

Company Registration Number: 07524244 (England & Wales)

**CHELTENHAM BOURNSIDE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1 – 2
Trustees' Report	3 – 14
Governance Statement	15 – 22
Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	23
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	24
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements	25 – 28
Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity	29 – 30
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account	31
Balance Sheet	32
Statement of Cash Flows	33
Notes to the Financial Statements	34 - 55

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Richard Knight
Neil Spurrier
Scott Harvey
Antonia Noble (resigned 22.02.24)

Trustees

The Trustees of the Company during the year and up to the date of this report were:

Susan Tovell
Stuart Hutton, Chair
Natalie Wheeler, Vice Chair
Paul Baker, Co-opted
Neil Wynn, Appointed
Nicola Cox, Appointed (resigned 27 June 2024)
Steven Jefferies, Headteacher
Ryan O'Donnell, Appointed (resigned 31 August 2024)
James Woodward, Parent
Sonia Beams, Appointed (resigned 6 September 2024)
Leo Knowles, Appointed (re appointed on 7 December 2023)
Victoria Cooper, Parent (appointed on 22 February 2024)
Samir Gulglani, Co-opted (resigned 11 October 2023)
John Martin, Parent (resigned 16 October 2023)

Company registered number

07524244

Company name

Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre

Principal and registered office

Warden Hill Road
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 3EF

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Company Secretary

Clare Johnson

Chief executive officer

Steven Jefferies

Senior Staff Members (Senior Leadership Team)

During the period:

Steven Jefferies	Headteacher
Karen Hanley	Deputy Headteacher
William Penny	Deputy Headteacher
Robert Waters	Deputy Headteacher
Anne Alsop	Director of Finance and Operations
Sally Lees	Assistant Headteacher
Paul Lockyer	Lead Practitioner, Coaching
Kevin Warren	Assistant Headteacher
Leo Kelly	Assistant Headteacher
Gareth Taylor	Assistant Headteacher

*Appointed post
year end:*

Rachel Fox	Assistant Headteacher
Rob Mudge	Assistant Headteacher

Independent auditor

Hazlewoods LLP
Staverton Court
Staverton
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL51 0UX

Bankers

Yorkshire Bank
5 Northgate Street
Gloucester
Gloucestershire
GL1 2AH

Solicitors

Harrison Clark Rickerbys Limited
Ellenborough House
Wellington Street
Cheltenham
Gloucestershire
GL50 1YD

**TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The principal activity of the academy trust is to provide education to students aged 11 – 18 years, ensuring we offer a broad and balanced curriculum. It currently has 1886 pupils on roll as of October 2024 (the month of the pupil census used for determining funding allocations). The catchment area primarily serves the central south area of Cheltenham. Pupils are admitted on a non-selective basis.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The registered company number is 07524244.

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the academy.

The Trustees of Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnities

Indemnity insurance has been obtained which covers the liability of trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the academy.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the academy is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected, appointed and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

The Members may appoint up to 9 trustees. The term of office for any Trustees is four years. In accordance with the Articles of Association, no trustees can be members. The number of trustees should not be less than three but is not subject to a maximum. The Board of Trustees is a mix of parent, appointed and co-opted trustees.

Parent trustees are elected by parents of registered pupils at the academy and should be a parent or carer of a student at the academy when elected. Trustees may appoint co-opted trustees.

Regard is given to the skills mix of the trustees to ensure the Board of Trustees has all the necessary skills required to contribute to the school's development.

No Trustee received any remuneration in respect of their duties as a Trustee from the academy during the year. Steven Jefferies was remunerated as an employee of the academy.

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

On appointment, all new trustees undergo a comprehensive induction. They also receive mentoring dependent on their background and experience. All new trustees are given a tour of the school and the chance to meet with the Headteacher, SLT, other staff and students. Trustees have access to a toolbox of resources including those provided through membership of The Key, and the National Governors Association (NGA). Trustees are encouraged to request or suggest any training requirements.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

f. Organisational structure

Bournside School's Scheme of Governance reflects the DFE's model Articles of Association for a Single Academy Trust. This ensures we maintain appropriate separation between members and trustees.

Members, who are not employees of the Trust, are the 'guardians of the governance' of the trust, and must ensure that the board is exercising effective governance. Members hold the AGM where they receive the annual accounts and the Trustees Annual Report. Apart from the AGM, Members meet at least three times each year and receive regular updates from the Chair of Trustees.

The Trustees are responsible for setting and reviewing policies, adopting and monitoring the annual school development plan, reviewing and approving the annual and 3-year budgets, monitoring the academy's progress and educational performance, and assisting with any senior staff appointments.

The day to day management and responsibility for the running of the School is delegated by the Board of Trustees to the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team. Teaching and support staff work with the Senior Leadership Team to ensure the academy's aims and objectives are met.

In order to support the effective operation of the trust, the Board meet up to six times each academic year. There are two additional two committees, the Pay and Performance Committee and Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, to which the Board delegates certain of its powers and functions.

Other panels meet when required on an ad-hoc basis. These are Discipline, Admissions Appeals, Complaints, Discipline (Staff), Discipline (Students), and Pay Appeals.

Individual trustees carry out delegated responsibilities in specific areas including:

Safeguarding Trustee
Pupil Premium Trustee
SEND Trustee
Careers Trustee

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

The Trustees have responsibility for establishing the academy's Pay Policy and for seeing it is followed, having taken advice from the Headteacher. The policy sets out the arrangements and detailed procedure for the setting and reviewing of pay for all staff including key individuals.

The pay scale for each key position is reviewed as and when the post becomes vacant. Thorough benchmarking is undertaken along with reference to the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document.

A robust Performance Development Policy, underpinning the Pay Policy, is operated throughout the school and applies to the Senior Leadership Team and to all teachers and support staff employed at the school. Both policies are reviewed annually.

Setting objectives is an integral part of performance development with objectives agreed with each teacher during Term 1 of the academic year. The Teachers Standards together with Bournside's Teaching Principles form the benchmark for success criteria.

The cycle of review meetings is completed during the first term of the academic school year with recommendations for pay amendments made by the Headteacher to the Pay and Performance Committee before 30 November each year.

Trade Union Facility Time

No employee acted as a trade union official and no facility was used by a trade union representative in the relevant period. The Trust recognises the applicable trade unions for the purposes of collective bargaining.

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration (school employees).

