

Company Registration No. 08619729 (England and Wales)

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

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ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Directors (Trustees) and Governors:

E Brooks* (Chair of Governors)
D J Higgins* (Vice Chair)
Ms D Shepherd (Head Teacher / Accounting Officer)
F Aitken (Staff Governor)
RJ Rondinelli*
J Honigmann* (Safeguarding Governor)
P East (resigned 12/12/22)
SJ Miller-Jones*
D Forrester
J Gallagher
A Fernandes (appointed 12/10/22)
S Levelle*
J Emmons – Parent Governor
C Ollington* (appointed 11/05/22)

*members of the Finance and General Purpose (FGP) Committee

Members

Reverend P Zaphiriou
E Brooks
The London Diocesan Board for Schools (Corporate Member)
Reverend G Pope
J Coughlan

Senior management team

- Head Teacher (Accounting Officer)

D Shepherd

Company Secretary

D Shepherd (appointed 29/06/2021)

Company registration number

08619729 (England and Wales)

Registered office

St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard
Holloway Road
London
N7 8LT

Independent Auditor

Baxter & Co
Lynwood House
Crofton Road
Orpington
BR6 8QE

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
West London Business Centre
39 Piccadilly
London
W1V 0AA

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson (LLP)
Mowbray House
Castle Meadow Road
Nottingham
NG2 1BJ

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their report together with the Financial Statements and Auditor's Report of the Charitable Company for the year 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The Trust's principal activities are 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 curriculum with vocational skills for a Special Free School.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 13 to 19 serving the local communities of Islington and surrounding boroughs. It has a pupil capacity of 72 and had a roll of 60 in the school census on 18/05/23.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Special Free School is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital (registration no. 08619729). The Charitable Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy. The Trustees for the charitable activities of The St Mary Magdalene: The Courtyard is also the Director of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. They serve as Governors of the academy but not all of the Governors are Trustees (Directors). The Charitable Company is known as St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard.

Details of the Trustees (Directors) and of the Governors who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved 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 £1, for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceased to be a member.

Trustees' indemnities

No third-party indemnities have been given on behalf of Trustees or Directors. In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy purchased insurance to protect / indemnify Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, error or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance cover was effective from 1 September 2021.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Directors

New Directors are recruited in accordance with the Articles of Association of the St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard. The term of office for any Director is 4 years; although this time limit does not apply to the Head Teacher, who is a Director ex-officio.

The Directors and Governors, who were in office having served since 1 September 2021 to the date of approval of these accounts, are listed on page 1.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Governors

The School continues to procure Governor Support services provided by its sponsor. The St Mary Magdalene Academy, under a core Service Level Agreement with them (via the London Diocesan Board for Schools. Additional training is provided as and when, and where, required based on individual or collective need, these additional services are provided by the Local Authority Governor Support Services.

New Governors, in addition to external training, are inducted internally and at Governor training days for policies and procedures. All new Governors will be given a tour of the Academy Free School and the chance to meet with staff. In addition, governors will be inducted for the documents that they will need to undertake their role as Governors. As there are normally only one or two new Governors a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

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Organisational structure

The following represent the Academy Free School's organisational structure with its sub-committees:

Full Governors: Sub-Committees:

1. Finance and General Purpose (FGP) Committee

The Academy Free School came into existence on 1 September 2013. The Courtyard School is a small 48-pupil capacity Special Free School which is situated in St Mary Magdalene Gardens which has been sponsored by The St Mary Magdalene Academy.

The Courtyard opened its doors to pupils in September 2013. This is now the tenth year of operation for The Courtyard School, having recruited to its initial maximum capacity in 2015/16 of 36 pupils. Its capacity number of 36 had been maintained throughout and until 20/21, when the Courtyard received its significant change approval from the DfE to increase its pupil admission number to 48. The school achieved this PAN in September 2020 and maintained it through the 20/21 academic year. In June 2022, the Courtyard received a second significant change approval from the DfE to increase its pupil admission number to 72. The increase will be gradual, welcoming an additional 6 pupils per year until September 2025. The Courtyard remains a successful special educational facility in the heart of the Islington community.

The senior management in the Courtyard are: the Head Teacher: The Courtyard and the Deputy Head Teacher, in addition they are supported by the outsourced central support and advice services which are supplied by specialist service providers, Schools Choice, EPM, LDBS, Marsworth and HIVE Trust. These leaders control the school at an executive level implementing policies laid down by the Governors and reporting back to them. Budgets are controlled by The Courtyard Head Teacher who is also the responsible Accounting Officer.

Governors have created a flat management structure removing levels of hierarchy and giving individual members of staff clear whole-school and strategic responsibilities.

The Governors are responsible for establishing the ethos and character of the Courtyard, setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the School by the use of budgets and performance indicators and making major decisions about the direction of the School, capital expenditure and staff appointments.

The Trust has no subsidiaries, joint venture or associates.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key personnel

The Executive Management Team (EMT) of the school are the key management personnel of the Trust. Trustees are also senior management although they receive no pay or other remuneration in respect of their role as trustees. Where staff trustees are in place, they receive remuneration for their role as staff and their pay is determined in the same way as applicable to all other staff.

The pay of the Head Teacher is set annually by the Full Governing Body (FGB), having regards to performance against objectives set the previous year. Pay of other executive management members is also set by the Full Governing Body, and FGP Committee and any policy recommendations made by them to the FGB.

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Trade Union Facility Time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
N/A	N/A

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of Employees
0%	-
1% - 50%	-
51% - 99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total Cost of facility time	£-
Total Pay bill	£1,479k
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours.	-%
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Connected organisations including related party relationships

The St Mary Magdalene Academy is a sponsor of The Courtyard, since the School's founding, have, to date, donated £250,000 to assist the School in achieving its objectives.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the Charitable Company is the operation of St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard in providing education for pupils of all abilities between the ages of 13 and 19, with an emphasis on a Special Educational Needs.

Our mission is to create an inspirational community of learning that will make a positive contribution to community cohesion in Islington.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The Courtyard aims to bring together a mainstream academic offer with a Special School pastoral support system to effectively meet the needs of the young people who attend. As well as setting robust educational standards, we strive to develop the moral and spiritual values and skills of all our young people so they can become active and considerate citizens.

