

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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Reference and Administrative Details
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Members	Catherine Carden (resigned 31 January 2023) Matthew Drinkwater John Lindsay Iain McCracken Michael O'Connell
Trustees	Richard Hover (Chairman) Kimberley Foulkes (Co Vice Chairman) Agnieszka Gordon (Co Vice Chairman) Ben MacPhee Emma Whitehead Toyin Okitikpi Gina Potts
Company registered number	13188733 (England and Wales)
Principal and registered office	Chartham Primary School Shalmsford Street Chartham Canterbury Kent CT4 7QN
Senior management team	Dean Jones, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer Samantha Sage, Chief Finance Officer Alice Edgington, Headteacher - St Stephens Infant School Jamie Noble, Headteacher – Chartham Primary School (Appointed 1 September 2022)
Independent auditor	UHY Kent LLP t/a UHY Hacker Young Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditors Thames House Roman Square Sittingbourne Kent. ME10 4BJ
Bankers	NatWest Bank Plc 11 The Parade Canterbury Kent CT1 2SQ
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP Mowbray House Castle Meadow Road Nottingham NG2 1BJ

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Trustees' Report
For the Period Ended 31 August 2023

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the Academy Trust for the year from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023.

The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Academy Trust is a multi-academy responsible for two academies:

- Chartham Primary School
- St Stephen's Infant School, Canterbury.

The two academies have a combined pupil capacity of 690 and had a roll of 653 in the October 2022 school census.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of Inspira Academy Trust are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Trustees who served during the period are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

The Academy Trust maintains Trustees' and officers' liability insurance which gives appropriate cover for any legal action brought against its Trustees. The Academy Trust has also granted indemnities to each of its Trustees and other officers to the extent permitted by law. Qualifying third party indemnity provisions (as defined by section 234 of the Companies Act 2006) were in force during the period and remain in force, in relation to certain losses and liabilities which the Trustees or other officers may incur to third parties in the course of acting as Trustees or officers of the Academy Trust.

Details of the insurance cover are provided in note 14 to the financial statements.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The recruitment of new Trustees is as defined within the Articles of Association, Master Funding Agreement and Scheme of Delegation, and is subject to approval by Trust Members. Recruitment is based on skills, knowledge and behaviours as set out in the Competency Framework for Governance 2017. Recruitment of Governors to the Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) for each school is subject to approval by the Board of Trustees in line with the Scheme of Delegation.

The Trustees' term of office has transferred over from their pre-conversion Governor term of office. Going forward any new term of office of a Trustee or Governor is four years.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The training and induction provided to new Trustees will depend upon their existing experience but as a minimum would include a tour of all schools within the Trust together with a chance to meet staff and pupils. All Trustees are provided with access the policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, plans and other documentation that they will need to undertake their role as Trustee. All Trustees have access to various online systems which offer support and advice e.g. NGA, The Key for Trust Leaders and Optimus Education.

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Organisational Structure

The main responsibilities of the Academy Trust are prescribed in the Funding agreements with the ESFA. The management structure of the Academy Trust consists of four levels which are as follows:

- Members, who appoint Trustees and delegate responsibility for governance and running of the Academy Trust to the Board of Trustees.
- Board of Trustees is where the legal accountability sits. The Board of Trustees delegate responsibility to Local Governing Bodies through the Scheme of Delegation.
- Trust Leaders (Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, Headteachers) lead and manage the Trust on behalf of the Board of Trustees through implementing the Trust's vision and values and through delivery of achievement, standards, quality of teaching, finance, safeguarding, health and safety and human resources.
- Local Governing Bodies are responsible but not legally accountable for ensuring that their school achieves good outcomes for all its pupils and complies with statutory and Trust policies and procedures.

The main responsibilities of the Members include the following:

- To amend the articles of association (with consent) or change the company's name
- To appoint replacement members to seek to maintain 5 members
- To appoint up to 9 Trustees – and may remove any Trustee
- To appoint the auditors and receive the company's annual report and accounts
- To issue a direction (by special resolution) to Trustees to act in a particular way

The main responsibilities of the Trustees are prescribed in the Funding Agreements with the ESFA. The key responsibilities include:

- Approval of the annual budget
- Production of the Annual Accounts and Report
- Appointment of a Chief Executive Officer (as Accounting Officer)
- Appointment of a Chief Financial Officer in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer
- Ensure regularity, propriety and value for money in relation to the management of public funds.

The Academy Trust has defined the responsibilities for any committee or member of staff involved in the administration of Academy finances to avoid duplication or omission of functions and to provide a framework of accountability for governors and staff. The committees that have responsibilities relating to Academy finances are as follows:

- Trust Board
- Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The responsibilities of the Finance Audit and Risk Committee are set out in the terms of reference.

The following sections summarise the responsibilities of those individuals with key roles in the administration and accountability of the Trust finances.

Role of the Chief Executive Officer:

The Chief Executive Officer has overall responsibility for the Trust's activities including financial activities. As the Accounting Officer for the Trust, the Chief Executive Officer is personally responsible for:

- propriety and regularity of the public finances for which they are answerable. This covers standards of conduct, behaviour and corporate governance and compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook and funding agreements;
- keeping of proper accounts and ensuring bank accounts, financial systems and financial records are operated by more than one person;
- ensuring the Academy Trust's property and assets are under the Trustees' control, and measures exist to prevent losses or misuse;

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- keeping full and accurate accounting records to support their annual accounts;
- prudent and economical administration avoidance of waste and extravagance ensuring value for money; and
- efficient and effective use of all available resources.

The Chief Executive Officer has delegated responsibility for:

- The operation of the Academy Trust including performance of its Academies;
- Reporting on the strategic performance of the Academy Trust;
- Leading the Executive Team and the accountability of their performance.

