

Company registration number 07411759 (England and Wales)

**Park Road Academy Primary School
(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Annual report and accounts
For the year ended 31 August 2024**

Park Road Academy Primary School

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Park Road Academy Primary School

Reference and administrative details

Members

Mr J Lister
Mr J Marshall
Mr R Taylor

Trustees

Mr S Balme *
Ms S Bihi-Aden
Mr P Boocker *
Mr P Boughen
Mr B Coulson *
Miss J Cox
Miss K Hart *
Mr J Marshall (Chair of Trustees) *
Mr A Parkinson *
Mrs E Stanton
Mrs N Turvey

* members of the Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee

Senior management team

- Headteacher
- Deputy Headteacher
- Assistant Headteacher & SENDCo
- Business Manager

Miss K Hart
Mrs L Taylor
Mrs L Harrison
Mr I G Clark

Company registration number

07411759 (England and Wales)

Registered office

Frieston Road
Timperley
Altrincham
WA14 5AP

Independent auditor

DJH Audit Limited
Bridge House
Ashley Road
Hale
Altrincham
WA14 2UT

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc
76 Stamford New Road
Altrincham
WA14 1BS

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report

For the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the audited financial statements and auditor's report of the Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report and Strategic Report under company law.

The Academy Trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 - 11 with a nursery for children aged 3 plus, servicing a catchment area in South Manchester. It has a pupil capacity of 30 children per year group and 32 full-time equivalent places at its nursery and had 239 pupils (including nursery children) on roll as of September 2024.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee (company number: 07411759) and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of Park Road Academy Primary School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Park Road Academy Primary School.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the year except as noted are included in the reference and administrative details on page 1 together with details of the company's registered office.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The Academy Trust has insurance to cover Trustees' indemnity liability to the value of £5,000,000.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Parent Trustees are appointed through a nomination and then ballot system. Nominations are asked from both teaching staff and support staff for staff trustee appointment. If there is more than one nomination a ballot system is then used. Member appointed Trustees are appointed by invitation from the members. The Trustees are recommended to the Board of Trustees from the wider local community. All Trustees hold a period of office of 4 years then re-election is sought.

There have been no appointments or resignations during the financial year or into the new financial year of 2024/25.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

During the year under review, the Trustees held three full Board of Trustees' meetings, one Personnel and Finance sub-committee meeting one Audit sub-committee meetings. It was agreed that the Personnel and Finance sub-committee and the Audit sub-committee would merge and become the Personnel, Finance and Risk sub-committee. This sub-committee met two times during the year. In addition, there have been various facilitated training events for the Trustees. All Trustees are provided with access to copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees. As there are normally only one or two new Trustees a year, inductions are tailored specifically to the individual. All Trustees are members of sub-committees.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Organisational structure

The Academy Trust's unified management structure consists of four levels: The Members; The Trustees; The Senior Leadership Team ("SLT"), including associate members, and The Subject Leaders. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Academy Trust, using budgets and forecasts, and making proper decisions about the direction of the Academy Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. In short, Trustees are responsible for the strategic wellbeing of the Academy Trust.

The SLT comprises the Headteacher, the Deputy Headteacher, the Assistant Headteacher, the Senco and the Business Manager. There are also two associate SLT members. The SLT controls the Academy Trust at an executive level, implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees and communicating / keeping them abreast of any developments / issues. As a group, the SLT is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, though appointment panels for posts within the SLT always include a member of the Board of Trustees. Some spending and budgetary control is devolved to the school Business Manager, senior managers, and subject co-ordinators. There are limits in place, above which must be countersigned by a senior member of staff.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Headteachers

The Headteachers' pay is set based on performance. Annually, a Headteachers' Performance Management Committee meeting is arranged which includes Trustees and an external advisor from Trafford LA is also invited to attend if the Headteacher or Trustees require. All members of the committee scrutinise the School Development Plan (SDP) and then receive an outline of the progress made on the SDP from the Headteacher. The members of the committee will then independently discuss the progress made and determine the pay to be awarded to the Headteacher.

SLT

The Headteacher carries out the performance management of the SLT as set out in the Performance Management Policy. The Headteacher then reports back to the Personnel & Finance Committee their findings and recommendations. This is then discussed by the Personnel & Finance Committee and decisions are made regarding the pay and targets for individual members of the SLT.

A member of the Trustees annually monitors the implementation of the school's Performance Management Policy in order to ensure to policy is implemented with due diligence.

Trade union facility time

There were no relevant union officials during 2023/24 and consequently there was no time or pay spent on either facility time or any paid trade union activities.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Details of related party transactions are detailed in note 22. Staff Trustees are only remunerated as members of staff and in accordance with national pay scales. The members, trustees, senior staff and their families are regarded as related parties in accordance with the definitions in the Charities SORP.

