration as part of the School's BASS (Boys' Academic Selective Schools) membership, adopting an outward looking approach to development with similar schools. Photography has been introduced and both Art teachers and technicians have developed essential new skills with which to guide students. Science Technicians have also attended Stowe's Supertech Meet so they can best support students and science subject specialists.

The responsibility of schools to support the mental health and wellbeing of students, enhance their sense of belonging and respond to special educational needs is well documented. This year staff have attended a "Let's Talk About Boys" conference, a course designed to make a difference to disadvantaged pupils and a Building Belonging event focusing on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion. SEND specialists have focused on enhancing skills to support students with Autism to manage feelings of anxiety, sadness and anger, and a Suicide Awareness Training course. Emergency First Aid remains an ongoing priority with over twenty staff becoming certified.

As Lead School of the Aylesbury Vale Challenge Partners Hub the School continues to gain a national reputation for successful collaboration facilitating school improvement and sharing leading practice. The investment in our membership enables us to provide both our own staff and those in the local area with successful leadership courses, welfare indexing (Welbee survey), leadership residency programmes and accredited coaching courses driving our hub activities. We have continued to invest in research, and particularly in our evidence-based journal "Flagship", a trailblazer in school research programmes, again enabling staff to develop expertise in a systematic and impactful way. Following our accreditation last year with a Character Kitemark through our membership of the Association for Character Education, we continue to develop our students' characters in line with the School's priorities. The CPD budget also supports our flourishing working groups enhancing literacy, community welfare, character, student behaviour and the Staff Advisory Group for Equality.

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

Strategic Report (continued)

Achievements and Performance (continued)

In 2022 the School became the Astra Alliance Teacher Training Hub, using our position to drive recruitment in a landscape where teacher training numbers are falling sharply, to safeguard the profession for us and for the local area. As a Hub we recruited 16 new trainees in the area, with six at AGS for 2023-2024, bucking the trend against national trainee recruitment. Investment in this area over a number of years has resulted in some 17 staff training and then remaining with us, with very apparent benefits financially and professionally. This has also now given rise to opportunities for existing staff to train to mentor and coach, as well as five staff this year to undertake the National Project Qualifications fulfilling the Government's golden thread, running from initial teacher training through to school leadership.

Ultimately, this year continuous professional development opportunities have enabled staff to respond to contextual changes across all areas of the curricular, pastoral and extra-curricular context and reflect a staff body determined to utilise the collective wisdom of the profession.

Key Performance Indicators

The Academy Trust has established KPIs and for the financial year ended 31st August 2023. These included:

- To ensure a sense of belonging through the implementation of the School's Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion strategy, including embedding the student voice
- Review and implement strategy for effective MIS, data management and data protection, including reviewing new MIS systems and migrating once review undertaken
- To develop the whole School literacy strategy and embed it in every department's development plan.
- Improve teaching by development of AGS Pedagogy and Deliberate Practice
- Establish a working group to research effective practice using research and models from other schools
- To review classroom teaching, including learning walks, staff and student feedback
- Identify 'deliberate practice' principles and share them with staff and students
- Maintaining the overall percentage of funds spent on staffing below 80% of income (excluding Fixed Assets) – for 2023/23 this has been achieved with staffing costs at 69.3% of income

Going Concern

Going concern is a fundamental accounting concept that underlies the preparation of financial statements of all UK companies. Under the going concern concept, it is assumed that a company will continue in operation and that there is neither the intention nor the need either to liquidate it or to cease trading. It is a requirement that Governors should make a rigorous assessment of whether the Academy Trust is a going concern when preparing annual financial statements. To this end, the Governors have assessed and reviewed the Academy Trust's financial data for the year ended 31st August 2023. In addition, the SLT has prepared and evaluated, and Governors have discussed (at the Summer 2023 Resources (including Finance) Committee meeting), the Academy Trust's 2023-24 financial plan. After making appropriate enquiries, the Governors have a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Strategic Report - Financial Review

Finance Review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to specific purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the period ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. The School also receives private donations and grants for projects from the Aylesburian Annual Fund Charity, the Foundation Trust and the Aylesbury Grammar School PTA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), such donations are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income primarily in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

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

Strategic Report - Financial Review (continued)

Finance Review (continued)

During the year ended 31st August 2023, total expenditure of £10,191,405 (2022 - £9,455,801) was covered by GAG funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources. Net expenditure for the year was £578,341 (2022 - £410,599). This figure includes non-cash items e.g. depreciation and Local Government Pension Scheme adjustments. At 31st August 2023, the net book value of fixed assets was £9,436,595 (2022 - £9,900,144). Movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 13 to the financial statements. The assets are used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the School.

The net current assets of the Academy Trust at 31st August 2023 were £336,624 (2022 - £348,416) which included a cash balance of £627,058 (2022 - £414,174). The School has received notification from Buckinghamshire Council that the Local Government pension scheme deficit as at 31st August 2023 was valued at £305,000 (2022 - £820,000). Details of this are provided in note 24. Under the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, it is necessary to charge projected deficits on the Local Government Pension Scheme, which is provided to support staff, to a restricted fund. This results in reducing reserves shown in the total funds of the Academy Trust. As a result of the 2019 revaluation, the employer contributions have been set at 22.8% for 2020/21, 22.9% for 2021/22, 23% for 2022/23 and 23% for 2023/24.

