

Registration number: 10227910

Base Academy Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Base Academy Trust

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Base Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members

C Graham
A Combes
A Connell
G Smyth
R Mercer

Trustees (Directors)

C Graham (Chair)
A Quigley
D Webb
L Whittaker (Executive Head and Accounting Officer)
E Morris
D Overbury
D Bartle
K Spencer

Senior Leadership Team and Key Management Personnel

Executive Headteacher- Mrs Lisa Whittaker
Head of School, Red Lane Primary School- Mrs Rhian Driver
Head of School, Masfield Primary School- Miss Gemma Yapp
Finance Manager- Ms Nadine Barnes

Company Registration Number

10227910

Principal and Registered Office

Red Lane Primary School
Red Lane
BRIGHTMET
Bolton
BL2 5HP

Auditors

Hallidays Group Limited
Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Riverside House
Kings Reach Business Park
Yew Street
Stockport
SK4 2HD

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
9 Hotel Street
Bolton
BL1 1DB

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson LLP
14th Floor
No.1 Spinningfields
1 Hardman Square
Manchester
M3 3EB

Base Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1st September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, strategic report and a directors' report under company law.

The Multi Academy Trust (MAT) operates academies for pupils aged 2-11, serving the catchment areas of Breightmet and Little Lever in Bolton. It has a combined pupil capacity of 700 plus 144 Nursery places and 32 under 3s places. The numbers on roll are 676 pupils and 107 Nursery and 24 under 3s as reported in the Census in May 2021.

Discussion on conversion to academy trust

On 13 June 2016 the BASE Academy Trust was formed having trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations assets and liabilities of Red Lane Primary School (Red Lane) and Masefield Primary School (Masefield) were transferred to BASE Academy Trust from the Local Authority for £Nil consideration.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Red Lane and Masefield converted to BASE Academy Trust on 1st August 2016. The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee 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 BASE Academy Trust Limited are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The Company has taken advantage of the exemption from the requirement to have its name ending with "Limited" under section 60 of the Companies Act 2016. Details of the Trustees who served throughout the period are included in the Reference and Administrative details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

Professional Indemnity Insurance is in place to protect Members, Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring on Trust business.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the Trust are responsible for the appointment of the Trustees and it is dependent upon their expertise, experience and skills. The number of Trustees shall be a minimum of three but shall not be subject to any maximum, as referenced in the articles of association and are appointed for a term of four years.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Trustees are appointed based on the skills they bring to the board to maintain a robust overview and governance throughout the trust. Prior to conversion the Trustees agreed the Trust's Principles, committee structures and organisation and agreed the scheme of delegation. On appointment Trustees and Local Governors receive information relating to the Trust, including policies and procedures and receive an induction pack on the role and responsibilities of Trustees.

Base Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Organisational Structure

The organisational structure is set out in the Memorandum and Articles of BASE Academy Trust. The aim of the structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. Trustees have overall responsibility and ultimate decision making at all levels. The trustees also have overall responsibility for strategic direction and growth of the Trust, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Trust and Academies by the use of financial management and other performance information; making staff appointments to the Senior Leadership and approving the Annual report and Financial statements. They are also responsible for all matters relating to finance and personnel and for setting the Trust general policies.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring the Local Governing Boards fulfil their statutory obligations in a manner which will allow the Academy Trust to fulfil its aims, ensuring procedures are in place to ensure regularity, propriety and value for money, setting general policies, budget planning and monitoring and major decision making about the direction of the trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The Executive Headteacher is the Accounting Officer and is supported by the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) and the Finance Manager. The SLT is responsible for implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them. The Trustees delegate day to day operation of the Academies to the Heads of School who are supported by school leadership.

The Trustees have clear terms of reference and also have 4 sub-committees: Audit and Risk, Standard Achievement and Inclusion, Resources and Performance Management. The Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) also have clear terms of reference. Each committee and LGB have met at least termly. Reports from Sub Committees and LGBs have been received, scrutinised and ratified by the Trustees. Trustees make regular visits to both Academies within the Trust, including attending LGB meetings.

Roles and responsibilities of Members, Trustees, LGBs, Executive Headteacher and Heads of School are clearly defined in the Scheme of Delegation and Financing Scheme of Delegation.

Trustees of the MAT are:

Mr C Graham (Chairman)
Mrs A Quigley (Vice Chairman)
Mrs L M Whittaker (Executive Headteacher/Accounting Officer)
Mr D Webb
Ms E Morris
Mr D Overbury
Mrs D Bartle
Mrs K Spencer

Resources Committee (Finance, Personnel, Premises and Safety)

Ms E Morris (Chair)
Mr C Graham
Mrs L Whittaker
Mrs D Bartle
Mrs K Spencer

Standards Achievement and Inclusion Committee

Mrs A Quigley (Chair)
Mrs L Whittaker
Mr C Graham
Mr D Overbury
Mr D Webb

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Risk and Audit Committee

Mr D Overbury (Chair)
Mrs L Whittaker
Mr C Graham
Mrs A Quigley
Mr D Webb

Performance Management Committee

Mrs Anne Quigley (Chair)
Mr C Graham
Mrs D Bartle

The LGB for each Academy was set up in January 2017 and the constitution is also set out within the Memorandum and Articles.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Performance Management Committee met to confirm SLT pay ranges across both schools. The SLT structures were also confirmed. The Executive Headteacher targets were reviewed and new ones set for 21/22 on the 29/9/21. The committee also reviewed all other pay increases in a report given by the Executive Head teacher. Moving forward the pay increases for the Executive Headteacher will be determined by the Performance Management Committee and the external school improvement partner during the final review annually. This committee will also review all other pay increases in a report given by the Executive Headteacher annually.

Trade Union Facilities Time

The Academy Trust buys into a SLA from the Local Authority for the Trade Union facility. Currently there are no union representatives working within the Trust.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

There are two services provided by connected organisations during the academic year 20/21. McArdle Education was used for leadership and staff training, costing £1950 in total. Louise McArdle is a Local Governor at Red Lane Primary School Pulse (NW) Ltd provided NLP training for middle and senior leaders during the Summer Term, costing £2000. Della Bartle is a member of the Trust Board. Training was used by these two parties due to the restrictions around training delivery during the Covid 19 Pandemic. There have been no related party relationships, within the Trust.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Academy Trust was constituted on 1st August 2016 with two primary schools in the Trust; Red Lane and Masfield. BASE Academy Trust's principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of the schools to provide education for pupils of mixed abilities between the ages of 2 and 11 years. The pupils who attend are mainly from the local area of Bolton. We aim to provide as many opportunities as we can for every child to not only achieve their best academically but also to offer a broad range of enrichment opportunities to become a well-rounded, confident young person that has the skills and qualities necessary for their adult life.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

To assist the children and families with academic study the schools offer breakfast club, booster sessions, before and after school clubs and additional provision for those children that have been identified as requiring additional assistance. The academies also offer many additional activities and experiences beyond academic, with coaching in various sports. Educational visits are organised throughout the year to broaden and deepen pupils' life experiences and stimulating learning and raising aspirations.

