

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Fred Corbett Bishop Alan Hopes Ruth Hollis Julie O'Connor (resigned 31 August 2022) Monsignor Tony Rogers Andy Stone (appointed 1 September 2022)
Trustees	Ruth Hollis, Chair Glen Batchelor Gerry Batty (to 24 October 2021) Phil Beecher Brian Conway, Chief Executive Officer Peter Godfrey Daniel McKeown Julie O'Connor (appointed 1 September 2022) John Prestage Darryl Smith Flavio Vettese (resigned 31 August 2022) Mark Welsh (appointed 1 September 2022)
Company registered number	07913261
Principal and registered office	Notre Dame High School Surrey Street Norwich Norfolk NR1 3PB
Company secretary	Peter Pazitka
Chief executive officer	Brian Conway
Senior management team	Brian Conway, CEO Kim Payne, Deputy CEO and Director of Trust Improvement Roger Higgins, Director of Professional Development Peter Pazitka, Director of Finance and Operations, CFO Helen Armstrong, Executive Headteacher, St Mary and St Peter and St Mary's (from 28 February 2022) Samantha Barlow, Headteacher, Catholic Primary schools of the Waveney Valley Mark Cooper, Headteacher, Sacred Heart (to 18 April 2022) Priscilla Crane, Executive Headteacher, St Mary and St Peter and St Mary's (to 31 December 2021) Rachel Edwards, Headteacher, St Martha's (from 1 September 2022) Abi Goddard, Head of School, St Mary and St Peter's (from 25 April 2022) Felicity Hope, Headteacher, St Francis of Assisi Anne-Marie McElhinney, Headteacher, St Thomas More Aidan McGovern, Headteacher St Martha's (to 31 December 2021) Ewa Parker, Head of School, St Mary's Hayley Pink, Interim Headteacher, St Martha's (from 1 January 2022 to 31 August 2022) Tom Pinnington, Headteacher, Notre Dame High School Sally Robertshaw, Interim Headteacher, Sacred Heart (from 19 April 2022) Rachel Swindell, Headteacher, St Augustine's

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Independent auditors	Price Bailey LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Anglia House, 6 Central Avenue St Andrews Business Park Thorpe St Andrew Norwich Norfolk NR7 0HR
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc 16 Gentlemans Walk Norwich Norfolk NR2 1LZ
Solicitors	NP Law Limited County Hall Martineau Lane Norwich Norfolk NR1 2DH
Diocese	Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

As at 31 August 2022, St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust operated nine primary academies and one secondary academy in Norfolk, North Suffolk and in Peterborough. Its academies had a combined pupil capacity of 3,692 and a combined roll of 3,925 (excl. nursery) in the school census in October 2022.

St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust was formed on 1 April 2016 and comprised Notre Dame High School Norwich, St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Costessey), St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School (Norwich) and St Mary and St Peter Catholic Primary School (Gorleston).

On 1 May 2016 St Benet's Catholic Primary School (Beccles), St Edmund's Catholic Primary School (Bungay) and St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Lowestoft) joined the Multi Academy Trust.

On 1 September 2019, three more primary schools joined the Trust: St Martha's Catholic Primary School (King's Lynn), Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Primary School (Peterborough) and St Thomas More Roman Catholic Primary School (Peterborough).

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of St John The Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust.

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

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnities

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, every Trustee or other officer or auditor of the Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in any connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to affairs of the Trust. As explained in Note 14 to the Financial Statements the limit of this indemnity is £10,000,000.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The members of the Trust are appointed by the Diocesan Bishop. The members appoint the Trustees (Directors), taking into account the skills and expertise necessary for effective operation of the Board. The management of the Trust is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust's Articles of Association.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Training and induction provided for new Trustees is assessed based on their existing experience and any statutory requirements. Induction may include training on educational, legal and financial matters where necessary. All new trustees are encouraged to visit the various schools, to meet with the Executive Headteacher / Headteacher / Head of School, staff and pupils, and are provided with key documents such as the Articles of Association, the Scheme of Delegation, the Governance Handbook, policies, procedures, budgets, accounts, plans and any other documents necessary to undertake their role as Trustees. Appropriate on-going training is available and organised as necessary and reported on at Directors' meetings. Regular Board self-assessment and a skills audits feed into the training and development plans. The training is organised both internally and through the governance support packages purchased externally. In November 2021 the Trust held its first Governance Conference for Trustees and Governors with internal and external expert speakers.

f. Organisational structure

The Trust has arranged its business in such a way that responsibilities and lines of accountability are clearly identified. The Trustees (who under company law are also company directors) are responsible for determining overall strategy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Trust's financial and operational performance, reviewing the educational progress of all academies and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) at each school or federation of schools are committees of the Trust Board. They have delegated responsibility for key aspects of each school, including ensuring clarity of vision and ethos, holding the Executive Headteacher / Headteacher/ Head of School to account and ensuring that funding is well spent. The Board of Trustees retains formal accountability for the operation of each school, and for the strategic management and operation of the Trust as a whole. Risk management and governance is scrutinised by the Trust's Audit and Risk Committee. The Trust Board, its committees and LGBs meet at least once every term (or at least three times a year).

The day to day management of the Trust is the responsibility of the Chief Executive Officer, who is also the Trust's Accounting Officer and an ex-officio Trustee. Responsibility for the day to day running of each school is delegated by each LGB to its Headteacher / Head of School.

In the year to 31 August 2022 the Trust's Board met six times.

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

The pay and remuneration of key managerial personnel within the Trust is overseen by the Board of Trustees. Staff within the remit of School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) are paid in close alignment with this document. Performance management of these staff is carried out in line with policy requirements and any increase in salary is subject to the approval of the Local Governing Body (or its pay committee) reporting to the Trust's Resources Committee.

Staff subject to the National Joint Council pay scales for non-teaching staff in schools are paid in accordance with the St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust approved scales although a small number of staff have retained their Suffolk County Council / Peterborough City Council pay grades, or are paid on spot salary scales. A benchmarking exercise based on Norfolk County Council's single status reward package is carried out by the Trust's HR and Payroll provider, Education Personnel Management (EPM Ltd.), should a grading review be required. Any change in salary grades would be with the approval of the Board of Trustees.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance and management (continued)

h. Trade union facility time

This data relates to 1 April 2021 to 31 March 2022.

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	6
Full-time equivalent employee number	5.6

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	-
1%-50%	6
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time £000

Total cost of facility time	11
Total pay bill	17,225
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	0.06 %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	4.49 %
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i. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust operates in accordance with the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia (a registered charity with Charity Commission Number 278742).

The Catholic Primary Schools of the Waveney Valley (St Benet's, Beccles and St Edmund's, Bungay) are formally sponsored and supported by the Trust in accordance with its objectives and responsibilities. The Trusts as the sponsor is responsible for performance both academic and financial of the two schools, for monitoring of their performance and taking action where necessary.

The detail of all Related Party Transactions is provided in the Notes to the Financial Statements.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance and management (continued)

j. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trustees recognise their responsibilities under equality legislation, specifically the Equality Act 2010. All those taking part in the recruitment and selection process have responsibility of applying the Trust's policy on equal opportunities to avoid unlawful discrimination. The Trustees recognise that all public sector organisations are under a single equality duty to demonstrate that they are achieving equality in their workforce across all protected characteristics.