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

i. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

Employees have been consulted on issues of concern to them by means of regular consultative committee and staff meetings and have been kept informed on specific matters directly by management. The academy seeks feedback which includes an opportunity for an exit interview for all staff leaving the organisation and has adopted a procedure of upward feedback for senior management and the Trustees.

The academy has implemented a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of HR matters including:

- Performance Development for Teaching and Support Staff
- Equal opportunities
- Volunteers'
- Health and safety
- Pay
- Protection of biometric information
- Equality and diversity

Equal Opportunities Policy

Trustees recognise that equal opportunities are an integral part of good practice in the workplace. The academy trust aims to ensure equal opportunity permeates all areas of its activities including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of every person is fully valued.

Disabled Persons

The academy trust supports the recruitment and retention of employees with disabilities and facilitates this through training and career development and, where necessary, by making support resources available and adapting the physical environment.

Full details of these policies are available from the academy's offices.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The principal object and activity for the academy trust is to provide education for pupils aged 11 – 18 years in Cheltenham.

In setting the objectives and planning the school's activities, the trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit.

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

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

'Inspiring lives through learning' underpins our strategic objectives, along with our six values which are:

- Ambitious: we aim high and challenge ourselves constantly to improve
- Purposeful: we persevere to achieve our goals and aspirations
- Proud: we celebrate everyone's effort and achievements
- Respectful: we care about each other and believe in equality and kindness
- Curious: we have enquiring minds and are not afraid of challenge
- Supportive: we make a positive difference to each other's lives

Focus for 2024-25

The academy has clear targets and strategies, which are set out in our 2024-25 School Development Plan and summarised below:

Building resilience

- a. Attendance is above 93% for all student groups.
- b. Raising the aspirations and progress of high prior attaining students
- c. Ensure that *all* students make outstanding academic progress and participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities

Teaching is inspiring, engaging, responsive and informed by a precise knowledge of learners' needs

Teaching, learning and the curriculum

- a. Teaching is inspiring, engaging, responsive and informed by a precise knowledge of learners' needs
- b. Students' oracy is developed
- c. Continued development of students' literacy
- d. An integrated curriculum

The inclusive curriculum

- a. Ensure that *all* students have the opportunity to make outstanding academic achievement and access the full range of co-curricular activities
- b. A planned, coherent and structured intervention model
- c. Raising the aspirations and progress of high prior attaining students
- d. Ensure curriculum offer is appropriate to all students

Behaviour, attitudes and personal development

- a. Greater consistency in uniform, punctuality and equipment
- b. Ensure all students embody what it means to be a Bournsider
- c. Improved attendance of all student groups

Business, estates and operations

- a. Site improvements through CIF projects to aid our move towards net zero
- b. Application for further grants to improve the estate
- c. Premises development activities funded within year to support curriculum needs and reduce the impact of infrastructure failures on T&L
- d. System efficiencies

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

The success of this will be measured by benchmarked KPIs which amongst others include:

- Numbers on roll
- Setting a balanced budget each year
- Attendance and behaviour benchmarked data
- Achieving educational targets for all students
- Staff wellbeing survey and retention data, along with exit interviews
- Analysis of Sixth Form applications from within our own school and other schools

Inspiring – our 5-year vision

Our Strategic Vision 2021 – 2026 sets out our ambition for the school.

It is a bold and aspirational vision, based on four pillars: Inspiring curriculum; Inspiring campus; Inspiring culture; Inspiring community.

The full vision statement is available to view on our website.

a. Public benefit

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

The academy trust's aims are set out in this report. The trustees have complied with their duty under section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission and the trustees have paid due regard to this guidance in deciding what activities the academy trust should undertake.

The academy continues to be at the heart of its community, promoting community cohesion and sharing facilities with other schools and the wider community. We make available a variety of our extensive facilities for hire. Our popular Sports Centre and Astro facilities are used by individuals, families, many local sports groups and grass-roots football clubs across all ages. We have a number of public hire spaces including our Drama studio and Main Hall.

Over 157 groups regularly use our facilities during evenings and weekends.

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

Strategic report**Achievements and performance**Educational performance

Summer 2024 results show:

GCSE – Key Stage 4

Average Attainment 8: 49.15 (2023: 52.37)

% of pupils 4 or above in English: 79.3% (2023: 84.3%)

% of pupils 4 or above in Maths: 71.4% (2023: 80.8%)

% of pupils 4 or above in English and Maths: 68.0% (2023: 76.6%)

A Level – Key Stage 5

Overall average points per pupil: 101.19 (2023: 102.83)

A level average points per pupil: 91.93 (2023: 92.44)

Site improvements

Our site team have continued their work to enhance the site in line with our 5-year Estates Management Plan.

Major projects for the year included a complete refurbishment of another 2 science labs (as part of our rolling programme to refurbish all 12 over 5 years), the repurposing of unused changing facilities into a new dance studio, the refurbishment of 2 DT Food Tech rooms and the addition of 17 new parking spaces.

As a continued drive to greater sustainability we have, also applied for (and been allocated) a CIF grant for phase 2 to install a ground source heating solution to replace the broken and failing boilers. Phase 1 of this project started at the beginning of the year, with the work being carried out over two phases (due to the size and scale of the project), and it will be key to ensuring that the school aligns with the Department for Education's aspirations to move towards net zero. We have also been awarded funds to replace the windows in the final singled glazed areas of the school (the PE, Music and Art blocks). This work has been fully completed.

a. Key performance indicators

The school's overall effectiveness was judged by Ofsted to be 'Good' in October 2022 after a rigorous two-day inspection. School leadership was observed to be strong, safeguarding effective and pupils' overall attainment in GCSE in line with or above the national average.

Our 2023-24 Self Evaluation Framework (SEF) written and implemented by our Senior Leadership Team has established ambitious but achievable targets.

Our free reserves remain above our minimum level of £900,000.

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future.

The school still faces a number of risks and uncertainties. Like the majority of schools, pupil and staff recruitment is a perennial risk along with ongoing challenging economic conditions.

The school has worked hard to ensure it remains in a stable and sustainable financial position. A thorough 3 years budget process has been followed that delivers a balanced budget. This ensures the school has sufficient funds and available cash to continue its operation.

For this reason, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review and reserves policy

1. Financial review

During the year, the main source of income for the academy has been that received from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of a General Annual Grant (GAG). The academy has also received income from Gloucestershire County Council for Special Educational Needs (SEN) and LAG learner funding which the academy uses to support pupils. Income has also been generated by the academy from activities such as the sports centre operation. The total income for the year was £16,751,660 (2023: £17,416,251). The School has been successful in growing pupil numbers and therefore GAG income and also been successful in being awarded 2 Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) bids.