Objectives and activities

The principal objective and activity of the charitable company is the operation of Park Road Academy Primary School to provide education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 3 and 11.

In accordance with the Articles of Association the charitable company has adopted a "Scheme of Governance" approved by the Secretary of State for Education.

Objects and aims

The main objectives of the Academy Trust are:-

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Objectives, strategies and activities

To achieve its objectives, the Academy Trust will take steps to ensure the financial viability of the school and will develop a curriculum designed to enhance the academic and behavioral standards within the school.

Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

The Academy Trust serves the local community, taking pupils from the Timperley area of South Manchester, regardless of race, gender, physical or academic ability.

The Trustees and SLT are responsible for establishing a strategy for achieving the objectives they have set. The focus of our strategy is on the development of our pupils to achieve their highest levels both academically and culturally. To achieve these aims the school ensures:-

- the range of cross curricular activities available to our pupils are stimulating and challenging; and
- investment is made in technology and infrastructure of our school so that the school provides a stimulating environment for our pupils.

Our ethos:-

- A caring school serving the local community and society.
- We welcome pupils from all backgrounds.
- Address the individual educational needs of our pupils e.g. SEND, EAL, wellbeing etc.
- Educate pupils to the best of their potential.
- Support the local community by undertaking charitable fund-raising activities.

We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, sex or disability. Our school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of our pupils and expects all staff to share this commitment.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The Academy Trust has had a history of achieving results above the national average for the age-related expectations at the end of KS1 and KS2, demonstrating expected progress and very good attainment.

Assessment Point	Average Score - PRAPS	Average Score - National
GLD (Reception)	87%	68%
Phonics Screening (Y1)	97%	80%
Phonics Screening (Y2)	n/a	n/a

Assessment Point	% Full Mark - PRAPS	Average Score - PRAPS	% Full Mark - National Average	Average Score - National
Multiplication Tables Check (Y4)	86%	24.6	29%	20.2

End of Key Stage 2	EXS/GDS	PRAPS %	National %
Reading	Met Expected Standard	100%	74%
	Greater Depth Standards	57%	28%
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling (GPS)	Met Expected Standard	93%	72%
	Greater Depth Standards	70%	32%
Writing (TA)	Met Expected Standard	93%	73%
	Greater Depth Standards	27%	13%
Mathematics	Met Expected Standard	97%	73%
	Greater Depth Standards	53%	24%
Reading, Writing & Mathematics Combined	Met Expected Standard	90%	61%
	Greater Depth Standards	27%	8%
Science	Met Expected Standard	97%	81%

	Average Scaled Score – PRAPS	Average Scaled Score – National
Reading	110	105
GPS	112	105
Mathematics	110	104
Writing	107	102

Key performance indicators

Ofsted: **The Academy Trust was graded as Outstanding by Ofsted in November 2023.**

Attendance 2023/2024: R-Y6 Authorised Absence 3.20% Unauthorised absence: 0.90%

Oversubscription figures: 178 applicants for 30 places. Reception class intake in September 2024, of which 46 were first choice (statistics supplied by Trafford Admissions Department)

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Academy Trust's free reserves reduced by £61k, bringing total reserves to call upon up to £470k. This deficit in the year is predominantly the result of planned capital expenditure to improve the trust's buildings and estate.

The Trustees have carried out a rigorous budgeting process for 2024/2025 and looked at different scenarios for reduced income, with sufficient free reserves in each case. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies note of the financial statements.

Financial review

The majority of the Academy Trust's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency ("ESFA") in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The Academy Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA and from other government bodies. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the statement of financial activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund.

The Academy Trust's financial position for the year to 31 August 2024 demonstrates total income of £1,656k with a net surplus for the year to 31 August 2024 of £20k, before depreciation and actuarial gains / losses on the defined benefit pension scheme.

As at 31 August 2024, the net book value of fixed assets was £3,275k. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy Trust.

In accordance with Financial Reporting Standards 102 ("FRS 102"), it is necessary to charge projected deficits and surpluses on the Local Government Pension Scheme, which is provided for support staff, to the restricted fund. This resulted in the pension fund showing a nil balance which has been carried forward to 2024/2025. Whilst the fund is currently in surplus before restrictions on asset recognition are accounted for, we are currently in a volatile market with gilt rates rising coupled with high inflation, it should be noted that the fund could easily be back in a deficit in 2024/25.

Teacher supply costs

Most of Park Road Academy's staff are covered by staff absence insurance, which ensures that staff requiring support are treated promptly with the minimum of disruption.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

Trustees have carried out a formal assessment of risks and have taken steps to mitigate any identified. In addition, insurance is in place to cover any eventualities.