The Trust meets on a regular basis with local area trade union representatives to discuss any relevant issues.

The Heads of all academies meet on a regular basis with the Executive Team to ensure an exchange of views. Holding these meetings online worked well and enabled all Heads to meet at the same time, rather than clusters of schools potentially having separate meetings due to the geographical spread of the Trust.

While most of engagements with and between the employees happen on a schools level, there are many other Trust-wide groups and initiatives which meet and cooperate closely throughout the year (e.g. SEN coordinators). The Trust encourages the participation of employees and their involvement in the performance of the Trust and in achieving its objects and priorities.

Joint training happens on inset days throughout the year as well as link meetings of departments / subjects across the Trust. Frequent e-mail communication (e.g. weekly all staff bulletin at the NDHS) is used to share the up-to-date information and increase staff involvement. Staff briefings are held in person or via video conferencing platforms.

The Trust gives full and fair consideration to all applications for employment. All employees, disabled or non-disabled receive appropriate training to promote their career development. Employees who become disabled are retained in their existing posts where possible or retrained for suitable alternative posts. The Trust provides support through occupational health and access to work as appropriate.

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

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The object of the Trust is to establish, maintain and develop Catholic schools (and other schools, subject to the approval of the Bishop) within the Diocese.

Mission Statement

The mission statement of the St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust is:

Inspired by the life of Christ, we provide an exceptional education in our Catholic schools enabling our children to fully embrace all possibilities, flourish, develop their faith and therefore to choose a path that enables them to be a positive influence upon our world.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities (continued)

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The principal objective and activity of the Trust was to continue to improve the educational outcomes (and thereby life chances) for all of its pupils, by making its schools even better.

The Catholic life of the schools has been enhanced by shared activities and worship. Due to the pandemic, there were restrictions in place for some of the year, which led to some of these activities being held online. Other activities, like the Trust pilgrimage to Walsingham returned during 2022.

St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust was founded in 2016 and currently comprises nine primary schools and one high school in Norfolk, Peterborough and Suffolk. Our schools are diverse, welcoming and compassionate faith-based communities, open to all and serving through partnership. Since our creation we have been on a journey of continual growth and improvement. As we grow in size, we gain more capacity and expertise across the Trust, which supports us collectively on our improvement journey.

Short / medium and longer term aims for this and subsequent years:

Short / Medium Term Aims:

- Return to and exceed levels of attainment and progress from pre Covid years
- Monitor risks such as challenges in finance, recruitment and standards in schools and mitigate where needed, reviewing budgets carefully
- Ensure we recruit to key Leadership positions

Longer Term Aims:

- Work towards more spaces in our schools by supporting growth of schools and new schools where possible
- Second more staff to Leadership positions within the Trust and grow further leadership opportunities
- Grow the full range of shared services between our Catholic Multi Academy Trust
- Reach the top ten for EYFS, KS1, KS2, Progress 8 and A Level results in the Eastern Region with no PP gap

c. Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission (on their website at Charities and Public Benefit) in exercising their powers or duties.

The key public benefit delivered by the Trust is the maintenance and delivery of high-quality education to pupils of Norfolk, Suffolk and Peterborough, the surrounding areas and parishes. It operates in collaborative manner to the mutual benefit of schools, their staff and pupils.

Through its representative, the Trust continued to be an active member of Norfolk Schools Forum.

As described in the latter sections of the report, annually the academies organise a number of fundraising events for the benefit of other charities, locally, nationally and internationally.

Before lockdown restrictions, some of the schools were able to hire their premises to sports clubs, church groups and other community organisations. Now that the epidemiological situation has improved the schools re-started the hire of premises to external groups where this is considered viable.

Through the Julian Teaching School Hub and Research school, the Trust is involved in collaborative working with other educational institutions nationally.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The Covid-19 Pandemic significantly affected the potential of schools to teach their students between March 2020 and July 2022. The Trust had been awaiting OFSTED Inspections at several schools, with an expectation of Good outcomes, the two most recent Inspections have moved schools from Requires Improvement to Good. The Trust is confident in the Leadership of the schools, having appointed several new Heads to schools in the last 2 years.

Overall average standards of outcomes across the Primary Schools in the Trust in 2022 were positively above the national average.

Notre Dame High School (NDHS) achieved an excellent set of results in 2022 – GCSE Progress 8 +0.74 and A Level VA in the top 10% of the country. The outcomes for pupils at NDHS in 2020 and 2021 were based upon Teacher / Centre Assessment, and again were extremely good, validated by the exam board scrutiny, reflecting the historical high outcomes of the school.

Primary KS2 results in 2022 were in general good, although reflect the challenges of COVID over the last few years. Careful analysis of results, school by school, is undertaken by the Deputy CEO and plans are in place where performance is weaker.

Local Governing Bodies and Trust Leadership staff are working to address the feedback received from Ofsted inspections and sharing examples of good practice across the Trust, such as the information received via VNET reviews and the work of the Deputy CEO on Curriculum Development and the Trust wide CPD project on Adaptive Teaching.

Interventions and catch up continue to be priorities for pupils, especially the disadvantaged groups.

a. Key performance indicators

Achievements include:

- All schools, bar St Marys in Lowestoft, have Good or Outstanding Ofsted gradings
- All schools have good or outstanding Section 48 Diocesan Inspection outcomes for Catholic Ethos
- Notre Dame High School was, in 2022, the second highest performing state school in Norfolk for Attainment 8.
- Notre Dame High School's Research Schools and Teaching School Hub are making a significant contribution to improving Teaching and Learning within the Trust, the Norwich Education Priority Area and Regionally. The Teaching School Hub is highly respected and engages with a high number of schools in Norfolk and beyond.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Going concern

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

Financial review

Post-covid recovery represented the most significant event affecting the Trust's finances. Staff absences and recruitment difficulties resulted in significant agency costs being incurred by the schools.

In the area of capital funding, the availability of suppliers and materials as well as high price volatility and inflation added further pressure to our finances.

Summary of income and expenditure

This gives a useful overview of how the trust has spent its money this year.

	Restricted General Funds £000's	Unrestricted Funds £000's	Fixed Asset Fund £000's	Pension Reserve £000's	Total £000's
Incoming Resources	21,108	753	788	-	22,649
Resources Expended	(22,405)	(718)	-	-	(23,123)
LGPS Charge	-	-	-	(2,918)	(2,918)
Depreciation	-	-	(406)	-	(406)
Employer contributions paid	-	-	-	1,009	1,009
Total Resources Expended	(22,405)	(718)	(406)	(1,909)	(25,438)
Transfers between funds	305	(305)			-
Spend on Revenue from Capital	398	-	(398)	-	-
Actuarial Gains	-	-	-	12,741	12,741
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(594)	(270)	(16)	10,832	9,952
Balance at 1 September 2021	845	2,220	3,627	(14,027)	(7,335)
Balance at 31 August 2022	251	1,950	3,611	(3,195)	2,617

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report (continued)

Restricted General Funds

In the most simple terms the trust spent 106% of its income during the year. Net transfers into the fund were made of £703k, leaving a surplus of £251k to carry forward. Expenditure included £398k, which was reimbursed by capital funding (SCA). The surplus is attributable to an increase in GAG income received in the year as well as COVID related grant income also received.