The in-year surplus figure of £875,964 (2023: £598,613) (consisting of restricted and unrestricted general fund movements excluding restricted fixed asset funds and pension) was achieved with prudent budgeting and sound financial management. The School's main expenditure is on Teachers and Support Staff Salaries.

A balanced budget was set in June 2024 for 2024/25. Since then, inflationary pressures are reducing compared with last year. Also, the school infrastructure is getting old and refurbishment is necessary. Therefore, longer term, the expectation is that it will be difficult to maintain a balanced budget.

The Trust will continue to focus on generating supplementary income through grant donations, sponsorship, donations and Sports Centre Income and a broad Lettings Programme. The School has excellent sports facilities including a market leading astro-turf sports pitch which has been successful in increasing unrestricted revenues.

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

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review and reserves policy (continued)

2. Investment policy

The trustees have agreed a policy for investment of balances and whilst not currently holding any investments, the strategy is to regularly monitor cash flow and current accounts balances to ensure immediate financial commitments can be met. The current account must have adequate balances to meet forthcoming commitments. Any surplus funds will be identified and discussed as and when required.

3. Principal risks and uncertainties

The trust operates a Risk Management and Assessment Protocol with a robust risk register and review process. Our Finance, Audit and Risk Committee reviews the Risk Register at least 3 times each year, with the Full Board reviewing it annually.

The principal risks are shown below:

- Due diligence to look at collaboration with other schools moving towards a Multi Academy Trust
- Economic uncertainty, inflation and wage increases
- Threat of cyber attack

It is also possible that different socio-economic factors may come into play with any shift in catchment that may require additional investment by the school in order to ensure we have the necessary resources for all our students.

The key controls deployed by the school to mitigate these risks are:

- Robust financial planning, budgeting and management accounts reporting to trustees
- An effective embedded marketing and PR strategy
- Embedding of the bespoke programme to improve outcomes amongst our Pupil Premium students
- A new Business Plan looking forward 5 years is successfully adopted

The Finance, Audit and Risk committee will monitor and review the health and safety policy to ensure risks are captured and eliminated (where possible) or mitigated. Detailed oversight of the estate takes place at these committee meetings - questioning and challenge should highlight any issues and give the governing board confidence that the estate is suitable and being managed well.

The school will mitigate health and safety risk through a rigorous programme of compliance checks and annual external audit to ensure that any health and safety site issues are resolved.

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

Strategic report (continued)**Financial review and reserves policy (continued)****4. Reserves policy**

The trustees review the reserves level of the trust on a regular basis. A Reserves Policy has been established in line with guidelines.

The policy states the appropriate level of revenue reserves should be equivalent to one month's expenditure of around £1,080,000 (2023: £1,000,000). This should provide working capital in the event of delays in the receipt of grants. At 31 August 2024, our reserves (including unrestricted funds and GAG funds) carried forward are £2,473,703 (2023: £1,947,009).

The current economic uncertainty and increasing cost pressures, has resulted in the decision to maintain in the short term a high level of reserves. There are a number of significant events that the Trust will need to finance such as mandatory facilities/premises maintenance and CIF bids for much needed heating infrastructure and electric.

The academy held fund balances at 31 August 2024 of £34,123,446 (2023: £30,512,778) comprising £31,649,743 (2023: £28,565,769) of restricted fixed asset funds, £Nil of pension reserve (2023: Nil), £430,044 (2023: £159,626) of restricted funds, and £2,043,659 (2023: £1,787,383) of unrestricted general funds. The unrestricted funds and restricted funds are included in the minimum reserves calculation.

The pension reserve show a net surplus £1,171,000 at 31 August 2024 (2023: £381,000). As the Academy has no unconditional right to a refund from the LGPS. The value of the surplus that can be recognised as an asset is limited to the "asset ceiling". This is the present value of any benefit in the form of reductions in future contributions. The actuarial report calculates our asset ceiling as £Nil (2023: £Nil).

The academy will continue to make contributions to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) with actuarial advice, and has no plans to increase contributions above the recommended level.

5. Plans for future periods

The Academy sets out the strategic objectives and targets designed to maintain the high standards of education and deliver a broad, balanced curriculum for all pupils in the 2024-2025 academic year. The key priorities for this period are as follows:

- Building resilience:
 - Attendance is above 93% for all student groups
 - Raising the aspirations and progress of high prior attaining students
 - Ensure that all students make outstanding academic progress and participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities
- Teaching is inspiring, engaging, responsive and informed by a precise knowledge of learners' needs

The Academy will submit bids to the ESFA to seek Condition Improvement Funds for continue upgrade our switch gear and electrical infrastructure and enhance our school structural fire safety.

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

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 18/12/2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Stuart Hutton

Stuart Hutton
(Chair of Trustees)

Steven Jefferies

Steven Jefferies
(Accounting Officer)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year.

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

Trustee		Trustee type	Full board
Paul	Baker	Co-opted	3/5
Sonia	Beames	Appointed	4/5
Niki	Cox	Appointed	5/5
Victoria	Cooper	Parent	3/3
Susie	Tovell	Appointed	5/5
Sam	Guglani	Co-opted	0/1
Stuart	Hutton	Appointed	5/5
Steve	Jefferies	Ex-officio	5/5
John	Martin	Parent	0/1
Leo	Knowles	Co-opted	2/4
Ryan	O'Donnell	Appointed	3/5
Natalie	Wheeler	Appointed	5/5
James	Woodward	Parent	5/5
Neil	Wynn	Appointed	4/5

The Board is committed to undergoing regular reviews and development of governance to ensure it is effective and is able to fully execute its responsibilities.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Board has a Finance, Audit and Risk Committee which meets up to 4 times across the year. There are at least 4 trustees on the committee. Each meeting is attended by the Headteacher and the School Business Manager.

The Chair of Trustees along with the Vice Chair meet with the Headteacher regularly to monitor progress and is kept informed of any pertinent matters which may arise from time to time. At this meeting they receive reports relating to the school's financial position and, from time to time, are provided with other relevant reports relating to matters at the school. The Chair also meets with the Headteacher individually at regular intervals.

The school has embedded several changes to its core Finance and MI systems which has significantly strengthened the accuracy and timeliness of the financial planning, reporting and analysis. The Board has been presented with an accurate and comprehensive budget. The school is also continuing to invest in the training of support staff including professional training and development.