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Governors have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. A review of the significant activities undertaken by the charity has taken place during the relevant financial year in furthering its charitable purposes for the public benefit, this has been detailed and agreed within the Academy development plan.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

The Governors have set out their strategic direction for the Free School over the coming years, setting ambitious and aspirational targets. The Courtyard's main strategy is encompassed in its mission statement: to nurture young people to achieve to the highest standard of their ability and discover their vocation in a global society.

The benchmarks for achievement set by Governors for the objectives of the Courtyard during the year ended 31 August 2023 are as follows:

The Courtyard is a Special Educational Needs school for pupils with Autism Spectrum Condition (ASC) and/or Speech, Language and Communication Needs. The Courtyard provides an alternative provision for pupils at Key Stages 4 and 5, welcoming those who may be struggling in mainstream education.

The Courtyard recognises the difficulties which can be experienced by young people with ASC/SLCN when they are asked to participate in society. Our curriculum is tailored to meet the individual needs of pupils with ASC/SLCN to encourage them to develop the strategies and coping mechanisms to support them in this area, hopefully allowing the pupils to become comfortable and confident members of the school community and the local community. Our over-riding aim is for every pupil of the Courtyard is to fulfil their potential as successful adults, whether that to be moving forwards into a form of paid employment, training or further education.

At its simplest, the educational philosophy behind The Courtyard is to meet the needs of each and every pupil in the most appropriate way, preparing and equipping them with the skills they need to be able to live and work independently.

The Governors are committed to equal opportunities and believe that this is an integral part of good practice within the workplace. The Courtyard ensures best practice in establishing equal opportunities in all areas of its activities including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued.

Vision:

To offer an outstanding educational and social provision that will equip our pupils with the skills and experiences needed to discover and live out their potential.

Aims:

This was the Courtyard's tenth year of operation. The Governors have set out their strategic direction for the Courtyard over the coming years, setting ambitious and aspirational targets. The Courtyard development plan is divided into four strategic areas which ensure the smooth and successful operation in delivering the school's vision.

These are:

- Improving Outcomes for Students
- Improving Outcomes for Students (6th form)
- Improving the Quality of Teaching and Learning
- Improve students' personal development, welfare and safety
- Leadership and Management

The benchmarks for achievement set by the Courtyard Governors for the objectives of the Courtyard during the year ended 31 August 2023 are set out as follows:

Improving Outcomes for Pupils

- Supporting students to be cognitively, socially and emotionally able to make good or better progress
- Using data to effectively track the progress and implement impactful strategies for students of concern
- Maintaining a strong focus on staff development of pastoral support via the SCERI programme and PBS programme
- Widen the range of subjects taught and qualifications available

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Improving Outcomes for Students (6th form)

- To provide work experience opportunities (virtual and in person) that take into further consideration the individual needs and interests of the Y11 and 6th form cohort
- To continue to support students to access relevant and meaningful careers advice from a range of sources, bettering their chances of achieving their potential and individual success
- Revision of curriculum offer for reluctant attenders in 6th form who are experiencing increased SEMH needs
- To create an Alumni network that supports leavers whilst also informing and impacting on provision for current students

Improving students' personal development, wellbeing and safety

- Further strengthen student participation in all areas of the school, specifically student voice
- Ensure that the school's monitoring and pastoral system give accurate information on bullying, and racist and discriminatory incidents, and that all incidents are resolved successfully
- Increase school attendance for all groups of learners, especially those that have increased mental health needs.

Improve Leadership and Management

- Ensure a relevant and appropriate curriculum is followed by all students, through intervention sessions underpinning literacy in order to access the full curriculum
- Expand our network of local school and business partnerships, for rigorous quality assurance, support and challenge that produces a measurable impact on student outcomes.

Outcomes for Pupils

To set a base mark and best support staff in their teaching and learning practise, the Courtyard implements lesson observations and undertake a comparison of results from the beginning of the academic year, throughout and to the end monitoring progress. The specific achievements and performance under the established new frameworks within the Courtyard development plan this year are as follows:

- Supporting students to be cognitively, socially and emotionally able to make good or better progress.
- Using data to effectively track the progress and implement impactful strategies for students of concern.
- Maintaining a strong focus on staff development of pastoral support via the SCERI programme and PBS programme.
- Widen range of subjects taught and qualifications available.

The Courtyard School had been inspected by Ofsted in February 2023. The inspection judged the Courtyard to be GOOD and found the school to have the following strengths:

- Adults who work at the school feel well-supported. They say that they can get help if they need it from leaders. Staff receive training that is relevant and helps them with the jobs that they do. Teachers and other adults appreciate the way that leaders encourage their creativity.
- Teachers' subject knowledge is secure. Teachers have a passion for the subjects they teach and they skilfully use pupils' interests to engage them in learning
- Reading is a priority. Pupils read a wide range of high-quality books in lessons and for enjoyment. If pupils cannot read with accuracy when they start at the school, they receive individualised teaching to help them catch up. Teachers use modern and classic literature to teach key academic content. Pupils also discuss important ethical and moral issues, for example the difference between right and wrong, understanding different relationships, different types of family and religious and non-religious beliefs.
- The support for pupils' wider development is strong. Pupils learn topics that support their well-being and independence. For example, pupils are taught how to keep themselves safe online and about safe and healthy relationships. In careers education, pupils learn about the world of work. Leaders provide group and individual sessions to give pupils advice about the choices they will make for their future. Leaders work in a coordinated way with other agencies, including mental health professionals and speech and language therapists, to ensure that pupils get the support they need in a joined-up way.
- Pupils often start at this school with gaps in their knowledge. Leaders have ensured that careful assessment identifies these gaps and that teaching addresses these. Teachers check what pupils have learned and can remember regularly.

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- Leaders have designed an ambitious and broad curriculum. It is well sequenced and takes into account the particular communication and interaction needs of the pupils. There is a strong focus on English, mathematics and personal development. Pupils learn other subjects, including cooking, drama, performing arts and world studies. Pupils have regular physical education.