Unrestricted Funds

Unrestricted income generated in the year amounted to £753k and expenditure was £718k, an in year surplus of £35k. Transfers of £305k out of the fund were made, leaving unrestricted funds carried forward of £1,950k.

Fixed Asset Fund

Capital grants of £788k were received in the year. All of this was spent on projects. Depreciation of fixed assets amounted to £406k. Net transfers out of the fund were £398k, leaving total restricted fixed asset funds carried forward of £3,611k.

Pension Reserve

£1,009k was paid into the LGPS during the year. Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the Academy is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £3,195k. This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises and such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years. While there has been a significant reduction in the opening deficit of £14,027k resulting from the application of actuarial assumptions and does not guarantee that contribution rates will reduce and ease the cash flow effect on the Trust.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

a. Reserves policy

The Trust Resources Committee has reviewed reserve levels and believes that they provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants to allow for unexpected situations such as urgent maintenance work.

As at 31 August 2022 the balances of the reserves / funds held by the Trust were as follows:

Restricted fixed assets funds:	£3,611k	(2021: £3,627k)
Restricted general fund:	£251k	(2021: £845k)
Restricted pension reserve fund:	(£3,195k)	(2021: (£14,027k))
Unrestricted general fund:	£1,905k	(2021: £2,175k)
Unrestricted designated fund:	£45k	(2021: £45k)

Decrease in the pension liability from £14,027k (31 August 2021) to £3,195k at 31 August 2022 is mainly attributable to the in-year gain on the actuarial remeasurement of £12,741k.

The Trust Resources Committee reviews the reserve levels annually to make sure they provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants to allow for unexpected situations such as urgent maintenance work. The target for the optimal general revenue reserves held by the Trust's schools is 8% of their total annual income. This is approximately 1/12 of the annual income. The actual reserves held reached £2.2m, which is about 10% of the annual income recognised in 2021/22 (excl. restricted fixed assets funds).

While the Trust is a single legal entity, it is made up of 10 academies and the Trust Resources Committee reviews the reserves balances individually, school by school. Those schools with reserves higher than the notional 8% of income have plans in place to make sure the funds are used for the benefit of the existing pupils. Some of the reserves will be offset against future years' deficits.

b. Investment policy

In accordance with the Academy Trust Handbook the Board of Directors / Trustees may invest to further the Trust's charitable aims, whilst ensuring that the investment risk is properly managed. As at 31 August 2022 the cash held by the Trust is mainly kept at the Trust's current bank accounts.

A sum of £1m has been invested into a 95-day notice account (rolling) with the Trust's bank. The additional £0.5m has been invested to a 32-day notice account (rolling). The investment products are tightly controlled and the security of funds takes precedence over revenue maximisation.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have responsibility to assess the strategic risks to which the Academy Trust and its constituent academies are exposed and have a risk management register which is updated at least annually or when the risk environment changes.

Chief risks identified include:

- Financial pressures of unfunded pay awards to teaching and support staff as well as non-pay inflation resulting in accelerated reduction in schools' reserves.
- Low pupil intake in some of the primary schools.
- Challenging recruitment climate.
- Insufficient capacity of schools' staff and lack of Catholic leaders in East Anglia.
- Remaining uncertainty around the continued impact of Covid pandemic on the schools, the staff and the pupils.

The Trustees continue to implement a number of systems to assess risks that the Trust faces, especially in the strategic risks areas and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures and internal financial controls, in order to minimise risk. These are reported on to Trustees by Executive staff.

Competition for students to fill school places continues to grow. This is particularly noticeable in areas where there are a number of primary providers. The Trust will continue to use the allocated marketing budget to raise the profile of both the Trust and the schools within it to ensure that parents can make an informed choice. Lower pupil numbers in some schools are related to local demographic factors.

Financial pressures on school budgets continue. The announcement of future increases to teacher's remuneration and support staff pay awards represent a challenge which all schools are facing. This year the added risks include high levels of inflation in most areas of non-payroll, especially the utilities.

Risk assessments and plans to deal with Covid-19 related risks are updated as and when the epidemiological situation changes.

The Trust explores different options when trying to recruit (e.g. apprenticeships, more focused advertising, co-operation with recruitment agencies). All schools are affected by shortages of staffing, which are evident in most groups of schools staff.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Fundraising

Fundraising from the public represents a very small part of the Trust's approach to raising money.

Rather than increasing the Trust's funds, the primary objective of many fundraising events held by the Trust or its constituent academies is generally to raise money for third party charities. The notion that we are connected to our neighbours as well as the principles of solidarity, subsidiarity and generosity are the main motivation behind any fundraising organised. The ability to fundraise during the pandemic has been limited. This may impact on the third party beneficiaries, but will not affect the Trust's finances.

The Directors are aware of the importance of good fundraising practices and compliance with the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016.

This covers:

- The Trust's approach to fundraising – described above;
- Details of any work with, and oversight of, any commercial participators/professional fundraisers – no commercial participators or professional fundraiser are involved;
- Confirmation that fundraising is conforming to recognised standards;
- Details of the monitoring of fundraising carried out on its behalf – The only fundraising carried out on behalf of the Trust or its academies is usually organised by Parent Teacher Associations (PTAs) of the individual schools. Representatives of the school are involved in any such activity to ensure a proper monitoring of any fundraising event;
- Any complaints – any complaints shall be directed to the Company Secretary of the Trust;
- Protection of the public, including vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and undue pressure to donate – participation in any fundraising event is organised on a voluntary basis with a due regard on the protection of the public.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Plans for future periods

'Prepare the Way' *Mark 1:3*

St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust was founded in 2016 and currently comprises nine primary schools and one high school in Norfolk, Peterborough and Suffolk. Our schools are diverse, welcoming and compassionate faith-based communities, open to all and serving through partnership. Since our creation we have been on a journey of continual growth and improvement. As we grow in size, we gain more capacity and expertise across the Trust, which supports us collectively on our improvement journey.

Vision

Our values and the distinctive ethos of our Trust of Catholic schools will enable every child and young person to receive the very best education, so that they are empowered to grow, learn and achieve. We will develop high quality leadership, curricula, teaching, learning and support across the Trust and in doing so will strengthen engagement with communities and achieve excellence in every aspect of our schools.

Improvement Journey

Our growth and developments are underpinned and informed by our Trust values and ethos. These values remain at the heart of everything we do, as we strive for the highest achievements within a culture of ambition, to achieve our vision and aims. We champion the vulnerable and disadvantaged and seek to develop the whole child, equipping each one with the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need for lifelong learning and to actively and positively shape the world around them.

All of our schools have features which make them centres of expertise and excellence in different ways and we work hard to share these practices. We also value our diversity and the unique character and ethos of each school. We support schools in doing what is right for their community, encouraging evidence-informed innovation through autonomy and seeking to align those aspects of school improvement that have the greatest impact in making a positive difference for the young people in our care.

In 2020-21 our focus was on improving the curriculum, implemented by developing a shared understanding of excellent pedagogy across the Trust. We are proud of the way schools supported one another and rose to the challenges of keeping our communities safe and delivering high quality remote learning during the COVID pandemic. This focussed and responsive teaching, once schools reopened, laid solid foundations to build upon in 2021-22. In 2021-22 we increased the number of Professional Learning Networks to support the development of a broad and balanced curriculum. All schools excelled in supporting the increased social and emotional needs of pupils, as well as collaborating in a Trust / VNET Assessment project, working with a national expert to improve our formative assessment practices. We will continue to embed and refine these through our Adaptive Teaching Project in 2022-23.