Role of the Chief Financial Officer:

The Chief Financial Officer works in close collaboration with the Chief Executive Officer, through whom they are responsible to the Trustees. The Chief Financial Officer also has direct access to the Trustees and local governors. The main responsibilities of the Chief Financial Officer are:

- day to day management of financial issues including the establishment and operation of a suitable accounting system for the Academy Trust's central budget and individual academies;
- management of each Academy's financial position at a strategic and operational level within the framework for financial control determined by the members and directors;
- preparation of budget plans in conjunction with the Chief Executive Officer and Headteachers;
- the maintenance of effective systems of internal control;
- maintenance of adequate fixed asset registers;
- Liaising with auditors to ensure that the annual accounts are properly presented and adequately supported by the underlying books and records of the Academy Trust;
- the preparation of monthly management accounts, including income and expenditure reports, cash flow forecasts and a balance sheet;
- ensuring forms and returns are sent to the ESFA in line with the timetable in the ESFA guidance; and
- additional roles, some of which are not directly finance related, as outlined in the Chief Financial Officer's job description.

Academy Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) responsibilities:

- The Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) of each Academy is responsible for the management of their Academy and ensuring the quality of education, monitoring the character and quality of religious education and collective worship to ensure it meets the requirements of the funding agreement;
- the Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) delegates day to day responsibility for carrying out the policies and decisions of the Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) and its committees to the Headteacher;
- it is the responsibility of the Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) to recommend an annual budget for the Academy to the Trust Board which accords with the Academy's aims and objectives, as set out in the current Academy Improvement Plan, and the legislative responsibilities undertaken by the Governing Body. The Local Governing Body (from 01/09/2023 these will be known as Local Academy Committees) will ensure that adequate long-term budgeting is undertaken in order that the long-term performance of the Academy may be maintained. This will be approved and authorised by the Board of the Trust.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and senior leadership team as disclosed on page 1.

The Academy Trust has a pay policy and clear performance and appraisal policy in place within every Trust school and works in line with the current Teachers Pay and Conditions document and current Kent County Council's support Staff Pay and Conditions.

The Chief Executive Officer pay is currently set in line with full Teacher's Pay and Conditions document and the current size of the Academy Trust in terms of pupil numbers.

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The Chief Financial Officer pay is set in line with Kent County Council's Support Staff Pay and Conditions. The pay of the Headteachers of the individual schools within the Trust are set in line with full Teacher's Pay and Conditions document and the current size of the Trust in terms of pupil numbers.

Total remuneration paid to senior management personnel is set out in note 11(d).

Trade union facility time

The Academy Trust did not have any employees serving as a trade union official and so no employed time was spent on union facility matters.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

There are no related parties which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the Trust.

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

Currently our Academy Trust has less than 250 employees and are not legally required to respond to this statement. However, as a matter of good practice, regular information has been supplied to all our employees via briefings and staff training. Information is shared with our parents and carers of the children in the school via newsletters, Arbor mail outs, Family Liaison Officer coffee morning's. This includes steps that the Trust has implemented across the schools to continue to protect the health of all our community whilst returning to post pandemic normality.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and Aims

The Academy Trust's mission is to:

- Create a welcoming environment in our schools where everyone feels happy, safe, included and are empowered to develop and practice independence.
- Instil a love of learning and encourage pride in all achievements through the foundations of a high-quality curriculum.

The Academy Trust's vision is to:

- Be a high performing Trust with uncompromising standards and high expectations.
- Champion learning at the centre of our communities.
- Promote and ensure the well-being and safeguarding of pupils at all times so they feel secure, happy and safe.
- Enrich learning through engaging indoor and outdoor environments.
- Have passionate, high-quality staff who encourage a love of learning, evoke curiosity and stimulate imagination.
- Enable pupils to achieve their potential, be well prepared for the next stage of their education and instil aspirations for their futures.
- To offer opportunity for all through the promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion whilst challenging social injustice and inequality enabling bright futures for all.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The objectives for the period of this report:

- Ensure systems, processes and policies are followed for the smooth operation of the Trust.
- To set 5-year budget forecast for each school.
- To set a Trust budget forecast.
- To investigate growth of the Trust through CEO providing leadership support to local schools.

Public Benefit

The primary purpose of the Trust is the advancement of education of all pupils within the academies. Our priority during the period was to ensure that all pupils received a good quality of education and ensuring that all pupils where possible caught up on any lost learning whilst also considering the wellbeing of all pupils, staff and parents. Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in defining the strategic direction of the Academy Trust, and supporting its primary objectives.

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STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and Performance

We have aimed to be compliant with all requirements laid out for academies in the Academy Trust Handbook. Systems, processes and procedures have been developed to support this statement and have ensured a smooth and compliant operation of the new Trust.

Both schools have Local Governing Bodies following a scheme of delegation approved by the Trust board.

Budget setting was rigorous and involved the schools and the local governors. The governing bodies recommended a 5-year budget to the Trust board for approval, which reflected the aims and objectives of the Academy Trust.

Key Performance Indicators

The Trustees consider that the following are the Academy Trust's key performance indicators.

- Performance outcomes against national expectations.
- SEND/PP/Attendance provision, for example, data and performance against national expectations.
- % of income received from General Annual Grant against staff costs.
- % of staff costs to total expenditure ratio.
- Revenue reserves as a % of total income.
- Good outcomes from Internal & External Audits.

The Trustees are pleased with the performance against these KPIs during the twelve-month period, and these will be reviewed in October 2023 and amended to reflect current developments.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the next financial year.

Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Financial review

Most of the Trust's recurrent income is received in the form of grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency ("ESFA"), the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities ("SoFA").

Total income for the year, as shown by the SoFA, amounted to £4.8m, an increase of £0.9m on the £3.7m received in the prior year. For the twelve month period to 31 August 2023 the school received regular grant funding from government totalling £2.9m (2022: £2.7m) known as the General Annual Grant or 'GAG'. Most of this GAG income is determined by our pupil numbers in the previous year. Further details over the income received by the Trust in furtherance of its educational operations is detailed in note 7.

