

**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**

**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**Members**

Mr Andrew Walker  
Mr Bill Laar  
Mr Jon Silvera

**Trustees**

Mr John Ronane (Headteacher, Accounting Officer)  
Mrs Dawn Basnett  
Miss Kirsty Vukomanovic  
Professor Charlotte Stagg  
Mr Nick Jones (Chair of Trustees)  
Mr Hugo Gleed  
Mr Roy Calcutt  
Mr Richard Johnston  
Mrs Kayleigh Preston  
Mrs Andrea Reeve

**Senior Management Team**

Mr John Ronane  
Mrs Dawn Basnett  
Miss Kirsty Vukomanovic

**Company Name**

Ickford Learning Trust

**Principal and Registered Office**

Ickford School, Sheldon Road, Ickford, Aylesbury, Buckinghamshire HP18 9HY.

**Company Registered Number**

10160645 (England & Wales)

**Independent Auditor**

MHA MacIntyre Hudson, Building 4, Foundation Park, Roxborough Way, Maidenhead, SL6 3UD

**Bankers**

Lloyds Bank plc, 13 Cornmarket, Thame, Oxfordshire, OX9 2BN

**Solicitors**

Winkworth Sherwood LLP, Minerva House, 5 Montague Close, London, SE1 9BB

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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

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

The Academy Trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in Buckinghamshire. It has a pupil capacity of **140** and had a roll of **140** in the school census on **January** 2022.

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**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 School Trust. The trustees of Ickford Learning Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Ickford Learning Trust trading as Ickford School.

Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on pages 1 and 2.

**Members' Liability**

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

**Trustees' Indemnities**

Trustees cannot personally be held responsible for the debts of the Academy Trust that have been properly incurred. However, Trustees can be held liable for debts incurred through actions in breach of their duties or statutory obligations.

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust. This is covered within the overall cost of the Risk Protection Insurance.

**Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees**

Potential Trustees are asked to submit a written statement outlining:

- Evidence of the extent to which they possess the skills and experience the governing body desires
- Their commitment to undertake training and development to acquire or develop the skills to be an effective governor

Those standing for re-election should also include:

- Details of their contribution to the work of the governing body during their previous term of office
- How they plan to contribute to the future work of the governing body

**The trustees elect or re-elect members by vote after considering all applications. If there is a tie, trustees will discuss the strengths of the nominees further and another vote will be taken. This process will repeat until a nominee polls a majority of the votes**

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

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**Election process for Chair and Vice-Chair**

The term of office for Chair and Vice-Chair is one year following which either can be re-elected.

The Governing Board resolves that the following process will apply to the election of Chair and Vice-Chair:

Trustees will be able to submit written nominations prior to the full Governing Board meeting and verbal nominations at the meeting. A Governor can nominate him/herself for office and does not need to be present at the meeting to be considered.

Nominee(s) will be asked to leave the room whilst the election process takes place.

If there is more than one nominee, the remaining trustees will take a vote by a show of hands or a secret ballot. Please note that if a secret ballot is agreed, the clerk will tally the votes.

The nominee(s) will then return to the room to hear the outcome, which the clerk will announce with the nominee polling the majority of votes being duly elected.

Where there are three or more nominees, the nominee polling the least votes will be eliminated and a further vote will be taken.

If there is a tie, each candidate will be given the opportunity to speak to the trustees about their nomination and a further vote would be taken.

If there is still a tie, trustees should discuss the strengths of the nominees further and another vote will be taken. This process will repeat until a nominee polls a majority of the votes.

**Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees**

A Trustee carries out the role of Development Governor who provides new Trustees with a welcome pack and organises any Governor training required through liaison with the Local Authority. Each new Governor is also assigned a mentor.

**Organisational Structure**

The Trustees form the Governing Body of Ickford School which can delegate any of its statutory functions to a committee, a Governor or the Headteacher, subject to the following restrictions. The Governing Board must review the delegation of functions annually. The Governing Board will remain accountable for any decisions taken, including those relating to a function delegated to a committee or individual.

The following functions cannot be delegated:

- The appointment or removal of the Chair or vice-Chair (Articles 82-92)
- The appointment of the clerk
- The suspension/removal of Trustees (Articles 65-67 E)
- The establishment of committees and delegation of functions
- The approval of the budget plan for the school financial year (Funding Agreement 2.2.2)
- Changing of School name

The following functions can be delegated to a committee but cannot be delegated to an individual, even in urgent cases:

- The review of the exclusion of pupils.

The Governing Board can still perform functions it has delegated. This enables the Governing Board to take decisions on matters that are discussed at meetings on functions that have been delegated.

Any individual or committee to whom a decision has been delegated must report to the Governing Board in respect of any action or decision made.

Delegated powers will be reviewed annually (Article 101).

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

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The Governing Body delegate such powers and functions as they consider are required by the Headteacher for the internal organisation, management and control of the School (including the implementation of all policies approved by the Trustees and for the direction of the teaching and curriculum at the School).

The Governing Body agrees that the Headteacher will be responsible for staff appointments outside of the leadership group and initial staff dismissals, subject to the adoption of the appropriate HR policies.

Ickford Learning Trust appoints an Accounting Officer and as Ickford School is a single School this is the Headteacher.

**Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel**

The Headteacher carries out appraisal meetings with the teachers in September followed by half termly 'performance conversations', a half yearly review and then a final review and assessment meeting. Following the final meeting in July the Headteacher recommends the pay scale for each teacher and informs the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee who then make the decision to ratify any change to salary. Teachers are then notified in writing of any changes to salary or contracts.