Our Teaching School Hub bid was successful in 2020, and we developed Trust Teaching & Learning, Performance Development and CPD strategies. Implementing these, for example through our Trust CPD Project, is enabling us to deepen our work in developing excellent staff, building capacity and implementing a cohesive Trust-wide approach to high quality teaching and learning in 2021-22, with the expectation of improved outcomes. In 2022-23 we will continue to implement our Trust CPD Model and our People Strategy, so that we can maximise the potential of all staff and grow our own pipeline of talent.

We will use the expertise of the Teaching School Hub and the Research School based within our Trust to support our staff development, using evidence informed approaches to teaching and learning. We will continue to develop collaborative practices that will best enable us to be 'better together' and maximise the benefits from being part of a multi-academy Trust.

The Trust Directors will work closely with schools, their governors, staff, parents and the local community to develop together the successful young men and women of our future. We aspire for all our pupils to become valued citizens equipped with a vocation to serve their local community and global society.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Plans for future periods (continued)

Our aim is for every school in the Trust to be outstanding in its outcomes, results and ethos. We see this being shown in our young people as they move from each educational establishment as successful, rounded, ambitious, caring, moral and successful individuals to the next stage of their education and beyond.

The strategic aims of the St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust are:

- To enhance the distinctive Catholic nature of the schools and the Trust
- To ensure every child and young person receives the very best education so that they are empowered to develop, learn and achieve
- To develop and embed sustainable, high quality and robust leadership across the Trust and its schools
- To strengthen engagement between our schools and our communities
- To achieve excellence in facilities, staffing, professional development and resourcing

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

The Trust does not hold any funds as a custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. The details are provided in the Note 30 to the accounts.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 12 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Ruth Hollis
Chair of Trustees

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that St John the Baptist Catholic Multi 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 DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between St John The Baptist Catholic Multi 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 6 times during the year to 31 August 2022.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Ruth Hollis, Chair	6	6
Glen Batchelor	3	6
Gerry Batty (to 24 October 2021)	1	1
Phil Beecher	5	6
Brian Conway, Chief Executive Officer	5	6
Peter Godfrey	5	6
Daniel McKeown	5	6
John Prestage	3	6
Darryl Smith	3	6
Flavio Vettese (resigned 31 August 2022)	4	6

There were two changes to the composition of the Board during the year. The first one was a sudden departure of Gerry Batty who passed away in October 2021. The second one was a resignation of Flavio Vettese on 31 August 2022.

The Directors continued to oversee the management and administration of the Trust and the Academies run by the Trust and delegate authority and responsibility to others. The Trust Board continued to have the necessary strategic and legal oversight of the Trust and monitored all activities, determining the strategic direction of the Trust, assessing the performance of the Academies and establishing and reviewing the policies and practices governing the life of the Academies.

Conflicts of Interest

The Academy Trust has the following processes in place to manage conflicts of interest:

- Maintaining of an up-to-date and complete register of interests, with all declared interests being continually compared against transactions recorded on our finance system.
- The Trustees, the management and the finance staff being aware of the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook in relation to conflicts of interest. Declarations of interests are a standing item on all governors' and trustees' meetings.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Board has been supported at all its meeting by good quality papers prepared by the management (incl. CEO, Deputy CEO and CFO) and/or external professionals (e.g. auditors and solicitors).

Governance Review

A Board effectiveness review was conducted in the summer 2021. The Board analysed the findings and the proposed actions included targeted recruitment of new Board members from September 2022. The review will be a regular annual exercise.

Long term strategy for the Trust development continues to be considered in parallel with education plans and vision from the Diocese.

The Board met six times during the year. Since September 2021, the Board meetings were held in person, where possible.

The work of the Board has been supported by the sub-committees. The key information, including financial reports have been shared with the Chair of Trustees monthly and other Trustees six times a year.

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. The Committee has responsibility for three key areas: finance, premises, health & safety and staffing.

Its main purposes are:

- the initial review and authorisation of the annual budget for each Academy;
- the regular monitoring and scrutiny of the Academy management accounts;
- reviewing any Trust Procurement Policy and the Scheme of Financial Delegation;
- reviewing and checking details of contracts and purchases by the Academy;
- authorising the award of contracts and purchases;
- liaising as necessary with the Trust's Audit and Risk Committee (or the Trust Board if appropriate) to ensure accountability and propriety and to manage the level of financial risk within the Trust as well as review the effectiveness of the financial procedures and controls.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Glen Batchelor (Chair)	4	4
Brian Conway (Accounting Officer)	4	4
Ruth Hollis	4	4
Daniel McKeown	2	4
John Prestage	4	4
Flavio Vettese (resigned 31 August 2022)	2	4

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its main purposes are to:

- review systems of internal control and arrangements for the internal scrutiny, risk management, control and governance processes, and securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness (value for money);
- review the Statement on Internal Controls;
- advise the Directors on the appointment, reappointment, dismissal and remuneration of auditors and monitor their effectiveness;
- consider the reports of auditors and, when appropriate, advise the Directors of material controls issues;
- monitor implementation of agreed audit recommendations.

Attendance at Audit and Risk Committee meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Glen Batchelor	0	3
Philip Beecher (Chair)	2	3
Brian Conway (Accounting Officer)*	3	3
Peter Godfrey	3	3
John Prestage	2	3
Darryl Smith	3	3

* Employees of the Trust are not Audit and Risk Committee members, but the Accounting Officer and Chief Financial Officer attend the meetings to provide information and participate in discussions.

Teaching, Learning and Standards Committee

The third sub-committee of the Board of Trustees is Teaching, Learning and Standards Committee (TLS). Its main purposes are to:

- examine, review and approve a broad and balanced curriculum in each school;
- receive and challenge the educational data of each school;
- monitor and challenge the progress of all pupils, especially disadvantaged pupils;
- highlight areas of success and achievement;
- highlight areas of concern and monitor actions taken to address shortcomings;
- ensure that the Catholic ethos of each school is embedded across all areas.

During 2021/22, the TLS committee met three times.

Through the full Board meetings and the three sub-committees which report to the full Board, the Board of Trustees manages oversight of the Trust.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and 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 year by:

- Rigorously challenging performance in the schools in the Trust to demonstrate continued educational improvement;
- Entering into Trust-wide contracts to achieve better value.
- Reviewing contracts due for renewal (e.g. utilities).
- Working closely with public sector procurement organisations.
- Re-tendering some of the key services (e.g. internal audit, catering)

Arrangements are also in place to ensure consistency of good practice and good educational outcomes across the primary sector of the Trust with the previous appointment of a Primary Improvement Lead, now the Deputy CEO. She also oversees bought-in professional services to ensure the Trust is getting value for money from that provision.

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 St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal scrutiny function and has decided to appoint Larking Gowen LLP as internal auditor for all of 2021/22. From September 2022, Juniper Education are the Trust's new internal auditors.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. The internal scrutiny checks carried out in the current period focused on Key Financial Controls, Governance and Payroll and included:

- testing of payroll systems and general internal controls,
- testing of purchase systems and income and expenditure controls,
- testing of control account/ bank reconciliations,
- financial planning, monitoring and management and governance.