The SoFA shows total expenditure for the period of £3.8m (2022: £4.0m), leaving a net income before other recognised gains/(losses) of £980k (2022: net expenditure of £358k). After taking into account the actuarial gain arising on the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS") of £173k (2022: actuarial gain of £1.6m), the overall net movement in funds was an increase of £1.1m (2022: £1.2m).

The LGPS, which relates to non-teaching staff, is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust. This is accounted for in accordance with accounting policy 2.10, and thus the Academy Trust's share of the position is reflected on the Balance Sheet. This is covered further under the financial position section below. As a result of pension scheme movements, and also capital funding and other movements through the restricted fixed asset fund, the SoFA does not present any form of meaningful operating result.

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The table below has therefore been included to reconcile from the overall movement in funds presented on the SoFA to the more meaningful result on revenue income funds, an increase of £279k (2022: £51k):

	2023 (£000s)	2022 (£000s)
Overall net movement in funds for the period per SOFA	1,153	1,214
(Increase) / decrease in restricted fixed asset fund	(752)	101
LGPS actuarial loss shown on face of SOFA	(173)	(1,572)
LGPS service and interest costs (within staff costs)	30	300
Movement in revenue income funds during the year	258	43
Add: revenue to capital transferred for fixed assets acquired with revenue funding	21	8
Operational surplus/(deficit) before revenue to capital transfers	279	51

At 31 August 2023, the net book value of fixed assets was £10.9m and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 15 to the financial statements. During the year the assets were used almost exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the academies, the only exceptions to this being letting of the premises to local community groups and other affiliated organisations.

Financial position

The Academy Trust held fund balances at 31 August 2023 of £11.7m (2022: £10.5m). These funds included restricted fixed asset funds of £10.9m and revenue reserves of £416k split across restricted and unrestricted funds as shown in note 18.

The pension reserve, relating to the present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability, shows a £nil balance at 31 August 2023 (2022: deficit of £143k). In accordance with accounting requirements, the Academy Trust's share of LGPS is carried on the Balance Sheet, with movements each year quantified by the Local Authority's actuary and reflected through the SOFA.

Last year the carried pension deficit fell significantly, and this trend continued during 2022/23. The valuation report received from the Local Authority appointed actuary indicated that a pension accounting surplus existed at 31 August 2023. The accounting standards state that if an employer has an accounting surplus, it should only be recognised to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds. However, there are differing opinions across the whole of the public sector and the accounting profession as to the extent to which a pension surplus represents an "unconditional right" of employers and therefore the extent to which the surplus can be recognised as being of economic value, and to date the ESFA have been unable to give any guidance to academy trusts. The Trustees have therefore taken the view that, as a long-term employer open to new members, there is not a reasonable expectation of ever reaching a point of cessation and therefore being able to access a return of surplus. Accordingly the surplus has not been included and a break-even £nil position has been reflected on the Balance Sheet. The pension surplus is disclosed in note 2 and the actuarial assumptions and other movements in the year are disclosed in note 25.

It is noteworthy that any pension surplus or deficit is merely an accounting figure calculated under FRS 102 for the purposes of the financial statements and has no direct effect on the employer contribution rate paid by the Academy Trust, which is determined using longer-term funding assumptions. These contribution rates are reviewed every three years in consultation with the scheme's administrators, and current employer contributions due by the Academy Trust are fixed until 1 April 2026.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Trustees will always try to match income with expenditure in the current year (set and manage a balanced budget), will only carry forward reserves that it considers necessary and will have a clear plan for how it will be used to benefit the pupils.

The Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of revenue reserves should be no less than the equivalent of 1 month's salary costs, amounting to approximately £220k. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grant income and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance or long term sickness, rising pension costs, and where unforeseen costs are incurred. The Trust Board agreed to utilise reserves in order to take advantage of CIF funding.

The Academy Trust's revenue income reserves of £463k as at 31 August 2022 (2022: £176k) mean this target has been met.

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The Trustees will continue to monitor the level of reserves to ensure that they are maintained at the required level. If they are partly used the Academy Trust will strive to rebuild free reserves up to the level needed.

Investment Policy

The Academy Trust does not currently hold any investments other than positive cash balances and has a policy and objective to ensure balances are maintained to meet operational cash requirements. As and when surplus is identified this will be reviewed and appropriate investments made. The banking facilities will be reviewed on an annual basis.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Trustees have implemented several systems to assess risk, including vetting of all new staff and internal financial controls to minimise risk.

Adequate insurance cover is in place to cover any significant risk.

The Trustees consider the following items as the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy Trust:

- All Academy budgets face a challenge due to the Teachers strikes and pending pay award, despite the government funding part of this.
- Pupil numbers fall due to outside influences e.g. new schools, feeder school reputation lowered, feeder nursery closures.
- The Trust has a robust recruitment strategy to ensure quality staff. To overcome the risk of losing key senior staff, a staff development strategy is in place to encourage the professional development to develop Leadership capacity and improve performance to ensure that schools advance beyond or maintain their pre-conversion Ofsted judgements.
- Failure to comply with statutory safeguarding requirements.
- Failure to comply with critical/mandatory requirements.
- Failure to comply with minor mandatory processes and risk resulting damage to the Trusts reputation.
- Insufficient funds to deliver services to an appropriate level.
- IT breach resulting in confidential data theft or corruption.
- Material event in one of the schools that compromises pupil, staff or public safety e.g. safeguarding, physical safety of pupils, terror related incident, fire, food etc.