The Courtyard participated in a Quality Assurance Review, led by Challenge Partners, in November 2022. The Review judged the Courtyard to have the following strengths:

- The headteacher and leaders have a strong, flexible vision that can be adapted to meet the needs of each student. She has created a unique provision to meet the students' needs, so they can achieve their aspirations.
- Governors are knowledgeable about the school and have a five-year strategy. They are very student focused. Governors can articulate staff and student impressions of the school and the curriculum.
- A new middle leader structure has enabled the creation of three teams: pastoral, teaching and learning and transition. The teams communicate effectively to ensure that the students are at the heart of decision making. The leadership team are proud of the positive staff wellbeing they have achieved. Staff enjoy working at the school and have forged strong relationships with colleagues.
- Formal lesson observations and learning walks support less experienced staff. These feed into performance management from a line management point of view.
- The school have 100% success on Gatsby Benchmark. There are 3 careers events during the academic year. This year the school is organising a 'Reverse Careers' event, where students pitch to potential employers. Students in the 6th form are offered weekly masterclasses and employability skills workshops. The school offers training to organisations in Islington and beyond in how to support neurodiversity.
- Students demonstrate good subject knowledge and skills when there is clear planned progression from previous lessons.
- Students are respectful towards each other and highlight the strengths of their peers. This supports confidence, positive self-esteem and calm learning environments.

Results and Achievements:

The progress and achievements of Courtyard pupils is tracked for all pupils in all subjects, and interventions have been implemented to support those with gaps/deficits in their learning.

English

The school cohort of 60 pupils, are working towards achieving either GCSE English Literature and/or Language or Functional Skills Levels 1 & 2 or Entry Level English.

63% of pupils made expected or better than expected progress, with 55% of pupils exceeding expected progress in English. Of the 37% of pupils who did not made expected progress, 17% are persistent absentees and so have missed an increased proportion of their lessons. The remaining 20% had complex personal learning journeys which were closely tracked and with intervention programmes put in place. Individual case studies were written which documented health and pastoral issues which contributed to their lack of progress.

Maths

The school cohort of 60 pupils, are pupil working towards achieving either GCSE Maths and/or Statistics, Functional Skills Levels 1 or Entry Level Certificate Maths.

83% of pupils made expected or better than expected progress, with 51% of pupils exceeding expected progress in Maths. Of the 17% of pupils who did not made expected progress, 10% are persistent absentees and so have missed a large proportion of their lessons. The other 7% had complex personal learning journeys which were closely tracked and with intervention programmes put in place. Individual case studies were written which documented health and pastoral issues which contributed to their lack of progress.

PSD & Work Skills

All KS4 pupils are now working through the Prince's Trust PSD curriculum. In KS5 pupils progress onto the BTEC Level 2 Workskills programme. Much time has been spent ensuring that the curriculum still maintains its relevance

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and importance for our pupils, whilst at the same time ensuring that our pupils are completing key stages with credible qualifications.

As part of the monitoring and evaluation programme, the IEPs of each pupil are reviewed termly and all pupils have either achieved the targets set or are on track to achieve the targets by the end of the academic year. This is an indication of good or better progress.

Developing reputation for excellent personalised provision:

- Individual personalised timetable created for each pupil
- Termly monitoring of progress against IEP, focusing on social, academic, independence and inclusion targets
- Initial baseline assessments to ensure correct progressive curriculum is in place
- Collaboration of pupils, parents and school in the creation/revision of pupil passports
- Individualised Zones of Regulation
- Positive Behaviour Support Programme
- Consistent formative and summative assessment
- Significant involvement of external services (CAMHS, Ed Pysch, SaLT, OT, Counselling) to ensure that our pupils are physically, emotionally and socially able to achieve Supportive relationship with SMMA to ensure our pupils are able to access the most appropriate T&L
- An established Outreach programme to ensure awareness of Neurodiversity in businesses and industries.

Work Experience placements and college opportunities

The 6th form team worked hard to provide work experience opportunities (virtual and in person) for all 6th formers and Y11 pupils, taking into consideration the individual needs and interests. The Courtyard Outreach Team provided training and guidance to all work experience providers to ensure the placements were meaningful, relevant and successful.

Three Career Events were held by the school at different points during the academic year. The Career Events were attended by representatives from local colleges, apprenticeship programmes and employers. All July 2023 leavers have successfully acquired Supported Internship placements or college placements for September 2023. The Courtyard continues its 0% NEETS figure. This is as the result of significant time and energy applied by the 6th form team, working with pupils, families and colleges.

Improving the Quality of Teaching and Learning

- All areas of strength and weakness regarding teaching are identified through a continuous cycle of informative learning walks and addressed through effective leadership. Staff are supported to deliver high quality lessons that stretch and challenge all students (CPD programme).
- Action plans are implemented to share best practice, and effective support is implemented to address areas of weakness.
- Raise the profile of writing in English and across all subject areas.
- Ensure that support staff are confident and effective when supporting students to learn and maximise their progress.

Observations of teaching and book monitoring has continued at regular intervals throughout the academic year. An extensive amount of the staff CPD programme has been directed towards developing staff to deliver the schemes of work in the style which has been determined to be the best to support the learning of the pupils. 92% of lessons graded good or outstanding. Qualified Teachers delivered 100% good or outstanding lessons. The target is for 100% of lessons to be graded and good or better.

Marking and pupil feedback has featured heavily on the CPD and Monitoring and Evaluation programme for the year. The focus was to ensure that the marking provided relevant feedback on the successes of the pupils and the area for improvement which the pupils needed to deliver in order to make progress. The pupils were all able to track their progress on individual flightpaths and were aware of what they needed to do in order to continue making good progress. Our aim this academic year is for the expectations for marking and appropriate and supportive feedback to continue to be high and to be a really useful and positive form of communication between teachers and pupils.

Assessment and the tracking of progress has been a hugely important aspect of the teaching and learning programme this year. The information provided by accurate and regular assessment ensures that pupils are making good progress, that they are sitting and achieving qualifications at the appropriate time and, if progress is not being made,

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

supportive interventions will be implemented to address any barriers to learning. This academic year this proven framework was used across all curriculum areas.

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare

- Further strengthen student participation in all areas of the school, specifically student voice.
- Ensure that the school's monitoring and pastoral system give accurate information on bullying, and racist and discriminatory incidents, and that all incidents are resolved successfully.
- Increase school attendance for all groups of learners, especially those that have increased mental health needs.

