

Company registration number: 07007398 (England and Wales)

**THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF
ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST**

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

Haines Watts

Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors
Bridge House
157A Ashley Road
Altrincham
Cheshire
WA14 2UT

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Directors' report	2 - 10
Governance statement	11 - 14
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	15
Statement of directors' responsibilities	16
Independent auditor's report on the accounts	17 - 19
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	20 - 21
Statement of financial activities including income and expenditure account	22 - 23
Balance sheet	24
Statement of cash flows	25
Notes to the accounts including accounting policies	26 - 47

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Mr Stuart Harrison Mrs Anne Pontifex Rev Mike McGurk Mrs Joan McCarthy (appointed 1 January 2022)	
Directors	Mr M Elliot (Chair of the Trust Board) Mr Paul Cronin (appointed 11 July 2022) Ms Elaine Rees (appointed 7 January 2022) Mrs S Duffey Rev S Haynes Mrs Jan McCall (resigned 8 December 2021) Ms Jane Griffiths Mrs Angie Holden	
Senior management team		
Chief Executive Officer	Mrs H Duggan	
Chief Finance and Operations officer	Mrs A Robb	
Head of School - The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	Mr K Maddocks (resigned October 2021)	
Head of School - The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	Mrs Joanne Leech (appointed 1 September 2022)	
Head of School – The Academy of St Nicholas	Mrs J Sing	
Senior Deputy Headteacher – The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	Mrs Colette Singleton	
Deputy Headteacher – The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	Mr Charles O'Doherty (appointed 1 September 2021)	
Senior Deputy Headteacher – The Academy of St Nicholas	Mr G Lloyd	
Deputy Headteacher – The Academy of St Nicholas	Mr A Robinson	
Company registration number	07007398 (England and Wales)	
Registered office	51 Horrocks Avenue, Garston, Liverpool, Merseyside L19 5NY	
Academies operated	Location	Headteachers
The Academy of St Nicholas	Liverpool	Mrs J Sing
The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	Liverpool	Mrs J Leech
Independent auditor	Haines Watts, Bridge House, Ashley Road, Hale Altrincham, WA14 2UT	
Bankers	Lloyds Bank PLC, 2-12 Lord Street, Liverpool, L2 1TS	

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Directors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Directors' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The Academy Trust operates two schools for pupils aged 11 - 18 serving a catchment area in Liverpool. Its academies have a pupil capacity of 2,160 and had a roll of 1,683 in the school census in October 2021. All applications will be considered in line with the coordinated admissions scheme for Liverpool Local Authority and in accordance with the admission arrangements agreed between the Church of England Diocese of Liverpool and the Catholic Archdiocese of Liverpool.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust is a company limited by guarantee (No. 07007398) and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The charitable company is known as All Saints Multi Academy Trust.

The Directors of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the Directors who served during the year, and to the date these financial statements are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Directors' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Directors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Directors

The members shall appoint a minimum of four Directors, provided that the number of Directors representing the Archdiocese of Liverpool shall be equal to the number of Directors representing the Diocese of Liverpool. The Chief Executive Officer shall be an ex-officio director.

The Directors may appoint a further two co-opted Directors, with the consent of the sponsor, for a term not exceeding four years.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Directors

All Directors are provided with access to policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Directors. For the 2 new Directors appointed to the Board formal induction and training was provided alongside full Director development day on 24 June 2022.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Organisational structure

During the academic year 2021/22 trust leadership has remained static which has enabled the trust to move forward and meet the final condition within the Financial Notice to Improve (Fnti). The latest model funding agreement has now been approved by the ESFA.

The management structure consists of two levels: Governance (being the Trust Board), and the Trust Leadership Group now comprising the Chief Executive Officer (who is also the Accounting Officer), Chief Finance and Operations officer, School Improvement lead, Compliance and project lead plus the Headteacher for each of the Trust's Academies. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and accountability to support decision making at all levels.

The Trust board core functions are:

- Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic directions.
- Holding the CEO to account for educational performance of the schools, their students, and the appraisal of its staff.
- Overseeing the financial performance of the Trust and the schools within, ensuring financial probity.
- Ensuring that functions relating to the conduct of the Trust and schools are exercised with a view to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children.
- Establish its sub-committees and the appointment of non-trust board members based on skills need.

A scheme of delegation has been adopted which sets out the terms of reference for the members, Directors, sub committees and local governing bodies.

The Trust Leadership Group controls the Academy Trust at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Directors and reporting back to them on a regular basis.

The Trust central team provides support and guidance across a core set of functions which include School improvement, Finance, Estates, HR, ICT, Attendance, Data management and Careers and Employability. This enables each Academy to focus on educational attainment.

Each Academy has a Senior Leadership team, led by the Headteacher, which includes a combination of Senior/Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteachers. These leaders, along with the Trust Leadership Group, are responsible for the day-to-day operation of the constituent Academies, in particular managing the staff, students and facilities.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

During the academic year 2021/22 the Trust Remuneration Committee was re-established as a subcommittee of the Trust board. The trust board delegated the responsibility for setting pay and remuneration for key management personnel. The remuneration committee established a pay scale attached to each post based on relevant benchmarking data and guidance included within the School Teacher Pay and Conditions document. Progression along this pay scale is linked to performance, this reviewed on an annual basis following the completion of the performance management cycle.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials
during the relevant period

Full-time equivalent employee number

-
-

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill £0,000	8,273
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	-
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Related parties and co-operation with other organisations