In relation to the recent issues concerning RAAC in school buildings, the Trust responded in a timely manner to all communications from the DFE. The Trust also commissioned a self-funded survey of their buildings to ensure that awareness of any RAAC materials were known and, if necessary, any remedial action taken. The survey showed no RAAC present in any of the buildings within Inspira Academy Trust and the DFE were updated accordingly.

The Trust have a Health & Safety Consultant who carries out in depth audits of all Health and Safety areas annually with termly reviews.

One school in the Trust had a successful HSE Asbestos Inspection in October 2022 which resulted in no recommendations.

The Trust were successfully awarded 3 CIF bids totalling £1,088,025 to carry out essential Fire Safety works at both schools and to install numerous safeguarding improvements. The schools agreed a contribution of 10.1% and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee followed by the Trust Board agreed this even if it reduced the reserves below the current requirements.

FUNDRAISING

The Academy Trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the period was monitored by the Trustees during the period of this report fundraising was carried out which has impacted positively on the Funds raised by both schools. The Trust has had no complaints.

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PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Academy Trust continues to develop and in the longer term plan to grow into a larger Trust in accordance with our application to convert. The detailed plans are in the Academy Trust 5 year strategic plan.

In 2023/24 the Academy Trust will:

- continue to develop strategically; particularly governance across the Trust
- Maintain a high-quality education for all pupils;
- Ensure that both schools operate at full capacity
- Share good practice across the schools and wider community;
- Ensure curriculum priorities in the schools' improvement plans inform future budget priorities;
- Focus on further development of parent engagement and effective communication;
- Continue to procure to deliver best value and savings through economies of scale where appropriate
- Develop wider partnerships beyond our current schools
- Explore a merger with a local multi-academy Trust in East Kent to add significant capacity to both Trusts and improve education or the pupils

Looking ahead, the long-term forecast indicates that, financially, the Trust, in its current state, is not financially viable and growth is essential in order to be sustainable. As a result, the Trustees have made the following statement to all Staff, Parents and Governors during the autumn 2023 term:

"Following the Schools Bill (2022), the DfE is pushing for all schools to become part of multi academy trusts because the evidence suggests that when schools work formally together there are significant benefits for pupils, staff and the wider school community. Furthermore, as part of our strategic plan we are looking to develop wider partnerships beyond our current schools. As a result, Trustees at Inspira Academy Trust are exploring a merger with a local Trust to build capacity both within our schools and across East Kent. Both Trusts are very much aligned in their vision and values, especially around inclusion and working culture. We are currently working with the DfE on a joint application to the Regional Director's office for the end of November. We will engage with wider stakeholders, staff, pupils and parents once the DfE has evaluated the proposed merger and we will of course update staff, governors, parents and wider stakeholders at that point to share formal consultation procedures and the timelines for conversion, should the proposal be successful.

We believe that this proposed merger will add significant capacity to both Trusts and improve the education for the pupils we serve."

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

The Academy Trust did not act as a "custodian Trustee" for any funds during the year ended 31 August 2023.

AUDITORS

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

The auditors, UHY Kent LLP, have indicated their willingness to remain in office, their re-appointment, or otherwise, considered following the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of Trustees, as the company directors, and signed on the board's behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

839F9D42071E422...

Richard Hover
Chairman of Trustees

Date: 13 December 2023

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Governance Statement
For the Period Ended 31 August 2023

Scope of Responsibility

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

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

The board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the chief executive, 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 Inspira Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of Trustees has formally met five times during the period. Attendance during the period at meetings of the board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Richard Hover	5	5
Emma Whitehead	4	5
Ben MacPhee	5	5
Agnieszka Gordon	5	5
Kimberley Foulkes	5	5
Toyin Okitipi	5	5
Gina Potts	3	4

The Trustees are aware of the requirements of the Academies Trust Handbook to hold a minimum of three full board meetings each financial year, and the best practice number of six. The board has planned six meetings for the coming year.

Conflicts of Interest

Each year, all staff, governors and Trustees undertake an affirmation of the Code of Conduct, which includes declaring any conflicts of interest. In addition, at each meeting throughout the year Trustees and governors declare any new conflicts of interest. The register of interest for Trustees is published on the Trust's main website and those of local governors are published on each school's website.

Governance reviews

An external review of Governance was carried out by a National Leader of Governance in June 2023. This review had been commissioned by the South East Regional Delivery Directorate of the DfE. The purpose of the review was to identify good governance practice and make recommendations for improvements which would impact positively on educational outcomes for the children in the Trust and which would enable the Trust to embed best practice as it considers further growth.

The key message from the review was that Inspira Academy Trust is a small but strong Trust board that is carrying out its functions well. There is a clearly articulated Trust vision with a strategic plan for delivering it. The annual strategic plan sits well within the longer-term vision and is used to hold senior leaders to account for progress against agreed priorities.

The finances of the Trust are sound. There is strong financial oversight and Trustees are aware of areas of potential financial challenge. Their attention to audit and risk issues is appropriately detailed and they are aware of their responsibilities around compliance.

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Governance Statement
For the Period Ended 31 August 2023

Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

The Trustees have established the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee as a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Maintain an oversight of the Trust's financial, governance, risk management and internal control systems
- Report findings to the Trust Board.

Attendance at meetings in the period was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Richard Hover	4	4
Agnieszka Gordon	3	4
Kimberley Foulkes	4	4
Peter Ould	3	4
Claire Parkin	2	4

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the chief executive has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- Ensuring an appropriate finance system is in place to ensure that budgets are spent with best value in mind
- That key contracts were reviewed when up for renewal.
- School budgets were reviewed and set on 5-year plan
- Recruitment is reviewed in line with new budget plans
- Successful CIF bid funding to ensure fire safety compliance of the Trust buildings which were under funded by the local authority and non compliant on conversion.
- Ensuring that due regard to risk has taken place particularly in relation to the recent issues concerning RAAC in school buildings. The Trust responded in a timely manner to all communications from the DFE. The Trust also commissioned a self funded survey of their buildings to ensure that awareness of any RAAC materials were known. The survey showed no RAAC present in any of the buildings within Inspira Academy Trust and the DFE were updated accordingly.
- Ensuring testing is carried out and validated by external auditors to confirm that the Trust has regard to risk in all matters concerning the estate management and buildings.