Reserves policy

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure stream, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to 3 months of the GAG, approximately £233,500. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. The Personnel Finance and Risk Committee considered the school's reserve funds on 31 August 2024. The Academy Trust's level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets restricted fund and pension reserve) was £460,000 and bank balances of £508,000 cover any immediate call on reserves.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Investment policy and powers

No specific investments are entered into. It is the Academy Trust's policy to use any existing funds to improve / maintain the fabric of the building and ensure that the curriculum meets the needs of the pupils. However, the Trustees have agreed to transfer £250,000 into a 15-month fixed interest account with Lloyds. The impact of investments is identified through the educational development of the pupils.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Park Road Academy Primary School has adopted a risk management process including the creation of a risk register and risk review process. The objectives will be to determine an approach and, where it is considered necessary, put in place measures of control and mitigation in order to manage risk.

The Academy Trust has a formal, written risk register. In this register, the Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed, relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy Trust. The Trustees have implemented several systems to assess risks that the Academy Trust faces, especially in the operational areas, for example in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school trips, and in relation to the control of finance. Systems have been introduced, including operational procedures, for example, vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of the Academy Trust's grounds, and internal financial controls, see below, to minimise risk where possible. Where significant financial risk remains, the Trustees have ensured there is adequate insurance cover. The Academy Trust's Personnel, Finance & Risk committee oversees and monitors the risk register.

The principal risks are seen as the loss of reputation through falling standards, falling student rolls, failure to safeguard our students and ensuring the school estate is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations.

Key controls in place are:

- an organisational structure with defined roles, responsibilities and authorisation levels;
- terms of reference for the committees of the Board of Trustees;
- financial planning, budgeting and regular management reporting, highlighting areas of financial risk;
- formal written and published policies for employees;
- vetting procedures, as required by law, for the protection of the vulnerable; and
- the undertaking of a building conditioning survey.

The Academy Trust has recognised its share of the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS") assets and liabilities in accordance with FRS 102. A nil balance has been recognised at 31 August 2024.

Fundraising

The Academy Trust does not carry out any fundraising activities with any commercial or professional fundraisers. It is the Academy Trust's policy to use any existing funds to improve / maintain the fabric of the building and ensure that the curriculum meets the needs of the pupils. Some fundraising is carried out by The Friends of Park Road, the Parent – Teacher Association, who put on events for the benefit of the students, such as a cinema morning, discos, and the school summer fair. Funds raised through these events can then be used by Park Road Academy Primary School for the benefit of the students, examples include paying for external theatre or educational companies to attend school; paying for additional resources to assist with the students' learning; or paying for an end of year treat for the students.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Trustees' report (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Plans for future periods

The school wishes to carry out actions which will enable it to be able to maintain current staffing levels and invest in initiatives that will maintain the high educational standards the school is currently achieving.

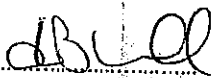
Park Road Academy Primary School is still interested in being a lead school in a Multi Academy Trust ("MAT"). The school continues to undertake actions and has a roadmap in place that enables other schools to be aware of our intention to be a lead school. During the year, the Board of Trustees have increased their number and strengthened their skillset, as they look towards being a lead school in a MAT.

Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 22 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr J Marshall

Chair of Trustees

Park Road Academy Primary School

Governance statement

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of 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 Park Road Academy Primary School 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.

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

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 three times during the year. Attendance during the meetings of the full Board of Trustees in the year 2023-2024 was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
Mr S Balme	3	3
Ms S Bihi-Aden	2	3
Mr P Boocker	3	3
Mr P Boughen	3	3
Mr B Coulson	3	3
Miss J Cox	3	3
Miss K Hart	3	3
Mr J Marshall	3	3
Mr A Parkinson	1	3
Mrs E Stanton	2	3
Mrs N Turvey	3	3

The Personnel & Finance Committee was a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to report to the full Board of Trustees on a timely basis the finances of the Academy Trust.

Attendance at meetings in the year 2023-24 was as follows: -

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
Mr P Boocker	1	1
Mr B Coulson	1	1
Miss K Hart	1	1
Mr J Marshall	1	1
Mr A Parkinson	0	1

Park Road Academy Primary School

Governance statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

The Audit Committee was also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to ensure that financial procedures are completed in line with the academy's policies.

Attendance at meetings in the year 2023 - 2024 was as follows: -

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
Mr S Balme	1	1
Mr P Boocker	1	1
Mr B Coulson	1	1
Miss K Hart	1	1
Mr J Marshall	1	1

The Personnel & Finance committee was merged with the Audit Committee following the respective meetings in December 2023. A new sub-committee, named the Personnel, Finance and Risk Committee, was created as a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to ensure that financial procedures are completed in line with the academy's policies and to report on a timely basis the finances of the Academy Trust.