The Academy Trust is sponsored by The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Education Trust, a charitable company which is jointly controlled by the Diocese of Liverpool, and the Archdiocese of Liverpool. The Sponsor is responsible for appointing members of the Board of Directors (as noted above). The Sponsor supports the Academy Trust by working closely with the Trust Management Team and the Board of Directors in setting the strategic objectives of the Academy Trust and reviewing plans for improvement. In addition, the Sponsor is also responsible for monitoring the financial performance of the Academy Trust.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of the Academy of St Francis of Assisi and The Academy of St Nicholas (incorporating All Saints Sixth Form College):

- to advance the education of the public in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a joint Church of England and Roman Catholic secondary school offering a broad curriculum with a strong emphasis on, but not limited to, the environment to be conducted in accordance with the principles and practices of both the Church of England and the Roman Catholic Church; and
- to provide facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the conditions of life of the said community.

The Directors confirm they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Academy Trust's aims and objectives.

The main objectives of the Academy Trust during the year ended 31 August 2022 are summarised below:

- to meet the final condition of the financial notice to improve (Fnti) which was issued to the Trust on 3 December 2020, this was in relation to the adoption of the latest model funding agreements;
- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high-quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition, and care
- to raise the standard of educational achievement and progress of all students;
- to improve the effectiveness of the Academy Trust by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements, with a focus to online learning and support during the pandemic;
- to conduct the Academy Trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness; and
- Develop Trust growth strategy and school improvement development plan.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Academy Trust's main objectives are set out above.

The main strategies for improvement consist of:

- Securing the appointment and retention of strong experienced leadership across the trust.
- Securing leadership capacity through increased accountability and high quality continued professional development for all staff.
- Improving teaching, learning and assessment in order to secure the best possible outcomes for students.
- Developing the whole child through our unique Christian ethos, values and environmental specialism to create respectful, caring and compassionate citizens in the community.
- Developing the organization to provide a financially sustainable future, where funds are available to invest in improving resources and the learning environment for students.

Public benefit

The Directors have complied with the duty in section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission in defining the strategic direction of the Academy Trust.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Performance against objectives

Academic outcomes in the year 2021/22 were based on Teacher Assessed Grades (TAGs). These TAGs were introduced in response to wider school closures, linked to the COVID-19 response and replaced the Centre Assessed Grades that were used for the 2020/21 academic year. Attainment of students at both academies improved when compared to the last set of nationally published outcomes in 2018/19. The systems in place to generate Teacher Assessed Grades were rigorous and quality assured by senior leaders in order to ensure that national guidelines from OFQUAL were followed. Academic outcomes were expected to improve due to improvements in classroom pedagogy. Outcomes for the Academy of St Francis of Assisi were in line with average national outcomes, based on the last set of national outcomes available, and whilst the Academy of St Nicholas outcomes still fall below the national average, the Trust has completed a full analysis of progress of students across all year groups and concluded the following:

- The gap between disadvantaged and other students was shown to be closing from 2018/19 gap.
- At The Academy of St Francis of Assisi overall Progress 8 as measured against 2019 outcomes within line with national average at 0.
- For the Academy of St. Nicholas overall Progress 8 arrived at -0.51 which is in line with the national floor target. This was an improvement of +0.46 from 2019 Outcomes.
- English P8 at The Academy of ST Nicholas continued the trajectory of improvement it had shown over the previous two years.
- At the Academy of St Nicholas Post 16 performance was once again above national outcomes, based on the 2018/19 published national outcomes, with an L3VA +0.59.

Our ability to offer leisure and recreational facilities to the wider community was impacted this year due to Covid-19 lockdowns and local restrictions. In effect all activities stopped from March onwards to follow Covid-19 rules. Although money generated from these activities is minimal the impact on the wider community is unknown.

Ofsted Section 5 Inspection

The Academy of St Francis of Assisi was subject to a full inspection in December 2018. Inspectors judged that the Academy was good in all areas.

The Academy of St Nicholas was subject to a full inspection in May 2019. Inspectors judged that the Academy still requires improvement overall, Inspectors reported that 16-19 study programmes were Good.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

A section 8 monitoring visit was held at the Academy of St Nicholas in May 2022. The inspector noted:

"Since your arrival as headteacher, you have worked with leaders and staff to improve many aspects of the school. You have redesigned the leadership structure so that all leaders have clear lines of responsibility. The school development plan identifies the correct improvement priorities. This plan is frequently reviewed by you and other senior leaders to check that actions to improve the school are bearing fruit. As a result, the school is moving in a positive direction. You know that the improvement journey towards being a good school is not complete and that further work is still required to reach your ambitious goals"

"The school derives considerable benefit from its partnership with the trust. This includes improved support for pupils with SEND and stronger systems to improve attendance. Expertise within the trust is used well to help subject leaders to develop their knowledge and skills."

Financial review

Financial objectives

The main strategies for improvement consist of:

- to meet final condition of the Fnti;
- to achieve an annual operating surplus in line with reserve policy;
- to review levels of trading income following COVID and assessing the financial risk due to loss of income;
- to ensure the Academy Trust's continued liquidity;
- to generate sufficient reserves to fund continued capital investment; and
- to develop a trust growth and school improvement strategy.

The Academy Trust's achievements in line with these objectives are noted below.

Operational review

The majority of the Academy Trusts income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received during the period and the associated expenditure are shown under Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Expenditure for the year exceeded income by £308,000 (2021 £525,000 income exceeding expenditure) after providing for depreciation and loss on disposal of fixed assets totalling £969,000 (2021: £842,000). The surplus generated before providing for depreciation and loss on disposal of fixed assets was £661,000 (2021: £1,367,000).