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 Inspira Academy Trust for the period to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board of Trustees 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 Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1st September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees.

Inspira Academy Trust
(A company limited by guarantee)

Governance Statement
For the Period Ended 31 August 2023

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of Trustees.
- regular reviews by the finance, audit and risk committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes.
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- identification and management of risks.

The board of Trustees has decided to appoint an external company, Strictly Education, to carry out the internal scrutiny for the period 1st September 2022 to 31 August 2023. This role included giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial and other systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- HR Management and Compliance
- Payroll Systema and Management
- Safeguarding

The view of the Internal Scrutineers is Reasonable Assurance.

Review of Effectiveness

As accounting officer, the chief executive has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the period in question the review has been informed by:

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

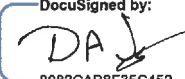
The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance, audit and risk committee and a plan to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

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

DocuSigned by:

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Richard Hover
Chairman of Trustees

DocuSigned by:

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Dean Jones
Accounting Officer

Date: 13 December 2023

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of Inspira Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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

DocuSigned by:

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Dean Jones
Accounting Officer

Date: 13 December 2023

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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

DocuSigned by:

839F9D42071E422...

Richard Hover
Chair of Trustees

Date: 13 December 2023

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Inspira Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Inspira Academy Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Inspira Academy Trust (continued)

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

How the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities including fraud

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the Academy Trust through discussions with management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the academy and wider education sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the accounts or the operations of the academy trust, including the Academy Trust Handbook, Academies Accounts Direction, Charity SORP and the Companies Act 2006;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

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

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

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Inspira Academy Trust (continued)

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

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

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

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance; and
- enquiring of management and representatives of Trustees as to actual and potential litigation and claims.

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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

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

UHY Kent LLP.

Tracey Moore BFP ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
UHY Kent LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Date: 15 December 2023

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 10 March 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Inspira Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

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

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Inspira Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 26 March 2021 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants 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.

We conducted our work in accordance with Technical Release TECH 08/12 AAF issued by the Institute of Chartered Accountants In England and Wales. In accordance with that Technical Release we have carried out the procedures we consider necessary to arrive at our conclusion. Other than those procedures undertaken for the purposes of our audit of the financial statements of Inspira Academy Trust for the period ended 31 August 2023 which provide evidence on regularity, our work was limited to only those additional procedures necessary to provide limited assurance.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion included:

- an assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across all of the academy trust's activities;
- further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including enquiry, identification of control processes and examination of supporting evidence across all areas identified as well as additional verification work where considered necessary; and
- consideration of evidence obtained through the work detailed above and the work completed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

In line with the Framework and guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts issued April 2023, we have not performed any additional procedures regarding the academy trust's compliance with safeguarding, health and safety and estates management.

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Conclusion

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

UHY Kent LLP

UHY Kent LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Thames House
Roman Square
Sittingbourne
Kent
ME10 4BJ

Date: 15 December 2023

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

		Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
	Note					
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	4	10,285	-	874,296	884,581	21,374
Other trading activities	5	228,094	-	-	228,094	198,627
Investments	6	-	-	-	-	736
Funding for educational operations	7	21,873	3,702,323	-	3,724,196	3,471,361
Total income		260,252	3,702,323	874,296	4,836,871	3,692,098
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	8	114,294	3,599,410	143,471	3,857,175	4,049,915
Total expenditure		114,294	3,599,410	143,471	3,857,175	4,049,915
Net income/(expenditure)		145,958	102,913	730,825	979,696	(357,817)
Transfers between funds	18	(79,026)	57,645	21,381	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains		66,932	160,558	752,206	979,696	(357,817)
Other recognised gains:						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	173,000	-	173,000	1,572,000
Net movement in funds		66,932	333,558	752,206	1,152,696	1,214,183
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		176,355	(57,845)	10,383,699	10,502,209	9,288,026
Net movement in funds		66,932	333,558	752,206	1,152,696	1,214,183
Total funds carried forward	18	243,287	275,713	11,135,905	11,654,905	10,502,209

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.


The notes on pages 23 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered number: 13188733

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	10,946,714	10,364,798
Current assets			
Debtors	16	282,780	96,311
Cash at bank and in hand		1,096,642	323,719
		<u>1,379,422</u>	<u>420,030</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(671,231)	(139,619)
Net current assets		708,191	280,411
Net assets excluding pension asset / liability		<u>11,654,905</u>	<u>10,645,209</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	25	-	(143,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>11,654,905</u></u>	<u><u>10,502,209</u></u>
Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	18	11,135,905	10,383,699
Restricted income funds	18	275,713	85,155
Restricted funds excluding pension liability	18	<u>11,411,618</u>	<u>10,468,854</u>
Pension reserve	18	-	(143,000)
Total restricted funds	18	11,411,618	10,325,854
Unrestricted income funds	18	243,287	176,355
Total funds		<u><u>11,654,905</u></u>	<u><u>10,502,209</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 45 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

DocuSigned by:

 839F9D42071E422...
 Richard Hover
 Chair of Trustees

Date: 13 December 2023

The notes on pages 23 to 45 form part of these financial statements.

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	20	344,390	69,147
Cash flows from investing activities	21	428,533	(4,558)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		772,923	64,589
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		323,719	259,130
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22, 23	<hr/> <hr/> 1,096,642	<hr/> <hr/> 323,719

The notes on pages 23 to 45 form part of these financial statements

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

1. General information

Inspira Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee, incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is detailed on page 1.