The Board have access to a cloud based GDPR compliant document storage and communications platform called Governor Hub. This has both Desktop and Mobile access. This enables all governors to access reports, minutes, budgets, and other key information at all times. It also has a secure messaging facility as part of the platform. This system is managed by the Clerk to the Governors.

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The key functions of the committee are to maintain an oversight of the Academy Trust's financial, governance, risk management and internal control systems; and to report findings termly and annually to the Trust Board and the Accounting Officer as a critical element of the trust's annual reporting requirements.

The committee met four times across the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee		Trustee type	Finance, Audit & Risk Committee
Paul	Baker	Co-opted	4/4
Nicola	Cox	Appointed	3/4
Susie	Tovell	Appointed	3/4
Stuart	Hutton	Appointed	4/4
Steve	Jefferies	Ex-officio	4/4
James	Woodward	Parent	2/4

Pay & Performance Committee

The committee is made up of 3 Governors. The Chair of the Pay & Performance Committee is the Chair of Governors. None of the Governors serving on the Committee will be school employees. The committee meets two times a year.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The key functions of the committee are:

- To apply the school Pay Policy on behalf of the Governing Body fairly and equitably
- To ensure that the Governing Body meets its legal and contractual obligations in relation to pay and related conditions of service
- To ensure that this policy links effectively with the school's Performance Management Policy for teachers
- To ensure that staff new to the school are correctly paid
- To make appropriate arrangements for the Headteacher's performance management, including planning statement, moderation and review as laid down in the school's Performance Management Policy
- To undertake appropriate reviews of salary for teaching and support staff

Governance (continued)

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Susan Tovell	2	2
Stuart Hutton	2	2
Natalie Wheeler	2	2
Paul Baker	2	2

Conflicts of interest

It is the duty of every Individual to disclose any conflict or any circumstances that might reasonably give rise to the perception of a conflict. All interests, and any gifts or hospitality received in connection with an Individual's role in the School must also be disclosed on an annual basis or when any changes occur.

As a general rule, with the exception of committee business, disclosure should be made at the time the conflict first arises, or it is recognised that a conflict might be perceived in writing to the Clerk to the Governing Body. If the Clerk to the Governors has an interest in the matter, the disclosure should be made to the Chair of the Governors.

It will be appropriate to deal with some situations by way of a declaration by the Individual in the School's register of pecuniary and personal interests. For governors, the completion of the register is a mandatory requirement. The register will be maintained by the Clerk to the Governors.

The Clerk to the Governing Body will either in person, or through the Chair of the Governors, declare any known interests on behalf of any Individual who fails to declare an interest.

The School will ensure the probity of all financial transactions. As a general rule, Individuals should not be involved in the supply or purchase of goods or services decisions in relation to any external entity in which they or any member of their family or any person with whom they have a close relationship have a financial interest in, or in any way have the capacity for personal gain.

Individuals shall not be involved in managing or monitoring of any contract in which they have an interest.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

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

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

Educational outcomes

Economic and efficient use of resources is evidenced by our improved examination results and student progress shown in our Summer 2023 exam results. A thorough review of staffing and related curriculum costs continues by our new Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team.

Operational areas of the school show good value for money and efficient and effective use of resources

The school uses competitive tendering as a process for ensuring value for money on a regular basis. Any one item purchased with a value between £1,000 and £10,000 requires three separate costs either written or catalogue/online price lists. Estimates between £10,000 and £50,000 requires three written quotations on supplier company headed paper, and any item or service level agreement over £50,000 must follow ESFA guidance.

During the academic year, several projects were successfully completed and are detailed above.

We continue to manage the costs of our catering, through careful management of waste and recipes which ensure both value and good nutrition. Revenues from catering have not only recovered to pre-pandemic levels but exceeded them. This is no small part, due to the focus on tasty nutritious meals which are now served with vegetables as standard with an option of a daily, fresh salad bar.

Our sports and letting business strengthened this year; the gym now has over 100 paying members from the local community.

Effective Use of Funding

Over the years, the trust's leadership recognized the need to allocate funding strategically to maintain the safety and compliance of their estate while also providing a conducive learning environment for students.

Regular Inspections and Assessments:

The trust regularly completes inspections and assessments which included structural assessments, fire safety inspections, and environmental checks. An external team of experts was hired to conduct these assessments, ensuring impartial and thorough evaluations.

Maintenance and Repairs:

Based on the assessment findings, the trust earmarked funds specifically for maintenance and repairs. This included fixing structural issues, electrical and plumbing upgrades, and addressing health and safety concerns. Priority was given to urgent repairs to ensure the safety of students and staff.

Compliance Upgrades:

The trust recognised the importance of staying up-to-date with education regulations and safety standards. They allocated funding to bring their estate in line with the latest compliance requirements.

This included investing in energy-efficient systems to reduce carbon emissions and meet environmental regulations.

Staff Training:

The trust invested in staff training programs, ensuring that caretakers, maintenance personnel, and teachers were knowledgeable about safety protocols and regulations.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Training programs were customized to address the unique needs of the school.

Technology Integration:

To streamline estate management, the trust invested in property management software that allowed for efficient tracking of maintenance tasks, compliance deadlines, and budget allocations. This technology helped them prioritize tasks and make data-driven decisions.

Communication and Transparency:

The trust maintained open lines of communication with stakeholders. Regular updates on estate improvements and compliance measures were shared to build trust and transparency. The trust also encouraged schools to involve the local community in estate-related initiatives.

Results:

As a result of these strategic allocations of funding, the Trust achieved the following outcomes:

- Improved safety and security for students and staff across the school.
- Enhanced compliance with education regulations and safety standards.
- Reduced long-term maintenance costs by addressing issues promptly.
- A more sustainable and energy-efficient estate.
- Increased confidence and trust from parents, staff, and the local community.

In conclusion, the Trust's effective use of funding demonstrates a commitment to ensuring the safety, maintenance, and compliance of their estate, ultimately providing a better learning environment for students and contributing positively to the community.

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, aims and objectives and adhere to policies. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy, 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 Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre during the year ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Capacity to handle risk

During 2023-24 the Board of Trustees has continued to rigorously review the key risks to which the academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks.

Risk Assessment and Review process has been further strengthened by the embedding of our Risk Management Policy and enhancements to the Risk Register. The Board is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy's significant risks that has been in place during the year ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

The academy's system of internal 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:

- budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee and Full Board 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; and identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees continues to buy-in an internal audit service from Bishop Fleming LLP.