Overall, the Academy Trust has a healthy balance sheet and cash flow and will be using the reserves as appropriate to maintain the current assets and also to invest back into the School in the form of additional resources and facilities both in the long term and short term in conjunction with the School Development Plan and the aims of the School.

Reserves Policy

The definition of reserves in the SORP is 'that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes'. This definition of reserves therefore normally excludes:

- Permanent endowment funds
- Expendable endowment funds
- Restricted income funds
- Any part of unrestricted funds not readily available for spending, specifically income funds which could only be realised by disposing of fixed assets held for charitable use

Reserves are therefore the resources the Academy Trust has or can make available to spend for any or all of the Academy Trust's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. More specifically 'reserves' are income which becomes available to the Academy Trust and is to be spent at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of any of the Academy Trust's objects (sometimes referred to as 'general purpose' income) but which is not yet spent, committed or designated (i.e. is 'free').

The level of reserves held takes into account the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them with commitments, including future capital projects, and the nature of reserves. The Trustees will keep this level of reserves under review at each board meeting and aim to build and maintain the reserves level by entering into cost effective agreements whilst in keeping with the principal object of the Academy Trust.

Total reserves at the end of the period amounted to £9,468,219. This balance includes unrestricted funds (free reserves) of £1,284,304, which are considered appropriate for the Academy Trust, and restricted funds of £8,488,915 and a pension deficit of £305,000. The level of reserves fell during the year to August 2023 as a result principally of the significant increases in the costs of gas and electricity. However, it is not envisaged that any significant calls on reserves will be required for the forthcoming academic year.

The Governing Body have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be approximately £250,000. The reason for this reserve is to provide sufficient working capital and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies. This represents an average target level for the reserves from time to time, and the Governors accept that the actual outcome at any point in time may be higher or lower depending on circumstances.

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

Reserves Policy (continued)

Within the reserves policy users should note that, because of accounting for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), the Trust recognises a significant pension fund deficit totalling to £305,000 (2022: £820,000). This deficit is included within restricted funds. This does not lead to an immediate liability for this amount. Similarly, if there were a pension surplus included in the restricted fund this would not create an immediately realisable asset that can be released straight away and expended for the specific purposes of that fund.

Users should also note that a surplus or deficit position of the pension scheme would generally result in a cash flow effect for the Trust in the form of an increase or decrease in employers' pension contributions over a period of years. The Trust thus takes this fact into account when reviewing current business plans and budgets, ascertaining how the pension costs might affect budgets in the future. On the basis that increased pension contributions should generally be met from the Trust's budgeted annual income, whilst the deficit might not be eliminated, there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the fund or direct impact on the unrestricted reserves of the Trust due to the recognition of the deficit.

Investment Policy

While the School still requires continual capital investment in its premises and infrastructure, there is unlikely to be any long-term build-up of capital. Surpluses are, therefore, only invested in bank deposit accounts and not in other financial instruments.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Governors regularly assess the risks to which the School is exposed, in particular those relating specifically to the teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the School, and its finances. The Governors have ensured that a number of systems and procedures are in place to manage the risks that the School faces, especially in respect of the key operational areas (teaching, health and safety, safeguarding and finances among others), seeking to eliminate the risk of single points of failure of services and dependence on key individuals, vetting of new staff and visitors, and maintenance and security of the School grounds. In addition, the Governors have ensured that strict internal financial controls (see the Governance Statement) are in place. Where significant financial or operational risk still remains, the Governors have ensured that the School has adequate insurance cover.

Given the nature of Aylesbury Grammar School as an academy, the 'financial instruments' that the School deals with are largely bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. Consequently, there are limited risks in the School's financial and business activities and they do not materially affect the assessment of the School's assets.

Liquidity risks are managed by maintaining sufficient cash reserves to deal with unexpected matters arising (see the Reserves Policy). Reserves are not invested in volatile instruments, but as cash in major banks through the use of deposit accounts. The Academy Trust currently has healthy levels of reserves and the liquidity risk, credit risk and cash flow risk to the School is very low.

It should also be noted that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with the health and safety regulations, pertaining to both staff and pupils.

Please refer to the Reserves Policy above for a description of the defined benefit pension scheme, in which there was a deficit at 31 August 2023. Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Fundraising

The School has an on-going programme of development managed through its Development Office, which works with the Governors and Senior Leadership Team to plan and facilitate the raising of funds for short term needs and major capital projects. The primary fundraising tool is an Annual Fund which offers an opportunity for every parent, old boy, member of staff, governor and friend to support both current and future generations of students at Aylesbury Grammar School. The School's budget does not take the Annual Fund into account. There is a vibrant and growing community of Old Aylesburians spanning a number of generations and there is a programme of social events, sporting fixtures and an evolving careers development programme designed specifically for them.

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

Fundraising (continued)

The School is a member of the Independent Development Professionals in Education and follows their guidelines for school development activity and benchmarking against other local state grammar schools.

The School has not received any complaints regarding raising of funds but if any arise they will be dealt with by the Development Director and would be escalated should the need arise.

Plans for Future Periods

The School will continually strive to improve the levels of performance of the students at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure all students achieve their potential. The School Development Plan and Self Evaluation set out the School's ambitions for the future in terms of teaching and learning.