Student Voice

The school has a highly engaged School Council. The group has organised a number of school events and spoken to several groups of visitors with confidence and knowledge. The student body voted to elect an Equality, Diversity and Inclusion representative who meets with the staff counterpart fortnightly. Students have led assemblies, events and the school Christmas performance. This year the school has introduced the Jack Petchey Award. Students are active in nominating their peers, acknowledging their contributions to school life.

Monitoring and Pastoral Systems

The school has implemented the CPoms reporting and monitoring system in the school. This allows for simple but effective reporting of incidents which can then be analysed and interventions can be actioned quickly to have maximum effect.

The school has also completed its second full year of implementing the Positive Behaviour Support (PBS) programme. This encourages staff to recognise and address incidents of inappropriate behaviour in the school by encouraging, highlighting and modelling positive behaviour in school.

The school has also increased its number of out-of-class Pastoral Assistants.

It is strongly felt that these school wide changes have resulted in a significant reduction in the number of incidents of inappropriate behaviour and the severity of such incidents.

Attendance

Attendance has continued to be impacted by the Covid pandemic this academic year. Students with a history of poor attendance and mental health concerns continue to struggle to achieve good/outstanding attendance. Overall attendance, taking into account absence for undiagnosed illnesses, was 87.4%.

The increased investment in the Pastoral Team has enabled staff to develop meaningful relationships with families of reluctant attenders, supporting families to reduce anxiety in the family home and work together to increase attendance in school and with therapeutic agencies in the local authority.

Leadership and management

- Ensure a relevant and appropriate curriculum is followed by all students.
- Expand our network of local school and business partnerships, for rigorous quality assurance, support and challenge that produces a measurable impact on student outcomes.

Curriculum Review Cycle

The school leadership team has invested in the quality of teaching in Foundation subjects across the school. Additional support has been put in place to ensure that students are receiving quality teaching and learning in all subject areas. Students are working towards recognised qualifications in all subject areas. This has promoted a sense of achievement amongst all students.

Network Partnerships

The school has worked with a School Improvement Consultant this academic year to provide quality assurance for its provision. The SI consultant worked with all members of leadership, upskilling Middle Leaders to best guide and advise the wider school team.

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The Courtyard has expanded its network of schools across Islington this academic year. Links with mental health and wellbeing networks as well as the Islington Secondary School and College Leaders network and the London Youth Rowing programme. Expanding our network into the mainstream secondary school forum enables the Courtyard to share good SEN practice with our mainstream colleagues, understand the challenges they are experiencing and develop an additional strand of our Outreach programme – Autism Training for mainstream schools.

Key Performance Indicators

The following are Courtyard Key Financial Performance Indicators that the Courtyard monitors its financial performance (costs quoted exclude the effect of the FRS102 pension adjustment and income excludes capital income):

- Solvency: (Current Assets: Current Liabilities): 5.4 to1 (2021/22: 3.6 to1)
- Cost Control Measures: (Staff Costs as % of Total Revenue Income): 82.6% (2021/22: 77.3%)
- Non-Staff Costs (excluding depr'n) as % of Total Revenue Income: 22.2% (2021/22: 18.4%)

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has 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 Accounting Policies.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Financial Review

We receive our income from a number of different sources. The majority of our income comes from central government via the Education and Skills Funding Agency who provide us with a school grant, based largely on our pupil numbers to cover our staffing and other general running costs (General Annual Grant - GAG). The ESFA may provide us with additional grants which are earmarked for specific purposes (such as Pupil Premium which must be used to raise the attainment of disadvantaged pupils). These appear in the accounts as DfE/ESFA grants. Where we receive grant or other funding from the Local Authority (such as where we undertake responsibilities on their behalf in respect of our pupils) this appears in the accounts as other government grants. Such income is collectively referred to as "Restricted Funds". Other income is received from parents (for example as contributions to trip or other costs) and from third parties (for example from our bank for interest on our account balances or from others who are charged for their use of the School's facilities). Such other income may be restricted or unrestricted, depending on whether it comes to us with conditions as to its use or whether it is available for spending at the discretion of the trustees.

We hold funds in two broad categories, funds which are available for spending and other funds which are not available for spending.

Spendable funds are in turn sub-categorised between those which are available for spending at the discretion of trustees ("Unrestricted Funds") and those which are subject to condition or restriction, ("Restricted Funds"). Funds not available for spending include the book value of fixed assets such as land, buildings and equipment. These have a value and are therefore included as assets in the accounts, but clearly, we cannot spend this value. In common with all academies and Local Authorities, our share of the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit must also be reflected in our accounts and as this is not a conventional liability, it does not need to be deducted from spendable funds. We meet our obligations in respect of the LGPS by paying over pension contributions due as calculated by the scheme's actuaries.

The following balances held were held at 31 August:

Fund	Category	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
GAG	Restricted General Funds	287	406
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	Restricted General Funds	-	-
Other government grants	Restricted General Funds	-	-
	Sub-total General Restricted Funds	287	406
Unspent capital	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	23	18
Other Income	Unrestricted General Fund	67	55
	Sub-Total Spendable General Funds	377	479
Net Book Value of Fixed Assets	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	1,597	1,622
Share of LGPS Deficit	Restricted Pension Reserve	-	(84)
	Total All Funds	1,974	2,017

During the year under review there was a decrease of £119k (2022: increase of £22k) on general restricted funds, an increase of £12k (2022: no change) on unrestricted funds and after LGPS valuation adjustments, depreciation and capital income and expenditure, an overall decrease of £43k (2022: increase of £520k).

Reserves Policy

The Academy Governors have reviewed the reserve levels of the Academy. It is the Trust's objective to maintain a structure of prudent financial management and a requirement to maintain good financial health. To this end the Academy aims to carry forward a cumulative balance of the Academy's General Fund Income, to safeguard the Academy from unforeseen and unexpected changes in policy and economic downturns, as well as to protect its financial position and going concern status.

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Investment policy and powers

The Courtyard manages its daily cash flows with Lloyds Bank where no investments are held beyond cash deposits. Speculative investments are not permitted. The Academy continually monitors its position in light of the financial and economic markets generally.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Governors have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy, and its finances. The Governors have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the school faces, especially in the operational areas of the Academy (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school trips) and in relation to the control of HR and Finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. The Academy has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the following governance statement.