At BASE Academy Trust our determination to make a difference is rooted in moral purpose. We want to improve outcomes and life chances for young people. Our moral purpose is manifested in our Beliefs, Principles and Commitments.

Beliefs

- We believe that children are at the heart of everything we do
- We believe in excellence for all pupils, providing an education that meets all their needs, now and in the future.
- We believe that great learning comes from great teaching.
- We believe that having a relentless drive for improvement is a key success for our organisation.
- We are dedicated to continuing professional development and all in our team are committed to improving their practice.
- We believe working in collaborative partnership will enable excellence for all our children.

Principles

- We are inclusive and value diversity and equality.
- We value and actively encourage mutual respect, integrity, honesty and openness.
- We will do what is best for all our young people, schools and communities.
- We will work closely with and for the benefit of all school staff, leadership teams, Governing Bodies and central staff. In so doing ensuring that we are all working for the benefit of all pupils in our schools.
- We know the communities well within our trust.
- We will add value to our schools.
- We will work effectively in partnership with Local Authorities and other schools.
- We will constantly search to find the best evidence to improve our practice; learning from the wisdom of others.

Commitments

- Our Trust will support its schools and will always act with integrity, being open and honest.
- Our Trust will challenge all of its schools to continually improve.
- Our Trust will influence wider communities.

Our Beliefs, Principles and Commitments embody a vision, which is to achieve excellent outcomes for young people in the North West. Each of our schools is unique and distinctive serving different communities.

Objectives, strategies and activities

Both Red Lane and Masefield Governing Boards made the decision to become an Academy for the following reasons;

- The Executive Headteacher began supporting the leadership of Masefield in January 2014. The Governors of Masefield saw the benefits of the two schools working collaboratively and wanted to make the relationship more permanent.
- A more permanent arrangement will strengthen the teaching and learning of both schools and collaboration will be increased benefiting the pupils even further.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Objectives and activities (Continued...)

- There will be an increase of sharing resources to make savings of shared services through procurement. This more cost effective approach will allow for increased resources for pupils.
- Being an Academy allows for greater flexibility in staffing, the curriculum arrangements and for school holidays.
- Red Lane and Masefield both have clear Improvement Plans for 2020/2021; the progress towards the development plan will be monitored by the Trustees and LGBs on a termly basis.

The main objectives for 2020/2021 were:

Red Lane Primary School Improvement	
Priority 1 – <i>To secure increased rates of progress for all pupils cross the curriculum</i>	Staff training on package took place on 4/9/2020. All staff delivered a differentiated package to children to support pupils' transition back into school and identify pupils' needs so that appropriate support could be given through in class support. Super learning days took place every term. Monitoring shows that the Succeed Strategy was used effectively across the school to address missed learning. The strategy and implementation was shared with Ofsted in their Autumn term COVID information gathering visit at Red Lane. Super learning day monitoring was carried out. Feedback from this has been used to shape knowledge days moving forward. The next phase of the Succeed Strategy was written for all pupils returning to school on 8th March. A review of home learning up until this point will feed into future Super Learning Days.
Priority 2 – <i>To improve reading attainment and progress throughout school.</i>	Knowledge organisers are in place alongside curriculum progression documents. This focuses staff onto the vocab to be taught. It is also tested at the end of units and on knowledge days through LBQ. This overview is then used alongside word aware and ELKLAN strategies to ensure effective delivery. The RWInc system has been introduced really well in the Autumn term. Observed sessions are high quality and staff are confident in the structure. Data shows strong progress and the impact has been seen in that Y2 pupils who missed the screen in Y1 have caught up really well in the Autumn phonics check with 90% passing compared to 77% in Bolton. Support for children at home during Lockdown has also been shared on the school website via Screen Castify and through signposting parents to specific RWInc videos online. Phonics data at the end of the year was 73% for Y1 pupils and 94% for Year 2 pupils.

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Objectives and activities (Continued...)

<p>Priority 3 – <i>To enhance pupil acquisition of knowledge and skills across the whole curriculum</i></p>	<p>A new policy has been written and reflects the curriculum changes. It will change again slightly as we develop further work into metacognition. Aspects of the policy e.g. use of LBQ etc are now being seen and need to be monitored to show they are embedded. New website has been valuable in providing access to parents of letters and there is also a dedicated online safety page. The use of castify was used in the summer to create a parent support video as parent workshops could not go ahead. Due to Covid 19 enrichment has not taken place. A comprehensive programme of enrichment was put into place last Due to Covid-19 and the subsequent changes that this meant for the curriculum, i.e. the implementation of the Succeed Strategy in the Autumn Term, formal Spanish teaching began in Spring 1. Monitoring showed high quality teaching and learning through effective differentiation based on the ages of the children. Staff were confident to teach and the drop in sessions held by the Head of School indicated that staff felt well supported in beginning to teach this subject.</p>
<p>Priority 4 – <i>To improve the provision and outcomes for identified groups of pupils.</i></p>	<p>Provision for more able pupils continues to be monitored across the school. These pupils are identified and targets are set and discussed through pupil progress meetings. Dedicated EAL lead in place. Support given to staff for key pupils. SEN progress data for the year was positive. A number of EHCP applications are underway. All pupils have personalised provision packs in class to support them. Pupils have been well supported during lockdown. Individual staff have been supported with planning</p>

Masefield Primary

School Improvement 19/20

<p>Priority 1 – <i>To secure increased rates of progress for all pupils cross the curriculum</i></p>	<p>All staff delivered a differentiated package to children to support pupils' transition back into school and identify pupils' needs so that appropriate support could be given through in class support. Super learning days took place every term. Monitoring shows that the Succeed Strategy was used effectively across the school to address missed learning. Pupil progress has been carried out by the Executive Head, Head of School and Head of Teaching and Learning. Information from progress sessions has been used to tailor teaching support e.g supported Maths planning and to determine which pupils have been targeted for additional intervention. Close tracking of classes throughout the term has enabled support and focus on teaching. Summer term data is pleasing overall.</p>
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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Objectives and activities (Continued...)