The School has a Premises Development Plan (PDP) which outlines the main building projects and refurbishments planned for the coming years based on a comprehensive site condition survey.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

The Academy Trust did not act as custodian trustee during the current or previous period.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating the Strategic Report, was approved by order of the board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 8 December 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Richard Williams

Mr R Williams
Chair of Trustees

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headmaster, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls which conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and which are in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Aylesbury Grammar School and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of Trustees has formally met four times during the year. In addition, the Resources (including Finance) (RiF) committee met on a further four occasions, enabling the board to maintain effective oversight of funds.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr R Williams	4	4
Mr T Batty (appointed 5 May 2023)	1	1
Mr P Bown	3	4
Mr M Brock (resigned 11 October 2022)	1	2
Wing Commander L Cobley	3	4
Mr J Collins	4	4
Mr D Conely (appointed 5 May 2023)	1	1
Mr A Fails	4	4
Mr N Gibbs	4	4
Mr A Hall (resigned 1 February 2023)	0	3
Mr K Hardern	2	4
Mrs C Hart	4	4
Miss M Hayat (appointed 23 February 2023)	1	1
Mr P Jennings	3	4
Ms J Moore (resigned 18 April 2023)	1	3
Mr Y Odukoya (resigned 5 December 2022)	0	2
Mr D Outschoorn (appointed 5 May 2023)	1	1
Mr M Sturgeon	4	4
Mr E Walter	4	4
Mrs A Ward	2	4
Mr S Winman	2	4

The Resources (including Finance) Committee (RiF) is a sub-committee of the Governors. Its primary purpose is to monitor the financial controls and performance against pre-agreed budgets. In addition, this sub-committee has devolved authority to approve the School's budget and in year virement of funds and has taken on the responsibilities of an Audit Committee in receiving reports from the internal and external auditors. It also oversees the maintenance and development of the School's premises and operates as the Health and Safety Committee, in which role it has a representative on and receives reports from the internal Health and Safety Committee.

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr M Brock	1	1
Mr P Bown	3	4
Mr J Collins	4	4
Mr A Fails (Chairman)	4	4
Mr N Gibbs	3	4
Mr K Hardern	2	4
Mr M Sturgeon	4	4
Mr E Walter	3	4
Mrs A Ward	2	4
Mr R Williams	3	4

The Learning and Teaching Committee considers all aspects of learning and teaching, delivery and progress. The scope includes the definition and delivery of curriculum, analysis of relevant data and reviewing the outcomes and performance.

The Community and Development Committee oversees all aspects of people engagement and development. Its scope includes pastoral issues, wellbeing, continuous professional development and management development. Staff, Students, Parents/Carers, Governors, and the Community at large are all separate stakeholders with their own views of which the committee is conscious.

The Personnel and Pay Review Committee oversees HR matters, including an annual review of the remuneration of all staff, receives and has responsibility for approving pay recommendations, reviews appraisal procedure reports, and conducts the Headmaster's appraisal.

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Headmaster has responsibility for ensuring that the School delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the School'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.

Sustaining High Quality Educational Results

Examination results and the progress of all groups of pupils remain strong within the context of efficient use of School resources. The School offers a broader and more challenging curriculum across all school years than many schools and this is achieved through close monitoring of teaching group sizes and staffing costs.

Financial Governance and Oversight

The Governors appoint individuals or entities with relevant expertise to review specified matters related to the suitability of, and adherence to, systems and procedures, and to present reports to the Governors on their findings. Three such reviews are carried out in a calendar year.

The Governors receive monthly management accounts and the RiF Committee receives and considers termly budget monitoring reports.

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money (continued)

Ensuring the operation of the School demonstrates good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources

The School uses competitive tendering as a process for ensuring value for money on a regular basis. Any one item purchased with a value between £3,000 and £10,000 requires two quotes, between £10,000 and £40,000 requires three written quotations and any item or service level agreement over £40,000 requires three tender quotations.

During the academic year 2022-23 a number of major projects were planned and delivered. These projects followed the School's financial procedures in terms of tendering and on-going monitoring of spend. The delivery of these led to a planned reduction in the reserves during the year but the procedures included ensuring the spend was both efficient and effective. Specific examples of projects which have been completed, and whose benefits will continue to be realised throughout many future years, are: the move to a larger, centrally located, specifically designed and refurbished area to support our SEND provision; purchased a new minibus in conjunction with the PTA; and refurbished the swimming pool, including the installation of a new pool cover to help reduce utility costs

Reviewing controls and managing risks

Monthly budget monitoring reports, including balance sheet and forecast cashflow, are produced by the Resources Director which results in action being taken to address any significant variances that may have arisen and that are likely to have a negative impact on the budget. The School ensures that surplus cash balances are invested in interest bearing accounts to maximise interest earning potential.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Aylesbury Grammar School 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.

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 appropriate formal ongoing processes for identifying, evaluating and managing the School's significant risks have 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

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

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

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

- Identification and management of risks

The board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has concluded that such a function is to be carried out via the review process referred to above.

Review of effectiveness

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

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

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the RiF Committee. A plan to address matters identified and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 8 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

Richard Williams

Mr R D Williams
Chair of Trustees

M. Sturgeon

Mr M J Sturgeon
Accounting Officer

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
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STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Aylesbury Grammar School I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration, I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Governing Body 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 Academy Trust 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 Governing Body and ESFA.