The principal financial risk faced by the company is that on-going pressure on funding results in a deficit. The budgeting and reporting process, including regular scrutiny by the Governors of actual financial performance, mitigates the risk. As the nature of the financial instruments dealt with by the company is relatively simple (bank balances, debtors and "trade" creditors), Governors consider the associated risk in this area to be minimal.

The risk resulting from the company's share of the LGPS deficit is managed by following the advice of the scheme's actuaries, specifically as regards the level of contributions payable, ensuring that annual budgets are drawn up to reflect the actuarial advice.

Most of the company's income is obtained from the DfE (via the Education and Skills Funding Agency) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted for particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2023 and its associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Our fundraising practices

The Trust and individual academies within it organise fundraising events and appeals and co-ordinate the activities of our supporters both in the academies and in the wider community on behalf of the trust.

The trust does not use professional fundraisers or involve commercial participators.

There have been no complaints about fundraising activity this year.

The trust complies with the Fundraising Regulator's Code of Fundraising Practice.

Where any fundraising is undertaken all fundraising is undertaken by the Trust in a manner that seeks to ensure that it is not unreasonably intrusive or persistent. Contact is made through email, academy newsletters, our websites and via pupils. All fundraising material contains clear instructions on how a person can be removed from mailing lists.

Plans for future periods

This must explain the plans for the future, including the aims and key objectives set for future periods together with details of any activities planned to achieve them. It should explain the trustees' perspective of the future direction of the academy trust, how past experience has influenced future plans and decisions about allocating resources.

The principal task facing the Courtyard is to maintain and continually improve its educational standards and its educational facilities to the highest standards possible:

Over the next twelve months the Courtyard plans to build on the already exceptional standards and facilities, to:

- Increase the PAN to 72 pupils by September 2025
- Continue to establish a highly regarded Autism Awareness Outreach Programme, supporting businesses and industries to successfully support employees with ASC.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

- Retain and recruit the best educational staff to the Courtyard
- Support its staff in continued professional development
- Continually develop its community cohesion and partnership opportunities for the public benefit

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

Neither St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard, or the Board of Directors/Trustees is acting as Custodian Trustees for any third parties.

Auditor

Insofar as the Governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Governors 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 Governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, has been approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company Directors, on21/12/2023..... and signed on the Board's behalf by:



.....
E Brooks
Chair of Trustees

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees (Directors) and Governors we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard 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, through the Board of Governors delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and are in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard and the Secretary of State for Education. She is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Governors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

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

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of possible
E Brooks (Chair of Governors – appointed 22/03/22)	6	6
D. Higgins (Vice Chair)	6	6
J. Honigmann	6	6
D Forrester	6	6
SJ Miller-Jones	6	6
A Fernandes (appointed 12/10/22)	5	5
J Gallagher	6	6
M Nolan (appointed 22/03/23)	3	3
S Levelle (resigned 12/05/23)	5	5
D Shepherd (Head Teacher/Accounting Officer)	6	6
J Rondinelli	4	6
F Aitken	5	6
Z Collard (resigned 07/12/22)	2	2
J Emmons (resigned 10/05/22)	4	4
S Caizley (resigned 18/11/22)	1	1
C Ollington	6	6

Changes that had taken place to the School's Full Governing Body Membership from the previous year were:

- S Caizley (resigned 18/11/22)
- A Fernandes (appointed 12/10/22)
- M Nolan (appointed 22/03/23)
- S Levelle (resigned 12/05/23)
- Z Collard (resigned 07/12/22)
- J Emmons (resigned 10/05/22)

The Governing Body is comprised of a board of Link governors who regularly meet with members of the school faculty to review specific areas of the school provision. This provides governance with an insight into the operational running of the school.

The Governing Board has produced a 5-year Strategic Plan to ensure the future success of the provision. The focus is on successful cohort expansion alongside creating effective partnerships with educational provisions in the surrounding area.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Conflict of interest

All governors complete a Declaration of Interest at the start of every academic year or as they join the governing body if this is after the first meeting of the academic year. Governors are required to declare any conflicts of interest at the start of each governor meeting. If any are declared, these are noted in the minutes of the meeting. All Declarations of Interest and minutes of governing body meetings are held on GovernorHub.

Governance reviews

In December 2022, the National Governance Association completed an external review of the Courtyard's governance. The review found the board to be in a strong position. All members have a clear understanding of the school's vision, ethos and strategic direction. The board is also confident in Holding executive leaders to account for the educational performance of the organisation and its pupils, and the performance management of staff. The board is effective in Overseeing the financial performance of the organisation and making sure its money is well spent.

Finance and General Purpose Committee

The Finance and General Purpose Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors reporting to its board directly.

The purpose of the FGP Committee is to scrutinise and recommend the annual budget, review monthly management accounts, approve policies relevant to the committee and to approve financial and staffing structure decisions, as presented. This committee receives reports from the Head Teacher/Accounting Officer and the Director of Finance and Corporate Services and Facilities Manager, as appropriate, who act and to provide services on behalf of the school. The Full Governing Body of The Courtyard is advised of those recommendations made by the FGP committee and approve for themselves the annual budget accounts and policies adopted.

The FGP Committee met four times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Finance and General Purpose (FGP) Committee was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of possible
D Shepherd (Head Teacher/Accounting Officer)	4	4
E Brooks (Chair of Governors, appointed 22/03/22)	4	4
D Higgins	4	4
SJ Miller-Jones	4	4
J Honigmann	4	4
J Rondinelli (Chair of Committee)	4	4
C Ollington	4	2
S Levelle (resigned 12/05/23)	3	3

In addition to the above governors, Julie Dorling, Core Finance Team Manager from Schools Choice was in attendance of the four meetings as reporting officer.

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

The Academy Trust is committed to:

1. Raising pupil attainment.

Internal data shows that pupils make excellent progress in alternative curriculum models both academically and personally.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Courtyard has developed having fully embedded tracking systems for individual pupils that track levels of progress from through their key stages of development.

The Courtyard tracks attendance and behaviour of all pupils and attendance which is significantly above the national average for pupils with SEN.