<p>Priority 2 – <i>To improve reading attainment and progress throughout school.</i></p>	<p>Knowledge organisers are in place alongside curriculum progression documents. This focuses staff onto the vocab to be taught. It is also tested at the end of units and on knowledge days through LBQ. This overview is then used alongside word aware and ELKLAN strategies to ensure effective delivery. The RWInc system has been introduced really well in the Autumn term. Observed sessions are high quality and staff are confident in the structure. Data shows strong progress and the impact has been seen in that Y2 pupils who missed the screen in Y1 have caught up really well in the Autumn phonics check with 90% passing compared to 77% in Bolton. Support for children at home during Lockdown has also been shared on the school website via Screen Castify and through signposting parents to specific RWInc videos online. Phonics data at the end of the year was 45% for Y1 pupils and 92% for Year 2 pupils.</p>
<p>Priority 3 – <i>To enhance pupil acquisition of knowledge and skills across the whole curriculum.</i></p>	<p>A new policy has been written and reflects the curriculum changes. It will change again slightly as we develop further work into metacognition. Aspects of the policy e.g. use of LBQ etc are now being seen and need to be monitored to show they are embedded. New website has been valuable in providing access to parents of letters and there is also a dedicated online safety page. The use of castify was used in the summer to create a parent support video as parent workshops could not go ahead. Due to Covid 19 enrichment has not taken place. A comprehensive programme of enrichment was put into place last Due to Covid-19 and the subsequent changes that this meant for the curriculum, i.e. the implementation of the Succeed Strategy in the Autumn Term, formal Spanish teaching began in Spring 1. Monitoring showed high quality teaching and learning through effective differentiation based on the ages of the children.</p>
<p>Priority 4 – <i>To improve the provision and outcomes for identified groups of pupils.</i></p>	<p>Provision for more able pupils continues to be monitored across the school. These pupils are identified and targets are set and discussed through pupil progress meetings. Support given to staff for key pupils. SEN progress data for the year was positive. A number of EHCP applications are underway. All pupils have personalised provision packs in class to support them. Pupils have been well supported during lockdown. Individual staff have been supported with planning</p>

In July 2019 HMI completed inspections on both schools judging them to be 'Good'.

Covid 19 Flu Pandemic

On the 6th January 2021, following Government guidelines, both schools closed to the majority of pupils and remained open to vulnerable pupils and those of key worker families. This was a major disruption to the lives, learning and education of all the pupils. The Pandemic caused major disruption to school function and organisation. Many staff felt worried about their own family wellbeing and commitments as well as feeling safe at work.

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Objectives and activities (Continued...)

The Trust adapted well and leaders excelled in the organisation and distribution of new roles. Leaders compiled very detailed risk assessments in line with the ever changing Government guidelines. The Trust created a new leadership role: Head of Teaching and Learning, whose role was to create a succeed strategy which supported teachers and gave pupils every possible chance to catch up. His role also included the organisation and development of remote learning. Each teacher ensured all pupils had regularly updated learning packs and resources to continue their education at home. Teachers contacted parents at least fortnightly to support them with their child's education and wellbeing. Parents of pupils with special needs were contacted weekly and given specific resources to support their child's learning and the vast majority of SEND pupils attended school. Some vulnerable families were contacted daily. All staff had access to online learning to enhance their professional development. Red Lane Primary School used the Wonde voucher scheme. Masefield Primary School operated a weekly food parcel service, delivered by school staff, for pupils eligible for FSM.

From 8th March 2021, following Government guidelines, both schools reopened fully. This continued until 23rd July when the schools closed for the summer. As the Government cancelled all statutory testing the EYFS, Year 2 and Year 6 data is based on teacher assessment data and so is predicted data.

The majority of both schools intended objectives will need to be further embedded next year.

Public benefit

The Trust's purpose is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Academies which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum. Our Academies directly serve our local communities and provide free education to pupils in the catchment areas.

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

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report

The strategic focus of the Trust during 2020/2021 has been to strengthen and develop the skills and relationships within the MAT. The Trustees have written the principles, beliefs and aims outlining the vision for the Trust and a scheme of delegation outlining responsibilities of Members, Trustees, LGBs, Executive Headteacher and Heads of Schools.

Achievements and performance

Data Outcomes: All data outcomes for 2020 and 2021 are based on teacher assessments.

Key Performance Indicators-Data on attainment/progress Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS), Key Stage 1(KS1) and Key Stage 2(KS2).

Percentage of pupils achieving a good level of development at the end of EYFS						
2019 Data			2020 predicted data based on teacher assessment		2021 predicted data based on teacher assessment	
Masefield	Red Lane	National	Masefield	Red Lane	Masefield	Red Lane
67%	53 %	72 %	62%	56%	57%	59%

Percentage of pupils achieving the phonic standard at the end of Year 1						
2019 Data			2020 predicted data based on teacher assessment		2021 predicted data based on teacher assessment	
Masefield	Red Lane	National	Masefield	Red Lane	Masefield	Red Lane
87%	78%	82%	87%	77%	45%	73%

Percentage of pupils achieving the phonic standard at the end of Year 2						
2019 Data			2020 predicted data based on teacher assessment		2021 predicted data based on teacher assessment	
Masefield	Red Lane	National	Masefield	Red Lane	Masefield	Red Lane
90%	91%	92%	97%	90%	92%	94%

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

Key Stage 1							
2019 Data				2020 predicted data based on teacher assessment		2021 predicted data based on teacher assessment	
	Masefield	Red Lane	National	Masefield	Red Lane	Masefield	Red Lane
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in reading	73%	62%	75%	73%	67%	72%	65%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth in reading	13%	10%	26%	20%	15%	20%	15%
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in writing	70%	53%	70%	73%	62%	59%	58%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth in writing	10%	5%	16%	13%	7%	10%	12%
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in maths	78%	60%	76%	77%	68%	72%	62%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth in maths	15%	5%	22%	20%	13%	20%	12%

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report (Continued...)