M Sturgeon

Mr M J Sturgeon
Accounting Officer
Date: 8 December 2023

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(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 charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Governing Body on 8 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Richard Williams

Mr R D Williams
Chair of Trustees

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Aylesbury Grammar School (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy'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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy 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 Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

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

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 considered the nature of the industry and its control environment, and reviewed the academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to fraud and compliance with laws and regulations. We also enquired of management about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the academy operates in, and identified the key laws and regulations that:

- had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. These included the UK Companies Act and tax legislation; and
- do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty

We discussed among the audit engagement team regarding the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. In addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, we tested the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessed whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluated the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to the risks identified included the following;

- reviewing financial statement disclosures by testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatements due to fraud;
- enquiring of management, and external legal counsel concerning actual and potential litigation and claims, and instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

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

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy'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 Academy'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 Academy and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Jake Lew

Jake Lew (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

BKL Audit LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

35 Ballards Lane
London
N3 1XW

8 December 2023

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 23 March 2016 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 Aylesbury Grammar School during the year 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 Aylesbury Grammar School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Aylesbury Grammar School and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Aylesbury Grammar School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Aylesbury Grammar School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Aylesbury Grammar School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 July 2011 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 year 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 Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- review of management reporting documents.
- review of Trustees/Governors meeting minutes.
- confirming compliance with the Academy Trust's Scheme of Delegation.
- compliance with delegated authorities.
- consideration of whether any personal benefit has been derived from the Academy Trust's transactions by staff or related parties.
- adherence to tendering policies.

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO AYLESBURY
GRAMMAR SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 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.

BKL Audit LLP

Reporting Accountant

BKL Audit LLP

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

35 Ballards Lane
London
N3 1XW

Date: 8 December 2023

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	114,942	-	101,728	216,670	660,859
Other trading activities	5	1,518,209	-	-	1,518,209	1,008,043
Investments	6	4,033	-	-	4,033	235
Charitable activities	4	-	7,907,101	-	7,907,101	7,376,065
Total income		1,637,184	7,907,101	101,728	9,646,013	9,045,202
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	8	1,127,526	8,421,917	674,911	10,224,354	9,455,801
Total expenditure		1,127,526	8,421,917	674,911	10,224,354	9,455,801
Net income/(expenditure)		509,658	(514,816)	(573,183)	(578,341)	(410,599)
Transfers between funds	17	(163,485)	-	163,485	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		346,173	(514,816)	(409,698)	(578,341)	(410,599)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	618,000	-	618,000	3,454,000
Net movement in funds		346,173	103,184	(409,698)	39,659	3,043,401
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		774,646	(1,246,230)	9,900,144	9,428,560	6,385,159
Net movement in funds		346,173	103,184	(409,698)	39,659	3,043,401
Total funds carried forward		1,120,819	(1,143,046)	9,490,446	9,468,219	9,428,560

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 28 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07538386

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	9,436,595	9,900,144
		9,436,595	9,900,144
Current assets			
Stocks	14	98,034	55,995
Debtors	15	339,566	510,967
Cash at bank and in hand		622,567	414,174
		1,060,167	981,136
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(723,543)	(632,720)
Net current assets		336,624	348,416
Total assets less current liabilities		9,773,219	10,248,560
Net assets excluding pension liability		9,773,219	10,248,560
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24	(305,000)	(820,000)
Total net assets		9,468,219	9,428,560
Funds of the Academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	17	9,490,446	9,900,144
Restricted income funds	17	(838,046)	(426,230)
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	17	8,652,400	9,473,914
Pension reserve	17	(305,000)	(820,000)
Total restricted funds	17	8,347,400	8,653,914
Unrestricted income funds	17	1,120,819	774,646
Total funds		9,468,219	9,428,560

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07538386

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

The financial statements on pages 24 to 51 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 08 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Richard Williams

Mr R D Williams
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 28 to 51 form part of these financial statements.

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	19	442,395	606,450
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(211,362)	(878,234)
Cash flows from financing activities	20	(22,640)	(22,640)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		208,393	(294,424)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		414,174	708,598
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22, 23	622,567	414,174

The notes on pages 28 to 51 form part of these financial statements

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
(A company limited by guarantee)

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), judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy, 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.

1.2 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 at least 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.

1.3 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

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

AYLESBURY GRAMMAR SCHOOL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 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. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities and carried forward in the Balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Leasehold land	- 125 years
Leasehold buildings	- 27-50 years
Furniture and equipment	- 10 years
Motor vehicles	- 10 years
Computer equipment	- 5 years

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

1.6 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.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Debtors

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

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.9 Liabilities

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

1.10 Financial instruments

The Academy only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy and their measurement bases 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 15. 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 16 and 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.11 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pensions

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

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

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

1.13 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

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

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 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 liability.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	114,942	19,000	133,942
Capital Grants	-	82,728	82,728
	<u>114,942</u>	<u>101,728</u>	<u>216,670</u>
	<u><u>114,942</u></u>	<u><u>101,728</u></u>	<u><u>216,670</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Donations	28,282	540,125	568,407
Capital Grants	-	92,452	92,452
	<u>28,282</u>	<u>632,577</u>	<u>660,859</u>
	<u><u>28,282</u></u>	<u><u>632,577</u></u>	<u><u>660,859</u></u>