Whilst the fixed costs of the Academy Trust staffing, building maintenance and IT maintenance represent the majority of the Academy Trusts expenditure, we have also continued to invest in providing the best resources for our students to ensure that they continue to receive the very best education.

At 31 August 2022 the net book value of fixed assets was £33,468,000 (2021: £33,979,000) and movement in tangible assets are shown in note 12 to the financial statements.

The Academy Trust held fund balance at 31 August 2022 of £32,716,000 (2021: £27,212,000) comprising £33,468,000 (2021: £33,979,000) of restricted fixed asset funds, £1,617,000 (2021: £691,000) restricted general funds and £715,000 (2021: £949,000) of unrestricted funds, offset by a pension scheme liability totalling £3,084,000 (2021: £8,407,000).

The pension movement does not have an immediate cash flow impact but may result in increased contributions following the results of the next triennial review.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Following the implementation of a deficit recovery plan in 2020/21 and in the wake of the financial notice of improvement the trust has significantly improved its financial position with an overall surplus of £5,504,000. This has been achieved due to strong financial management, rising pupil numbers across both schools and better allocation of resources. Both restricted and unrestricted funds have seen an increase compared to previous years. The fund balances are adequate to fulfil the obligations of the Academy Trust and allow the Trust to invest in ICT infrastructure and accommodation improvements whilst also providing a balance against most unforeseen future events such as increase in energy costs.

Although the trust has significantly improved its financial position on going plans are in place to continue to raise student numbers in particular within the 16-19 provision. The trust has implemented integrated financial planning to support effective use of resources demonstrating value for money and improving outcomes for all students.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic we have taken steps to address the uncertainty of the costs the Trust may face going forward. We have set aside funds for any costs that may arise and have taken advantage of any government grants that are available. We have strict controls in place to restrict spending to ensure that we are getting value for money across the trust and taking advantage of any government purchasing tenders and frameworks.

The Trust has a cash balance of £3,595,000 (2020/1 £2,104,000), the movement in year being the cash generated from operations less fixed asset expenditure. Based upon the cash balance as at 31 August 2022 the trust has sufficient cash reserves to meet its liabilities as they fall due.

Financial risk management objectives and policies

The Directors assess the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed at each trust meeting, in particular those relating to teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy Trust, and its finances. The Directors have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Academy Trust faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to Cyber security, health and safety, GDPR) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures, reviewing compliance and the internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk remains, they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Academy Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls, and this is explained in more detail in the following statement.

The Academy Trust continues to develop and embed the system of internal control, including financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the Academy Trust's assets and reputation.

The Trust Leadership Group undertakes a comprehensive review of the risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed. They identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential impact on the Academy Trust. The internal controls are then implemented, and the subsequent year's appraisal will review their effectiveness and progress against risk mitigation actions. In addition to the annual review the Trust Management Team also consider any risks which may arise as a result of any new area of work being undertaken by the Academy Trust.

A risk register is maintained at the Trust level which is reviewed six times per annum by the full Trust Board and more frequently by the Finance and Business Committee and Trust Leadership Group. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the Academy Trust and the actions being taken to reduce and mitigate the risks. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system.

Financial notice to improve (Fnti)

A Fnti was issued to the trust on 3 December 2020, due to extensive number of breaches of the Academies Financial handbook. The Fnti had 16 conditions, 15 conditions have been met and the trust received a letter on 4 June 2021 stating that the Fnti had been lifted with one outstanding condition still to be met which was to adopt the latest model funding agreement and Articles of Association. This has now been completed and signed off by the ESFA.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Reserves policy

The reserve policy of the Trust is to carry forward a prudent level of revenue reserves designed to meet its short-term cash flow needs, whilst also managing the longer-term cyclical needs of planning, and any capital investment that may be required. The policy is subject to the constraint that the level of reserves does not exceed the level permitted by the ESFA within the Academies Trust Handbook; currently there are no limits imposed by the ESFA.

Constituent Academies will maintain operational reserves of no more than 2% with strategic reserves being held centrally by the Trust. As of 31 August 2022 the level of free reserves held by the trust is £2,332,000. The current level of reserve is within the reserve policy threshold.

Investment policy

The Academy Trust is firmly committed to ensuring that all funds under its control are administered in such a way as to maximise return while minimising risk. Directors do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, but rather a requirement for the effective management of funds.

Directors' management of cash flow should ensure that there are always sufficient funds in the main bank accounts to cover operational costs. The Academy Trust will seek to ensure that any cash not required for operating expenses is placed on deposit at the most favourable rate.

Where significant funds have been accumulated that are not required in the short term for operational expenses, or as part of a planned surplus for a specific project, Directors may consider the investment of these funds in order to generate a longer-term income or capital fund. The approval of full trust board is required before any investment is made.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Directors has a reasonable expectation that The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. The Directors 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 charitable company to continue as a going concern. The Directors have made this assessment by preparing cashflow forecasts until 31 August 2023 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.