Targeted Improvement:

The Courtyard has targeted resources for those recognised as either having received, or are eligible for Free School Meals, in addition to those who are recognised as not able to access the required standard to pass GCSE's where an alternative curriculum has been provided. Pupils have also had support targeted to their personal skills and special educations in order to raise attainment in all areas.

2. Robust governance and oversight of Academy Trust finances

During the year The Courtyard benefited from the provision of a suitably qualified independent Internal Auditor. The Internal Auditor reviews key financial policies, systems and procedures, presenting reports on compliance directly to the Board of Governors.

The Boards Finance and General Purpose Committee receives regular Income and Expenditure (Budget) monitoring reports, to each of their meetings along with reports detailing compliance with the Academy Finance Policy Document and its Scheme of Delegation.

The Full Governing Body approves the budget each year and is mindful of the need to balance expenditure with income it receives to ensure the School remains a 'going concern'. The Governing Body also receives and approves the Annual Accounts and the External Auditors Management Report.

3. Ensuring the operation of the Trust demonstrates good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources

The Courtyard regularly benchmarks financial performance against other similar size schools to demonstrate that the Trust provides good value for money.

Tender exercises are regularly undertaken to ensure that higher value purchases are assessed against the marketplace. Where possible The Courtyard revises its contracts to ensure that any long term contracts (3 to 5 years) remain competitive. The Courtyard, where possible, procures and tests it purchasing of higher value items against the Crescent Procurement Consortium (CPC) Framework of suppliers.

4. Maximising income generation

The Courtyard explores every opportunity to generate income through ensuring that we are maximising pupil numbers and that the school is full. Where possible The Courtyard maximises its investment of reserve fund balances to generate other interest receivable income to support the interests of the Courtyard's Activities, most notably to support those parents who have financial difficulties and ensuring every child at the Courtyard has equal opportunities to partake in all of the Courtyard activities.

5. Reviewing controls and managing risks.

Monthly budget monitoring reports are continually reviewed and monitored by Julie Dorling (Core Finance Team Manager), Joseph Rondinelli (Chair of FGP Committee) and Deborah Shepherd (accounting Officer) where any necessary remedial action is taken as appropriate to address any significant variances that may have an impact on the budget out-turn.

The Courtyard manages its reserve fund balances with The Lloyds Bank for security of its Cash Asset Fund. The School ensures that all surplus cash balances are invested flexibly to maximise any interest earning potential, but also to gain flexible access to its funds in times of need.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

6. Reviewing operation to maximise use of resources.

The Courtyard Leadership Group review the Courtyard budget annually and make and make adjustments based on the effectiveness of strategies introduced in previous years, in addition to the curriculum offer and any new strategies identified in the Courtyard Development Plan.

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 School 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 St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard for the period 01 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 Governors has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Governors is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 01 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 Governors.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Governors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to re-appoint an internal auditor. Governors have appointed Mr R Ashdown, as a Certified Chartered Accountant to act as the Courtyards independent Internal Auditor.

The Internal Auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Trust's financial systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchasing systems
- checks on income collection processes
- testing of control account/ bank reconciliations

On a regular basis, the Internal Auditor reports to the Board of Governors on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the Board of Governors.

During the year The Internal Auditor provided his professional services to the Academy and reported thereon directly to the Audit Committee for the planned audit works required on behalf of the governing body. It was noted by Governors, from these reports throughout the year, that there were no material control weaknesses identified and Governors were satisfied that sufficient control measures were in place and continued to be monitored and improved.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer the Executive Director 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 work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and General Purpose Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Governors on20.12.23..... and signed on its behalf by:



.....
E Brooks
Chair of Trustees



.....
D Shepherd
Accounting Officer

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

As accounting officer of St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard, 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 in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

D Shepherd
Accounting Officer



ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees (who are also the directors of St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the Financial Statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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 in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the Financial Statements; and
- prepare the Financial Statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 21.12.2023 and signed on its behalf by:



E Brooks
Chair of Trustees

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinion

We have audited the Financial Statements of St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the Financial Statements, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 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 charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the Financial Statements and our auditor's 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.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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 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 Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the Financial Statements

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- Enquiry of management to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.
- Reviewing internal assurance reports.
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

Use of our report

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

Louise Hallsworth FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Baxter & Co

.....

Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Lynwood House
Crofton Road
Orpington
Kent
BR6 8QE

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 20 May 2022 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 St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of St Mary Magdalene Academy: The Courtyard's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 September 2013 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of payments to staff;
- Review of payments to suppliers and other third parties;
- Review of grant and other income streams;
- Review of some key financial control procedures;
- Discussions with finance staff;
- Consideration of the record maintained by the Accounting Officer of the oversight they have exercised;
- Consideration of the programme of internal scrutiny implemented by the Academy Trust in order to comply with its obligations under 3.1 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, issued by the ESFA.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Conclusion

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

Reporting Accountant

Baxter & Co
Lynwood House
Crofton Road
Orpington
Kent
BR6 8QE

Dated:

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	21	21	6
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	9	1,816	-	1,825	1,499
Other trading activities	5	3	-	-	3	-
Total		<u>12</u>	<u>1,816</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>1,849</u>	<u>1,505</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	-	1,974	41	2,015	1,643
Total	6	<u>-</u>	<u>1,974</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>2,015</u>	<u>1,643</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		12	(158)	(20)	(166)	(138)
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	16	-	123	-	123	658
Net movement in funds		12	(35)	(20)	(43)	520
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		55	322	1,640	2,017	1,497
Total funds carried forward		<u>67</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,974</u>	<u>2,017</u>

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2022	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		funds £'000	General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	2022 £'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	6	6
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	5	1,494	-	1,499
Total		<u>5</u>	<u>1,494</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>1,505</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	5	1,602	36	1,643
Total	6	<u>5</u>	<u>1,602</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>1,643</u>
Net expenditure		-	(108)	(30)	(138)
Transfers between funds	14	-	(42)	42	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	16	-	658	-	658
Net movement in funds		-	508	12	520
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		55	(186)	1,628	1,497
Total funds carried forward		<u>55</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>2,017</u>

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023		2022	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		1,597		1,622
Current assets					
Debtors	12	133		38	
Cash at bank and in hand		341		626	
			474		664
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(97)		(185)	
Net current assets			377		479
Net assets excluding pension liability			1,974		2,101
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	16		-		(84)
Total net assets			1,974		2,017
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds	14				
- Fixed asset funds			1,620		1,640
- Restricted income funds			287		406
- Pension reserve			-		(84)
Total restricted funds			1,907		1,962
Unrestricted income funds	14		67		55
Total funds			1,974		2,017

The Financial Statements on pages 26 to 47 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 21.12.2023 and are signed on their behalf by:



 E Brooks
 Chair of Trustees

Company registration number 08619729 (England and Wales)

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

		2023		2022	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	17		(290)		226
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		21		6	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(16)		(78)	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			5		(72)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(285)		154
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			626		472
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			341		626

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The Financial Statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their Financial Statements 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, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the Financial Statements and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the Financial Statements.