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

4. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
DfE/ESFA grants		
General Annual Grant	7,491,685	7,491,685
Other DfE/ESFA grants		
Pupil premium	43,983	43,983
Others	348,268	348,268
	<hr/> 7,883,936	<hr/> 7,883,936
Other Government grants		
Local Authority Grants	1,757	1,757
	<hr/> 1,757	<hr/> 1,757
Other income from the Academy's educational activities	21,408	21,408
	<hr/> 7,907,101	<hr/> 7,907,101
	<hr/> 7,907,101	<hr/> 7,907,101
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
DfE/ESFA grants		
General Annual Grant	7,124,597	7,124,597
Other DfE/ESFA grants		
Pupil Premium Grant	40,703	40,703
Others	209,245	209,245
	<hr/> 7,374,545	<hr/> 7,374,545
Other Government grants		
Local Authority Grants	1,520	1,520
	<hr/> 1,520	<hr/> 1,520
	<hr/> 7,376,065	<hr/> 7,376,065
	<hr/> 7,376,065	<hr/> 7,376,065
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

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

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Catering Income	443,783	443,783
Other Income	107,123	107,123
Hire of Facilities	116,938	116,938
Uniform Sales	52,205	52,205
Trip Income	798,160	798,160
	<u>1,518,209</u>	<u>1,518,209</u>
	<u><u>1,518,209</u></u>	<u><u>1,518,209</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Catering Income	400,680	400,680
Other Income	118,609	118,609
Hire of Facilities	100,902	100,902
Uniform Sales	49,338	49,338
Trip Income	338,514	338,514
	<u>1,008,043</u>	<u>1,008,043</u>
	<u><u>1,008,043</u></u>	<u><u>1,008,043</u></u>

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Investment Income	4,033	4,033
	<u>4,033</u>	<u>4,033</u>
	<u><u>4,033</u></u>	<u><u>4,033</u></u>
	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Investment Income	235	235
	<u>235</u>	<u>235</u>
	<u><u>235</u></u>	<u><u>235</u></u>

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

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Educational Activities:				
Direct costs	4,988,121	674,911	791,922	6,454,954
Allocated support costs	1,675,880	870,267	1,223,253	3,769,400
	<u>6,664,001</u>	<u>1,545,178</u>	<u>2,015,175</u>	<u>10,224,354</u>

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £
Educational Activities:				
Direct costs	4,657,336	690,219	693,971	6,041,526
Allocated support costs	1,964,941	502,090	947,244	3,414,275
	<u>6,622,277</u>	<u>1,192,309</u>	<u>1,641,215</u>	<u>9,455,801</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational Activities	<u>6,454,954</u>	<u>3,769,400</u>	<u>10,224,354</u>

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Educational Activities	<u>6,041,526</u>	<u>3,414,275</u>	<u>9,455,801</u>

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

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Educational Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff Costs	4,959,166	4,959,166
Depreciation	674,911	674,911
Educational Supplies & Services	169,117	169,117
Examination Fees	195,588	195,588
Technology Costs	296,881	296,881
Staff Development	14,011	14,011
Recruitment & Support	17,351	17,351
Educational Consultancy	34,236	34,236
Supply Teaching Costs	28,955	28,955
Other Direct Costs	64,738	64,738
	<u>6,454,954</u>	<u>6,454,954</u>
	Educational Activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	4,627,682	4,627,682
Depreciation	690,219	690,219
Educational Supplies & Services	174,530	174,530
Examination Fees	177,251	177,251
Technology Costs	212,308	212,308
Staff Development	12,026	12,026
Recruitment & Support	25,578	25,578
Educational Consultancy	40,539	40,539
Supply Teaching Costs	29,654	29,654
Other Direct Costs	51,739	51,739
	<u>6,041,526</u>	<u>6,041,526</u>

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

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Pension Finance Costs	28,000	28,000
Staff Costs	1,600,880	1,600,880
Non Cash Pension Costs	75,000	75,000
Other Occupancy Costs	16,239	16,239
Maintenance of Premises	178,072	178,072
Water & Energy Costs	459,191	459,191
Insurance	33,693	33,693
Catering	293,542	293,542
Other Support Costs	199,861	199,861
Trip Costs	793,323	793,323
Cleaning	5,403	5,403
Rent & Rates	32,949	32,949
Governance	53,247	53,247
	<hr/> 3,769,400 <hr/>	<hr/> 3,769,400 <hr/>

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

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	Educational Activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Pension Finance Costs	60,000	60,000
Staff Costs	1,531,941	1,531,941
Non Cash Pension Costs	433,000	433,000
Other Occupancy Costs	15,181	15,181
Maintenance of Premises	246,923	246,923
Water & Energy Costs	169,644	169,644
Insurance	38,520	38,520
Catering	288,733	288,733
Other Support Costs	173,246	173,246
Trip Costs	334,261	334,261
Cleaning	5,160	5,160
Rent & Rates	36,607	36,607
Governance	81,059	81,059
	<u>3,414,275</u>	<u>3,414,275</u>

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals	20,009	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	674,911	690,219
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	7,000	6,055
- other services	2,000	1,765
	<u>7,000</u>	<u>1,765</u>