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy's financial systems.

On an annual basis, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees through the finance, audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities.

Over the course of the year, Bishop Fleming performed testing on a number of key control processes operating at the Trust across the following areas:

- Bank and petty cash
- Budgets and financial monitoring
- Expenditure and credit card transactions
- Fixed Assets
- Income
- Payroll
- Regularity and compliance
- Prior year recommendations

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Five recommendations/observations were made in total and the key ones are summarised below:

1. Expenditure - Purchase orders
Allow the Site Team to authorize purchase orders in emergencies.
2. Expenditure - Approved Suppliers
Recommendation to establish an approved supplier list and implement a formal process for onboarding new suppliers.

Our related management responses and progress made since the audit in implementing the recommendations made are as follows:

1. Expenditure - Purchase orders
Update financial policy on this area.
2. Expenditure - Approved Suppliers
Establish and implement process for onboarding new suppliers.

Bishop Fleming LLP also review of the effectiveness of board governance during the year. This review aims to provide the Board of Governors with additional assurance through independent oversight of the Trust's governance, complementing existing internal procedures. It includes a high-level review of strategic leadership, accountability, and some processes, discussed with the Chair of Governors. The audit identified one recommendation for providing structured training to Governors to enhance their understanding of strategic leadership and accountability, as survey responses indicated this would help them be more effective.

Other compliance activity includes an annual, external health and safety audit and all actions arising out of this have been completed.

Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the Headteacher 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 reviewer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy 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 audit and risk committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 18/12/2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Stuart Hutton

Stuart Hutton
Chair of Trustees

Steven Jefferies

Steven Jefferies
Accounting Officer

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

As Accounting Officer of Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre 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 funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration, I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of 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 2023.

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



Steven Jefferies
Accounting Officer
Date: 13/12/2024

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre 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 funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration, I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of 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 2023.

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



Steven Jefferies
Accounting Officer
Date: 13/12/2024

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

The Trustees (who are also Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education & 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, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Charitable Company and of the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the Charitable Company for the year. 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 (FRS102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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 to the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the Education & Skills Funding Agency and Department for Education 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 18/12/2024and signed on its behalf by:

Stuart Hutton

Stuart Hutton
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2024, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP (FRS102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 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 trustees 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.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' 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 directors' 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 trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the academy trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy 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 academy trust or to cease operations, 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.

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

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the company financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the company. We determined that the most significant laws and regulations included UK GAAP, UK Companies Act 2006, Charities SORP, AAD handbook and taxation laws;

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

- We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included challenging assumptions and judgments made by management in its significant accounting estimates and identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any journal entries posted with unusual characteristics.

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

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

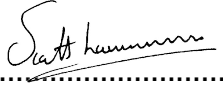
- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the academy trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the academy trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Use of our report

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



.....

.....18/12/2024.....

Scott Lawrence FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

Date

For and on behalf of Hazlewoods LLP, Statutory Auditor

**Staverton Court
Staverton
Cheltenham
GL51 0UX**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE GOVERNING
BODY OF CHELTENHAM BOURNSIDE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE AND THE EDUCATION AND
SKILLS AGENCY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 4 January 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies: Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre during year to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1st November 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

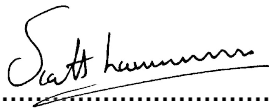
In this regard, we have carried out the following:

- specific testing of a sample of items of income and expenditure to ensure appropriately applied for the purposes intended;
- specific testing of a sample of system controls relevant to the above items;
- a general review of relevant correspondence with the ESFA regarding Academy governance matters during the period since conversion; and
- a general review and discussion of the Academy's internal processes for establishing and maintaining systems of control and documentation regarding these matters.

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE GOVERNING
BODY OF CHELTENHAM BOURNSIDE SCHOOL AND SIXTH FORM CENTRE AND THE EDUCATION AND
SKILLS AGENCY
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

Conclusion

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



.....

.....18/12/2024.....

Scott Lawrence FCA DChA (Reporting Accountant)

Date

For and on behalf of Hazlewoods LLP, Statutory Auditor

**Staverton Court
Staverton
Cheltenham
GL51 0UX**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (including Income and Expenditure Account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations and capital grants	3	291	-	3,467,962	3,468,253	5,498,844
Charitable activities	4	826,013	11,953,960	-	12,779,973	11,457,189
Other trading activities	6	321,380	-	-	321,380	369,906
Investments	7	182,054	-	-	182,054	90,312
Total		1,329,738	11,953,960	3,467,962	16,751,660	17,416,251
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Raising funds		154,484	-	-	154,484	516,630
Charitable activities		918,978	11,153,272	733,258	12,805,508	11,480,167
Total	8	1,073,462	11,153,272	733,258	12,959,992	11,996,797
NET INCOME	10	256,276	800,688	2,734,704	3,791,668	5,419,454
Transfers between funds	17	-	(349,270)	349,270	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		256,276	451,418	3,083,974	3,791,668	5,419,454
Other recognised (losses)/gains:						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	(181,000)	-	(181,000)	589,000
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		256,276	270,418	3,083,974	3,610,668	6,008,454
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward	17	1,787,383	159,626	28,565,769	30,512,778	24,504,324
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	17	2,043,659	430,044	31,649,743	34,123,446	30,512,778

All of the Academy's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

No separate statement of total recognised gains and losses has been presented as all such gains and losses are dealt with in the statement of financial activities above.

**BALANCE SHEET
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
NON CURRENT ASSETS			
Tangible fixed assets	14	28,276,749	24,400,902
Debtors	15	659,247	1,105,021
		<u>28,935,996</u>	<u>25,505,923</u>
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	15	3,167,007	3,613,849
Cash at bank and in hand	22	4,738,911	2,562,434
		<u>7,905,918</u>	<u>6,176,283</u>
LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	16	(2,718,468)	(1,159,976)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		<u>5,187,450</u>	<u>5,016,307</u>
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		<u>34,123,446</u>	<u>30,522,230</u>
NON CURRENT LIABILITIES			
Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year	16	-	(9,452)
Defined benefit pension scheme asset/(liability)	24	-	-
		<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>34,123,446</u>	<u>30,512,778</u>
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted funds	17	430,044	159,626
Restricted fixed asset funds	17	31,649,743	28,565,769
Restricted funds excluding pension liability	17	32,079,787	28,725,395
Pension reserve	17,24	-	-
Total restricted funds		<u>32,079,787</u>	<u>28,725,395</u>
Unrestricted income funds	17	2,043,659	1,787,383
		<u>2,043,659</u>	<u>1,787,383</u>
TOTAL FUNDS		<u>34,123,446</u>	<u>30,512,778</u>