Plans for future periods

The main objectives for the coming year are to:

- Continue to improve progress for all students ensuring the very best quality provision across all schools, all subjects and all key stages through continuous improvements in the quality of teaching and learning, further refinement of the curriculum and the development of capacity in school leadership, including within all subjects.
- Increase the pace of improvement with regards attendance and punctuality to diminish the difference more rapidly between the Trust and national averages by reviewing current arrangements with regards to education welfare and providing greater support and challenge to attendance leaders across the trust.
- Improve behaviour and safety of students.
- Effective use of pupil premium, recovery premium and catch-up funding, in line with the EEF guide to use evidence to inform decision making.
- Develop a People strategy to embed further a culture of support, and challenge without fear, to ensure that all people within the Trust are developed, and that appropriate opportunities for progression exist and are encouraged, resulting in improved retention of staff, and the Trust being recognised as an employer of choice.
- Further develop the corporate structures of the Trust, embedding a more streamlined and effective method of managing risk and monitoring compliance with statutory regulations, ensuring the financial position of the Trust continues to improve and increasing the effectiveness of governance at all levels, resulting in a strong Trust.
- Review sixth form provision and the long-term viability, ensuring it remains a going concern.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

- Welcome new schools into our Trust in line with our growth strategy and investigate trust partnership agreements further with Liverpool schools.
- Support the dioceses with their academisation agenda.
- Further develop the Christian Ethos of the Trust so that the Academies' vision and mission statements are embraced and owned by all students and staff, and so that the effectiveness of the Christian Ethos improves in both Academies in accordance with the section 48 criteria.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Outlined below is a description of the principal risk factors that may affect the Academy Trust. Not all the factors are within the Academy Trusts control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the Academy Trust.

- Uncertainty with regard to the impact of future Government funding reforms and the roll out of the national funding formula.
- Potential difficulties in reaching capacity in the constituent Academies.
- Potential difficulties in obtaining capital funding to ensure the Academy Trust's premises continue to meet the needs of its students.
- The implications of the White paper.
- Increases in cost of living and pay settlements.
- Increases in energy costs.
- Going concern of the sixth form provision.

These risks are mitigated in a number of ways including:

- Ensuring the Academy Trust is rigorous in delivering high quality education and training.
- A comprehensive marketing/PR programme including activities for primary pupils and parents.
- Rigorous monitoring of financial activities ensuring value for money and the use of integrated financial planning to support budget setting.
- Continued development of IT infrastructure to enable better resources for both staff and students.

Fundraising

The core fundraising initiative in place across the multi Academy Trust are based on the hire of facilities owned by the Multi Academy Trust. This initiative was severely impeded by COVID 19, however since December 2021 trading has steadily increased with a forecast next year of this reaching levels pre-pandemic. These funds are generated in collaboration with a commercial partner who manage the marketing and staffing of facilities outside of teaching time. Periodic reviews are undertaken with the commercial body to ensure maximum value for money is being obtained. During the 12 months to August 2022 there were no complaints made regarding the Trust's fundraising activities.

The Academy Trust tries to protect the public and vulnerable people from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches by completing full appraisals of any potential fundraising activities carried out by The Academy Trust, prior to their commencement.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

The Trust holds cash assets on behalf of LSSP, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation. LSSP delivers sports services to schools across Liverpool. The Trust performs administrative duties for LSSP as a nominated lead school. All records are processed independently to those of the Trust in order to ensure adequate segregation of funds.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

DIRECTORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Auditor

Haines Watts has indicated its willingness to continue in office.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditor

The Directors have confirmed that, as far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditor is unaware. Each of the Directors have confirmed that they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Directors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Directors' report is approved by order of the Board of Directors and the strategic report (included therein) is approved by the Board of Directors in their capacity as the Directors at a meeting on 8 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr M Elliot
Chair of Trustees

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Scope of responsibility

As Directors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies 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 Directors, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Directors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, 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 The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Directors' Report and in the Statement of Directors' Responsibilities. The Board of Directors has formally met four times during the year and attendance was as follows:

Directors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr M Elliot (Chair of the Trust Board)	4	4
Mrs S Duffey	3	4
Rev S Haynes	4	4
Mrs J Griffiths	2	4
Mrs A Holden	1	4
Miss E Rees (Appointed 7 January 2022)	2	2
Mr P Cronin (Appointed 11 July 2022)	1	1
Mrs J McCall (Resigned 8 December 2021)	0	1

The Board met 4 times last year but assurance is also sought through the Finance and business committee which meets up to 6 times per year. All key documentation, reports and minutes are shared to all Directors electronically via Governor Hub ensuring efficient oversight and contact with all Directors.

Governance reviews

Given the financial notice to improve, it provided an opportunity for the Board of Directors to review a number of key policies and procedures in the year to evaluate their effectiveness and has conducted an external review of governance alongside a full skills audit. A full action plan was put in place to respond to the financial notice to improve with all but one condition being met. The outstanding condition has been signed by the ESFA and is currently with the trust legal advisors. Each of these policies has been updated where appropriate to ensure the standards of governance within the Trust continue to meet expectations. The Board will continue to evaluate its effectiveness in the next financial year with a further external governance review commissioned in March 2023.