The Headteacher carries out appraisal meetings with the teaching support staff following a similar format as the teachers but they do not have half termly individual performance conversations. They have three appraisal meetings during the year. The Headteacher makes any decision whether salaries should be increased in consultation with the Deputy Headteacher and Finance Administrator. Any recommendations are then shared with the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee who then make the decision to ratify any change to salary. Changes to salary are made in April.

The Headteacher carries out Performance Appraisal for administration staff using the same procedure as the teaching support staff.

The Headteacher's salary is decided by a sub-committee of the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee who carry out an appraisal which includes an external and independent advisor. This meeting should take place before December 31 each year.

**Trade union facility time**

The School did not have any employees who acted as relevant union officials during the year.

**Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations**

Ickford School participates with wider networks for the benefit of its pupils and staff. It is a member of the WALP Partnership, Wheatley Partnership consisting of mainly Oxfordshire Primary Schools and one Secondary School and one other Buckinghamshire Primary School.

Ickford School also fosters good relationships with individual schools in Buckinghamshire and Oxfordshire and has been able to offer support to several schools in the past year in areas such as Modern Foreign Languages, Writing, Computing and Leadership.

The Headteacher of Ickford School is also a Mentor for Newly Appointed Headteachers. The Deputy Head is an external moderator for Literacy.

The school is also a very active member of the Buckinghamshire School Sports Partnership and successfully competes in competitive festivals throughout the year, as well as being a member of the Wheatley Area Sports Partnership.

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

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**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objects and Aims**

The purpose of the Ickford Learning Trust is to ensure that Ickford School provides a good education for children by adhering to the following aims:

- To value each child as an individual with special abilities, gifts and needs and to ensure that they have equal access to all aspects of school life and an enjoyable education.
- To create a stimulating yet orderly and safe environment conducive to learning in which children are encouraged to be creative, independent and confident, lifelong learners.
- To foster an environment that allows for creative and dynamic teaching where every member of staff feels valued and supported and has the opportunity for professional self-development.

The purpose of the Ickford Learning Trust is to ensure that Ickford School provides a good education for children by adhering to the following aims:

- To work in partnership with parents, the community, and local primary and secondary schools embracing trust, understanding and mutual support.
- To encourage children and staff to adopt healthy lifestyles by promoting physical activity as part of a lifelong healthy lifestyle, encouraging them to eat sensibly and helping them to form positive relationships.
- To provide a safe and nurturing environment that allows for the development of the academic, cultural, physical, moral, spiritual and social dimensions of each pupil.
- To promote integrity, honesty and self-respect in each pupil and develop compassion, tolerance and respect for others.

**Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

**Target 1**

**To ensure that the school's curriculum is designed to enable clear progression of content and depth of knowledge across each subject area.**

- Curriculum maps for each subject are current, suitable, accessible to stakeholders and coherent.
- All teachers are knowledgeable and can articulate how they can identify progression across the subject areas they teach.
- Parents can see the curriculum mapping and understand how each child's knowledge is augmented in time.
- Children are able to understand the journey through a subject and be inspired by potential outcomes.
- Extra-curricular activities enhance the curriculum.
- Progress in each subject can be measured in a variety of ways.
- Impact of subjects can be measured successfully.

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

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**Target 2**

**To ensure that the school is fully compliant with Health and Safety requirements including Cyber Security.**

- Safesmart to be an effective storage hub and filing system easily accessed by all staff.
- Health and Safety inspections will provide evidence of compliance.
- All documents easily accessed.
- All members of staff fully compliant in Safeguarding.
- The single central record is fully compliant.
- Risk assessments are extensive.
- Children safe and risks mitigated as much as possible.

**Target 3**

**To refine the school's physical environment so that it supports high quality learning both inside and outside.**

- The school grounds are well maintained and clearly delineated.
- Storage is improved, adequate, safe and effective.
- The internal areas are used effectively to promote learning and extra-curricular activities.
- The environment supports the needs of the curriculum.

**Public Benefit**

The trustees of the Ickford Learning Trust have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The trustees have ensured that they have provided public education for the eligible children of Ickford and the surrounding villages, and have taken every opportunity to be involved in the activities of the community, particularly through links with the church and other village organisations.

The School supports other schools through the sharing of practice and knowledge to ultimately benefit the wider community.

The School provides facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large in the interests of social welfare and with the interest of improving the life of the said community.

The School is a partner in the Wheatley Partnership and, as such, continues to develop teaching skills and capabilities across the local area.



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

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STRATEGIC REPORT

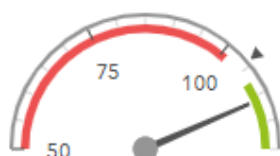
Achievements and Performance

KS2 Attainment 2022 · Actual results

22 pupils

Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma)

110.9+

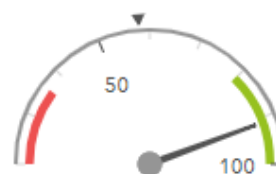


Significantly above the national average (104.3) ◀

% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)

DFE

91%+



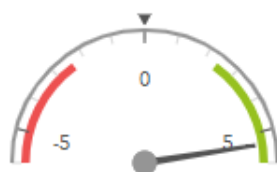
Significantly above the national average (58%) ◀

KS2 Progress 2022 · Value Added

22 matched pupils

Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma)

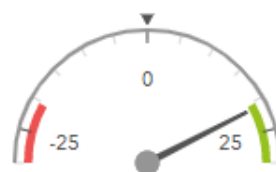
+5.4+



Significantly above the national average (0) ◀

% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)