A separate review of all schools' website compliance with the DfE requirements was carried out in the summer term 2022 by an external company.

On an annual basis the auditor prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress. The work of internal auditors has been delivered as planned.

Significant assurance over the control environment was obtained - a generally sound system of control was in place but with some weaknesses identified in specific areas which could, if not rectified, put the achievement of objectives in those specific areas at risk.

All issues requiring immediate attention have been address promptly.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditors;
- 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 work of the external auditors;

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Audit and Risk Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

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

Ruth Hollis
Chair of Trustees
Date: 12 December 2022

Brian Conway
Accounting Officer

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of St John The Baptist Catholic Multi 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, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust 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 2021.

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.

Brian Conway
Accounting Officer
Date: 12 December 2022

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. 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 2021 to 2022;
- 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 operation.

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

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

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

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

Ruth Hollis
Chair of Trustees
Date: 12 December 2022

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST
JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St John The Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, 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 2021 to 2022 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 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

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; and
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the 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.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

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:

- We reviewed systems and procedures to identify potential areas of management override risk. In particular, we carried out testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of any large or unusual transactions to determine whether they were significant to our assessment.
- We reviewed key controls, authorisation procedures and decision making processes for any unusual or one-off transactions.
- We reviewed minutes of Trustee meetings and other relevant sub-committees of the Board and agreed the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- We have made enquiries of the Accounting Officer and senior management team to identify laws and regulations applicable to the Trust.
- We reviewed the risk management processes and procedures in place including a review of the Risk Register and Board assurance reporting and the Internal Scrutiny Reports.

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: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST
JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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.

John Warren BSc FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Anglia House, 6 Central Avenue

St Andrews Business Park

Thorpe St Andrew

Norwich

Norfolk

NR7 0HR

20 December 2022

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST JOHN
THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING
AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 19 July 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St John The Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of St John The Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of St John The Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated March 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST JOHN
THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY
(CONTINUED)**

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusions includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance.
- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officers statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and how the Trust.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Academy Trust, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity, propriety and compliance.
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, in order to support the regularity conclusion, including governance, internal controls, procurement and the application of income.

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 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant
Price Bailey LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Anglia House, 6 Central Avenue
St Andrews Business Park
Thorpe St Andrew
Norwich
Norfolk
NR7 0HR

Date: 20 December 2022

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	17	30	788	835	720
Other trading activities	5	734	-	-	734	453
Investments	6	2	-	-	2	2
Charitable activities: academy trust educational operations	4	-	21,078	-	21,078	20,593
Total income		753	21,108	788	22,649	21,768
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		80	-	-	80	55
Charitable activities	8	638	24,049	406	25,093	22,137
Teaching school hub	8	-	265	-	265	62
Total expenditure		718	24,314	406	25,438	22,254
Net income/(expenditure)		35	(3,206)	382	(2,789)	(486)
Transfers between funds	19	(305)	703	(398)	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(270)	(2,503)	(16)	(2,789)	(486)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	12,741	-	12,741	(2,426)
Net movement in funds		(270)	10,238	(16)	9,952	(2,912)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		2,220	(13,182)	3,627	(7,335)	(4,423)
Net movement in funds		(270)	10,238	(16)	9,952	(2,912)
Total funds carried forward		1,950	(2,944)	3,611	2,617	(7,335)

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

The notes on pages 33 to 68 form part of these financial statements.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07913261

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £000	2021 £000
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	15	3,053	2,732
		3,053	2,732
Current assets			
Debtors	16	656	552
Investments		1,506	1,504
Cash at bank and in hand		2,104	3,229
		4,266	5,285
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(1,494)	(1,311)
Net current assets		2,772	3,974
Total assets less current liabilities		5,825	6,706
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(13)	(14)
Net assets excluding pension liability		5,812	6,692
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	26	(3,195)	(14,027)
Total net assets/(liabilities)		2,617	(7,335)

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07913261

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note		2022 £000	2021 £000
Funds of the academy trust				
Restricted funds:				
Fixed asset funds	19	3,611	3,627	
Restricted income funds	19	251	845	
		<u>3,862</u>	<u>4,472</u>	
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	19	3,862	4,472	
Pension reserve	19	(3,195)	(14,027)	
		<u>667</u>	<u>(9,555)</u>	
Total restricted funds	19		667	(9,555)
Unrestricted income funds	19		1,950	2,220
			<u>2,617</u>	<u>(7,335)</u>
Total funds			<u><u>2,617</u></u>	<u><u>(7,335)</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 29 to 68 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 12 December 2022 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Ruth Hollis
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 33 to 68 form part of these financial statements.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £000	2021 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	21	(1,185)	828
Cash flows from investing activities	22	62	(54)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,123)	774
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		4,733	3,959
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	23, 24	3,610	4,733

The notes on pages 33 to 68 form part of these financial statements

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The academy trust is registered in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is Notre Dame High School Norwich, Surrey Street, Norwich, NR1 3PB. The place of business is at each of the individual school site within the Trust.

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.

1.1 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 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

St John The Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in pound sterling which is the functional currency of the academy trust and rounded to the nearest £'000.

1.2 Going concern

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the 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.

• **Donated goods, facilities and services**

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

- **Expenditure on raising funds**

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

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 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.

1.6 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.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 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. The IT / Computer equipment is capitalised regardless of the value.

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.

The academy trust occupies land (including buildings) which are owned by the Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia. The Diocese are the providers of the academy on the same basis as when the academy was a maintained school. The academy trust occupies the land (and buildings) under a licence. This continuing permission of the Diocese is pursuant to, and subject to, the Diocese's charitable objects, and is part of the Catholic Church's contribution since 1847 to provide State funded education in partnership with the State. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land (and buildings) to the academy trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the academy trust. The Diocese have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the academy trust less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the land (including buildings). Having considered the factual matrix under which the academy trust is occupying the land (and buildings) the Trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the academy trust will not be recognised on the balance sheet of the Trust.

The land and buildings of Notre Dame High School, Norwich were valued by DTZ on behalf of the ESFA on the 1 March 2012 at £17,208k. The valuation reports for the primary schools have been received, however, in some instances these only reflect the valuations of the playing fields, which are leased from the Local Authority, the valuations of which are included within Fixed Assets, but with no valuations of the land and buildings owned by the Diocese. In other instances, valuations have been received for the Diocese, which have consistently not been recognised in fixed assets, these amounted to £3,662k.

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

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long leasehold land	- 125 years
Improvements to leasehold land and buildings	- 2% - 10% straight line
Furniture and equipment	- 10% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line
Motor vehicles	- 25% reducing balance

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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

1.8 Debtors

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

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.10 Liabilities

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

1.11 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. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Operating leases

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

1.13 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.

1.14 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over charitable application of the funds. The academy trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balance held are disclosed in Note 30.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.15 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.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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.

1.16 Concessionary loans

Concessionary loans include those payable to a third party which are interest free or below market interest rates and are made to advance charitable purposes (e.g. SALIX loan). All loans are measured at cost, less impairment.

1.17 Redundancy

Where an obligation to make a redundancy or termination payment exists, the costs incurred by the academy trust are accounted for on an accruals basis and within employee benefits.