Attendance at meetings in the year 2023 - 2024 was as follows: -

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a Possible
Mr S Balme	2	2
Mr P Boocker	2	2
Mr B Coulson	2	2
Miss K Hart	2	2
Mr J Marshall	2	2
Mr A Parkinson	2	2

Annually, the Chair of the Trustee Board and the Headteacher review the effectiveness and competencies of the Board of Trustees. Effective governance requires the Board to have a broad range of knowledge, skills, perspectives and backgrounds. It is not expected, nor required, that all Trustees have all the necessary skills and competencies, but the annual skills audit will assess potential gaps. Where these have been identified, training will be offered, or additional Trustees recruited.

While the Board met three times during 2023 - 2024, the Board devolves some of its responsibilities to sub-committees, namely the Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee. Members of these committees have relevant skills, knowledge, and experience in these areas.

Conflicts of interest

A conflict of interest arises where the commitments and obligations owed by an individual member of staff to the school or to other bodies, including the Trustees, are likely to be compromised, or may appear to be compromised, by:

- that person's personal gain, or gain to immediate family (or a person to whom the person has a close personal relationship), whether financial or otherwise: or
- the commitments and obligations that a person owes to another person or body.

There can be situations in which the appearance of conflict of interest is present even when no conflict exists. Thus, it is important for all staff when evaluating a potential conflict of interest to consider how it might be perceived by others. Conflicts of interest may be financial or non-financial or both.

Park Road Academy Primary School holds, and regularly updates, a complete register of interests, both for staff and Trustees. This is reviewed to ensure conflicts can be avoided or processes put in place to mitigate or reduce actual or perceived conflict.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Governance statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer of Park Road Academy Primary School, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to educational and wider social outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

Set out below is how the accounting officer has ensured that the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year.

What is value for money?

Value for money is about achieving the best possible educational and wider societal outcomes through the economic, efficient and effective use of all the resources in the Academy Trust's charge.

What is the role of the accounting officer in this context?

Accounting Officers are personally responsible and publicly accountable for achieving the best possible value for money in their organisation. This includes the economic, efficient and effective use of all the resources in their charge, for example:

- to produce better educational results;
- the avoidance of waste and extravagance;
- the prudent and economical administration of the organisation;
- the establishment and maintenance of a system of financial governance, including sound internal spending controls, keeping up to date financial records, continuous financial monitoring, and timely reporting; and
- ensuring all financial transactions represent value for money.

A key objective is to achieve value for money not only for the organisation itself but for the taxpayer more generally. So, whilst it involves an Academy Trust living within its budget and using its resources properly and with probity, it is primarily about how it continuously improves both the educational and wider societal outcomes for its pupils with the resources available.

What should be considered in assessing value for money?

The academy Leadership Team and Trustees at Park Road Academy Primary School are committed to achieving value for money in all decisions made. We use the principles of best value as they apply to securing continuous improvement in the Academy Trust and will:

- regularly review the functions of the Academy Trust, challenging how and why services are provided and setting targets and performance indicators for improvement;
- monitor outcomes and compare performance with similar establishments and within the Academy Trust; we will monitor our own financial progress through monitoring of key financial performance indicators, particularly with regards to staffing costs;
- consult appropriate stakeholders before major decisions are made;
- promote fair competition through quotations and tenders to ensure that goods and services are secured in the most economic, efficient and effective way possible; and
- strive to ensure that the Academy Trust is using its resources effectively to meet the needs of its students.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Governance statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

In addition to the above we aim to improve educational results through;

- our diverse curriculum that ensures all students have the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment;
- regularly reviewing the staffing structure to ensure all staff are efficiently deployed and are appropriately qualified and experienced specialists in their field;
- focusing on the differing needs of every pupil, this is reflected in the outcomes for all pupils; and
- having good tracking systems to record all aspects of student data including progress through school and to ensure that interventions and support are targeted to achieve value for money.

Improving educational results:

We have ensured that resources are directed where they are most needed and most effective in meeting educational requirements, for example by targeting resources in line with the School Development Plan (SDP) priorities, including:

- Implemented a system to track pupil progress in foundation subjects.
- Developed a growth mindset in all children and staff in order for them to maximize their learning potential.
- Evolved the science curriculum to allow for more inquiry and investigative based approaches to learning.
- Built on strategies to engage and motivate boys in writing.
- Built on strategies to improve the progress and attainment of FSM and SEND children in reading, writing and mathematics by the end of Key Stage 2.

The effectiveness of these strategies can be seen in improved pupil outcomes and staff observations.

Financial governance and oversight:

Our governance arrangements include regular monitoring by the Trustees, the Board of Trustees and its committees, including the Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee. They receive regular financial reports and ask relevant questions as evidenced in meeting minutes. Our Chair of Trustees is a member of the National Leaders of Governance. Our Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee meets termly to review the financial position and procedures of the Academy Trust.