The financial statements on pages 31 to 55 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 18/12/2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

Stuart Hutton

Stuart Hutton
Chair of Trustees

Steven Jefferies

Steven Jefferies
Accounting Officer

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

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash (used)/provided by operating activities	19	2,387,431	506,421
Cash flows from investing activities	20	(371,103)	(833,221)
Cash flows from financing activities	21	163,149	61,956
CHANGE IN CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS IN THE YEAR		2,176,477	(264,844)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,562,434	2,827,278
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT THE END OF YEAR	22,23	4,738,911	2,562,434

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

1 Accounting Policies

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

1.1 Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the School, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. Cheltenham Bournside School and Sixth Form Centre meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1.2 Going Concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval 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 has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

- **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 recognized in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognized 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 funds. Capital grants are recognized when there is entitled 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 is certainty of receipt 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 goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

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

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

- **Expenditure on raising funds**

This includes all expenditure incurred by the School 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's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Tangible Fixed Assets

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy's depreciation policy.

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

Freehold property	2%-5% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	10% straight line
Computer equipment	25% straight line
Office equipment	10% straight line
Motor vehicles	20% straight line
Assets under construction	nil

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.

Assets under construction are reviewed and once completed and available for use transferred to the appropriate fixed asset class.

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

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.6 Debtors

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

1.7 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.8 Liabilities

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

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at transaction price as all are payable on demand as detailed in note 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

1.10 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes.

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

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

1 Accounting Policies (continued)

1.10 Pensions (continued)

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

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

Where a pension reserve shows a net surplus, as the Academy has no unconditional right to a refund from the LGPS, the value of the surplus that can be recognised as an asset is limited to the "asset ceiling". This is the present value of any benefit in the form of reductions in future contributions.

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.

1.11 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administrative costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received and paid and any balances are disclosed in note 28.

1.12 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability.

There is significant judgements needed in assessing whether any LGPS surplus should be recognised as a pension asset or whether the surplus should be restricted to some level or in total. FRS 102 section 28.22 states a plan surplus can be recognised only to the extent an entity is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the scheme. Consider including here the impact of this assessment, on the extent to which a scheme surplus has been recognised as a pension asset at the balance sheet date.

Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

3 Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Capital grants	-	-	3,467,962	3,467,962	5,495,344
Donation	291	-	-	291	3,500
	<u>291</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,467,962</u>	<u>3,468,253</u>	<u>5,498,844</u>

Income from capital grants and donations in 2023 of £5,495,344 was restricted fixed asset funds, £3,500 was unrestricted funds.

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

4 Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Funding for educational operations (Note 5)	-	11,953,960	-	11,953,960	10,813,300
School trips	452,442	-	-	452,442	360,570
Catering income	373,571	-	-	373,571	283,319
	<u>826,013</u>	<u>11,953,960</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>12,779,973</u>	<u>11,457,189</u>

Income from funding for educational operations in 2023 had unrestricted funds of £2,192 and restricted funds of £10,811,108.

Income from school trips in 2023 was unrestricted funds of £360,570.

Catering income in 2023 was unrestricted funds of £283,319.

5 Funding for educational operations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants:				
General Annual Grant	-	9,015,920	9,015,920	8,192,667
<u>Other DfE/ESFA grants</u>				
- 16-19 core education funding	-	1,507,207	1,507,207	1,397,652
- Pupil premium	-	319,809	319,809	285,135
Teacher pension grant	-	156,266	156,266	56,283
Others	-	107,696	107,696	63,253
Supplementary grant	-	474,086	474,086	416,021
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,580,984</u>	<u>11,580,984</u>	<u>10,411,011</u>
Other government grants:				
Local Authority grants	-	305,692	305,692	324,237
Other income from the academy's funding for educational operations	-	67,284	67,284	78,052
	<u>-</u>	<u>11,953,960</u>	<u>11,953,960</u>	<u>10,813,300</u>

Funding for the academy's educational operations in 2024 was £11,953,960 (2023: £10,813,300) of which £11,953,960 (2023: £10,811,108) was restricted funds, £nil (2023: £2,192) was unrestricted funds.

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

6 Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Rental and sports centre income	302,266	-	302,266	321,432
Water Services income	12,913	-	12,913	14,465
Other income	6,201	-	6,201	34,009
	<u>321,380</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>321,380</u>	<u>369,906</u>

Income from other trading activities in 2023 was £653,225 and was unrestricted funds.

7 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Investment income	<u>182,054</u>	<u>182,054</u>	<u>90,312</u>

Income from investment income in 2023 was £90,312 which was all unrestricted funds.

8 Expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Premises £	Other Costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Fundraising trading activities	86,889	-	67,595	154,484	82,147
Funding for educational operations (Note 9):					
Direct costs	8,349,646	733,258	1,195,184	10,278,088	9,390,295
Support costs	1,338,195	504,087	685,138	2,527,420	2,524,355
	<u>9,774,730</u>	<u>1,237,345</u>	<u>1,947,917</u>	<u>12,959,992</u>	<u>11,996,797</u>

Expenditure in 2023 was £11,996,797 of which £9,472,442 was direct costs and £2,524,355 was support costs.

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

9 Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly £	Support costs £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Funding for educational operations	10,278,088	2,527,420	12,805,508	11,914,650

Analysis of direct costs

	Funding for educational operations £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	8,307,097	8,307,097	7,535,614
Depreciation and loss on disposal	733,258	733,258	677,503
Teaching and educational support staff costs	42,549	42,549	100,706
Educational supplies	401,584	401,584	363,334
Educational activities	404,157	404,157	320,242
Examination fees	209,100	209,100	179,275
Staff development	119	119	25,403
Other direct costs	139,100	139,100	152,119
Maintenance of premises and equipment	-	-	-
Insurance	41,124	41,124	36,099
	10,278,088	10,278,088	9,390,295

Analysis of support costs

	Funding for educational operations £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Staff costs	1,338,195	1,338,195	1,266,515
Maintenance of premises and equipment	201,173	201,173	151,835
Cleaning	34,376	34,376	38,036
Rent & rates	24,445	24,445	46,974
Energy costs	278,469	278,469	210,843
Insurance	7,504	7,504	4,012
Security and transport	38,119	38,119	33,316
Professional fees	114,710	114,710	296,342
Catering costs	300,404	300,404	258,912
Other support costs	190,025	190,025	217,570
	2,527,420	2,527,420	2,524,355