Key Stage 2							
2019 Data				2020 predicted data based on teacher assessment		2021 predicted data based on teacher assessment	
	Masefield	Red Lane	National	Masefield	Red Lane	Masefield	Red Lane
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in reading	90%	61 %	73%	84%	67%	68%	66%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth Standard in reading	26%	21%	28%	35%	27%	25%	24%
Reading Progress Score	+3.9 Well above average	+0.63 Average	0				
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in writing	81%	61%	78%	79%	62%	73%	64%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth Standard in writing	17%	16%	20%	21%	15%	25%	17%
Writing Progress Score	+2.2 Above average	+1.13 Average	0				
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in spelling, punctuation and grammar	88%	68%	78%	81%	62%	75%	70%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth Standard in spelling, punctuation and grammar	50%	33%	34%	26%	13%	25%	38%
% of pupils attaining the Expected Standard in maths	90%	72%	79%	84%	72%	73%	71%
% of pupils attaining Greater Depth Standard in maths	48%	25%	24%	33%	28%	15%	29%
Maths Progress Score	+5.4 Well above average	+2.74 Above average	0				

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report (Continued...)

Key Performance Indicators-Attendance data

Attendance

Red Lane Primary		
Attendance		
	2019-2020	2020-2021
Total attendance	95.91%	96.6%
Authorised Absences	3.32%	2.5%
Unauthorised absences	0.77%	0.89%

Masefield Primary		
Attendance		
	2019-2020	2020-2021
Total attendance	96.24%	97%
Authorised Absences	2.95%	2.3%
Unauthorised absences	0.81%	0.7%

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Financial review

The Academy's total incoming resources during the period were £5,466,394 (2020: £4,075,872).

The majority of the Academy's income derives from central government funding via the Education and Skills Funding Agency, in the form of current grants. Total funding received for the Academy's educational operations in the period was £3,650,629 (2020: £3,366,421) and further details are provided in Note 3 to the accounts.

Total outgoing resources for the period were £4,885,925 (2020: £4,599,514) the majority of which related to the direct provision of educational operations. The excess of income over expenditure was £580,469 (2020: £1,523,642 excess expenditure over income).

During the Covid 19 Flu Pandemic both schools closed to the majority of pupils and remained open to vulnerable pupils and to those of Key Worker parents. The Pandemic caused minor financial impact to both schools.

Red Lane paid out £15790 to cover Wonde FSM vouchers which was paid in full by DfE. Masefield paid £189 to cover BMBC claim for FSM parcels.

Both schools were successful in their applications for IT equipment from the DfE. Red Lane received 110 iPads which are a value of £26,400 and Masefield received 31 iPads with a value of £7440.

Base Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

At the year end the Academy's total reserves were £2,664,831 (2020: £2,765,361) including unrestricted funds of £73,896 (2020: £210,561), and restricted funds of £181,561 (2020: £32,239) of which restricted fixed asset funds are £5,588,374 (2020: £4,755,561). The balances on general restricted funds relate to funding received in the period which is due to be spent in the following year in accordance with the terms of funding and other unspent balances of restricted income.

At 31 August 2021 all assets shown in the financial statements were used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to students of the Academy.

Reserves policy

The Trustees review reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure stream, the need to match income with commitments, the uncertainty surrounding the levels of future funding and the nature of reserves.

At 31 August 2021 the school held GAG reserves of £157,182 (2020: £nil). The reserves has not been increased due to the financial implications during the Pandemic. However the Trustees will seek to increase this reserve in future years.

Unrestricted reserves

The Academy may hold unrestricted free reserves, which provide additional working capital and are not committed or designated. It is the trustees' policy to aim to hold approximately 3 months' expenditure in unrestricted reserves, to provide an additional cushion over and above the restricted GAG reserve.

At 31 August 2021 the level of unrestricted reserves held was £73,896 (2020: £210,561).

Restricted General Annual Grant (GAG) reserves

The Trustees have considered the level of GAG reserves which they believe will provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between the spending and receipt of grants and unexpected or planned future revenue and capital costs. The Trustees believe that, under normal circumstances, the appropriate level of GAG reserve should be between 2% and 5% of GAG income and aim to keep the reserve within these parameters.

Investment policy

The purpose of the Investment Policy is to set out the process by which the Trustees meet their duties under the Academy's Articles of Association and the Academies Financial Handbook issued by the ESFA to invest monies surplus to operational requirements in furtherance of the Academy's charitable aims and to ensure that investment risk is properly and prudently managed.

At BASE Academy Trust we are careful with the public money we are entrusted with. Adequate cash balances are maintained to ensure that there are always sufficient funds in the Trust's current account to cover financial commitments such as payroll and day to day expenses. The cash at the bank on the 31 August 2021 was £453,600 (2020: £345,277).

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks to the Trust are documented and managed using a risk register which will be regularly reviewed. The Trust annually reviews the risk management policy, the risk management strategy. The Trusts risk register and both school risk registers are reviewed twice a year.

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

As the Trust has not consumed more than 40,000 kWh of energy in this reporting period, it qualifies as a low energy user under these regulations and is not required to report on its emissions, energy consumption or energy efficiency activities.

Fundraising

BASE Academy Trust has not undertaken any major fundraising campaigns and there has been no major fundraising during 20/21.

Base Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Plans for future periods

Red Lane's main annual objectives for the next academic year 2021/2022 are:

- To secure increased rates of progress for all pupils cross the whole curriculum.
- To secure increased rates of attainment and progress in Mathematics across the school.
- To improve home learning by developing parental skills, confidence and knowledge in order to support their child attain improved outcomes.
- To ensure the emotional development needs of all pupils are met in order that pupils access learning, build positive relationships and become positive citizens.
- To secure increased rates of attainment and progress in writing across the school.

Masefield's main annual objectives for the next academic year 2021/2022 are:

- To secure increased rates of progress for all pupils cross the whole curriculum.
- To improve writing attainment and progress throughout school.
- To improve home learning by developing parental skills, confidence and knowledge in order to support their child.
- To ensure the emotional developmental needs of all pupils are met and empower staff to provide appropriate support for all pupils in their class.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

There are no funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

Auditor

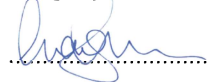
In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- 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.

Reappointment of auditor

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the procurement and appointment of new auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company Directors, on 14th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



C Graham
Trustee

Base Academy Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Statement on Governance and Internal Control

Scope of responsibility

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

As trustees we annually review the DfEs governance handbook and competency framework for governance and take account of these documents as part of our roles.