Better purchasing:

Examples of steps taken to ensure value for money when purchasing include:

- exploring alternative purchasing options both on-line, and direct through suppliers, to find the best value possible;
- best value quotations gained on major spend resources;

Better income generation:

Examples of steps to maximise income include:

- the running of a very successful breakfast and after-school club;
- the running of a very successful holiday club that is now so popular it admits non-pupils;
- incorporating a January intake to the already very successful nursery; and

Reviewing controls and managing risks:

The Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee, Headteacher, Business Manager, budget holders and the Senior Leadership Team have reviewed regular budget reports, including future recommendations. This has ensured that spending is within budget and forward plans are agreed and implemented when there has been any variance. Actions taken to manage risk include the purchase of an appropriate level of insurance cover. Professional advice (for example from the HR and legal service providers) has also been sought when needed.

Future objectives:

We recognise the need to further develop relationships with other academies and / or local schools and / or community groups, to benefit from economies of scale in procuring products and services, developing staff and sharing knowledge, skill and expertise.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Governance statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust's policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively, and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Park Road Academy Primary School for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls which have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 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 Trust's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. In particular, it includes:

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

Mr B Coulson, one of the Trustees, continued to carry out the Academy Trust's internal scrutiny checks throughout the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The internal reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial and other systems.

Mr B Coulson is a Chartered Accountant and a member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales. He has prior experience in auditing financial statements and internal controls and is currently employed as the Corporate Controller of a U.S. listed firm. The Board of Trustees has requested Mr B Coulson continue to carry out the Academy Trust's internal scrutiny checks given his relevant skills and experience.

Throughout the year, Mr B Coulson reports to the Board of Trustees, through the Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations, and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress. The schedule of work was carried out as requested by the Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee and communicated on a timely basis with no material or significant control issues being raised during the year.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Governance statement (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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:

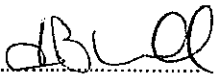
- the work of Mr B Coulson as internal reviewer;
- the work of the leadership and management within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the work of the Personnel, Finance & Risk Committee; and
- the work of the external auditors.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Audit Committee and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Conclusion

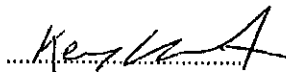
Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 22 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr J Marshall

Chair of Trustees



Miss K Hart

Accounting officer

Park Road Academy Primary School


Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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

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


.....

K Hart

Accounting Officer

Date: 22 November 2024

Park Road Academy Primary School

Statement of trustees' responsibilities

For the year ended 31 August 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of Park Road Academy Primary School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 22 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr J Marshall

Chair of Trustees

Park Road Academy Primary School

Independent auditor's report

To the members of Park Road Academy Primary School

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Park Road Academy Primary School for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company'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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.

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 accounts' 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 accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts 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 accounts 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 accounts 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.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the members of Park Road Academy Primary School

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 including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts 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 accounts.

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

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 judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

Park Road Academy Primary School

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the members of Park Road Academy Primary School

For the year ended 31 August 2024

- 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 charitable company's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Identify and test journal entries, in particular any journal entries posting with unusual account combinations.
- 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 charitable company'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 charitable company 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 (ie. gives a true and fair view).

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.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Independent auditor's report (continued)

To the members of Park Road Academy Primary School

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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

Use of our report

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

..... DJH Audit Ltd

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of DJH Audit Limited

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Bridge House

Ashley Road

Hale

Altrincham

WA14 2UT

Date: 22/11/24.....

Park Road Academy Primary School

Independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity

To Park Road Academy Primary School and The Education and Skills Funding Agency

For the year ended 31 August 2024

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 October 2023 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 Park Road Academy Primary School during the period 1 September 2023 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 Park Road Academy Primary School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Park Road Academy Primary School and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Park Road Academy Primary School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Park Road Academy Primary School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Park Road Academy Primary School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 January 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 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.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Independent reporting accountant's assurance report on regularity (continued)

To Park Road Academy Primary School and The Education and Skills Funding Agency

For the year ended 31 August 2024

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

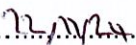
- We have confirmed that the activities conform to the academy trust's framework of authorities. As identified by review of minutes, management accounts, discussion with the accounting officer and other key management personnel.
- We have carried out an analytical review as part of the consideration of whether general activities of the academy trust are within the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- We have considered the evidence supporting the accounting officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and have evaluated the general control environment of the academy trust and extended the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- We have assessed and tested a sample of the specific control activities over regularity of a particular activity. In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have considered whether the activity is permissible within the academy trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the academy trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the board of trustees, and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the board of trustees and the accounting officer acknowledging their responsibilities including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence is not available.
- In performing sample testing of expenditure, we have reviewed against specific terms of grant funding within the funding agreement. We have reviewed the list of suppliers and have considered whether supplies are from related parties and have reviewed minutes for evidence of declaration of interest, and whether or not there was involvement in the decision to order from this supplier.
- We have performed sample testing of other income and tested whether activities are permitted within the academy trust's charitable objects.