The Finance and Business Committee (whose remit covers Audit compliance) is a sub-committee of the Trust Board. Its purpose is:

- monitoring the integrity of the financial statements;
- reviewing internal financial controls and reviewing the company's internal control and risk management systems;
- monitoring and reviewing the effectiveness of the internal control reviews, which are undertaken by a third-party provider;
- making recommendations to the board in relation to the appointment, re-appointment and removal of the external auditor and approve the remuneration and terms of engagement of the auditor; and
- reviewing the auditor's independence and objectivity.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Finance and Business Committee met 6 times during the last academic year, ensuring effective oversight of funds alongside monthly financial reports being shared with all Directors via governor hub. Additional Directors have been recruited for new financial year. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Directors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr M Elliot (Chair of Trust Board)	6	6
Rev S Haynes (Chair of Finance and Business Committee Jan- present day)	6	6
Mr E Boyes (Co-opted ASN - LGB)	1	1
Mrs J McCall (Chair of Finance and Business Committee Sept-Jan)	2	3

Education and Standards Committee

The Education & Standards Committee is to maintain full oversight of:

- The monitoring and evaluation of pupil progress and attainment, and the quality of teaching.
- Ensuring the Trust provides a consistently high-quality learning experience, and delivers a broad and balanced curriculum in keeping with the trust's aims and vision
- All pupil needs and legal requirements.
- The Education & Standards Committee is a sub - committee of the Board and is authorised to investigate any activity either within its terms of reference, or specifically delegated to it by the board.

The committee meets termly. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Directors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs S Duffey	2	3
Mrs J Griffiths (Chair)	3	3
Mr E Boyes (Co-opted ASN LGB)	3	3

Remuneration committee

The Remuneration Committee is responsible for monitoring and implementing the Trust's Pay Policy with fully delegated powers from the Trust Board and was re-established in September 2021.

The committee meets bi-annually. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Directors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs J Holden (Chair)	2	2
Rev Stuart Hayes	2	2
Mr M Elliot	2	2

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the Chief Executive Officer 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 especially during the pandemic, and reports to the Board of Directors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The accounting officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Completing and implementing integrated financial planning to ensure that the level of investment in each subject area is in proportion to the number of students studying the subject.
- Reviewing the value for money obtained from all non-core expenditure including, for example, service level agreements, administration costs and changing purchasing practices accordingly.
- Utilising the opportunities for economies of scale offered by the Trust arrangement to reduce costs.
- Conducting an external review with a DfE school management resource advisor. A plan has been put in place and recommendations actioned.
- Alignment of financial processes delivering on efficiencies.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust for the year ended 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

The trust has approved in line with the Academy Trust Handbook and the ESFA's internal scrutiny good practice guide a detailed schedule reviewing both financial and non-financial areas on a quarterly basis. All reviews are undertaken by the third-party provider.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Directors has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Directors is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period ending 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is reviewed by the Board of Directors at each board meeting.

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 monthly financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Directors;
- regular reviews by the Trust Board and the Finance and Business Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Directors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint HBD Accountancy Services LLP as an internal auditor.

The auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. The auditor reports to the Board of Directors on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Directors' financial responsibilities. There have been no material control issues arising as a result of the auditor's work during the year. The schedule of audit work has been completed as planned for the year.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance school resource management self-assessment tool; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the board of Directors on 8 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr M Elliot
Chair of Trustees



.....
Mrs H Duggan
Accounting Officer

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

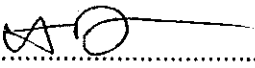
As accounting officer of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of directors and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of directors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

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

Financial issues

- The trust did not obtain a statement of assurance from a related party in relation to services provided above £2,500 in the year, contrary to section 5.58 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.


.....
Mrs H Duggan
Accounting Officer

Date: 8 December 2022

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The directors (who also act as trustees for The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust) are responsible for preparing the directors' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 directors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the directors must not approve the accounts unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period.

In preparing these accounts, the directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of directors on 8 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr M Elliot
Chair of Trustees

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of directors

As explained more fully in the statement of directors' responsibilities, the directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the directors are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

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

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the group's or the parent charitable company's financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the group's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.
- Identify and test journal entries, in particular any journal entries posting with unusual account combinations.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the group's or parent charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the group or parent charitable company to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation (ie. gives a true and fair view).
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the group to express an opinion on the consolidated financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the group audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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

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

Use of our report

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

.....*Haines Watts*.....

Candice Beynon FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Haines Watts

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Bridge House

Ashley Road

Hale

Altrincham

WA14 2UT

Date:8/12/22.....

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 6 April 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust during the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 14 August 2015 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

The trust did not obtain a statement of assurance from a related party in relation to services provided above £2,500 in the year, contrary to section 5.58 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

.....*Haines Watts*.....

Haines Watts
Reporting Accountant

Date:8/12/22.....

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2022 £'000	Total 2021 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	43	38	81	433
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	13,611	-	13,611	12,280
Other trading activities	5	185	-	-	185	199
Total		185	13,654	38	13,877	12,912
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	-	29	-	29	-
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	-	13,188	969	14,157	12,387
Total	6	-	13,217	969	14,186	12,387
Net income/(expenditure)		185	437	(931)	(309)	525
Transfers between funds	17	(420)	-	420	-	(94)
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	5,812	-	5,812	372
Net movement in funds		(235)	6,249	(511)	5,503	803
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		949	(7,716)	33,979	27,212	26,409
Total funds carried forward		714	(1,467)	33,468	32,715	27,212

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2021	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2021 £'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	21	412	433
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	12,280	-	12,280
Other trading activities	5	88	111	-	199
Total		88	12,412	412	12,912
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	-	11,545	842	12,387
Total	6	-	11,545	842	12,387
Net income/(expenditure)		88	867	(430)	525
Transfers between funds	17	-	(40)	(54)	(94)
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	372	-	372
Net movement in funds		88	1,199	(484)	803
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		861	(8,915)	34,463	26,409
Total funds carried forward		949	(7,716)	33,979	27,212