The Trustees have delegated the day-to-day responsibility to L Whittaker, 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 BASE Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. She is also responsible for reporting to the Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

The Trustees have reviewed the principles, beliefs and aims outlining the vision for the Trust and a Scheme of Delegation outlining responsibilities of Members, Trustees, LGBs, Executive Headteacher and Heads of Schools.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board trustee schedule states that the board meets 4 times per year and delegates responsibility to the Resource Committee to scrutinise the financial accounts and they have met an additional 4 times within the year.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr C Graham (Chairman)	4	4
Mrs A Quigley (Vice Chairman)	4	4
Mrs L M Whittaker (Executive Headteacher/ Accounting Officer)	4	4
Mr D Webb	4	4
Ms E Morris	3	4
Mr D Overbury	4	4
Mrs D Bartle	0	4
Mrs K Spencer	4	4

The Members Board and Board of Trustees have reviewed governance and evaluated their composition. The members have recruited a new member and have increased their Business and leadership skill set in the appointment of Mr G Smith. The two LGB have been appointed based on a skills audit. There is currently 1 vacancy for a Co-opted governor at each school. The Members Board and Board of Trustees will conduct their next self-evaluation by July 22 based on the outcomes of the internal audit reviews.

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trustee Board. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Board through more detailed consideration of the Trustees' responsibility to ensure regulatory compliance and manage risk. The committee has reviewed the risk register termly. Attendance in meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr D Overbury (Chair)	4	4
Mrs A Quigley	3	4
Mrs L Whittaker	4	4
Mr D Webb	4	4
Mr C Graham	3	4

Base Academy Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trustee Board. Its purpose is to assist with the financial management of the Trust and strategic planning.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Ms E Morris (Chair)	3	4
Mr C Graham	4	4
Mrs L Whittaker	4	4
Mrs K Spencer	3	4
Mrs D Bartle	1	4

The Performance Management Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trustee Board. Its purpose is to set and review the performance management of the Executive Headteacher and review pay of all other teaching staff in a report given by the Executive Headteacher.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs Anne Quigley (Chair)	3	3
Mr C Graham	3	3
Mrs D Bartle	3	3

The Standards, Achievement and Inclusion Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trustee Board. Its purpose is to assist with increasing education standards and pupil achievement for all the pupils within the Trust.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr C Graham	3	4
Mrs A Quigley (Chair)	3	4
Mrs L Whittaker	4	4
Mr D Overbury	4	4
Mr D Webb	4	4

The Local Governing Boards were appointed in January 2017 and their main purpose is to act as a committee assisting and supporting the Trust Board to discharge their responsibilities at school level.

Masefield LGB

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs A Quigley (Chair)	4	4
Mrs J Irwin	1	4
Mr A Connell	1	4
Mr J Kell	4	4
Mr E Tuckley	4	4
Mrs M Ritchie/Mrs L Behan	4	4
Mrs G Yapp/Mr A Done	4	4
Mrs L Whittaker	4	4
Mrs S Prendergast	3	4
Dr S Cunliffe	2	4

Base Academy Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Red Lane LGB

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs m Tuckley	4	4
Mrs L McArdle	3	4
Mr J Greenall	4	4
Miss C Moran	4	4
Mrs L Driver	3	4
Mrs P Braiden	2	2
Mrs S Wilson	4	4
Mrs R Driver	4	4
Mrs L Whittaker	4	4
Mrs F Thomasson	1	1
Mrs V Stevenson	1	1

Review of value for money

As accounting officer the Chief Executive 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 the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the 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 available. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

Assessment and Impact of the Trust Board during 2020/21 School Year

1. The Trustees restructured the senior leadership team in order to create a new Head of Teaching and Learning role for one academic year. This role was to co-ordinate remote learning for pupils, facilitate teachers CPD and support NQTs on the new ECT pilot programme across the Trust. The impact of this allowed screen castify to be used to support pupils learning at home. Screen castify was also used to support teachers CPD. Parents, pupils and staff have valued this support and this was evidenced in the annual questionnaire feedback. The ECT pilot was very successful and some of the material was used to train other teaching staff.
2. The Trustees have financially supported both schools with building projects throughout the year which has enabled both schools to create improved learning environments for all pupils.
3. The Trustees made the decision to change the facilities management provider from Bolton Council to Lancaster Maloney. The new service has been more cost effective and there has been improved communication over the past year. The impact has been an improved premises management policy with a clear schedule of compliance checks.
4. The Trustees made a decision to continue with a relatively new business venture in Masfield Primary School to run a before and after school club. This has increased funding for the school up to £10,000 per year. However this year due to the COVID pandemic school club was restricted in pupil numbers and still managed a profit of £5200.
5. The Trustees have played an active role in the performance management of the Executive Headteacher. The impact of this has been raising standards and rates of progress for all pupils but specifically the lower ability pupils.

Base Academy Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

6. The Trustees have supported LGBs and senior leaders during the COVID Pandemic. The impact has been that both schools have remained open for vulnerable pupils and the children of key workers since lockdown on Tuesday 5th January. FSM have been distributed to all those families that are eligible from lockdown to 8th March when the pupils returned to school. All pupils who remained at home received home learning packs, resources and on line learning. Following Government guidelines all pupils returned on the 8th March 21. When pupils needed to isolate all were given learning packs in order to continue with their lessons.
7. The Trustees and LGBs ensured the time staff had available during the COVID Pandemic was used well including building projects and staff CPD. The impact of this has been a great many building projects have been addressed and staff knowledge has increased.

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 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 BASE Academy Trust for the period of 1st Sept 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Trustees have reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Trustees are of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period ending 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Trustees.

The risk register was produced on 1st October 2016 and approved by the Trust Board on the 5th December 2016. This risk register has been reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee termly and reported to the Trust Board.

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 finance and general purposes committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- identification and management of risks

The Trust Board considered the need for a specific internal audit function and the Trust Board designed a programme for 2020-21 with Cofie Ltd. The internal audits focussed on responsible officer audits at both schools.

Base Academy Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

At Red Lane Primary School the internal audit areas covered:

- HR
- Salary and payroll audit

At Masefield Primary School the internal audit areas covered:

- Financial processes and procedures

At Trust Board level the internal audit covered governance.

Regular reports were given to the Board of Trustees, through the Audit and Risk Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

On a quarterly basis, the Accounting Officer reported to the Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees financial responsibilities.

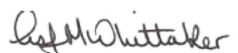
Review of Effectiveness

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

- The work of the External auditor
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process
- The work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the audit and risk committee and plan to address weakness and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Trust Board on 14th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


.....

L Whittaker
Accounting Officer
Trustee

Base Academy Trust

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of BASE Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the board of trustees and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the Board of Trustees and ESFA.