Conclusion

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


.....

DJH Audit Limited
Reporting Accountant

Dated: 

Park Road Academy Primary School

Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £(000)	Restricted funds: General £(000)	Fixed asset £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	16	4	7	27	25
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	1,317	-	1,317	1,194
Other trading activities	5	307	-	-	307	291
Investments	6	5	-	-	5	-
Total		<u>328</u>	<u>1,321</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>1,656</u>	<u>1,510</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	70	-	-	70	52
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	228	1,338	101	1,667	1,525
Total	7	<u>298</u>	<u>1,338</u>	<u>101</u>	<u>1,737</u>	<u>1,577</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		30	(17)	(94)	(81)	(67)
Transfers between funds	16	(91)	52	39	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(35)	-	(35)	20
Net movement in funds		(61)	-	(55)	(116)	(47)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		529	-	3,330	3,859	3,906
Total funds carried forward		<u>468</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,275</u>	<u>3,743</u>	<u>3,859</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Statement of financial activities (continued) including income and expenditure account

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2023	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		funds	General	Fixed asset	2023
		£(000)	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	3	1	21	25
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	1,194	-	1,194
Other trading activities	5	291	-	-	291
Total		294	1,195	21	1,510
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	52	-	-	52
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	244	1,188	93	1,525
Total	7	296	1,188	93	1,577
Net income/(expenditure)		(2)	7	(72)	(67)
Transfers between funds	16	-	(28)	28	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	20	-	20
Net movement in funds		(2)	(1)	(44)	(47)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		531	1	3,374	3,906
Total funds carried forward		529	-	3,330	3,859

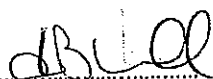
Park Road Academy Primary School

Balance sheet

As at 31 August 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		3,275		3,330
Current assets					
Debtors: amounts falling due within one year	13	42		24	
Debtors: amounts falling due after more than one year	13	250		-	
Cash at bank and in hand		258		561	
		<u>550</u>		<u>585</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(82)		(56)	
Net current assets			468		529
Net assets excluding pension asset			3,743		3,859
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	18		-		-
Total net assets			<u>3,743</u>		<u>3,859</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds			3,275		3,330
Total restricted funds			<u>3,275</u>		<u>3,330</u>
Unrestricted income funds	16		468		529
Total funds			<u>3,743</u>		<u>3,859</u>

The accounts were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 22 November 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr J Marshall
Chair of Trustees

Company registration number 07411759 (England and Wales)

Park Road Academy Primary School

Statement of cash flows

For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	19	(270)	36
Cash flows from investing activities			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		5	-
Capital grants from DfE Group		7	21
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(45)	(50)
Net cash used in investing activities		(33)	(29)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		(303)	7
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		561	554
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year		258	561
Relating to:			
Bank and cash balances		258	411
Short term deposits		-	150

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

Park Road Academy Primary School is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

Park Road Academy Primary School meets the definition of a public benefit entity.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Donations

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

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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 life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requirement the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the academy trust's depreciation policy. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

Land and buildings	Leasehold land 125 years / leasehold buildings 50 years
Computer equipment	3 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	7 years

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

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

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

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

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

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

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit asset or liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 18, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pension asset or 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.

Critical areas of judgement

The apportionment of costs relating to the nursery and the wrap around club as unrestricted expenditure is based on square footage.

The trustees have considered the apportionment of depreciation between direct and support costs. The majority of fixed assets are almost entirely used for the provision of education and only a small part for support services. Therefore a 90% direct cost and 10% support cost apportionment is considered appropriate.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £(000)	Restricted funds £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
Supply teacher insurance reclaim	-	4	4	1
Capital grants	-	7	7	21
Other donations	16	-	16	3
	<u>16</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>25</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £(000)	Restricted funds £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	942	942	902
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- UIFSM	-	41	41	39
- Pupil premium	-	13	13	17
- Others	-	75	75	68
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>1,026</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	246	246	168
	<u>-</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>246</u>	<u>168</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>1,317</u>	<u>1,317</u>	<u>1,194</u>

The academy trust received £246,000 (2023: £168,000) from the local authority in the year, being £115,000 (2023: £63,000) high needs funding and £131,000 (2023: £105,000) early years funding.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or other contingencies relating to the grants in the year.