+21%+



Significantly above the national average (0%) ◀

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

KS2 Attainment 2022

22 pupils

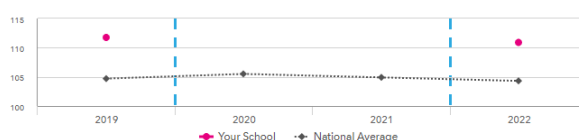
Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma) ✓

110.9+

FFT Rank

100 BETTER ▶ 1

Significantly above the national average (104.3)



% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)

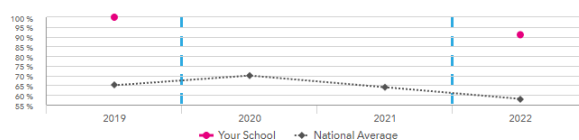
DFE ✓

91%+

FFT Rank

100 BETTER ▶ 2

Significantly above the national average (58%)



KS2 Progress 2022

22 matched pupils

Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma) ✓

+5.4+

FFT Rank

100 BETTER ▶ 1

Significantly above the national average (0)

% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)

✓

+21%+

FFT Rank

100 BETTER ▶ 4

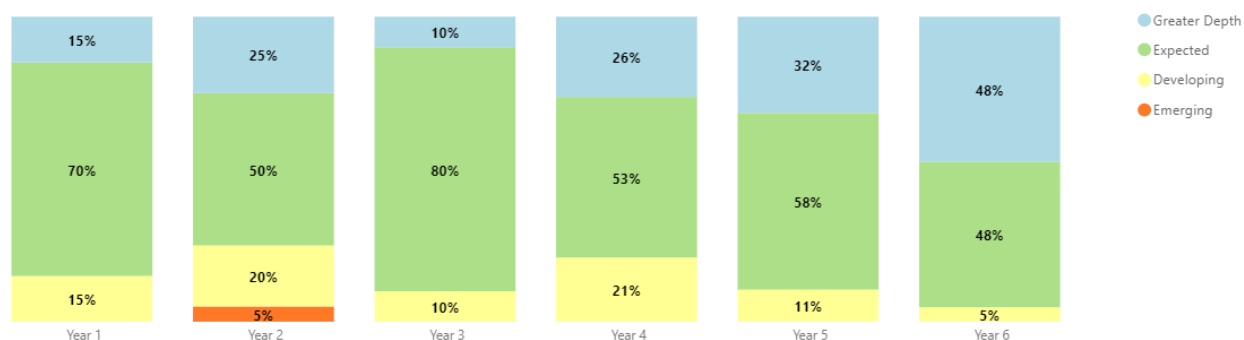
Significantly above the national average (0%)

KS2 performance summary

	Actual results			Pupil progress		
	2020	2021	2022	2020	2021	2022
Number of Pupils / % Matched	-	-	22	-	-	100%
% Expected standard+ (Re, Wr, Ma)	-	-	91%+	-	-	+21%+
% Higher standard (Re, Wr, Ma)	-	-	27%+	-	-	+19%+
Average Scaled Score (Re, GPS, Ma)	-	-	110.4+	-	-	+4.7+
Average Scaled Score (Re, Ma)	-	-	110.9+	-	-	+5.4+
% Expected standard+ Reading	-	-	95%+	-	-	+11%
% Higher standard Reading	-	-	73%+	-	-	+38%+
Scaled Score Reading	-	-	112.0+	-	-	+5.9+
% Expected standard+ Writing	-	-	95%+	-	-	+15%
% Higher standard Writing	-	-	32%+	-	-	+15%
Scaled Score Writing	-	-	105.6+	-	-	+3.7+
% Expected standard+ Maths	-	-	95%+	-	-	+14%
% Higher standard Maths	-	-	55%+	-	-	+30%+
Scaled Score Maths	-	-	109.8+	-	-	+4.8+
% Expected standard+ Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	-	-	95%+	-	-	+12%
% Higher standard Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling	-	-	45%	-	-	+10%

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

Depth of Learning by Year Group



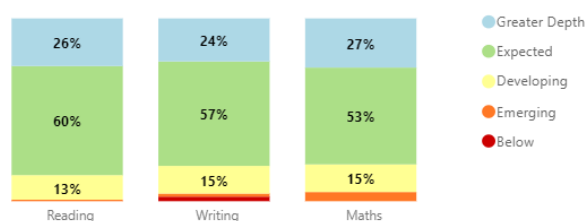
Depth of Learning by Percentage

Year	Emerging	Developing	Expected	Greater Depth
Year 1		15%	70%	15%
Year 2	5%	20%	50%	25%
Year 3		10%	80%	10%
Year 4		21%	53%	26%
Year 5		11%	58%	32%
Year 6		5%	48%	48%

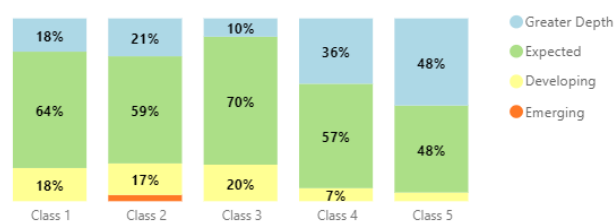
Depth of Learning by Number of Pupils

Year	Emerging	Developing	Expected	Greater Depth
Year 1		3	14	3
Year 2	1	4	10	5
Year 3		2	16	2
Year 4		4	10	5
Year 5		2	11	6
Year 6		1	10	10

Depth of Learning by Subject



Depth of Learning by Class



**Key Performance Indicators**

**This school's spending rating against similar schools**

[View characteristics used](#)