2. Accounting policies

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

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic 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 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Inspira Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Going concern

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

2.3 Income

All income is 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 year is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

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

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

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 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.

• **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.

Where relevant, expenditure is shown inclusive of any irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes. No tax charge has arisen in the year.

2.7 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Long-term leasehold property	-	2%	straight line
Furniture and equipment	-	10%	straight line
Computer equipment	-	33%	straight line

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.

Inspira Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.8 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 bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. 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.

2.9 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

2.10 Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as 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 on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

2.11 Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the 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.

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For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments 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 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The ultimate responsibility for setting the assumptions is that of the Academy Trust, as the employer, however each year the LGPS actuary proposes a standard set of assumptions as part of the valuation exercise, using their expert opinion, and which comply with the accounting requirements. The Academy Trust has, in practice with most employers, adopted the recommended actuarial assumptions following further consultation with its auditors to ensure these assumptions are reasonable and in line with those adopted by other Academy Trusts.

The key assumption is the discount rate, which is the estimated rate of long-term investment returns. This year the discount rate used of 5.30% is higher than the rate of 4.25% used in 2022. Since a higher discount rate means assets will grow more rapidly in the future, this results in lower current liabilities. This is the key driver for the reduction in the carried LGPS deficit from £143k during the year.

Critical areas of judgment:

LGPS asset recognition

FRS 102 section 28.22 allows an entity to recognise a pension asset "only to the extent it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan."

Whilst the LGPS actuarial valuation report for the year ended 31 August 2023 indicates a defined benefit asset of £141k exists at the year end date, the Trustees have considered that there is insufficient evidence that a surplus being recognised would ever result in a repayment or reduction in contributions, given that such a surplus is probably only temporary. Also, as a longer term employer that is open to new members, there isn't a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust will ever reach a point of cessation that would enable access to a return of surplus.

The actuarial gain has therefore been restricted to instead leave a break-even position on the Balance Sheet with neither an asset or liability recognised.

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4. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Donations	10,285	-	10,285	6,443
Capital grants	-	874,296	874,296	14,931
	<u>10,285</u>	<u>874,296</u>	<u>884,581</u>	<u>21,374</u>
<i>Analysis of 2022 total by fund</i>	<u>6,443</u>	<u>14,931</u>	<u>21,374</u>	

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Lettings	33,060	33,060	26,085
Extended school provision	110,507	110,507	98,423
Insurance claims	35,021	35,021	26,231
Other	49,506	49,506	47,888
	<u>228,094</u>	<u>228,094</u>	<u>198,627</u>
<i>Analysis of 2022 total by fund</i>	<u>198,627</u>	<u>198,627</u>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Bank interest	-	-	736
	<u>736</u>	<u>736</u>	
<i>Analysis of 2022 total</i>			

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7. Funding for educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Educational operations				
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,878,184	2,878,184	2,655,409
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Rates reclaim	-	-	-	33,519
Pupil Premium	-	262,479	262,479	245,640
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	126,610	126,610	119,964
PE & Sports grant	-	45,327	45,327	28,473
Connect the Classroom grant	-	-	-	67,868
Schools supplementary grant	-	35,075	35,075	35,075
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	92,873	92,873	-
Others	-	12,027	12,027	9,094
	-	3,452,575	3,452,575	3,195,042
Other Government grants				
Local Authority - Special educational projects	-	158,587	158,587	172,752
Other Local Authority revenue grants	-	34,442	34,442	53,506
Other Government revenue grants	-	5,600	5,600	6,963
	-	198,629	198,629	233,221
Other income from educational operations	21,873	-	21,873	14,882
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	5,284
Other DfE/ ESFA Covid-19 funding	-	51,119	51,119	22,932
	-	51,119	51,119	28,216
	21,873	3,702,323	3,724,196	3,471,361
<i>Analysis of 2022 total by fund</i>	14,882	3,456,479	3,471,361	

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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8. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2023	Premises 2023	Other 2023	Total 2023	<i>Total 2022</i>
	£	£	£	£	£
Educational operations:					
Direct costs	2,480,512	113,724	249,818	2,844,054	2,832,187
Allocated support costs	352,657	322,997	337,467	1,013,121	1,217,728
	<u>2,833,169</u>	<u>436,721</u>	<u>587,285</u>	<u>3,857,175</u>	<u>4,049,915</u>
<i>Analysis of 2022 total</i>	<u>3,077,798</u>	<u>411,882</u>	<u>560,235</u>	<u>4,049,915</u>	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2023	Support costs 2023	Total funds 2023	<i>Total funds 2022</i>
	£	£	£	£
Educational operations	2,844,054	1,013,121	3,857,175	4,049,915
	<u>2,844,054</u>	<u>1,013,121</u>	<u>3,857,175</u>	
<i>Analysis of 2022 total</i>	<u>2,832,187</u>	<u>1,217,728</u>	<u>4,049,915</u>	

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2023	<i>Total funds 2022</i>
	£	£
Staff costs	352,657	613,654
Technology costs	5,849	5,580
Premises costs	322,997	294,842
Governance costs	18,403	15,965
Other support costs	313,215	287,687
	<u>1,013,121</u>	<u>1,217,728</u>

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For the Year Ended 31 August 2023

10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	
Operating lease rentals	7,960	<i>11,197</i>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	125,133	<i>124,407</i>
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	10,250	<i>9,190</i>
- other services	3,330	<i>2,000</i>
	<u>137,673</u>	<u><i>146,794</i></u>

11. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Wages and salaries	2,126,063	<i>2,105,526</i>
Social security costs	183,693	<i>186,344</i>
Pension costs	486,547	<i>762,951</i>
	<u>2,796,303</u>	<u><i>3,054,821</i></u>
Agency staff costs	36,866	<i>22,977</i>
	<u>2,833,169</u>	<u><i>3,077,798</i></u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	No.	<i>No.</i>
Management	4	<i>4</i>
Teachers	34	<i>34</i>
Administration and support	55	<i>59</i>
	<u>93</u>	<u><i>97</i></u>

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11. Staff (continued)

b. Staff numbers (continued)

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	No.	<i>No.</i>
Management	4	4
Teachers	29	33
Administration and support	37	37
	<u>70</u>	<u>74</u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	No.	<i>No.</i>
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
	<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £344,438 (2022 - £345,292).