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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 period it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 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 are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £3,000 or more per item (or less if they form part of a larger purchase or project where the total cost exceeds £25,000) are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Leasehold land and buildings	2%
Assets under construction	not depreciated
Computer equipment	33.33%
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25%

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.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

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

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

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

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

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 16, will impact on 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.

Critical areas of judgement

In preparing these Financial Statements, the Trustees have not needed to exercise any subjective judgements that would be critical to the Academy Trust's Financial Statements.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
Capital grants	-	21	21	6

4 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	540	540	476
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	20	20	21
- Others	-	5	5	5
	-	565	565	502
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	1,231	1,231	976
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	20	20	12
Non-DfE/ESFA				
Other COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	4
	-	20	20	16
Other funding				
Catering income	5	-	5	-
Other incoming resources	4	-	4	5
	9	-	9	5
Total funding	9	1,816	1,825	1,499

The Academy Trust has been eligible to claim additional funding in the year from government support schemes in response to the Coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above under "COVID-19 additional funding".

The funding received for coronavirus exceptional support covers £17,066 of Recovery Premium costs and £2,753 of National Tutoring costs. These costs are included in notes 6 and 7 below as appropriate.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

5	Other trading activities			Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000			
Other income	3	-	3		-
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>		<u>-</u>
6	Expenditure			Total 2023 £'000	Total 2022 £'000
	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure Premises Other £'000 £'000			
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	1,226	32	170	1,428	1,229
- Allocated support costs	324	157	106	587	414
	<u>1,550</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>2,015</u>	<u>1,643</u>
	<u>1,550</u>	<u>189</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>2,015</u>	<u>1,643</u>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:				2023	2022
				£'000	£'000
Operating lease rentals				37	9
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				41	36
Fees payable to auditor for:					
- Audit				6	5
- Other services				4	3
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability				3	7
				<u>3</u>	<u>7</u>
Included within expenditure are the following transactions:				Total	Individual items over £5,000
				2023	2023
				£	£
Gifts made by the Academy Trust - total				364	<u> </u>
				<u>364</u>	<u> </u>

Clarification – While the majority of disclosure in these accounts are rounded to £'000, the disclosure of gifts made is not. The value of gifts for the year is £364 (and not £364k).

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

7 Charitable activities	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
All from restricted funds:		
Direct costs		
Educational operations	1,428	1,229
Support costs		
Educational operations	587	414
	<u>2,015</u>	<u>1,643</u>
	<u><u>2,015</u></u>	<u><u>1,643</u></u>
Analysis of costs	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	1,226	1,094
Staff development	1	7
Depreciation	32	29
Technology costs	21	2
Educational supplies and services	25	37
Examination fees	7	8
Educational consultancy	96	38
Other direct costs	20	14
	<u>1,428</u>	<u>1,229</u>
	<u><u>1,428</u></u>	<u><u>1,229</u></u>
Support costs		
Support staff costs	288	65
Defined benefit pension scheme - staff costs (FRS102 adjustment)	36	165
Depreciation	9	7
Technology costs	37	38
Maintenance of premises and equipment	57	6
Cleaning	21	16
Energy costs	26	13
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	42	14
Insurance	1	1
Security and transport	1	-
Catering	16	8
Defined benefit pension scheme - finance costs (FRS102 adjustment)	3	7
Other support costs	27	57
Governance costs	23	17
	<u>587</u>	<u>414</u>
	<u><u>587</u></u>	<u><u>414</u></u>

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	1,127	857
Social security costs	114	88
Pension costs	202	151
Defined benefit pension scheme - staff costs (FRS102 adjustment)	36	165
	<u>1,479</u>	<u>1,261</u>
Staff costs - employees	1,479	1,261
Agency staff costs	68	63
Staff restructuring costs	3	-
	<u>1,550</u>	<u>1,324</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

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

Staff numbers

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

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Teachers	12	7
Administration and support	22	15
Management	2	2
	<u>36</u>	<u>24</u>

The number of persons employed, expressed as a full time equivalent, was as follows:

	2023	2022
	Number	Number
Teachers	12	7
Administration and support	20	12
Management	2	2
	<u>34</u>	<u>21</u>

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8 Staff (Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£60,000 - £70,000	1	-
£80,000 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £181,539 (2022: £117,399).

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The Head Teacher and other Staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Head Teacher and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

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

D Shepherd (Head Teacher):

- Remuneration: £90,000 - £95,000 (2022: £85,000 - £90,000)
- Employer's pension contributions: £20,000 - £25,000 (2022: £20,000 - £25,000)

F Aitken (Staff Trustee):

- Remuneration: £40,000 - £45,000 (2022: £35,000 - £40,000)
- Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2022: £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year, expenses of £10,023 (2022: £2,640) were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees (2022: 1 Trustee) in respect of costs incurred in performing the duties of employment.

Other related party transactions involving the Trustees are set out within the related parties note.

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £'000	Assets under construction £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	1,752	75	22	60	1,909
Reclassification	75	(75)	-	-	-
Additions	6	-	3	7	16
At 31 August 2023	1,833	-	25	67	1,925
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	208	-	22	57	287
Charge for the year	37	-	1	3	41
At 31 August 2023	245	-	23	60	328
Net book value					
At 31 August 2023	1,588	-	2	7	1,597
At 31 August 2022	1,544	75	-	3	1,622

Leasehold Land is included above at its net book value of £696k (2022: £712k).