Financial issues

- During the year, management accounts were not shared with the board of Trustees six times in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook 2.19



L Whittaker
Accounting officer

Date:

14 December 2021

Base Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

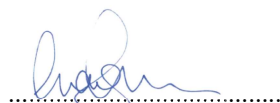
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board on 14th December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



C Graham
Trustee

Base Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Base Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Base Academy Trust (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy trust's affairs at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the original financial statements were 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 (covers the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance Statement)

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

Base Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Base Academy Trust (continued)

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 22], the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Base Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Base Academy Trust (continued)

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

- the engagement partner ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the trust through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the academies sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the trust, including the Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation and data protection, anti-bribery, employment, environmental, and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the trust's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charges with governance
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC

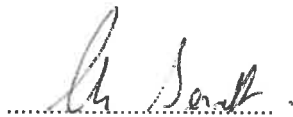
A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Base Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Base Academy Trust (continued)

Use of our report

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



Anna Bennett (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Hallidays, Statutory Auditor

Riverside House
King's Reach Business Park
Yew Street
Stockport
SK4 2HD

Date: 21/12/21

Base Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Base Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 15 April 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Base Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Base Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to Base Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Base Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Base Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- We have confirmed that the activities conform to the 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 trust are within the 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 trust and extended the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.

Base Academy Trust

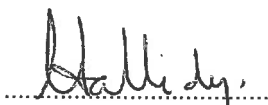
Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Base Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

- 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 trust's framework of authorities. We confirm that each item tested has been appropriately authorised in accordance with the trust's delegated authorities and that the internal delegations have been approved by the Trust Board and conform to the limits set by the Department for Education.
- Formal representations have been obtained from the governing body 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 trust's charitable objects.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matter listed below, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

- During the year, management accounts were not shared with the board of Trustees six times in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook 2.19



Reporting Accountant

Hallidays
Chartered Accountants
and
Registered Auditors

Riverside House
King's Reach Business Park
Yew Street
Stockport
SK4 2HD

Date: 21/12/21

Base Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Pension Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2020/21 Total £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	-	11,655	-	1,020,182	1,031,837
Other trading activities	4	65,284	76,108	-	-	141,392
Investments	5	52	-	-	-	52
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	4,270,967	-	-	4,270,967
Other income		-	22,146	-	-	22,146
Total		65,336	4,380,876	-	1,020,182	5,466,394
Expenditure on:						
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	4,363,382	255,000	250,084	4,868,466
Other		-	17,458	-	-	17,458
Net income/(expenditure)		65,336	36	(255,000)	770,098	580,470
Transfers between funds		(202,001)	149,286	-	52,715	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial (losses) / gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	-	(691,000)	-	(691,000)
Gains/losses on revaluation of fixed assets		-	-	-	10,000	10,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(136,665)	149,322	(946,000)	832,813	(100,530)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2020		210,561	32,239	(2,233,000)	4,755,561	2,765,361
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2021		73,896	181,561	(3,179,000)	5,588,374	2,664,831

Base Academy Trust


Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2020 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Pension Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2019/20 Total £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	-	12,750	-	(5,073)	7,677
Other trading activities	4	84,191	67,202	-	-	151,393
Investments	5	295	-	-	-	295
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	3,836,546	-	-	3,836,546
Other income		-	79,961	-	-	79,961
Total		84,486	3,996,459	-	(5,073)	4,075,872
Expenditure on:						
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Academy trust educational operations	7	52,388	4,038,296	165,000	250,268	4,505,952
Other		-	93,562	-	-	93,562
Net income/(expenditure)		32,098	(135,399)	(165,000)	(255,341)	(523,642)
Transfers between funds		(183,034)	130,566	-	52,468	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial (losses) / gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	-	(245,000)	-	(245,000)
Net movement in deficit		(150,936)	(4,833)	(410,000)	(202,873)	(768,642)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2019		361,497	37,072	(1,823,000)	4,958,434	3,534,003
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2020		210,561	32,239	(2,233,000)	4,755,561	2,765,361

Base Academy Trust
(Registration number: 10227910)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	5,152,930	4,707,129
Current assets			
Debtors	13	1,009,943	161,117
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>453,600</u>	<u>345,277</u>
		1,463,543	506,394
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(707,718)</u>	<u>(215,162)</u>
Net current assets		<u>755,825</u>	<u>291,232</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		5,908,755	4,998,361
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	15	<u>(64,924)</u>	<u>-</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability		5,843,831	4,998,361
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	25	<u>(3,179,000)</u>	<u>(2,233,000)</u>
Net assets including pension liability		<u><u>2,664,831</u></u>	<u><u>2,765,361</u></u>
Funds of the Academy Trust:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	16	181,561	32,239
Restricted fixed asset fund	16	5,588,374	4,755,561
Restricted pension fund	16	<u>(3,179,000)</u>	<u>(2,233,000)</u>
		2,590,935	2,554,800
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	16	<u>73,896</u>	<u>210,561</u>
Total funds		<u><u>2,664,831</u></u>	<u><u>2,765,361</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 29 to 54 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 14 December 2021 and signed on their behalf by:



 C Graham
 Trustee

Base Academy Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021

	Note	2021 £	2020 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	(227,038)	(166,631)
Cash flows from investing activities	21	<u>335,361</u>	<u>(186,324)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		108,323	(352,955)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>345,277</u>	<u>698,232</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	22	<u><u>453,600</u></u>	<u><u>345,277</u></u>

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their 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 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the 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.

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 year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and 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.

Expenditure

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

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.

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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.

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful lives, per the table below.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Land and buildings	over life of the lease (125 years)
Furniture and equipment	20% straight line
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	25% straight line

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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.

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.

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Leased assets

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

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 as detailed in note 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 14 and 15. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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 Part 11, Chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pension 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.

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

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

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Restricted pension funds comprise all income, costs and actuarial valuations associated with the Local Government pension scheme (LGPS).

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. 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.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Capital grants	-	986,342	986,342	(5,073)
Other donations	11,655	-	11,655	12,750
Donated fixed assets	-	33,840	33,840	-
	<u>11,655</u>	<u>1,020,182</u>	<u>1,031,837</u>	<u>7,677</u>

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General annual grant	2,974,659	2,974,659	2,675,447
Pupil Premium	406,492	406,492	418,660
Other DfE/ESFA grants	165,166	165,166	167,504
Teachers pension grant	104,312	104,312	104,810
	<u>3,650,629</u>	<u>3,650,629</u>	<u>3,366,421</u>
Other government grants			
Local authority grant	517,286	517,286	470,125

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations (continued)

	Restricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up premium	53,520	53,520	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	49,532	49,532	-
	<u>103,052</u>	<u>103,052</u>	<u>-</u>
Total grants	<u>4,270,967</u>	<u>4,270,967</u>	<u>3,836,546</u>

The academy received £53,250 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled 53,250.