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

10 Net income

Net income for the year includes:

	Total 2024	Total 2023
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	24,845	32,633
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	724,430	677,502
Fees paid to auditor for:		
Audit	14,630	13,575
Other services	-	500
	9,632,197	8,855,256

11 Staff costs

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

	2024	2023
	£	£
Staff costs during the period were:		
Wages and salaries	7,261,010	6,581,482
Social security costs	728,814	695,418
Other pension costs	1,823,374	1,581,356
FRS102 pension adjustment	(181,000)	(3,000)
	9,632,197	8,855,256
Supply teacher costs	21,325	6,835
Agency staff costs	121,207	100,706
	9,774,729	8,962,797

b. Staff severance payments

Included in professional fees are contractual settlement payments of £nil (2023: £30,000).

c. Staff numbers

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

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Teachers	118	100
Administration and support	82	91
Management	12	13
	212	204

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

11 Staff costs (continued)

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	5	3
In the band £70,001- £80,000	1	4
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	3	-
In the band £110,001 – £120,000	-	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	1	-
	10	8

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the trustees and the leadership team as listed on page 1.

The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £1,062,208 (2023: £1,034,329).

12 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2024	2023
		£	£
Steven Jefferies, Headteacher	Remuneration	125,000-130,000	115,000-120,000
	Pension contributions paid	30,000-35,000	25,000-30,000

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totaling £nil (2023: £Nil) were reimbursed to Trustees.

13 Governors' and officers insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the School has purchased insurance to protect Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim. The cost for the period ended 31 August 2024 was included within the cost of Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (2023: included within the RPA cost).

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

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Property £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and Fittings £	Office equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicle £	Total £
Cost							
At 1 September 2023	27,854,009	934,567	906,746	265,060	473,235	30,295	30,463,912
Additions	99,555	4,517,378	-	25,506	-	-	4,642,439
Transfers	1,392,909	(1,392,909)	-	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(39,706)	-	(26,702)	(5,172)	(214,450)	-	(286,030)
At 31 August 2024	29,306,767	4,059,036	880,044	285,394	258,785	30,295	34,820,321
Depreciation							
At 1 September 2023	4,666,020	-	787,024	188,561	416,807	4,598	6,063,010
Charged in year	644,720	-	32,797	16,124	24,713	6,076	724,430
Disposals	-	-	(25,198)	(4,220)	(214,450)	-	(243,868)
At 31 August 2024	5,310,740	-	794,623	200,465	227,070	10,674	6,543,572
Net book values							
At 31 August 2024	23,996,027	4,059,036	85,421	84,929	31,715	19,621	28,276,749
At 31 August 2023	23,187,989	934,567	119,722	76,499	56,428	25,697	24,400,902

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

15 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Non current:		
Prepayments and accrued income	659,247	1,105,021
Current:		
Trade debtors	1,687	1,687
Other debtors	327,772	244,306
Prepayments and accrued income	2,837,548	3,367,856
	3,167,007	3,613,849
	3,826,254	4,718,870

The non-current accrued income of £659,247 (2023: 1,105,021) relates to grants received for capital expenditure. This will be received in full by September 2025.

16 Creditors**Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	9,451	18,904
Trade creditors	2,179,067	285,620
Other taxation and social security	376,808	337,529
Other creditors	475	1,722
Accruals and deferred income	152,667	516,201
	2,718,468	1,159,976

Creditors: Amounts falling due after one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	-	9,452
	-	9,452

Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	52,227	113,036
Resources deferred in the year	7,820	52,227
Amounts released from previous years	(52,227)	(113,036)
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	7,820	52,227

At the balance sheet date, the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for GCC LAG learner funding received in advance of the 2024/25 financial year.

Other loans are Salix loans of £9,451 (2023: £28,356) of which £9,451 (2023: £18,904) is due within the next 12 months. No interest is charged on this loan. The Salix loans are from the ESFA and are wholly repayable within the next 5 years.

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

17 Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,787,383	1,329,738	(1,073,462)	-	2,043,659
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	159,626	9,015,920	(8,396,232)	(349,270)	430,044
Pupil premium	-	319,809	(319,809)	-	-
16-19 core education funding	-	1,507,207	(1,507,207)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	156,266	(156,266)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	107,696	(107,696)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	474,086	(474,086)	-	-
Local authority grants	-	305,692	(305,692)	-	-
Other income	-	67,284	(67,284)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	181,000	(181,000)	-
	159,626	11,953,960	(11,153,272)	(530,270)	430,044
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Fixed assets	24,388,527	-	(733,258)	4,609,105	28,264,374
Government grants	4,164,867	3,467,962	-	(4,259,835)	3,372,994
Donated assets	12,375	-	-	-	12,375
	28,565,769	3,467,962	(733,258)	349,270	31,649,743
Total restricted funds	28,725,395	15,421,922	(11,886,530)	(181,000)	32,079,787
Total funds	30,512,778	16,751,660	(12,959,992)	(181,000)	34,123,446

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

17 Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,514,456	1,109,799	(836,872)	-	1,787,383
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	574,130	9,590,319	(9,264,633)	(740,190)	159,626
Pupil premium	-	285,135	(285,135)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	56,283	(56,283)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	63,253	(63,253)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	416,021	(416,021)	-	-
Local authority grants	-	324,237	(324,237)	-	-
Other income	-	75,860	(75,860)	-	-
Pension reserve	(592,000)	-	3,000	589,000	-
	(17,870)	10,811,108	(10,482,422)	(151,190)	159,626
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Fixed assets	22,995,363	-	(677,503)	2,070,667	24,388,527
Government grants	-	5,495,344	-	(1,330,477)	4,164,867
Donated assets	12,375	-	-	-	12,375
	23,007,738	5,495,344	(677,503)	740,190	28,565,769
Total restricted funds	22,989,868	16,306,452	(11,159,925)	589,000	28,725,395
Total funds	24,504,324	17,416,251	(11,996,797)	589,000	30,512,778

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

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

Restricted general funds

The General Annual Grant is subject to specific expenditure with the Academy's declared objectives.

Other DfE/ESFA grants relate to the Government funding for the provision of education by the Academy and have been fully expended in the year. Funding is repayable if the Academy does not meet all the funding requirements.

SEN fund – This fund is for subsidising the extra cost of educating pupils with special educational needs.