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

10. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Wages and salaries	4,937,446	4,630,387
Social security costs	508,937	480,743
Pension costs	1,113,663	1,048,493
	6,560,046	6,159,623
Agency staff costs	28,955	29,654
Non cash pension costs	75,000	433,000
	6,664,001	6,622,277

b. Staff numbers

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

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Teachers	78	79
Administration and support	79	76
Management	7	7
	164	162

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Teachers	71	71
Administration and support	52	51
Management	7	7
	130	129

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

10. Staff (continued)

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	2	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	-	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	-
	=====	=====

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £886,834 (2022 - £813,882).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy. 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 £
Mr M J Sturgeon, Headmaster	Remuneration	135,000 -	125,000 -
		140,000	130,000
	Pension contributions paid	30,000 -	30,000 -
		35,000	35,000
Mr N Gibbs	Remuneration	45,000 -	40,000 -
		50,000	45,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000 -	10,000 -
		15,000	15,000
Ms C Hart	Remuneration	20,000 -	15,000 -
		25,000	20,000
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5,000	0 - 5,000

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

12. 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 academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 2023 was included in the total insurance cost for the Academy.

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2022	12,665,212	84,436	2,427,388	224,340	101,727	15,503,103
Additions	73,837	48,616	49,897	5,877	33,135	211,362
Disposals	-	-	(307,349)	(75,242)	-	(382,591)
Transfers between classes	84,436	(84,436)	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2023	<u>12,823,485</u>	<u>48,616</u>	<u>2,169,936</u>	<u>154,975</u>	<u>134,862</u>	<u>15,331,874</u>
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2022	3,853,443	-	1,499,579	188,206	61,731	5,602,959
Charge for the year	404,186	-	243,269	18,871	8,585	674,911
On disposals	-	-	(307,349)	(75,242)	-	(382,591)
At 31 August 2023	<u>4,257,629</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,435,499</u>	<u>131,835</u>	<u>70,316</u>	<u>5,895,279</u>
Net book value						
At 31 August 2023	<u>8,565,856</u>	<u>48,616</u>	<u>734,437</u>	<u>23,140</u>	<u>64,546</u>	<u>9,436,595</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>8,811,769</u>	<u>84,436</u>	<u>927,809</u>	<u>36,134</u>	<u>39,996</u>	<u>9,900,144</u>

14. Stocks

	2023 £	2022 £
Uniforms	<u>98,034</u>	<u>55,995</u>

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

15. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	12,892	7,536
Other debtors	54,320	87,621
Prepayments and accrued income	272,354	415,810
	<u>339,566</u>	<u>510,967</u>

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Salix loan	-	22,640
Trade creditors	46,000	22,630
Other taxation and social security	127,563	117,948
Other creditors	146,289	143,200
Accruals and deferred income	403,691	326,302
	<u>723,543</u>	<u>632,720</u>

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	276,406	115,923
Resources deferred during the year	356,422	276,406
Amounts released from previous periods	(276,406)	(115,923)
	<u>356,422</u>	<u>276,406</u>

At the balance sheet date, the academy trust was holding funds received in advance of trip income of £316,839 (2022: £272,063) and other income of £39,583 (2022: £4,343).

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

17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	774,646	1,637,184	(1,127,526)	(163,485)	-	1,120,819
Restricted general funds						
GAG	(426,230)	7,491,685	(7,903,501)	-	-	(838,046)
Pupil premium	-	43,983	(43,983)	-	-	-
Other ESFA funding	-	348,268	(348,268)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	1,757	(1,757)	-	-	-
General funds	-	21,408	(21,408)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(820,000)	-	(103,000)	-	618,000	(305,000)
	(1,246,230)	7,907,101	(8,421,917)	-	618,000	(1,143,046)
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds - all funds	9,779,099	19,000	(674,911)	163,485	-	9,286,673
Devolved Formula Capital	121,045	82,728	-	-	-	203,773
	9,900,144	101,728	(674,911)	163,485	-	9,490,446
Total Restricted funds	8,653,914	8,008,829	(9,096,828)	163,485	618,000	8,347,400
Total funds	9,428,560	9,646,013	(10,224,354)	-	618,000	9,468,219

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

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes.

Restricted general funds are resources for educational purposes.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Statement of funds (continued)

amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	396,618	1,036,560	(658,532)	-	-	774,646
Restricted general funds						
GAG	55,683	7,124,597	(7,362,582)	(243,928)	-	(426,230)
Pupil premium	-	40,703	(40,703)	-	-	-
Other ESFA funding	-	209,245	(209,245)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	1,520	(1,520)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,781,000)	-	(493,000)	-	3,454,000	(820,000)
	<u>(3,725,317)</u>	<u>7,376,065</u>	<u>(8,107,050)</u>	<u>(243,928)</u>	<u>3,454,000</u>	<u>(1,246,230)</u>
	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds - all funds	9,685,265	540,125	(690,219)	243,928	-	9,779,099
Devolved Formula Capital	28,593	92,452	-	-	-	121,045
	<u>9,713,858</u>	<u>632,577</u>	<u>(690,219)</u>	<u>243,928</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,900,144</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>5,988,541</u>	<u>8,008,642</u>	<u>(8,797,269)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,454,000</u>	<u>8,653,914</u>
Total funds	<u><u>6,385,159</u></u>	<u><u>9,045,202</u></u>	<u><u>(9,455,801)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>3,454,000</u></u>	<u><u>9,428,560</u></u>