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	33,468	33,979
Current assets			
Debtors	13	903	759
Cash at bank and in hand		3,595	2,104
		<u>4,498</u>	<u>2,863</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(2,053)	(1,088)
Net current assets		<u>2,445</u>	<u>1,775</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>35,913</u>	<u>35,754</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15	(114)	(135)
Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability		<u>35,799</u>	<u>35,619</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	19	(3,084)	(8,407)
Total net assets		<u>32,715</u>	<u>27,212</u>
Funds of the academy trust:			
Restricted funds	17		
- Fixed asset funds		33,468	33,979
- Restricted income funds		1,617	691
- Pension reserve		(3,084)	(8,407)
Total restricted funds		<u>32,001</u>	<u>26,263</u>
Unrestricted income funds	17	<u>714</u>	<u>949</u>
Total funds		<u>32,715</u>	<u>27,212</u>

The accounts were approved by the directors and authorised for issue on 8 December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr M Elliot
Chair of Trustees

Company registration number: 07007398

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

		2022		2021	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	20		1,935		1,645
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		38		412	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(458)		(963)	
Net cash used in investing activities			(420)		(551)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of long term ESFA loans		(23)		-	
Finance costs		(1)		-	
Net cash used in financing activities			(24)		-
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			1,491		1,094
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			2,104		1,010
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			3,595		2,104

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the directors' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The directors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The directors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts 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 accounts.

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

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.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £500 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 that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. 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.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

Freehold and leasehold buildings	2%
Computer equipment	25% or 33%
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10% or 20%

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

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

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

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. 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.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2022 £'000	Total 2021 £'000
Private sponsorship	-	4	4	-
Capital grants	-	38	38	412
Other donations	-	39	39	21
	-	81	81	433

4 Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2022 £'000	Total 2021 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	11,596	11,596	10,665
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	952	952	876
- Teachers pay grant	-	16	16	57
- Teachers pension grant	-	46	46	221
- Others	-	519	519	245
	-	13,129	13,129	12,064
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	458	458	-
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Catch-up premium	-	-	-	216
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	24	24	-
	-	24	24	216
Total funding	-	13,611	13,611	12,280

The academy trust received £458,000 from the local authority in the year, comprising of High Needs funding of £43,000 (2021: £nil), refugee grants of £240,000 (2021: £nil) and other grants of £27,000 (2021: £nil).

In addition to the above looked after children pupil premium income is included within local authority funding totaling £148,000. This incorporates £43,000 in relation to the current year and £105,000 in relation to previous years that had been incorrectly treated.

There were no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies in respect of government grant funding.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2022 £'000	Total 2021 £'000
Hire of facilities	8	-	8	1
Catering income	156	-	156	111
Other income	21	-	21	87
	<u>185</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>185</u>	<u>199</u>

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure Premises £'000	Other £'000	Total 2022 £'000	Total 2021 £'000
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	29	29	-
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	8,229	836	934	9,999	8,967
- Allocated support costs	1,409	1,591	1,158	4,158	3,420
	<u>9,638</u>	<u>2,427</u>	<u>2,121</u>	<u>14,186</u>	<u>12,387</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	19	18
- Other services	7	4
Operating lease rentals	34	72
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	969	842
Bank and loan interest	1	-
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	141	146

7 Central services

No central services were provided by the academy trust to its academies during the year and no central charges arose. The academy trust pooled its GAG resources from 1 September 2021 and as such all central costs incurred by the trust were covered by these funds.

In the prior year the trust charged central services on an equal basis across each school as follows:

- The Academy of St Nicholas £348,000
- The Academy of St Francis of Assisi £354,000

The services charged for related to human resources, financial services, legal services, educational support services and others as arising.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

8 Charitable activities		
	2022	2021
All from restricted funds:	£'000	£'000
Direct costs		
Educational operations	9,999	8,967
Support costs		
Educational operations	4,158	3,420
	<u>14,157</u>	<u>12,387</u>
Analysis of costs	2022	2021
	£'000	£'000
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	8,261	7,294
Staff development	17	39
Depreciation	836	836
Educational supplies and services	609	248
Examination fees	189	130
Other direct costs	87	420
	<u>9,999</u>	<u>8,967</u>
Support costs		
Support staff costs	1,411	1,663
Depreciation	133	6
Technology costs	240	125
Maintenance of premises and equipment	579	278
Cleaning	283	284
Energy costs	452	228
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	114	111
Insurance	30	38
Security and transport	24	6
Catering	302	205
Interest on defined benefit pension scheme	142	146
Legal costs	206	164
Other support costs	242	128
Governance costs	-	38
	<u>4,158</u>	<u>3,420</u>

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

9 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Wages and salaries	6,723	6,423
Social security costs	729	648
Pension costs	1,806	1,693
Staff costs - employees	9,258	8,764
Agency staff costs	340	224
Staff restructuring costs	40	-
Staff development and other staff costs	51	46
Total staff expenditure	9,689	9,034

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	1	-
Severance payments	39	-
	40	-

Severance payments

The academy trust paid 2 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

0 - £25,000	2
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Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-contractual special staff severance payments totalling £12,949 (2021: £nil). Individually the payments were £4,845 & £8,104.

Staff numbers

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

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Teachers	90	86
Administration and support	97	111
Management	14	10
	201	207

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

9 Staff

(Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

	2022 Number	2021 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	5	7
£70,001 - £80,000	3	4
£90,001 - £100,000	1	2
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	-	1
£120,001 - £130,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the directors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £889,000 (2021: £437,000).

10 Directors' remuneration and expenses

No trustees are employed by the trust and as such no remuneration has been paid to the trustees in the year (2021: £nil).