2. 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 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgment:

There were no critical areas of judgment noted in these financial statements.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Donations	17	30	-	47	42
Capital Grants	-	-	788	788	678
Total 2022	<u>17</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>788</u>	<u>835</u>	<u>720</u>
Total 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>720</u>	

In 2021, income from donations was £42k of which £23k was restricted and £19k was restricted fixed assets. Capital grants of £678k were restricted fixed assets.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Provision of Education			
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant	18,116	18,116	17,119
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
EASTA Research School Grant	60	60	161
Rates Reimbursement	67	67	68
PE and Sports Grant	175	175	110
Pupil Premium	722	722	694
Teachers Pay Grant	127	127	837
Universal Infant Free School Meals	341	341	341
Year 7 Catch Up Funding	-	-	5
ITT Funding (Teacher Training)	72	72	47
School Supplementary Grant	200	200	-
School Led Tutoring Grant	47	47	-
Others	68	68	78
	19,995	19,995	19,460
Other Government grants			
Local Authority Grants	670	670	746
	670	670	746
COVID-19 additional funding			
Catch-up Premium (DfE/ESFA)	-	-	268
Recovery Premium (DfE/ESFA)	81	81	-
Other COVID-19 funding (non-DfE/ESFA)	-	-	64
	81	81	332
Teaching School Hub			
Other DfE/ ESFA grants	204	204	40
Other income	128	128	15
	332	332	55
	21,078	21,078	20,593
Total 2021	20,593	20,593	

Included in other DfE/ESFA grants is the summer school catch up funding and mass testing.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Hire of facilities	17	17	16
Sales of goods and services	404	404	290
School trips and other income	313	313	147
Total 2022	734	734	453
Total 2021	453	453	

In 2021, income from other trading activities was £453k which was unrestricted.

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Bank interest	2	2	2
Total 2021	2	2	

In 2021, investment income of £2k was unrestricted.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £000	Premises 2022 £000	Other 2022 £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Direct costs	-	-	80	80	55
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	16,145	-	2,113	18,258	16,381
Allocated support costs	3,691	2,277	867	6,835	5,756
Teaching school hub	189	-	76	265	62
	<u>20,025</u>	<u>2,277</u>	<u>3,136</u>	<u>25,438</u>	<u>22,254</u>
Total 2021	<u>18,225</u>	<u>1,706</u>	<u>2,323</u>	<u>22,254</u>	

In 2022, of total expenditure, £718k (2021 - £449k) was from unrestricted funds, £24,314k (2021 - £21,522k) was from restricted funds and £406k (2021 - £283k) was from restricted fixed asset funds.

In 2021, direct expenditure consisted of £15,075k staff costs and £1,322k other costs.

In 2021, support expenditure consisted of £3,107k staff costs, £1,706k premises costs and £943k other costs.

In 2021, teaching school hub expenditure consisted of £43k staff costs and £19k other costs.

In 2021, other costs consisted of £29k other costs.

8. Charitable Activities

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Direct costs - educational operations	18,258	16,381
Support costs - educational operations	6,835	5,756
Teaching school hub	265	62
	<u>25,358</u>	<u>22,199</u>

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Analysis of support costs

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Support staff costs	3,691	3,107
Technology costs	157	140
Premises costs	2,277	1,706
Legal costs - other	4	2
Other support costs	468	560
Governance costs	238	241
	6,835	5,756

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Operating lease rentals	18	14
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	407	283
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	16	15
- other services	9	9
	9	43

10. Auditors' remuneration

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Fees payable to the academy trust's auditor for the audit of the academy trust's annual accounts	16	15
Fees payable to the academy trust's auditor in respect of:		
All non-audit services not included above	9	9
	9	9

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

11. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Wages and salaries	13,394	12,795
Social security costs	1,243	1,171
Pension costs	4,697	3,943
	<u>19,334</u>	<u>17,909</u>
Agency staff costs	661	294
Staff restructuring costs	30	22
	<u>20,025</u>	<u>18,225</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Redundancy payments	17	22
Other restructuring costs	13	-
	<u>30</u>	<u>22</u>

b. Severance payments

The academy trust paid 4 severance payments in the year (2021 - 1), disclosed in the following bands:

	2022 No.	2021 No.
£0 - £25,000	4	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>

c. Special staff severance payments

There are no non-statutory / non-contractual severance payments in 2022 or 2021.

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

11. Staff (continued)

d. Staff numbers

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	206	202
Administration and support	337	330
Management	30	30
	<u>573</u>	<u>562</u>

e. Higher paid staff

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	9	8
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	2
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	2	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

f. 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 £1,365k (2021 - £1,431k). Included in the total amount are employer pension contributions totalling £233k (2021: £247k) and employer national insurance totalling £127k (2021: £127k).

ST JOHN THE BAPTIST CATHOLIC MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

12. Central services

The academy trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

Chief Executive Officer	Legal Services
Deputy CEO	Director of Finance & Operations
Operations Management	Educational Psychologist
HR Support & Payroll	Admissions Appeals
Elements of Insurance	Musculo-skeletal referral and support
Wellbeing - Counselling	Site team Services
External Audit	Internal Audit
Primary intervention support	Budgeting Software - SBS
Finance Software - Sage	Evolve - Educational visits online planning tool
MIS Software	Health & Safety
The Key (including governors)	Trade Union Facility
Critical Incident Support	Attendance Service
Central finance & governance	Online Payments System - Wisepay
Asset Management System	Governance & Leadership services
Family Support worker	Safeguarding software - CPOMS
Absence and Maternity rebate	Trust Senco Co-ordinator

The academy trust charges for these services on the following basis:

5.5% of the General Annual Grant (GAG) funding received by constituent academies.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£000	£000
Notre Dame High School, Norwich	425	406
St Augustine's, Norwich	71	64
St Benet's, Beccles	23	24
St Edmund's, Bungay	25	24
St Francis of Assisi, Norwich	99	93
St Martha's, Kings Lynn	95	83
St Mary's, Lowestoft	47	47
St Mary and St Peter, Gorleston	51	50
Sacred Heart, Peterborough	53	50
St Thomas More, Peterborough	105	100
	<u>994</u>	<u>941</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

		2022	2021
		£000	£000
Mr Brian Conway, Chief Executive	Remuneration	120 - 125	120 - 125
	Pension contributions paid	25 - 30	25 - 30

During the year, retirement benefits were accruing to 1 Trustees (2021 - 1) in respect of defined benefit pension schemes.

During the year ended 31 August 2022, £2,654 of expenses were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 Trustees (2021 - £388 to 1 Trustee).

14. 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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15. Tangible fixed assets

	Improvement to Leasehold Land and Buildings £000	Long-term Leasehold Land £000	Furniture and equipment £000	Computer equipment £000	Motor vehicles £000	Total £000
Cost or valuation						
At 1 September 2021	1,799	353	1,526	1,121	21	4,820
Additions	492	-	81	155	-	728
At 31 August 2022	2,291	353	1,607	1,276	21	5,548
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2021	93	13	1,123	839	20	2,088
Charge for the year	123	3	158	122	1	407
At 31 August 2022	216	16	1,281	961	21	2,495
Net book value						
At 31 August 2022	2,075	337	326	315	-	3,053
At 31 August 2021	1,706	340	403	282	1	2,732

16. Debtors

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	10	8
Other debtors	10	5
Prepayments and accrued income	478	399
VAT recoverable	158	140
	656	552

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17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Loans	2	2
Trade creditors	397	539
Other creditors	265	234
Accruals and deferred income	830	536
	1,494	1,311
	1,494	1,311

Loans within one year is a Salix loan of £2k (2021: £2k) for energy efficient improvements which is provided on the following terms: repayable interest-free over 9 years with payment being made directly by the trust.