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

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,436,595	9,436,595
Current assets	1,120,819	(114,503)	53,851	1,060,167
Creditors due within one year	-	(723,543)	-	(723,543)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(305,000)	-	(305,000)
Total	1,120,819	(1,143,046)	9,490,446	9,468,219

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,900,144	9,900,144
Current assets	774,646	206,490	-	981,136
Creditors due within one year	-	(632,720)	-	(632,720)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(820,000)	-	(820,000)
Total	774,646	(1,246,230)	9,900,144	9,428,560

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

19. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(578,341)	(410,599)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	674,911	690,219
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	75,000	433,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	28,000	60,000
Increase in stocks	(42,039)	(5,464)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	171,401	(149,407)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	113,463	(11,299)
Net cash provided by operating activities	442,395	606,450

20. Cash flows from financing activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Repayments of borrowing	(22,640)	(22,640)
Net cash used in financing activities	(22,640)	(22,640)

21. Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(211,362)	(878,234)
Net cash used in investing activities	(211,362)	(878,234)

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	622,567	414,174
Total cash and cash equivalents	622,567	414,174

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

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	414,174	208,393	622,567
Debt due within 1 year	(22,640)	22,640	-
	<u>391,534</u>	<u>231,033</u>	<u>622,567</u>

24. Pension commitments

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

The latest valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020 and the latest triennial valuation for LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2022. The Trust has received an actuarial report relating to the valuation of the LGPS as at 31 August 2023.

Contributions amounting to £129,311 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £122,103) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time 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.

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

24. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £820,030 (2022 - £758,967).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx>).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £373,000 (2022 - £369,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £292,000 (2022 - £290,000) and employees' contributions totalled £81,000 (2022 - £79,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23 per cent for employers and between 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note 1.12 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy at the balance sheet date.

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

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

24. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

Buckinghamshire Pension Fund

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.90	4.00
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	3.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.30	4.25
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.90	3.00

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

	2023	2022
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	20.7	21.0
Females	24.3	24.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.0	22.3
Females	25.7	26.0

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
	£	£
Equities	2,838,000	2,595,000
Gilts	349,000	371,000
Corporate bonds	498,000	602,000
Property	299,000	278,000
Cash and other liquid assets	50,000	93,000
Other	945,000	695,000
Total market value of assets	4,979,000	4,634,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £32,000 (2022 - £(296,000)).

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

24. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Current service cost	(363,000)	(720,000)
Interest income	202,000	79,000
Interest cost	(230,000)	(139,000)
Administrative expenses	(4,000)	(3,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(395,000)	(783,000)

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

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September	5,454,000	8,438,000
Current service cost	363,000	720,000
Interest cost	230,000	139,000
Employee contributions	81,000	79,000
Actuarial losses	(694,000)	(3,829,000)
Benefits paid	(150,000)	(93,000)
At 31 August	5,284,000	5,454,000

Changes in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September	4,634,000	4,657,000
Interest income	202,000	79,000
Actuarial losses	(76,000)	(375,000)
Employer contributions	292,000	290,000
Employee contributions	81,000	79,000
Benefits paid	(150,000)	(93,000)
Administrative expenses	(4,000)	(3,000)
At 31 August	4,979,000	4,634,000

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(A company limited by guarantee)

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

25. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the Academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Not later than 1 year	7,047	-
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	5,570	-
	12,617	-

26. 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.

27. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy and the composition of the Governing Body being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

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

28. Post balance sheet event

The supreme court ruling on Harpur vs Brazel (2022) has upheld the ruling impacting holiday pay for part time workers. Employers will now be required to revisit their historical holiday calculations to retrospectively apply this ruling. Whilst this will create a liability for the trust, the government are yet to produce guidance as to the specifics of the calculation required, and hence no accurate provision can currently be made.

29. Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16 -19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2023 the trust received £18,350 (2022: £11,351) and disbursed £18,350 (2022: £12,439) from the fund. An amount of £NIL (2022: £NIL) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

Aylesbury Grammar School

Walton Road, Aylesbury, HP21 7RP

Date: 11/12/2023
Date:

Your ref: **AYL001**

BKL Audit LLP
35 Ballards Lane
London
N3 1XW

Dear Sirs

Aylesbury Grammar School

The following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience such as we consider necessary in connection with your audit of the academy trust's financial statements and, as relevant, your assurance engagement on regularity for the year ended 31 August 2023. These enquiries have included inspection of supporting documentation where appropriate. All representations are made to the best of our knowledge and belief.

General

1. We have fulfilled our responsibilities as Trustees as set out in the terms of your engagement letter, under the Companies Act 2006 for preparing financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view and for making accurate representations to you.
2. All the transactions undertaken by the academy trust have been properly reflected and recorded in the accounting records.
3. All the accounting records have been made available to you for the purpose of your audit and regularity assurance engagement. We have provided you with unrestricted access to all appropriate persons within the academy trust, and with all other records and related information requested, including minutes of all management and trustee meetings and correspondence with the Education and Skills Funding Agency, Department for Education and the Charity Commission.
4. The financial statements are free of material misstatements, including omissions.
5. We approve all adjustments as set out in Appendix A, and all decisions on issues requiring the exercise of judgement. We believe that those uncorrected misstatements identified during the audit are immaterial

both individually and in aggregate to the financial statements as a whole. A list of these items will also be included in Appendix A, if applicable, together with our reasons for not correcting them.