**Teaching staff**

Supply staff

Education support staff

Admin. and clerical staff

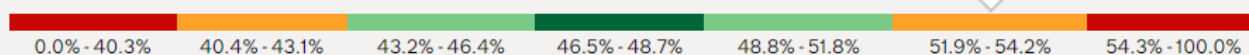
Other staff costs

Premises costs

Educational supplies

Energy

**53.4%**  
Highest 20% of similar schools



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

### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

Teaching staff    **Supply staff**    Education support staff    Admin. and clerical staff    Other staff costs    Premises costs    Educational supplies    Energy

**3.0%**

Broadly in line with similar schools

0.0% - 1.4%

1.5% - 2.3%

2.4% - 3.6%

3.7% - 4.7%

4.8% - 100.0%

### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

Teaching staff    Supply staff    **Education support staff**    Admin. and clerical staff    Other staff costs    Premises costs    Educational supplies    Energy

**13.5%**

Broadly in line with similar schools

0.0% - 13.9%

14.0% - 15.8%

15.9% - 18.4%

18.5% - 20.5%

20.6% - 100.0%

### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

Teaching staff    Supply staff    Education support staff    **Admin. and clerical staff**    Other staff costs    Premises costs    Educational supplies    Energy

**11.3%**

Highest 10% of similar schools

0.0% - 7.2%

7.3% - 8.4%

8.5% - 100.0%

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

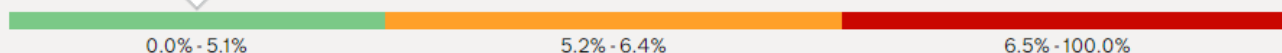
### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

Teaching staff    Supply staff    Education support staff    Admin. and clerical staff    **Other staff costs**    Premises costs    Educational supplies    Energy

**1.7%**

Broadly in line with similar schools



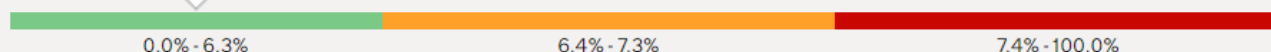
### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

Teaching staff    Supply staff    Education support staff    Admin. and clerical staff    Other staff costs    **Premises costs**    Educational supplies    Energy

**4.4%**

Broadly in line with similar schools



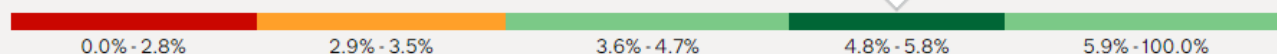
### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

Teaching staff    Supply staff    Education support staff    Admin. and clerical staff    Other staff costs    Premises costs    **Educational supplies**    Energy

**5.0%**

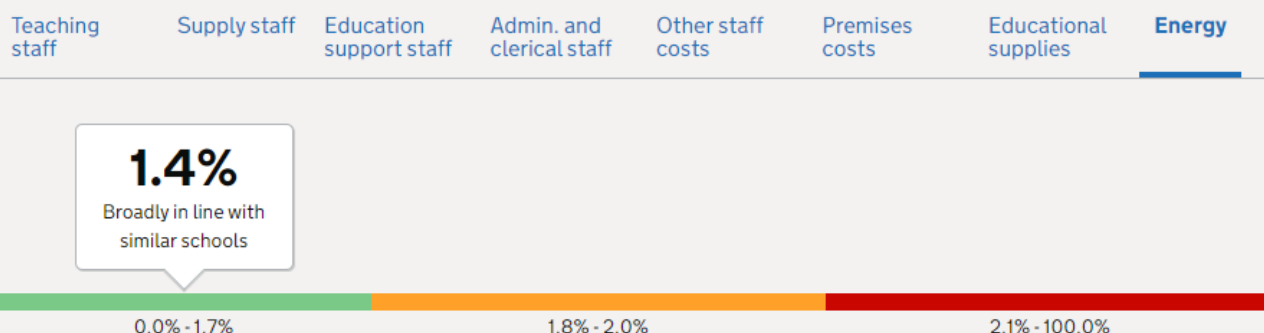
Middle 20% of similar schools



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

### This school's spending rating against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)



### A quick comparison of this school's expenditure against similar schools

► [View characteristics used](#)