Private trips fund – This is income from students to pay for educational trips and school activities.

DfE capital grants – These grants relate to funding received from the ESFA to carry out works of a capital nature.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was subject to a limit on the GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024. This limit was not breached during the year ended 31 August 2024.

The capital maintenance grant allocation to restricted general funds reflects the purpose for which the grants are provided.

Other funds include pupil premium and other government grants which are spent on various restricted purposes as detailed in the original grant letter. The Local Government Pension Scheme is also included within this fund. Please refer to note 24 for further details regarding this balance.

Restricted fixed asset funds

These funds relate to the land, buildings and other fixed assets which are owned by the Academy and used in accordance with the charitable objectives.

Unrestricted funds

Represents income generated by the Academy (such as lettings and hire of facilities and any other donations or investment income, which is not restricted for any specific purpose and can be spent as determined by the Governing Body.

Transfers between funds relate to amounts expended on fixed assets from unrestricted funds and restricted general funds which have been used for the acquisition of fixed assets during the period.

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

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General	Restricted Fixed Asset	Total Funds 2024	Total Funds 2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	28,276,749	28,276,749	24,400,902
Other non current assets	-	-	659,247	659,247	1,105,021
Current assets	2,043,659	3,148,512	2,713,747	7,905,918	6,176,283
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,718,468)	-	(2,718,468)	(1,159,976)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	-	-	(9,452)
Total net assets	<u>2,043,659</u>	<u>430,044</u>	<u>31,649,743</u>	<u>34,123,446</u>	<u>30,512,778</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	3,791,668	5,419,454
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation	724,430	677,502
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(3,467,962)	(5,495,344)
Interest receivable	(182,054)	(90,312)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(157,000)	(28,000)
Defined benefits pension scheme finance cost	(24,000)	25,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	125,575	(205,705)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	1,567,945	204,372
Disposal of tangible fixed assets	8,829	(546)
Net cash (used)/provided by operating activities	<u>2,387,431</u>	<u>506,421</u>

20 Cash flows from investing activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(4,642,439)	(2,070,666)
Capital grants from DfE Group	4,235,002	1,236,899
Sales proceed from disposal of tangible fixed assets	33,334	546
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(374,103)</u>	<u>(833,221)</u>

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

21 Cash flows from financing activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash inflows from new borrowing		
Repayments of borrowing	(18,905)	(28,356)
Interest receivable	182,054	90,312
Net cash provided by financing activities	163,149	61,956

22 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	4,738,911	2,562,434
Total cash and cash equivalents	4,738,911	2,562,434

23 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1	Cash	New	Other	At 31
	September	Flows	Finance	Non-cash	August
	2023	2024	Leases	Changes	2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Cash and cash equivalents	2,562,434	2,176,477	-	-	4,738,911
Loans falling due within one year	(18,904)	18,905	-	(9,452)	(9,451)
Loans falling due after one year	(9,452)	-	-	9,452	-
	(28,356)	18,905	-	-	(9,451)
	2,534,078	2,195,382	-	-	4,729,460

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

24 Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £211,286 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023: £177,333) 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' Pensions Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

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 ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

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

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

The pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,268,101 (2023: £1,073,580).

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

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

24 Pension commitments (continued)

Under the definitions set out in FRS102, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme.

The trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £6,880,000 (2023: £620,000), of which employer's contributions totaled £560,000 (2023: £509,000) and employees' contributions totaled £128,000 (2023: £111,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 32.6% for employers and between 5% and 8% 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

	2024	2023
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00%	5.20%
Rate of increase for in salaries	3.15%	3.50%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65%	3.00%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.65%	3.00%

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

	2024	2023
Retiring today -		
Males	22.6 years	22.7 years
Females	24.8 years	24.8 years
Retiring in 20 years -		
Males	21.7 years	21.9 years
Females	25.6 years	25.7 years

Sensitivity analysis

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Discount rate -0.1%	170	153
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	324	297
CPI rate +0.1%	167	144

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

24 Pension commitments (continued)

The academy trusts share of the net assets in the scheme were:

	Expected return at 31 August 2024 %	Fair value at 31 August 2024 £	Expected return at 31 August 2023 %	Fair value at 31 August 2023 £
Equities	64.00%	5,926,400	65.00	5,066,750
Bonds	22.00%	2,037,200	21.00	1,636,950
Property	13.00%	1,203,800	12.00	935,400
Cash	1.00%	92,600	2.00	155,900
Total market value of assets		9,260,000		7,795,000
Present value of defined benefits obligations		(8,089,000)		(7,414,000)
Asset ceiling adjustment		(1,171,000)		(381,000)
Deficit on the scheme		-		-

The actuary's schedule of results valued the pension scheme in an asset position at the year end, however as this asset is unlikely to be realised, it has been reduced to £Nil by the above asset ceiling adjustment.

The annual return on scheme assets was £616,000 (2023: deficit of £12,000).

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

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Current service cost	(382)	(481)
Interest income	417	307
Interest cost	(393)	(332)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(358)	(506)

Movements in the present value of defined benefits obligations were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Opening defined benefit obligation	7,414,000	7,607,000
Interest cover	393,000	332,000
Employee contributions	117,000	111,000
Actuarial gains	(8,000)	(766,000)
Benefits paid	(193,000)	(172,000)
Current service costs	382,000	481,000
Changes in Demographic Assumptions	(16,000)	(179,000)
Closed defined benefit obligation	8,089,000	7,414,000

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

24 Pension commitments (continued)

Movements in the fair value of Academy's share of scheme assets:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Opening fair value of scheme assets	7,795,000	7,015,000
Interest income	417,000	307,000
Employer contributions	539,000	509,000
Employee contributions	117,000	111,000
Benefits paid	(193,000)	(172,000)
Actuarial (loss)/ gain	585,000	25,000
	<u>9,260,000</u>	<u>7,795,000</u>

25 Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Within 1 year	23,957	22,812
Between 2 and 5 years	8,396	17,804
Over 5 years	-	-
	<u>32,353</u>	<u>40,616</u>

26 Member's liability

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

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

27 Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy 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. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2020 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

No related party transactions took place in the period of accounts, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 12.

28 Agency arrangements

The Academy distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2024 the Academy received £8,513 (2023: £9,149) and disbursed £7,984 (2023: £6,884). An amount of £529 (2023: £2,901) has been added to the existing creditor from the prior year resulting in a total of £44,092 (2023: £43,563) of undistributed funds that are repayable to the ESFA.