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	426	332
Resources deferred during the year	328	426
Amounts released from previous periods	(426)	(332)
	328	426
	328	426

Deferred income represents government funding (rates relief and UIFSM), donations and student trip income received in the year ended 31 August 2022 which relates to the year ended 31 August 2023.

18. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Loans	13	14
	13	14

Loans after one year is a Salix loan of £13k (2021: £14k) for energy efficient improvements which is provided on the following terms: repayable interest-free over 9 years with payment being made directly by the trust.

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19. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Designated funds	45	-	-	-	-	45
General funds						
General funds	2,175	753	(718)	(305)	-	1,905
Total Unrestricted funds	2,220	753	(718)	(305)	-	1,950
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	608	18,116	(18,811)	237	-	150
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	127	(127)	-	-	-
Rates relief	-	67	(67)	-	-	-
PE and Sports Grant	63	175	(238)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	14	722	(736)	-	-	-
Teacher Pay & Pension Grants	-	455	(455)	-	-	-
Restricted donations	14	30	(34)	-	-	10
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	341	(341)	-	-	-
Local authority income	25	670	(670)	-	-	25
COVID catch up grant	70	-	(70)	-	-	-
Teacher Training Funding	-	72	(72)	-	-	-
Teaching School / Research School Grants	60	204	(204)	-	-	60
Teaching School	(9)	128	(128)	-	-	(9)

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
SCA moved from capital	-	-	(451)	466	-	15
Pension reserve	(14,027)	-	(1,909)	-	12,741	(3,195)
	<u>(13,182)</u>	<u>21,107</u>	<u>(24,313)</u>	<u>703</u>	<u>12,741</u>	<u>(2,944)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Other Capital Grants	89	-	-	-	-	89
Devolved Formula Capital	731	94	(87)	-	-	738
CIF	1,028	99	(67)	-	-	1,060
School Conditional Allowance Grant	1,005	595	(51)	(466)	-	1,083
Other ESFA capital grants	104	-	-	-	-	104
Donated assets	431	-	(28)	-	-	403
GAG Contribution	239	-	(173)	68	-	134
	<u>3,627</u>	<u>788</u>	<u>(406)</u>	<u>(398)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,611</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>(9,555)</u>	<u>21,895</u>	<u>(24,719)</u>	<u>305</u>	<u>12,741</u>	<u>667</u>
Total funds	<u><u>(7,335)</u></u>	<u><u>22,648</u></u>	<u><u>(25,437)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>12,741</u></u>	<u><u>2,617</u></u>

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

GAG and Other DfE / ESFA grants

The restricted income fund is for the purpose of specific expenditure within the school's declared objectives. DfE grants relate to government funding for the provision of education by the school. Funding may be repayable if the Trust does not meet all funding requirements.

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 2022. The Governors intend to spend the carried forward GAG and other DfE / ESFA grants in the forthcoming years on the recruitment of additional members of the teaching staff and strengthening the Leadership Team of the school.

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

School fund

This represents the funds received towards specific activities undertaken by pupils within the school.

Pension reserve

This represents the school's liability relation to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS). Any increase in pension contributions suggested by the scheme actuary should be able to be met from the Academy's budgeted annual income.

DfE / ESFA capital grants

These are provided by the government for specific capital projects less related depreciation.

GAG contribution

This is the value of GAG funding used for capital projects less related depreciation.

Donated assets

The value of donated assets recognised in the financial statements at their estimated value to the Academy in the period in which they are receivable and where the benefit is both quantifiable and measurable, less related depreciation.

Designated fund

This represents funds set aside for future replacement of the MUGA at Notre Dame High School. It is expected funds will be expended within 2025 to 2030.

Fund transfers

Transfers between funds are to eliminate deficits in connection with other restricted funds such as UIFSM, school trip fund and fixed asset contributions from GAG funding.

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Designated funds	45	-	-	-	-	45
General funds						
General funds	2,169	455	(449)	-	-	2,175
Total Unrestricted funds	2,214	455	(449)	-	-	2,220
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	164	17,119	(16,662)	(13)	-	608
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	23	(23)	-	-	-
Rates relief	-	68	(68)	-	-	-
PE and Sports Grant	74	110	(121)	-	-	63
Pupil Premium	14	694	(694)	-	-	14
Teacher Pay & Pension Grants	-	837	(837)	-	-	-
Restricted donations	(9)	23	-	-	-	14
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	341	(341)	-	-	-
FSM Supplementary Grant	-	34	(34)	-	-	-
Additional FSM Grant	-	21	(21)	-	-	-
Local authority income	25	746	(746)	-	-	25

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000
COVID catch up grant	-	268	(198)	-	-	70
Other COVID related grants	-	64	(64)	-	-	-
Teacher Training Funding	-	47	(47)	-	-	-
Teaching School / Research School Grants	60	161	(161)	-	-	60
Teaching School Year 7 catch up grant	(2)	55	(62)	-	-	(9)
Year 7 catch up grant	-	5	(5)	-	-	-
SCA moved from capital	-	-	(199)	199	-	-
DFC moved from capital	-	-	(24)	24	-	-
Pension reserve	(10,386)	-	(1,215)	-	(2,426)	(14,027)
	<u>(10,060)</u>	<u>20,616</u>	<u>(21,522)</u>	<u>210</u>	<u>(2,426)</u>	<u>(13,182)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Other Capital Grants	70	19	-	-	-	89
Devolved Formula Capital	719	94	(58)	(24)	-	731
CIF	1,042	-	(14)	-	-	1,028
School Conditional Allowance Grant	624	584	(4)	(199)	-	1,005
Other ESFA capital grants	104	-	-	-	-	104
Donated assets	477	-	(46)	-	-	431
GAG Contribution	387	-	(161)	13	-	239
	<u>3,423</u>	<u>697</u>	<u>(283)</u>	<u>(210)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,627</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000
Total Restricted funds	(6,637)	21,313	(21,805)	-	(2,426)	(9,555)
Total funds	(4,423)	21,768	(22,254)	-	(2,426)	(7,335)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Notre Dame High School, Norwich	1,019	1,421
St Augustine's, Norwich	329	346
St Benet's, Beccles	61	114
St Edmund's, Bungay	50	49
St Francis of Assisi, Norwich	108	261
St Martha's, Kings Lynn	4	100
St Mary's, Lowestoft	85	173
St Mary and St Peter, Gorleston	102	122
Sacred Heart, Peterborough	(8)	(8)
St Thomas More, Peterborough	171	227
St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust	280	260
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	2,201	3,065
Restricted fixed asset fund	3,611	3,627
Pension reserve	(3,195)	(14,027)
Total	2,617	(7,335)

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19. Statement of funds (continued)

The following academy is carrying a net deficit on its portion of the funds as follows:

	Deficit £000
Sacred Heart, Peterborough	(8)
	<u><u> </u></u>

At the year-end the school's cumulative revenue reserves remained negative.