View as tables

**Total expenditure**

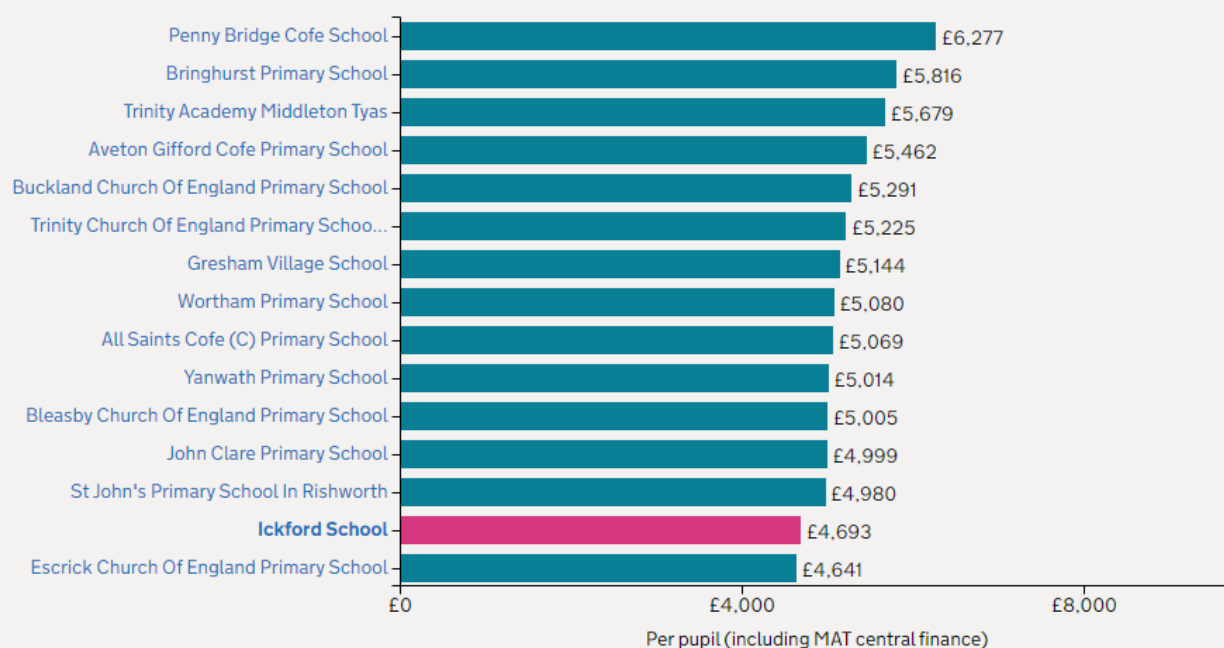
Staff

Premises

Occupation

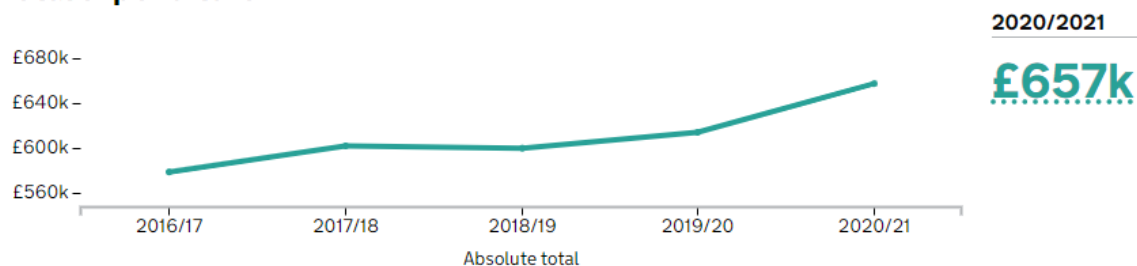
Supplies and services

Special facilities

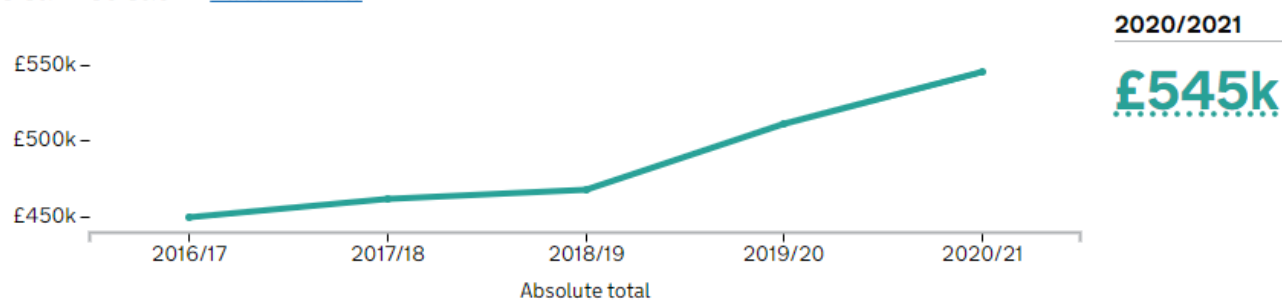


TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

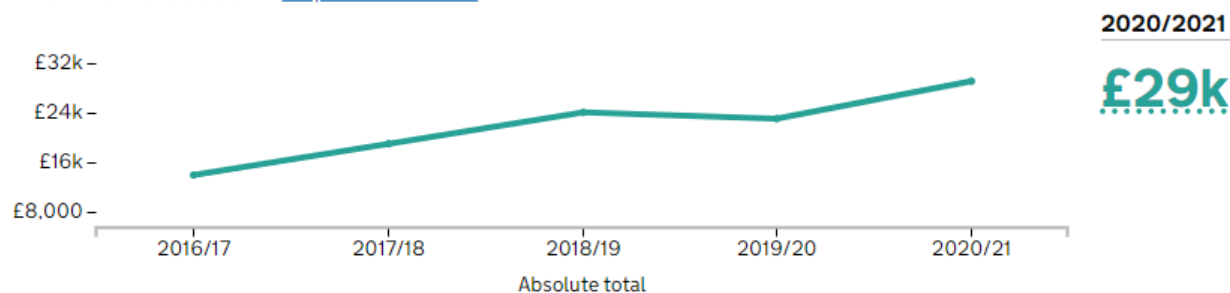
### Total expenditure



### Staff total [All staff charts](#)

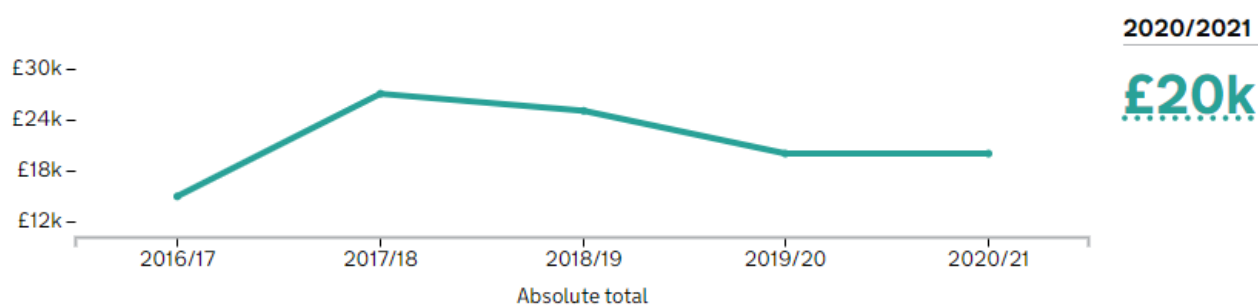


### Premises total [All premises charts](#)



### Occupation total [All occupation charts](#)

► [More about occupation total](#)