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2022 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

13. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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14. Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- Provision of school improvement lead
- Provision of a business support service
- Internal audit, external audit, Teachers' Pension EOYC audit
- Local Government Pension Scheme actuarial report
- Trust leadership team subscriptions/ membership
- Leadership Coaching for Trust Leadership Team
- CPD
- Trustees' subscriptions/ memberships
- Corporate banking facility
- Trust website and domain registration
- Information Commissioners Office registration
- DBS costs for trustees, members and central staff

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

8.25% of General Annual Grant (GAG) funding.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	
Chartham Primary School	131,948	119,663
St Stephen's Infant School	100,761	97,433
Total	232,709	217,096

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15. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	10,496,520	-	16,069	28,454	10,541,043
Additions	-	677,663	8,636	20,750	707,049
At 31 August 2023	<u>10,496,520</u>	<u>677,663</u>	<u>24,705</u>	<u>49,204</u>	<u>11,248,092</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	165,807	-	551	9,887	176,245
Charge for the year	113,724	-	1,607	9,802	125,133
At 31 August 2023	<u>279,531</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,158</u>	<u>19,689</u>	<u>301,378</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2023	<u>10,216,989</u>	<u>677,663</u>	<u>22,547</u>	<u>29,515</u>	<u>10,946,714</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>10,330,713</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,518</u>	<u>18,567</u>	<u>10,364,798</u>

Included in the net book value of property displayed above are the following amounts ascribable to land:

	2023 £	2022 £
Long-term leasehold land	<u>4,644,520</u>	<u>4,644,520</u>

16. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	4,593	1,585
Recoverable VAT	26,224	17,891
Prepayments and accrued income	251,963	76,835
	<u>282,780</u>	<u>96,311</u>

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17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	93,672	6,867
Accruals and deferred income	577,559	132,752
	<u>671,231</u>	<u>139,619</u>
	<u><u>671,231</u></u>	<u><u>139,619</u></u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	73,996	60,819
Resources deferred during the year	83,659	73,996
Amounts released from previous periods	(73,996)	(60,819)
	<u>83,659</u>	<u>73,996</u>
	<u><u>83,659</u></u>	<u><u>73,996</u></u>

The deferred income is in respect of Universal Infant Free School Meals grant funding and trips income received in advance of the 2023/24 academic year.

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18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	176,355	260,252	(114,294)	(79,026)	-	243,287
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,878,184	(2,955,961)	250,038	-	172,261
Pupil Premium	50,080	262,479	(175,194)	(89,758)	-	47,607
UIFSM	-	126,610	(126,610)	-	-	-
PE & Sports Funding	-	45,327	(39,299)	(3,037)	-	2,991
Other Government Grants	-	198,629	(211,610)	29,465	-	16,484
Other ESFA/DfE funding	35,075	191,094	(60,736)	(129,063)	-	36,370
Pension reserve	(143,000)	-	(30,000)	-	173,000	-
	(57,845)	3,702,323	(3,599,410)	57,645	173,000	275,713
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed assets	10,364,798	-	(125,133)	707,049	-	10,946,714
ESFA/DfE capital grants	18,901	874,296	(18,338)	(685,668)	-	189,191
	10,383,699	874,296	(143,471)	21,381	-	11,135,905
Total Restricted funds	10,325,854	4,576,619	(3,742,881)	79,026	173,000	11,411,618
Total funds	10,502,209	4,836,871	(3,857,175)	-	173,000	11,654,905

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents core funding for the educational activities of the Academy Trust and has been provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) by the Department for Education.

GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the academy trust. The transfer into the GAG fund is from the unrestricted fund and has been made to cover the excess of GAG expenditure over GAG income in the year.

The Pupil premium fund is used to track funding received to improve education outcomes for disadvantaged pupils.

The UIFSM fund is used to track the funding received to offer free school meals to pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2.

The PE & Sports fund is used to track the funding received to help ensure that children have access to sport and physical activities.

The Other DfE/ESFA grants fund is used to track other government grant money received from the DfE/ESFA and connected bodies.

The other government grants fund is used to track grants provided by government departments and the Local Authority.

The pension reserve is a restricted fund to account for the liability arising under the Local Government Pension Scheme.

The restricted fixed asset funds are carried forward to meet the specific costs of fixed asset projects and to cover the depreciation charges that will be required on these projects going forward and the current fixed assets held. The transfer in to the fund of £21,381 represents capital expenditure met from revenue funds.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021</i>				<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022</i>
	£	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	£	£
		£	£	£		£
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	120,544	220,688	(120,279)	(44,598)	-	176,355
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	18,955	2,655,409	(2,702,131)	27,767	-	-
Pupil Premium	22,343	245,640	(226,295)	8,392	-	50,080
UIFSM	9,361	119,964	(129,325)	-	-	-
PE & Sports Funding	7,136	28,473	(35,609)	-	-	-
Other Government Grants	-	233,221	(233,221)	-	-	-
Covid Catch Up Funding	20,390	3,335	(23,725)	-	-	-
Other ESFA/DfE funding	19,560	170,437	(154,922)	-	-	35,075
Pension reserve	(1,415,000)	-	(300,000)	-	1,572,000	(143,000)
	<u>(1,317,255)</u>	<u>3,456,479</u>	<u>(3,805,228)</u>	<u>36,159</u>	<u>1,572,000</u>	<u>(57,845)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed assets	10,469,717	-	(124,408)	19,489	-	10,364,798
ESFA/DfE capital grants	15,020	14,931	-	(11,050)	-	18,901
	<u>10,484,737</u>	<u>14,931</u>	<u>(124,408)</u>	<u>8,439</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>10,383,699</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>9,167,482</u>	<u>3,471,410</u>	<u>(3,929,636)</u>	<u>44,598</u>	<u>1,572,000</u>	<u>10,325,854</u>
Total funds	<u><u>9,288,026</u></u>	<u><u>3,692,098</u></u>	<u><u>(4,049,915)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,572,000</u></u>	<u><u>10,502,209</u></u>