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Hire of facilities	595	-	595	2,005
Catering income	24,511	-	24,511	25,669
Nursery income	-	76,108	76,108	67,202
General income	40,178	-	40,178	56,517
	<u>65,284</u>	<u>76,108</u>	<u>141,392</u>	<u>151,393</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Short term deposits	<u>52</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>295</u>

6 Expenditure

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

6 Expenditure (continued)

	Non Pay Expenditure			2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £		
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	2,953,181	-	413,051	3,366,232	3,209,794
Allocated support costs	731,808	429,360	358,524	1,519,692	1,389,720
	<u>3,684,989</u>	<u>429,360</u>	<u>771,575</u>	<u>4,885,924</u>	<u>4,599,514</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Operating lease rentals	6,880	6,109
Depreciation	250,084	256,712
Fees payable to auditor - audit	8,250	9,000
- other audit services	<u>4,050</u>	<u>618</u>

7 Charitable activities

	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Direct costs - educational operations	3,366,232	3,209,794
Support costs - educational operations	<u>1,519,692</u>	<u>1,389,720</u>
	<u>4,885,924</u>	<u>4,599,514</u>

	Educational operations £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	730,973	730,973	549,591
Depreciation	250,084	250,084	250,268
Technology costs	29,806	29,806	18,304
Premises costs	179,276	179,276	227,607
Legal costs - other	1,375	1,375	695
Other support costs	313,547	313,547	325,926
Governance costs	<u>13,796</u>	<u>13,796</u>	<u>17,329</u>
Total support costs	<u>1,518,857</u>	<u>1,518,857</u>	<u>1,389,720</u>

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	2,573,639	2,560,688
Social security costs	221,681	200,027
Pension costs	875,088	610,557
	<u>3,670,408</u>	<u>3,371,272</u>
Agency staff costs	2,581	-
Staff restructuring costs	12,000	-
	<u>3,684,989</u>	<u>3,371,272</u>
		2021 £
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments		<u>12,000</u>

Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £12,000 (2020: £Nil). Individually, the payments were:

Non-statutory payments £12,000

Staff numbers

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

	2020/21 No	2019/20 No
Teachers	37	32
Administration and support	77	85
Management	4	5
	<u>118</u>	<u>122</u>

Higher paid staff

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

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

	2021 No	2020 No
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	-	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £346,739 (2020: £299,637).

9 Central services

No central services were provided by the academy trust to its academies during the period and no central charges arose.

10 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment.

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

L Whittaker (Executive Headteacher and trustee):

Remuneration: £100,000 - £105,000 (2020 - £95,000 - £100,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £20,000 - £25,000 (2020 - £20,000 - £25,000)

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 26.

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer hardware £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2020	4,300,000	946,208	135,546	25,785	5,407,539
Revaluations	10,000	-	-	-	10,000
Additions	-	603,891	80,982	-	684,873
At 31 August 2021	<u>4,310,000</u>	<u>1,550,099</u>	<u>216,528</u>	<u>25,785</u>	<u>6,102,412</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2020	140,467	425,192	109,565	24,174	699,398
Charge for the year	34,476	177,698	36,299	1,611	250,084
At 31 August 2021	<u>174,943</u>	<u>602,890</u>	<u>145,864</u>	<u>25,785</u>	<u>949,482</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2021	<u>4,135,057</u>	<u>947,209</u>	<u>70,664</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,152,930</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>4,159,533</u>	<u>521,016</u>	<u>25,981</u>	<u>1,611</u>	<u>4,708,141</u>

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	1,640	5,653
VAT recoverable	8,172	12,561
Other debtors	83,390	2,819
Prepayments	20,981	22,421
Accrued grant and other income	895,760	117,663
	<u>1,009,943</u>	<u>161,117</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	-	43,695
Other creditors	29,289	25,713
Accruals	672,234	145,754
Deferred income	6,195	-
	<u>707,718</u>	<u>215,162</u>
		2021 £

Deferred income

Resources deferred in the period	<u>6,195</u>
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At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds of £6,195 received in advance for rates relief for the academic year 20/21

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2021 £
Salix loans	<u>64,924</u>

Loans of £64,924 have been provided as part of the Condition Improvement Funding projects, these are interest-free loans that will be paid over a five year period following completion of the projects.

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,974,659	(2,966,763)	149,286	157,182
Pupil premium	-	406,492	(406,492)	-	-
Nursery	-	76,108	(76,108)	-	-
Other	12,548	694,107	(706,655)	-	-
Proceeds from insurance income	19,691	22,146	(17,458)	-	24,379
Teachers pension grant	-	104,312	(104,312)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	53,520	(53,520)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	49,532	(49,532)	-	-
	<u>32,239</u>	<u>4,380,876</u>	<u>(4,380,840)</u>	<u>149,286</u>	<u>181,561</u>

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transferred on conversion	4,191,514	-	(80,736)	-	4,110,778
DfE/ESFA capital grants	364,612	986,342	(89,238)	10,000	1,271,716
Funded from GAG	199,435	-	(67,687)	52,715	184,463
Donated assets	-	33,840	(12,423)	-	21,417
	<u>4,755,561</u>	<u>1,020,182</u>	<u>(250,084)</u>	<u>62,715</u>	<u>5,588,374</u>
Restricted pension funds					
Pension reserve	<u>(2,233,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(255,000)</u>	<u>(691,000)</u>	<u>(3,179,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	2,554,800	5,401,058	(4,885,924)	(478,999)	2,590,935
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>210,561</u>	<u>65,336</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(202,001)</u>	<u>73,896</u>
Total funds	<u>2,765,361</u>	<u>5,466,394</u>	<u>(4,885,924)</u>	<u>(681,000)</u>	<u>2,664,831</u>

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	34,691	2,662,899	(2,818,991)	121,401	-
Pupil premium	-	418,660	(485,608)	66,948	-
Nursery	-	323,403	(242,646)	(80,757)	-
Other	-	428,213	(407,728)	(7,937)	12,548
Proceeds from insurance income	2,381	79,961	(93,562)	30,911	19,691
Teachers pension grant	-	104,810	(104,810)	-	-
	<u>37,072</u>	<u>4,017,946</u>	<u>(4,153,345)</u>	<u>130,566</u>	<u>32,239</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transferred on conversion	4,295,712	-	(104,198)	-	4,191,514
DfE/ESFA capital grants	485,804	(21,643)	(99,549)	-	364,612
Funded from GAG	<u>176,918</u>	<u>16,570</u>	<u>(46,521)</u>	<u>52,468</u>	<u>199,435</u>
	<u>4,958,434</u>	<u>(5,073)</u>	<u>(250,268)</u>	<u>52,468</u>	<u>4,755,561</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted pension funds					
Pension reserve	(1,823,000)	-	(165,000)	(245,000)	(2,233,000)
Total restricted funds	3,172,506	4,012,873	(4,568,613)	(61,966)	2,554,800
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	361,497	84,486	(52,388)	(183,034)	210,561
Total funds	<u>3,534,003</u>	<u>4,097,359</u>	<u>(4,621,001)</u>	<u>(245,000)</u>	<u>2,765,361</u>

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

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 objectives of the Academy.