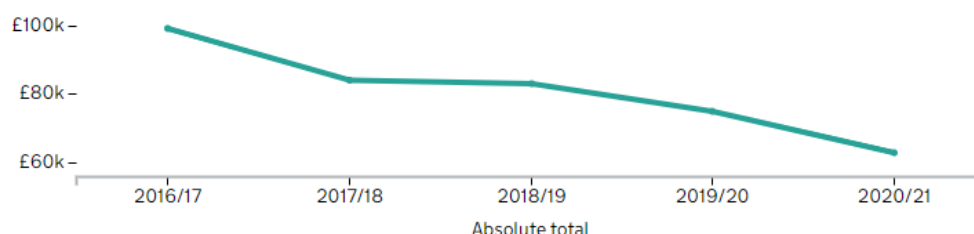


TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Supplies and services total

[All supplies and services charts](#)

2020/2021

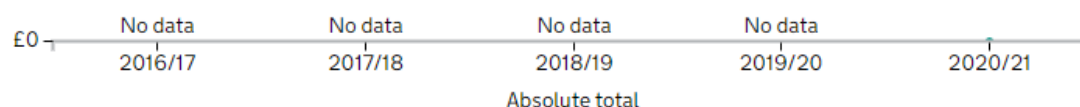


**£63k**

Interest charges for loans and banking

► [More about interest charges for loans and banking](#)

2020/2021

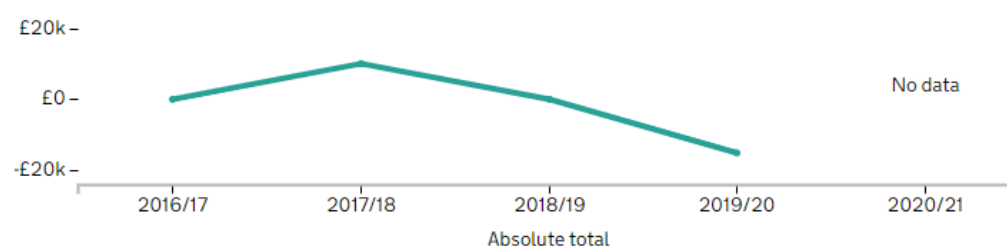


**£0**

Cost of finance total

[All cost of finance charts](#)

2020/2021



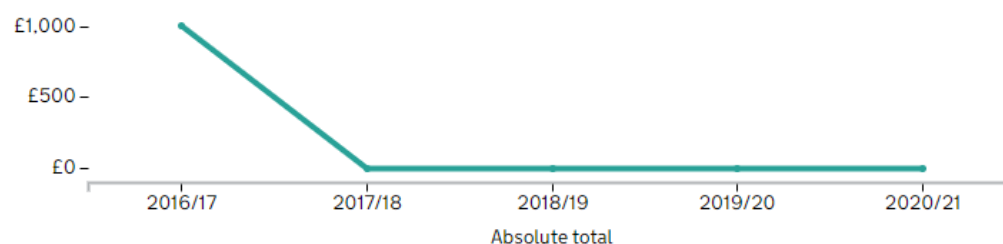
**£0**

Special facilities total

[All special facilities charts](#)

► [More about special facilities total](#)

2020/2021



**£0**



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

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**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.

**Promoting the success of the company**

The Trust and Ickford School are successful in achieving the intended goals and, as a state funded establishment, external bodies collate judgements on our performance that are available in the public domain. The school also has a relevant and current website that is proactively used as a 'window' into the school and available on the world wide web for anyone who desires or needs to know what we do.

The success achieved since becoming an academy is self-perpetuating and sustained within the current framework. The reputation of the school is established and it is known for being a successful institution locally and further afield.

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The Finance Manager has responsibility for the day to day financial management of the school working closely with the Headteacher who reports to the Finance, Personnel and Premises committee (FPP). A budget has been set and agreed by the FPP for the current period of reporting and for the financial year ending 31 August 2022.

The school receives its main funding from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (General Annual Grant (GAG)) which supports the key objectives of the school in delivering a first-class education to primary children. The school has maintained a reasonable surplus for several years but having seen costs escalate and salaries increase, this revenue surplus is reducing each year.

During the period ended 31 August 2022, expenditure, excluding the pension scheme deficit and depreciation, totalled £686,562 and whilst in excess of recurrent grant funding from the ESFA / DfES, was met from other incoming resources and revenue reserves brought forward.

The main category of expenditure is the cost of employing teaching and support staff. The ratio of employment costs to total income was 84.8%. Employment costs as a proportion of expenditure, before depreciation and FRS102 pension scheme adjustments, was 86.7%.

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

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**Reserves Policy**

The trustees review the reserve levels of the School annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The trustees take into consideration the future plans of the School, the uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks identified during the risk review. The current strategy is to build up reserves sufficiently in order to address the risks, uncertainties and priorities identified by school with the level of reserves are subject to annual monitoring.