12 Debtors

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Trade debtors	-	4
VAT recoverable	5	22
Prepayments and accrued income	128	12
	133	38

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Trade creditors	4	112
Other taxation and social security	30	22
Other creditors	28	20
Accruals and deferred income	35	31
	97	185

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	406	540	(659)	-	287
Pupil premium	-	20	(20)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	20	(20)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	5	(5)	-	-
Other government grants	-	1,231	(1,231)	-	-
Pension reserve	(84)	-	(39)	123	-
	<u>322</u>	<u>1,816</u>	<u>(1,974)</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>287</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	1,475	21	(36)	-	1,460
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	1	-	-	-	1
Private sector capital sponsorship	164	-	(5)	-	159
	<u>1,640</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>(41)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,620</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,962</u>	<u>1,837</u>	<u>(2,015)</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>1,907</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	55	12	-	-	67
	<u>55</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>67</u>
Total funds	<u>2,017</u>	<u>1,849</u>	<u>(2,015)</u>	<u>123</u>	<u>1,974</u>

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

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2023. All restricted funds are available to be spent for the purposes for which the funds were received.

The Pension Reserve deficit represents the Academy Trust's share of the LGPS pension fund deficit, as valued by the scheme's actuaries. This will be eliminated over the long term, following advice from the actuaries as to contribution rates.

The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund represents the net book value of fixed assets plus the unspent element of Capital funds, less Capital Loans. When assets are purchased the fund is increased and depreciation charges reduce the fund.

Unrestricted Funds represent balances held at period end that can be applied at the discretion of the Trustees, to support any of the Academy's charitable purposes.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

14 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	296	476	(366)	-	406
Pupil premium	-	21	(21)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	12	(12)	-	-
Other Coronavirus funding	19	4	(23)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	5	(5)	-	-
Other government grants	27	976	(1,003)	-	-
Capital sponsorship	42	-	-	(42)	-
Pension reserve	(570)	-	(172)	658	(84)
	<u>(186)</u>	<u>1,494</u>	<u>(1,602)</u>	<u>616</u>	<u>322</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	1,502	6	(33)	-	1,475
Capital expenditure from GAG and other funds	1	-	-	-	1
Private sector capital sponsorship	125	-	(3)	42	164
	<u>1,628</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>(36)</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>1,640</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,442</u>	<u>1,500</u>	<u>(1,638)</u>	<u>658</u>	<u>1,962</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>55</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>(5)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>55</u>
Total funds	<u>1,497</u>	<u>1,505</u>	<u>(1,643)</u>	<u>658</u>	<u>2,017</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,597	1,597
Current assets	67	384	23	474
Current liabilities	-	(97)	-	(97)
Total net assets	<u>67</u>	<u>287</u>	<u>1,620</u>	<u>1,974</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,622	1,622
Current assets	55	591	18	664
Current liabilities	-	(185)	-	(185)
Pension scheme liability	-	(84)	-	(84)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total net assets	<u>55</u>	<u>322</u>	<u>1,640</u>	<u>2,017</u>

16 Pension and similar obligations

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £25k were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £19k) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration 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. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £133k (2022: £101k).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 11.9%% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy 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.

Total contributions made	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Employer's contributions	61	50
Employees' contributions	31	26
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	92	76
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Principal actuarial assumptions	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	4.3	4.2
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.8
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.2	4.2
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.8	2.7
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ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.4	22.7
- Females	23.7	25.3
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.5	24.1
- Females	25.4	27.1

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

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	588	655
1 year increase in life expectancy	616	689
Inflation + 0.1%	623	696
Pay growth + 0.1%	607	675

Defined benefit pension scheme net asset/(liability)

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Scheme assets	641	591
Scheme obligations	(641)	(675)
Net asset/(liability)	-	(84)

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2023 Fair value £'000	2022 Fair value £'000
Equities	400	273
Government Bonds	-	43
Other Bonds	24	-
Cash/liquidity	6	75
Property	96	102
Other assets	115	98
Total market value of assets	641	591

The actual return on scheme assets was £(31,000) (2022: £(4,000)).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Pension and similar obligations	(Continued)	
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2023	2022
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	92	212
Interest income	(27)	(10)
Interest cost	30	17
Administration expenses	5	3
	<u>100</u>	<u>222</u>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations		2023
		£'000
At 1 September 2022		675
Current service cost		92
Interest cost		30
Employee contributions		31
Actuarial (gain)		(181)
Benefits paid		(6)
		<u>641</u>
At 31 August 2023		<u>641</u>
Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets		2023
		£'000
At 1 September 2022		591
Interest income		27
Actuarial (loss)		(58)
Employer contributions		61
Employee contributions		31
Benefits paid		(6)
Administration expenses		(5)
		<u>641</u>
At 31 August 2023		<u>641</u>

The asset ceiling adjustment has been accounted for via FRS102 adjustment of £36k to the actuarial (gain) / loss.

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(166)	(138)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(21)	(6)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	16	36	165
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	16	3	7
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		41	36
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(95)	26
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(88)	136
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(290)</u>	<u>226</u>

18 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2022 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2023 £'000
Cash	626	(285)	341
	<u>626</u>	<u>(285)</u>	<u>341</u>

19 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023 £'000	2022 £'000
Amounts due within one year	32	-
Amounts due in two and five years	126	-
	<u>158</u>	<u>-</u>

ST MARY MAGDALENE ACADEMY: THE COURTYARD

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

20 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trustees have an interest. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Hive Education Trust, a company incorporated in the UK (England and Wales), company number 05412502 is a related party by virtue of the fact that the majority of the members of the company are also members of Hive Education Trust. During the period, £37k (2022: £37k) was reimbursed to Hive Education Trust in respect of costs incurred by Hive Education Trust on behalf of the Courtyard.

The London Diocesan Board of Schools ("LDBS") is a sponsor and a member of the Academy Trust and as such it is a related party. Grow Education Partners Ltd, a company incorporated in the UK (England and Wales), a company number 02874636 and is a related party by virtue of being controlled by LDBS. During the year expenditure of £1k (2022: £1k) was incurred.

In entering into these transactions, the Academy Trust has complied with the requirements of the ESFA's Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

21 Members' liability

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

22 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 had an opening balance brought forward of £nil (2022: £1,451), received £2,108 (2022: £1,342) and disbursed £1,300 (2022: £2,793) from the fund. An amount of £808 (2022: £nil) is included within creditors: amounts falling due in less than one.