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £(000)	Restricted funds £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
Hire of facilities	14	-	14	-
Catering income	31	-	31	32
Other income	262	-	262	259
	<u>307</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>307</u>	<u>291</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £(000)	Restricted funds £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
Other investment income	5	-	5	-
	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £(000)	Non-pay expenditure Premises £(000)	Other £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	70	70	52
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	689	85	122	896	793
- Allocated support costs	510	169	91	770	732
	<u>1,199</u>	<u>254</u>	<u>283</u>	<u>1,736</u>	<u>1,577</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Operating lease rentals	2	2
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	100	93
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	7	7
- Other services	2	2
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(12)	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £(000)	Restricted funds £(000)	Total 2024 £(000)	Total 2023 £(000)
Direct costs				
Educational operations	228	668	896	793
Support costs				
Educational operations	-	770	770	732
	<u>228</u>	<u>1,438</u>	<u>1,666</u>	<u>1,525</u>

Analysis of costs

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	689	599
Staff development	9	14
Depreciation	85	79
Technology costs	19	17
Educational supplies and services	61	66
Educational consultancy	33	18
	<u>896</u>	<u>793</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

8 Charitable activities (Continued)

Support costs

Support staff costs	510	478
Depreciation	15	14
Maintenance of premises and equipment	50	40
Cleaning	49	33
Energy costs	33	26
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	17	20
Insurance	5	11
Catering	55	49
Finance costs	(12)	-
Other support costs	38	52
Governance costs	10	9
	<u>770</u>	<u>732</u>

9 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Wages and salaries	901	796
Social security costs	85	73
Pension costs	179	189
	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,058</u>
Staff costs - employees	1,165	1,058
Agency staff costs	34	19
	<u>1,199</u>	<u>1,077</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	9	14
	<u>1,208</u>	<u>1,091</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

9 Staff

(Continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Teachers	11	10
Administration and support	18	18
Management	5	5
	<u>34</u>	<u>33</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £388,000 (2023: £326,000).

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The headteacher and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of headteacher and staff, and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

K Hart (Headteacher and trustee)		
Remuneration	£70,001 - £75,000	(2023: £70,001 - £75,000)
Employers' pension contribution	£15,001 - £20,000	(2023: £15,001 - £20,000)
P Boughen (Staff trustee)		
Remuneration	£25,001 - £30,000	(2023: £20,001 - £25,000)
Employers' pension contribution	£1 - £5,000	(2023: £1 - £5,000)
J Cox (staff trustee)		
Remuneration	£35,001 - £40,000	(2023: £30,001 - £35,000)
Employers' pension contribution	£5,001 - £10,000	(2023: £5,001 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totalling £nil (2023: £249) were reimbursed to 0 trustees (2023: 1 trustee).

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

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim. The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	4,160	287	233	4,680
Additions	-	11	34	45
At 31 August 2024	4,160	298	267	4,725
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	908	275	167	1,350
Charge for the year	73	10	17	100
At 31 August 2024	981	285	184	1,450
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	3,179	13	83	3,275
At 31 August 2023	3,252	12	66	3,330

Included in leasehold land and buildings is leasehold land valued at £741,000 (2023: £748,000).

13 Debtors

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
VAT recoverable	1	6
Other debtors	252	-
Prepayments and accrued income	39	18
	292	24

Amounts included above which fall due after more than one year:

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Other debtors	250	-

Other debtors which fall due after more than one year represent fixed term deposits invested with the bank with no option for early repayment. The deposits earn interest at a rate of 4.37% per annum and have a maturity date of October 2025.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£(000)	£(000)
Other creditors	9	-
Accruals and deferred income	73	56
	<u>82</u>	<u>56</u>
	<u><u>82</u></u>	<u><u>56</u></u>

15 Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£(000)	£(000)
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	24	24
	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	24	21
Released from previous years	(24)	(21)
Resources deferred in the year	24	24
	<u>24</u>	<u>24</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u><u>24</u></u>	<u><u>24</u></u>

Included in deferred income at 31 August 2024 is amounts relating to UIFSM income received in advance of £24,000 (2023: £24,000).

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £(000)	Income £(000)	Expenditure £(000)	Gains, losses and transfers £(000)	Balance at 31 August 2024 £(000)
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	942	(994)	52	-
UIFSM	-	41	(41)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	13	(13)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	75	(75)	-	-
Other government grants	-	246	(246)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	4	(4)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	35	(35)	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,321</u>	<u>(1,338)</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>-</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	3,254	-	(74)	-	3,180
DfE group capital grants	28	7	(7)	-	28
Capital expenditure from GAG	29	-	(16)	39	52
Donated assets	19	-	(4)	-	15
	<u>3,330</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>(101)</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>3,275</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,330</u>	<u>1,328</u>	<u>(1,439)</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>3,275</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	529	328	(298)	(91)	468
Total funds	<u>3,859</u>	<u>1,656</u>	<u>(1,737)</u>	<u>(35)</u>	<u>3,743</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

16 Funds

(Continued)

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

Restricted general funds are those resources that have been designated restricted by the grant provider in meeting the objects of the academy and are restricted to both the day to day running of the academy and capital expenditure.

Restricted fixed asset funds are those funds relating to the long term assets of the academy used in delivering the objects of the academy.

Unrestricted funds are funds which the board of trustees may use in the pursuance of the academy's objects and are expendable at the discretion of the trustees.