The academy trust is taking the following action to return the academy to surplus:

In 2022/23 the school's financial health will continue to be closely monitored by the central Trust and the assistance will be offered in regards to financial management with a view to return to positive revenue reserve within a couple of years

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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19. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £000	Other support staff costs £000	Educational supplies £000	Other costs excluding depreciation £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
Notre Dame High School, Norwich	6,113	1,302	609	1,550	9,574	8,463
St Augustine's, Norwich	1,174	148	65	326	1,713	1,529
St Benet's, Beccles	397	56	33	128	614	501
St Edmund's, Bungay	347	61	40	135	583	533
St Francis of Assisi, Norwich	1,554	332	86	484	2,456	2,120
St Martha's, Kings Lynn	1,470	236	70	355	2,131	1,888
St Mary's, Lowestoft	732	102	59	236	1,129	1,023
St Mary and St Peter, Gorleston	855	128	72	239	1,294	1,202
Sacred Heart, Peterborough	833	79	63	247	1,222	1,178
St Thomas More, Peterborough	1,553	278	93	495	2,419	2,260
St John the Baptist Catholic Multi Academy Trust	240	1,213	129	315	1,897	1,277
Academy trust	15,268	3,935	1,319	4,510	25,032	21,974

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20. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted funds 2022 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000	Total funds 2022 £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,053	3,053
Current assets	1,950	1,757	558	4,265
Creditors due within one year	-	(1,493)	-	(1,493)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(13)	-	(13)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(3,195)	-	(3,195)
Total	<u>1,950</u>	<u>(2,944)</u>	<u>3,611</u>	<u>2,617</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £000	Restricted funds 2021 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £000	Total funds 2021 £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,732	2,732
Current assets	2,248	2,142	895	5,285
Creditors due within one year	(28)	(1,283)	-	(1,311)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(14)	-	(14)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(14,027)	-	(14,027)
Total	<u>2,220</u>	<u>(13,182)</u>	<u>3,627</u>	<u>(7,335)</u>

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21. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(2,789)	(486)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	407	283
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(788)	(678)
Interest receivable	(2)	(2)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	1,664	1,031
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	245	184
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(104)	182
Increase in creditors	182	314
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(1,185)	828

22. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Interest received	2	2
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(728)	(854)
Capital grants from DfE / ESFA	788	798
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	62	(54)

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Cash in hand and at bank	2,104	3,229
Investments	1,506	1,504
Total cash and cash equivalents	3,610	4,733

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021 £000	Cash flows £000	At 31 August 2022 £000
Cash at bank and in hand	3,229	(1,125)	2,104
Debt due within 1 year	(2)	-	(2)
Debt due after 1 year	(14)	1	(13)
	<u>3,213</u>	<u>(1,124)</u>	<u>2,089</u>

25. Capital commitments

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	<u>317</u>	<u>312</u>

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26. 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 Norfolk County Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' 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 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £2,028k (2021 - £1,975k).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.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.

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26. Pension commitments (continued)

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 2022 was £1,267k (2021 - £1,178k), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,009k (2021 - £939k) and employees' contributions totalled £ 258k (2021 - £239k). The agreed contribution rates for future years are between 18.2% to 26% for employers and between 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

Norfolk County Council

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.75	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.05	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50% & 75%	50% & 75%

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.7	21.9
Females	24.1	24.3
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.9	23.2
Females	26.0	26.2

Suffolk County Council

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.75	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.05	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	25% & 63%	25% & 63%

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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26. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 Years	2021 Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.9	21.9
Females	24.3	24.3
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.9	23.2
Females	26.9	26.2

Cambridgeshire County Council

	2022 %	2021 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55	3.40
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.05	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	25% & 64%	25% & 64%

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

	2022 Years	2021 Years
Retiring today		
Males	22.0	22.2
Females	24.2	24.4
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.9	23.2
Females	26.0	26.2

Sensitivity analysis

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(494)	(680)
Discount rate -0.1%	494	680
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	658	209
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(658)	(209)
CPI rate +0.1%	438	628
CPI rate -0.1%	(438)	(628)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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26. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022 £000	At 31 August 2021 £000
Equities	8,225	6,657
Bonds	3,184	3,719
Property	1,725	1,344
Cash and other liquid assets	133	426
Total market value of assets	<u>13,267</u>	<u>12,146</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £209k (2021 - £168k).

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

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Current service cost	2,673	1,970
Interest income	(209)	(168)
Interest cost	454	352
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	<u>2,918</u>	<u>2,154</u>

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

	2022 £000	2021 £000
At 1 September	26,173	19,712
Current service cost	2,673	1,970
Interest cost	454	352
Employee contributions	258	239
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(12,867)	4,095
Benefits paid	(230)	(195)
At 31 August	<u>16,461</u>	<u>26,173</u>

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26. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £000	2021 £000
At 1 September	12,146	9,326
Interest income	209	168
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(126)	1,669
Employer contributions	1,009	939
Employee contributions	258	239
Benefits paid	(230)	(195)
At 31 August	13,266	12,146

27. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the academy trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £000	2021 £000
Not later than 1 year	8	11
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	8	16
	16	27

28. Members' liability

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

29. 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 made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

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29. Related party transactions (continued)

Expenditure Related Party Transactions

1) Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia – the landlord of MAT land and buildings and Flavio Vettese is deputy director.

- Total expenditure in the period was £6,688 (2021: £1,990). There was £nil outstanding at 31 August 2022 (2021: £1,100).

2) St Benet's Multi Academy Trust / Diocese of Norwich – Fred Corbett is a member and chair of trustees.

- Total expenditure in the period was £736 (2021: £162). There were no amounts outstanding at 31 August 2022 (2021: £nil).

3) T O'Connor, spouse of J O'Connor (member of the academy trust) is employed by the academy trust as a senior invigilator. T O'Connor's appointment was made in open competition and J O'Connor was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. T O'Connor is paid within the normal pay scale his role and receives no special treatment as a result of his relationship with key management.

4) F McGovern, spouse of A McGovern (Executive Head Teacher of St Martha's), is employed by the academy trust as a teacher. F McGovern's appointment was made in open competition and A McGovern was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. F McGovern is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship with key management.

5) N McGovern, daughter of A McGovern (Executive Head Teacher of St Martha's), is employed by the academy trust as a teaching assistant and mid-day supervisor. N McGovern's appointment was made in open competition and A McGovern was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. N McGovern is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship with key management.

6) L Pink, daughter of H Pink (Head of School of St Martha's), is employed by the academy trust as premises staff. L Pink's appointment was made in open competition and H Pink was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. L Pink is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship with key management.

7) J Pink, son of H Pink (Head of School of St Martha's), is employed by the academy trust as premises staff. J Pink's appointment was made in open competition and H Pink was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. J Pink is paid within the normal pay scale for his role and receives no special treatment as a result of his relationship with key management.

Income Related Party Transactions

1) Roman Catholic Diocese of East Anglia – the landlord of MAT land and buildings and Flavio Vettese is deputy director

- Total income in the period was £nil (2021: £49,069).

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30. Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2022, the academy trust received £52k (2021: £42k) and disbursed £41k (2021: £54k) from the fund. An amount of £33k (2021: £23k) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to ESFA.