Internal Control and Fraud

6. We acknowledge our responsibility for the design, implementation and maintenance of internal control systems to prevent and detect fraud and error and which conform to the requirements both of propriety and good financial management. We have disclosed to you the results of our risk assessment that the financial statements may be misstated as a result of fraud.
7. We have disclosed to you all instances of known or suspected fraud affecting the entity involving management, employees who have a significant role in internal control or others that could have a material effect on the financial statements.
8. We have also disclosed to you all information in relation to allegations of fraud or suspected fraud affecting the entity's financial statements communicated by current or former employees, analysts, regulators or others.

Assets and Liabilities

9. The academy trust has satisfactory title to all assets and there are no liens or encumbrances on the academy trust's assets, except for those that are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.
10. All actual liabilities, contingent liabilities and guarantees given to third parties have been recorded or disclosed as appropriate.
11. We have no plans or intentions that may materially alter the carrying value and where relevant the fair value measurements or classification of assets and liabilities reflected in the financial statements.
12. We consider that the actuarial assumptions made in connection with the valuation of the deficit on the local government defined benefit pension scheme, are appropriate and representative of the scheme members.

Accounting Estimates

13. Significant assumptions used by us in making accounting estimates, including those measured at fair value, are reasonable.
14. All accounting policies adopted are appropriate for the academy trust and are adequately disclosed.

Loans and arrangements

15. The academy trust has not granted any advances or credits to, or made guarantees on behalf of directors other than those disclosed in the financial statements.

Legal claims

16. We have disclosed to you all claims in connection with litigation that have been, or are expected to be, received and such matters, as appropriate, have been properly accounted for, and disclosed in, the financial statements.

Laws and regulations

17. We have disclosed to you all known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations whose effects should be considered when preparing the financial statements.
18. All relevant correspondence with the academy trusts regulators, including serious incident reports, has been made available to you.

Related parties

19. Related party relationships and transactions, comply with the academy trust's financial regulations, relevant requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook and have been appropriately accounted for and disclosed in the financial statements. We have disclosed to you all relevant information concerning such relationships and transactions and are not aware of any other matters which require disclosure in order to comply with the requirements and guidance set out in the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Subsequent events

20. All events subsequent to the date of the financial statements which require adjustment or disclosure have been properly accounted for and disclosed.

Going concern

21. We believe that the academy trust's financial statements should be prepared on a going concern basis on the grounds that current and future sources of funding or support will be more than adequate for the academy trusts needs. We have considered a period of twelve months from the date of approval of the financial statements. We believe that no further disclosures relating to the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern need to be made in the financial statements.

Grants and donations

22. Grants made by the Department of Education and Education and Skills Funding Agency have been applied for the purposes intended and the Accounting Officer has ensured regular and proper use and value for money of monies received from government.
23. All other grants, donations and other income, the receipt of which is subject to specific terms or conditions, have been notified to you. There have been no breaches of terms or conditions in the application of such income.
24. The academy trust has not been in receipt of any income relating to the year ended 31 August 2023 other than that recorded within the books.

We acknowledge our legal responsibilities regarding disclosure of information to you as auditors and confirm that so far as we are aware, there is no relevant audit information needed by you in connection with preparing your audit report of which you are unaware.

We confirm that so far as we are aware, there is no relevant other information needed by you in connection with preparing your reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity of which you are unaware.

Each Trustee has taken all the steps that he/she ought to have taken as a Trustee in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit other information and to establish that you are aware of that information.

Yours faithfully

Richard Williams

.....
Aylesbury Grammar School

Signed on behalf of the Board of Trustees

Aylesbury Grammar School

Walton Road, Aylesbury, HP21 7RP

Date: 11/12/2023
Date:

Your ref: **AYL001**

BKL Audit LLP
35 Ballards Lane
London
N3 1XW

Dear Sirs

Aylesbury Grammar School

The following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience such as I consider necessary in connection with your assurance report on regularity to Aylesbury Grammar School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for the year ended 31 August 2023. These enquiries have included inspection of supporting documentation where appropriate and are sufficient to satisfy me that I can make each of the following representations. All representations are made to the best of my knowledge and belief.

General

1. I have fulfilled my responsibilities as accounting officer under the requirements of the funding agreement between Aylesbury Grammar School and the Secretary of State for Education the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.
2. I acknowledge my personal responsibility to Parliament for the regularity and propriety of the public finances for which I am answerable; for the keeping of proper accounts; for effective internal controls; for prudent and economical administration; for the avoidance of waste and extravagance; for achieving value for money; and for the efficient and effective use of all the resources in my charge.
3. I acknowledge my responsibility to notify the Trustee Board and the ESFA of any instances of material irregularity or impropriety, or non-compliance with the terms of the academy trust's funding agreement and have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022 in performing this duty.
4. Any instances of material irregularity, impropriety, or non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the governing body and the ESFA.

5. Significant matters of which you should be aware have been brought to your attention including any instances of irregularity, impropriety or non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the academy trust's authorising framework.
6. Full and free access has been granted to all records, correspondence, information and explanations that you have considered necessary to enable you to perform your work.

Yours faithfully

M Sturgeon

.....
Accounting Officer
Aylesbury Grammar School