A transfer of £52,000 was made from unrestricted general funds to fixed asset restricted funds to support capital expenditure not covered by the DFC grant.

A transfer of £39,000 was made from unrestricted funds to GAG restricted funds to cover the excess of expenditure over income.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

The pension value as at 31 August 2024 has been determined by the actuary which is showing the academy trust as having a pension asset as at 31 August 2024. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been capped at an asset ceiling value of £nil on the basis that the pension asset is not deemed to be realisable.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

16 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £(000)	Income £(000)	Expenditure £(000)	Gains, losses and transfers £(000)	Balance at 31 August 2023 £(000)
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	902	(874)	(28)	-
UIFSM	-	39	(39)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	17	(17)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	68	(68)	-	-
Other government grants	-	168	(168)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	1	(1)	-	-
Pension reserve	1	-	(21)	20	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1,195</u>	<u>(1,188)</u>	<u>(8)</u>	<u>-</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	3,327	-	(73)	-	3,254
DfE group capital grants	13	21	(6)	-	28
Capital expenditure from GAG	2	-	(1)	28	29
Private sector capital sponsorship	32	-	(13)	-	19
	<u>3,374</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>(93)</u>	<u>28</u>	<u>3,330</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,375</u>	<u>1,216</u>	<u>(1,281)</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>3,330</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>531</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>(296)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>529</u>
Total funds	<u>3,906</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>(1,577)</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>3,859</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,275	3,275
Current assets	468	82	-	550
Current liabilities	-	(82)	-	(82)
Total net assets	468	-	3,275	3,743

	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)	£(000)
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,330	3,330
Current assets	529	56	-	585
Current liabilities	-	(56)	-	(56)
Total net assets	529	-	3,330	3,859

18 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to 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 the TPS in the period amounted to £121,000 (2023: £101,000).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.4% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2024	2023
	£(000)	£(000)
Employer's contributions	81	66
Employees' contributions	24	20
Total contributions	<u>105</u>	<u>86</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.45	3.75
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20

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

	2024	2023
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.7	20.7
- Females	23.3	23.3
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	20.9	21.0
- Females	25.1	25.1

Sensitivity analysis

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

	Approximate % increase to liabilities	Approximate monetary amount (£'000)
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	3%	25
1 year increase in member life expectancy	4%	35
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	0%	0
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate (CPI)	3%	25

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2024 Fair value £(000)	2023 Fair value £(000)
Equities	798	678
Bonds	173	136
Cash	93	77
Property	93	77
Total market value of assets	<u>1,157</u>	<u>968</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £95,000 (2023: £11,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Current service cost	58	87
Interest income	(53)	(39)
Interest cost	41	39
Total amount recognised	<u>46</u>	<u>87</u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
At 1 September 2023	968	880
Current service cost	58	87
Interest cost	41	39
Employee contributions	24	20
Actuarial loss/(gain)	77	(48)
Benefits paid	(11)	(10)
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,157</u>	<u>968</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
At 1 September 2023	968	881
Interest income	53	39
Actuarial (gain)/loss	42	(28)
Employer contributions	81	66
Employee contributions	24	20
Benefits paid	(11)	(10)
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,157</u>	<u>968</u>

The pension value as at 31 August 2024 has been determined by the actuary which is showing the academy trust as having a pension asset as at 31 August 2024. In accordance with applicable accounting standards, the asset value has been capped at an asset ceiling value of £nil on the basis that the asset is not deemed to be realisable.

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

	Notes	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(81)	(67)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(7)	(21)
Investment income receivable	6	(5)	-
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	18	(23)	21
Defined benefit pension scheme finance income	18	(12)	-
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		100	94
(Increase) in debtors		(268)	-
Increase in creditors		26	9
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(270)</u>	<u>36</u>

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2023 £(000)	Cash flows £(000)	31 August 2024 £(000)
Cash	411	(153)	258
Cash equivalents	150	(150)	-
	<u>561</u>	<u>(303)</u>	<u>258</u>

21 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

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

	2024 £(000)	2023 £(000)
Amounts due within one year	2	2
Amounts due in two and five years	4	6
	<u>6</u>	<u>8</u>

22 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. The following related party transactions took place in the period of account.

During the year the academy purchased goods at a cost of £nil (2023: £2,400) from Marshall Professional Development Limited, a company in which Mr J Marshall, a trustee was a director. At the balance sheet date, there were no amounts owed by the academy trust.

T Smart, partner of K Hart, a trustee, is employed by the academy as a teacher. T Smart is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and received no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee.

C Hart, sister of K Hart, a trustee, is employed by the academy. C Hart is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and received no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee.

In entering into these transactions the academy has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

Park Road Academy Primary School

Notes to the financial statements (continued)

For the year ended 31 August 2024

23 Members' liability

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