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Chartham Primary School	400,688	172,675
St Stephen's Infant School	103,098	88,074
Central	15,214	761
	<u>519,000</u>	<u>261,510</u>
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	519,000	261,510
Restricted fixed asset fund	11,135,905	10,383,699
Pension reserve	-	(143,000)
Total	<u><u>11,654,905</u></u>	<u><u>10,502,209</u></u>

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Chartham Primary School	1,285,362	178,124	123,510	355,126	1,942,122	1,914,136
St Stephen's Infant School	1,024,817	112,267	93,021	285,808	1,515,913	1,449,884
Central	200,333	32,266	427	40,981	274,007	561,487
Academy Trust	<u><u>2,510,512</u></u>	<u><u>322,657</u></u>	<u><u>216,958</u></u>	<u><u>681,915</u></u>	<u><u>3,732,042</u></u>	<u><u>3,925,507</u></u>

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,946,714	10,946,714
Current assets	249,412	389,698	740,312	1,379,422
Creditors due within one year	(6,125)	(113,985)	(551,121)	(671,231)
Total	<u><u>243,287</u></u>	<u><u>275,713</u></u>	<u><u>11,135,905</u></u>	<u><u>11,654,905</u></u>

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19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,364,798	10,364,798
Current assets	179,165	221,964	18,901	420,030
Creditors due within one year	(2,810)	(136,809)	-	(139,619)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(143,000)	-	(143,000)
Total	<u>176,355</u>	<u>(57,845)</u>	<u>10,383,699</u>	<u>10,502,209</u>

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

	2023 £	2022
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	979,696	(357,817)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	125,133	124,408
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(874,296)	(14,931)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	26,000	276,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	4,000	24,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(447,755)	38,939
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	531,612	(21,452)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>344,390</u>	<u>69,147</u>

21. Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £	2022
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(707,049)	(19,489)
Capital grants from DfE Group	1,135,582	14,931
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>428,533</u>	<u>(4,558)</u>

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22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	
Cash in hand and at bank	1,096,642	323,719

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022	Cash flows	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	323,719	772,923	1,096,642

24. Capital commitments

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	£
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	520,252	-

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25. Pension commitments

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 Kent County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to 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 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 30 October 2023. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million
- the SCAPE discount rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI, and is based on the Office for Budget Responsibility's forecast for long-term GDP growth.

The revised employer contribution rate, arising from the 2020 valuation, is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £308,000 (2022 - £314,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2023/10/valuation-result.aspx>).

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 contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £185,000 (2022 - £191,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £148,000 (2022 - £151,000) and employees' contributions totalled £37,000 (2022 - £40,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.5 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.85	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.85	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.30	4.25
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.85	2.90

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.70	21.0
Females	23.20	23.5
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.0	22.3
Females	24.60	24.9

Sensitivity analysis

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(39)	(47)
Discount rate -0.1%	39	48
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	46	48
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(45)	(46)
CPI rate +0.1%	39	45
CPI rate -0.1%	(38)	(46)

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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2023	<i>At 31 August 2022</i>
	£	£
Equities	1,225,000	1,038,000
Gilts	11,000	9,000
Corporate bonds	266,000	210,000
Property	194,000	186,000
Cash and other liquid assets	20,000	27,000
Other	211,000	114,000
Total market value of assets	1,927,000	1,584,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £(12,000) (2022 - £(17,000)).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	£
Current service cost	(174,000)	(427,000)
Interest income	71,000	24,000
Interest cost	(74,000)	(47,000)
Administrative expenses	(1,000)	(1,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(178,000)	(451,000)

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	£
At 1 September	1,727,000	2,650,000
Current service cost	174,000	427,000
Interest cost	74,000	47,000
Employee contributions	37,000	40,000
Actuarial gains	(85,000)	(1,613,000)
Benefits paid	-	176,000
At 31 August	1,927,000	1,727,000

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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
At 1 September	1,584,000	<i>1,235,000</i>
Interest income	71,000	<i>24,000</i>
Actuarial gains/(losses)	88,000	<i>(41,000)</i>
Employer contributions	148,000	<i>151,000</i>
Employee contributions	37,000	<i>40,000</i>
Benefits paid	-	<i>176,000</i>
Admin expenses	(1,000)	<i>(1,000)</i>
At 31 August	<u>1,927,000</u>	<u><i>1,584,000</i></u>

26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	
Not later than 1 year	7,960	<i>7,960</i>
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	18,470	<i>26,430</i>
	<u>26,430</u>	<u><i>34,390</i></u>

27. Members' liability

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

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28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

Expenditure related transactions

E. Whitehead, a trustee, provided piano lessons to pupils at Chartham Primary School. This is on a temporary basis to cover a period of maternity leave and on the same payment terms as the existing piano teacher. During the year, the trust has paid £300 for the piano lessons (2022: £Nil). There were no amounts owing to the trustee at either year end.

Income related transactions

The Polish Saturday School, of which A. Gordon, a trustee, is Head Teacher, rented a room from St Stephen's Infant School under a standard letting agreement and normal commercial terms. The lettings income received in the year was £2,400 (2022: £2,520), and no amounts were outstanding at the year end (2022: £Nil).