Restricted fixed assets 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 Trustees may use in the pursuance of the Academy's objectives and are expendable at the discretion of the Trustees.

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 2021.

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Red Lane Primary School	238,000	232,722
Masefield Primary School	<u>17,457</u>	<u>10,078</u>
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	255,457	242,800
Restricted fixed asset reserve	5,588,374	4,755,561
Pension reserve	<u>(3,179,000)</u>	<u>(2,233,000)</u>
Total	<u>2,664,831</u>	<u>2,765,361</u>

Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £	Other Support Staff Costs £	Educational Supplies £	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £	Total 2021 £
Red Lane Primary School	2,001,380	377,227	118,938	412,722	2,910,267
Masefield Primary School	952,636	138,745	92,120	287,069	1,470,570
Academy Trust	<u>2,954,016</u>	<u>515,972</u>	<u>211,058</u>	<u>699,791</u>	<u>4,380,837</u>
					Total
					2020
					£
Red Lane Primary School					2,882,743
Masefield Primary School					1,366,497
Academy Trust					<u>4,249,240</u>

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £	Other Support Staff Costs £	Educational Supplies £	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £	Total 2020 £
Red Lane Primary School	1,928,355	403,992	153,534	396,862	2,882,743
Masefield Primary School	900,091	138,834	104,141	223,431	1,366,497
Academy Trust	<u>2,828,446</u>	<u>542,826</u>	<u>257,675</u>	<u>620,293</u>	<u>4,249,240</u>

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

17 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	5,152,930	5,152,930
Current assets	73,896	954,203	435,444	1,463,543
Current liabilities	-	(707,718)	-	(707,718)
Creditors over 1 year	-	(64,924)	-	(64,924)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,179,000)	-	(3,179,000)
Total net assets	<u>73,896</u>	<u>(2,997,439)</u>	<u>5,588,374</u>	<u>2,664,831</u>

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	1,610	-	4,705,519	4,707,129
Current assets	208,951	199,723	97,720	506,394
Current liabilities	-	(167,484)	(47,678)	(215,162)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,233,000)	-	(2,233,000)
Total net assets	<u>210,561</u>	<u>(2,200,761)</u>	<u>4,755,561</u>	<u>2,765,361</u>

18 Capital commitments

	2021 £	2020 £
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	<u>518,913</u>	<u>4,753</u>

19 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	5,851	6,880
Amounts due between one and five years	<u>2,370</u>	<u>10,321</u>
	<u>8,221</u>	<u>17,201</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

20 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	580,470	(523,642)
Depreciation	250,084	256,712
Donated assets	(33,840)	-
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(986,342)	5,073
Interest receivable	(52)	(295)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	215,000	129,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	40,000	36,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(848,826)	73,166
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>556,468</u>	<u>(142,645)</u>
Net cash used in Operating Activities	<u>(227,038)</u>	<u>(166,631)</u>

21 Cash flows from investing activities

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	52	295
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(651,033)	(181,546)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	<u>986,342</u>	<u>(5,073)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>335,361</u>	<u>(186,324)</u>

22 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>453,600</u>	<u>345,277</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>453,600</u>	<u>345,277</u>

23 Analysis of changes in net debt

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

23 Analysis of changes in net debt(continued)

	At 1 September 2020 £	Cash flows £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 August 2021 £
Cash	345,277	108,323	-	453,600
Loans falling due within one year	-	-	(64,924)	(64,924)
Total	<u>345,277</u>	<u>108,323</u>	<u>(64,924)</u>	<u>388,676</u>

24 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 he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

25 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 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £335,008 (2020: £377,341).

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

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

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £393,000 (2020 - £371,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £328,000 (2020 - £331,000) and employees' contributions totalled £65,000 (2020 - £40,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 28.2 per cent for employers and 12.5 per cent for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of an academy trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.70	3.00
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	2.20
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<u>1.70</u>	<u>1.70</u>

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

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

	2021	2020
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.50	20.50
Females retiring today	23.30	23.10
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	21.90	22.00
Females retiring in 20 years	<u>25.30</u>	<u>25.00</u>
Sensitivity analysis		
	2021	2020
	£	£
Discount rate -0.1%	188,000.00	143,000.00
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	273,000.00	197,000.00
CPI rate +0.1%	168,000.00	126,000.00
Salary increase rate +0.1%	<u>17,000.00</u>	<u>15,000.00</u>

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Equities	2,580,140	1,833,280
Government bonds	545,100	431,360
Property	254,380	188,720
Cash and other liquid assets	<u>254,380</u>	<u>242,640</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>3,634,000</u>	<u>2,696,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £570,000 (2020 - (£81,000)).

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Current service cost	543,000	(460,000)
Interest income	49,000	49,000
Interest cost	(89,000)	(85,000)
Total amount recognized in the SOFA	<u>503,000</u>	<u>(496,000)</u>

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

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
At start of period	4,929,000	4,229,000
Current service cost	543,000	460,000
Interest cost	89,000	85,000
Employee contributions	65,000	63,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	1,212,000	115,000
Benefits paid	(25,000)	(23,000)
At 31 August	<u>6,813,000</u>	<u>4,929,000</u>

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

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
At start of period	2,696,000	2,406,000
Interest income	49,000	49,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	521,000	(130,000)
Employer contributions	328,000	331,000
Employee contributions	65,000	63,000
Benefits paid	(25,000)	(23,000)
At 31 August	<u>3,634,000</u>	<u>2,696,000</u>

Base Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

26 Related party transactions

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

Expenditure related party transactions

During the year the academy made the following related party transactions:

Pulse (NW) Ltd

(Della Bartle (Trustee) is director)

During the year, Pulse (NW) Ltd provided training for middle and senior leaders during the summer term, expenditure totalled £2,000..

In entering into the transaction, the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Pulse (NW) Ltd was £Nil (2020 - £Nil).

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.