During the year no expenses were reimbursed to trustees (2021: £nil).

11 Directors' 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 directors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the directors and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold and leasehold buildings £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £'000	Total £'000
Cost				
At 1 September 2021	39,410	1,780	1,692	42,882
Additions	16	403	39	458
At 31 August 2022	39,426	2,183	1,731	43,340
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021	5,841	1,456	1,606	8,903
Charge for the year	789	133	47	969
At 31 August 2022	6,630	1,589	1,653	9,872
Net book value				
At 31 August 2022	32,796	594	78	33,468
At 31 August 2021	33,569	324	86	33,979

The net book value of land and buildings comprises:

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Long leaseholds (over 50 years)	32,796	33,569

The academy trust holds title to the land on which St Francis of Assisi stands. The land was transferred from Liverpool City Council and is subject to a covenant relating to use. The land occupied at St Nicholas' is held by Liverpool City Council, no register of a lease has been declared with land registry.

13 Debtors

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Trade debtors	219	192
VAT recoverable	364	185
Other debtors	-	2
Prepayments and accrued income	320	380
	903	759

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Government loans	22	24
Trade creditors	745	202
Other taxation and social security	195	173
Other creditors	623	536
Accruals and deferred income	468	153
	<u>2,053</u>	<u>1,088</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Government loans	114	135
	<u>114</u>	<u>135</u>
Analysis of loans	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Wholly repayable within five years	136	159
Less: included in current liabilities	(22)	(24)
	<u>114</u>	<u>135</u>
Amounts included above	114	135
	<u>114</u>	<u>135</u>
Instalments not due within five years	47	-
	<u>47</u>	<u>-</u>
Loan maturity		
Debt due in one year or less	22	24
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	22	24
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	92	111
	<u>136</u>	<u>159</u>

The loans above are as follows:

CIF loan totaling £84,000 at year end. This has an interest rate of 1.95% and is repayable in instalments over 10 years. The final payment date is expected to be August 2031.

ESFA financial assistance loan totaling £52,000 at year end. There is no interest charged on this loan which is repayable in instalments. The final payment date is expected to be August 2026.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

16 Deferred Income

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	16	33
	<u>16</u>	<u>33</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	33	38
Released from previous years	(33)	(38)
Resources deferred in the year	16	33
	<u>16</u>	<u>33</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2022	16	33

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for trips taking place in 2022-23.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	652	11,596	(10,631)	-	1,617
Pupil premium	-	952	(952)	-	-
Catch-up premium	39	-	(39)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	24	(24)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	581	(581)	-	-
Other government grants	-	458	(458)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	43	(43)	-	-
Pension reserve	(8,407)	-	(489)	5,812	(3,084)
	<u>(7,716)</u>	<u>13,654</u>	<u>(13,217)</u>	<u>5,812</u>	<u>(1,467)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	14,483	38	(6)	-	14,515
Capital expenditure from GAG	299	-	(200)	-	99
Private sector capital sponsorship	19,197	-	(763)	420	18,854
	<u>33,979</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>(969)</u>	<u>420</u>	<u>33,468</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>26,263</u>	<u>13,692</u>	<u>(14,186)</u>	<u>6,232</u>	<u>32,001</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	949	185	-	(420)	714
Total funds	<u>27,212</u>	<u>13,877</u>	<u>(14,186)</u>	<u>5,812</u>	<u>32,715</u>

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

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

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

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

The transfer of £420,000 from unrestricted funds to restricted fixed asset funds was to cover the capital expenditure not specifically funded through a grant.

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 2022.

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	(580)	10,665	(9,393)	(40)	652
Pupil premium	-	876	(876)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	216	(177)	-	39
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	523	(523)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	132	(132)	-	-
Pension reserve	(8,335)	-	(444)	372	(8,407)
	<u>(8,915)</u>	<u>12,412</u>	<u>(11,545)</u>	<u>332</u>	<u>(7,716)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	14,479	412	(354)	(54)	14,483
Capital expenditure from GAG	306	-	(7)	-	299
Private sector capital sponsorship	19,678	-	(481)	-	19,197
	<u>34,463</u>	<u>412</u>	<u>(842)</u>	<u>(54)</u>	<u>33,979</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>25,548</u>	<u>12,824</u>	<u>(12,387)</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>26,263</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	861	88	-	-	949
	<u>861</u>	<u>88</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>949</u>
Total funds	<u>26,409</u>	<u>12,912</u>	<u>(12,387)</u>	<u>278</u>	<u>27,212</u>

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17 Funds

(Continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:		
The Academy of St Nicholas	-	(26)
The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	-	1,666
Central services	2,331	-
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	2,331	1,640
Restricted fixed asset fund	33,468	33,979
Pension reserve	(3,084)	(8,407)
Total funds	32,715	27,212

From 1 September 2021 the trust has pooled its GAG resources, therefore all funds are now held centrally rather than in individual schools.

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs excluding depreciation £'000	Total 2022 £'000	Total 2021 £'000
The Academy of St Nicholas	3,585	607	459	1,223	5,874	5,675
The Academy of St Francis of Assisi	3,782	668	351	1,129	5,930	5,869
Central services	969	77	89	277	1,412	-
	969	77	89	277	1,412	11,544

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	33,468	33,468
Current assets	640	3,858	-	4,498
Current liabilities	74	(2,127)	-	(2,053)
Non-current liabilities	-	(114)	-	(114)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,084)	-	(3,084)
Total net assets	714	(1,467)	33,468	32,715
	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	33,979	33,979
Current assets	1,003	1,860	-	2,863
Current liabilities	(11)	(1,077)	-	(1,088)
Non-current liabilities	(43)	(92)	-	(135)
Pension scheme liability	-	(8,407)	-	(8,407)
Total net assets	949	(7,716)	33,979	27,212

19 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 Merseyside Pension Fund. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £149,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021: £133,000) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £986,000 (2021: £828,000).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 16.5 to 17% for employers and 5.5 to 9.9% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Employer's contributions	480	486
Employees' contributions	125	125
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	605	611
	<hr/>	<hr/>

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2022 %	2021 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.4	4.2
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.8
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.3	1.7

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

	2022 Years	2021 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.9	21.0
- Females	24.0	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.4	22.6
- Females	25.9	26.0

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

Sensitivity analysis

The Academy of St Francis of Assisi

Disclosure item	Central	Sensitivity 1 +0.1%pa discount rate	Sensitivity 2 +0.1%pa inflation	Sensitivity 3 +0.1%pa pay growth	Sensitivity 4 1 year increase in life expectancy
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Liabilities	5,229	5,125	5,335	5,237	5,341
Assets	(4,759)	(4,759)	(4,759)	(4,759)	(4,759)
Deficit/(surplus)	470	366	576	478	582
Projected service cost for next year	242	235	249	242	248
Projected net interest cost for next year	16	12	21	17	21

The Academy of St Nicholas

Disclosure item	Central	Sensitivity 1 +0.1%pa discount rate	Sensitivity 2 +0.1%pa inflation	Sensitivity 3 +0.1%pa pay growth	Sensitivity 4 1 year increase in life expectancy
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Liabilities	7,895	7,758	8,035	7,910	8,063
Assets	(5,281)	(5,281)	(5,281)	(5,281)	(5,281)
Deficit/(surplus)	2,614	2,477	2,754	2,629	2,782
Projected service cost for next year	183	178	188	183	188
Projected net interest cost for next year	106	103	112	107	114

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2022 Fair value £'000	2021 Fair value £'000
Equities	4,839	5,202
Government bonds	934	142
Other bonds	352	1,195
Cash	221	182
Property	1,084	961
Other assets	2,610	2,439
Total market value of assets	10,040	10,121

The actual return on scheme assets was £(444,000) (2021: £1,546,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Current service cost	828	774
Interest income	(175)	(150)
Interest cost	316	296
Benefit changes, curtailments and settlements gains or losses	-	10
Total operating charge	969	930

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
At 1 September 2021	18,528	16,432
Current service cost	828	774
Interest cost	316	296
Employee contributions	125	125
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(6,431)	1,034
Benefits paid	(242)	(133)
At 31 August 2022	13,124	18,528

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
At 1 September 2021	10,121	8,097
Interest income	175	150
Actuarial loss/(gain)	(619)	1,396
Employer contributions	480	486
Employee contributions	125	125
Benefits paid	(242)	(133)
At 31 August 2022	10,040	10,121

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

	Notes	2022 £'000	2021 £'000
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(309)	431
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(38)	(412)
Finance costs payable		1	-
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	19	348	298
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	19	141	146
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		969	842
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(144)	346
Increase/(decrease) in creditors		967	(6)
Net cash provided by operating activities		1,935	1,645

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2021 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2022 £'000
Cash	2,104	1,491	3,595
Loans falling due within one year	(24)	2	(22)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(135)	21	(114)
	<u>1,945</u>	<u>1,514</u>	<u>3,459</u>

22 Related party transactions

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

During the year the academy trust received services totaling £23,354 (2021: £25,066) from the Archdiocese of Liverpool (and companies controlled by the Archdiocese of Liverpool); £3,000 (2021: £nil) from the Diocese of Liverpool, and £3,315 (2021: £3,202) from Liverpool Tuneside Limited, the company of the Archdiocese of Liverpool. These organisations are related to the Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust by virtue of their role as sponsors. Payments made in the year relate to support services received by the academy trust from the sponsors. At the year end £3,000 was owed to the Diocese of Liverpool, £21,768 to The Archdiocese of Liverpool and £3,315 to Liverpool Tuneside Limited.

During the year the trust received services totaling £4,027 (2021: £nil) from Liverpool Learning Partnership of which E Rees (trustee) is the CEO. At the year end £nil (2021: £nil) was outstanding.

In undertaking the above transactions the academy trust has not complied with the Academy Trust Handbook in relation to disclosure to the ESFA.

During the year the trust invoiced Liverpool Learning Partnership (of which E Rees is the CEO) £4,000 (2021: £nil), of which £nil (2021: £nil) was outstanding at year end.

23 Post balance sheet events

After the year end, Faith Primary Academy converted to academy trust status and joined The Liverpool Joint Catholic and Church of England Academies Trust.

Academy	Location	Date of conversion
Faith Primary Academy	Liverpool	1 November 2022

24 Members' liability

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

THE LIVERPOOL JOINT CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMIES TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

25 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2022, the trust received £66,900 (2021: £67,900) and disbursed £33,500 (2021: £48,100) from the fund. An amount of £50,200 is included in other creditors (2021: £16,800) relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to the ESFA.

The academy trust collects and distributes funds as an agent for the Liverpool School Sports Partnership. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2022, the trust received £243,500 (2021: £210,300) and disbursed £165,900 (2021: £217,200) from the fund. An amount of £414,300 (2021: £336,700) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to the Liverpool School Sports Partnership.