At 31 August 2022 the total funds comprised:

Unrestricted		£38,854
Restricted:	Fixed asset funds	£992,998
	Pension reserve	£(47,000)
	Other	£0
		<hr/>
		£984,852
		<hr/>

The deficit on the pension reserve relates to the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) where, unlike the Teachers' Pension Scheme, separate assets are held to fund future liabilities as discussed in note 24. The deficit can be met in the longer term from any combination of increased employer or employee contributions, increased government funding or changes to scheme benefits. Employer contributions are reviewed and set once every three years after an actuarial valuation of the scheme.

**Investment Policy**

The school currently has no funding for investment purposes and it does not currently have an investment policy; in the interim consideration is being given to short term bank deposits subject to cash flow commitments. Trustees are committed to ensuring that all funds under their control are managed in such a way as to maximise return whilst minimising risk. Any cash not required for operating expenses is placed on deposit at the most favourable rate available from providers covered by the Financial Services Compensation Scheme. Day to day management of the surplus funds is delegated to the Principal within strict guidelines approved by the Board of Trustees.

**Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Board of Trustees is responsible for the management of the risks faced by the School. Detailed considerations of risk are delegated to the Finance, Premises and Personnel (FPP) committee and a formal review of the charity's risk management processes is undertaken on an annual basis. The Headteacher is responsible to the Governors for the running of the School and provide regular reports to the (FPP). This ensures that Governors are well informed on all financial, operational and strategic matters appertaining to the School which also enables the FPP to evaluate the areas of risk for which they are responsible. The key controls used by the charity include:

- formal agendas for the FPP and Governing Body activity;
- terms of reference for the FPP;
- comprehensive strategic planning, budgeting and management accounting;
- established organisational structure and lines of reporting;
- clear authorisation and approval levels;
- criminal record checks as required by law for the protection of the vulnerable.

The principal risks facing the School are: difficulties in recruiting/retaining staff, demographic/social changes, failure to protect our pupils, failure to comply with Health and Safety regulations, failure of key ICT software/hardware, university access changes and changes in the financial climate.

Through the risk management processes established for the School the Board of Trustees are satisfied that the major risks identified have been adequately mitigated where necessary. It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

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

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**FUNDRAISING**

The Academy Trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees. £900 was raised by a chef during sports day.

**PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

As previously stated, proposed housing developments in close proximity to the school are monitored carefully and the Trust has already procured architects drawings with a view to classroom expansion should the demand for places increase significantly. Any expansion would only be considered in the interest of employees and the potential to offer competitive salaries and opportunities for development.

In order to improve teaching and learning within the current context and pupil admission number, plans to develop another room to be used as a learning space for Year 1 children are being considered. The financial implications are refurbishment or redesign of an existing space or the cost to build a separate classroom space on the site.

Staffing costs would not increase as sufficient members of staff to separate the year groups in Key Stage 1, are already employed.

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS**

None

**AUDITOR**

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

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

Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 16 December 2022 and signed on the board's behalf by:

**Mr N Jones**  
Chair of Trustees

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2020**

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**SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY**

As trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Ickford Learning 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 John Ronane 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 Ickford Learning 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 **5** times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
Mr Nick Jones(chairman)	5	5
Mrs Dawn Basnett (Staff)	5	5
Miss Kirsty Vukomanovic (Staff)	5	5
Professor Charlotte Stagg	4	5
Mr Hugo Gleed	3	5
Mr Roy Calcutt	5	5
Mr Richard Johnston	4	5
Mrs Kayleigh Preston	5	5
Mr John Ronane (Headteacher/ Accounting Officer)	5	5
Mrs Andrea Reeve	1	1

**GOVERNANCE (continued)**

The Trustees continue to act as a critical friend to the Senior Leadership of the School and to monitor the work of the Trust and school. Trustees also visit the school and when necessary, communicate with the parent stakeholders. Trustees are also represented during meetings with Ofsted.

The board of Trustees carried out its role effectively during the period of this report including during the school closure due to Covid-19.

Data for the Trustees has been provided by the school in the form of the termly report from the Headteacher and data from Integrus the school's management system. This data has been adequate in demonstrating the effectiveness of the school in achieving its goals and aims.

A review of the Governing Body and its effectiveness will take place during 2023.

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**Conflicts of interest**

All Trustees complete a conflict of interest questionnaire. None have been declared this year.

**Meetings**

Paragraph 2.3 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021 sets out that the board and its committees must meet regularly enough to discharge their responsibilities and ensure robust governance and effective management arrangements. It states that board meetings must take place at least three times. Ickford Academy have met 5 times during the year.

**Finance Premises and Personnel:**

Finance, Premises and Personnel (FPP) is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to: The main responsibilities of the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee are:

- The initial review and authorisation of the annual budget
- The regular monitoring of actual expenditure and income against budget;
- Ensuring the annual accounts are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 1985 and the DfE/ESFA guidance issued to academies
- Authorising the award of contracts over £10,000
- Responsibility for monitoring the adequacy and effectiveness of the Academy's systems of internal control (including review of the statement of internal control) and its arrangements for risk management, control and governance processes and for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness (value for money).
- Advising the Governing Body on the appointment, re-appointment, dismissal and remuneration of the financial statement's auditor and the internal audit service.
- Advising the Governing Body on the scope and objectives of the work of the internal audit service and the financial statements auditor.
- Considering and advising the Governing Body on relevant reports by the National Audit Office, the Education Funding Agency (including those from the local provider financial assurance teams) and other funding bodies and, where appropriate, management's response to these.
- Establishing, in conjunction with Academy management, relevant annual performance measures and indicators and monitoring the effectiveness of the internal audit service and financial statements auditor through these measures and indicators and deciding, based on this review, whether a competition for price and quality of the audit service is appropriate.
- Monitoring the Academy's risk management plan and advising the Governing Body on its adequacy and effectiveness
- Producing an annual report for the Governing Body and accounting officer which should include the Committee's advice on the effectiveness of the Academy's risk management, control and governance processes and any significant matters arising from the work of the internal audit service and the financial statements auditor.
- Monitoring and advising the Governing Body on any alleged fraud and irregularity in the Academy's financial and other control systems and ensuring that all allegations of fraud and irregularity are properly followed up.
- Recommending the annual financial statements to the Governing Body for approval.
- Monitoring the effectiveness of the Academy's whistleblowing procedures meeting privately with the Internal and External Auditors, and separately with the Director of Finance at least once a year

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr Nick Jones	3	3
Mr Hugo Gleed	1	3
Mr John Ronane	3	3
Mr Richard Johnston	0	3

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY**

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

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

- Ensuring salary increases were only initiated after robust performance appraisal.
- Repairing the sports hall floor and negotiating the cost.
- Building a fence around the oil tanker for the cost of materials only
- Headteacher teaches one day per week (specialist PE)

**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 Ickford Academy Trust for the period 1 September 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
- regular reviews by the finance and general purposes committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- identification and management of risks

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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The board of trustees has decided:

- to employ **Juniper Education** as internal auditor

This option has been chosen because the revised FRC Ethical Standard for auditor's states that a firm providing external audit to an entity shall not also provide internal audit services to it. Where applicable, the trust should also describe how its internal scrutiny arrangements have been affected by the requirements of the FRC Ethical Standard for auditors.

Further guidance on the internal scrutiny arrangements is available in the Academies Financial Handbook and in ESFA's good practice guide.

Juniper Education's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- testing of recruitment processes
- testing of business continuity
- testing of control account/ bank reconciliations

On a 6-month basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. On 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.

**REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS**

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

- the work of the external auditor
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- the work of the external auditor
- correspondence from ESFA e.g. FNtl/Ntl and 'minded to' letters.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance Premises and Personnel 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 on 16 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

**Mr N Jones**  
Chair of Trustees

**Mr J Ronane**  
Accounting Officer

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

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As accounting officer of Ickford Learning Trust 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 Academies Financial 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 Academies Financial 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.

**Mr John Ronane**  
Accounting officer

16 December 2022



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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Mr N Jones**  
Chair of Trustees  
Date: 16 December 2022

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Ickford Learning 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 the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 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 United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Material uncertainty related to going concern**

We draw attention to note 1.5 in the financial statements, which indicates uncertainty over the ability of the Academy Trust to pay expenses as they fall due within the foreseeable future. As stated in note 1.5, these events or conditions, along with the other matters as set forth in note 1.5, indicate that a material uncertainty exists that may cast significant doubt on the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Our opinion is not modified in respect of this matter.

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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**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 (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report including 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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**Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

**Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

- Enquiry of management around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Reviewing internal audit reports;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations.

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

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

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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**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.

**BIANCA SILVA BA ACA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**MHA MacIntyre Hudson (Statutory Auditor)**

Maidenhead, United Kingdom

Date: 22 December 2022

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 31 August 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 Ickford Learning 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 Ickford Learning Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Ickford Learning 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 Ickford Learning Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Ickford Learning Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Ickford Learning Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 26 May 2016 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.

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

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**Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- reviewing the minutes of the meetings of the Governing Body and other evidence made available to us, relevant to our consideration of regularity;
- a review of the objectives and activities of the Academy, with reference to the income streams and other information available to us as auditors of the Academy;
- testing a sample of payroll payments to staff;
- testing a sample of payments to suppliers and other third parties;
- consideration of governance issues; and
- evaluating the internal control procedures and reporting lines and testing as appropriate, and making appropriate enquiries of the Accounting Officer.

**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  
**MHA MacIntyre Hudson (Statutory Auditor)**  
Maidenhead, United Kingdom

Date: 22 December 2022

**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

		Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
	Note					
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	8,426	2,900	6,569	17,895	16,709
Other trading activities	5	32,613	-	-	32,613	33,764
Investments	6	91	-	-	91	125
Charitable activities	4	-	651,273	-	651,273	587,619
<b>Total income</b>		<b>41,130</b>	<b>654,173</b>	<b>6,569</b>	<b>701,872</b>	638,217
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	7	8,139	730,423	18,054	756,616	679,612
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>8,139</b>	<b>730,423</b>	<b>18,054</b>	<b>756,616</b>	679,612
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>32,991</b>	<b>(76,250)</b>	<b>(11,485)</b>	<b>(54,744)</b>	(41,395)
Transfers between funds	18	(26,093)	22,085	4,008	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	392,000	-	392,000	(38,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>6,898</b>	<b>337,835</b>	<b>(7,477)</b>	<b>337,256</b>	(79,395)
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		31,956	(384,835)	1,000,475	647,596	726,991
Net movement in funds		6,898	337,835	(7,477)	337,256	(79,395)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>38,854</b>	<b>(47,000)</b>	<b>992,998</b>	<b>984,852</b>	647,596

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

The notes on pages 33 to 60 form part of these financial statements.



**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 10160645**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		<b>989,544</b>		996,027
			<b>989,544</b>		996,027
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	15	<b>2,574</b>		4,652	
Debtors	16	<b>31,839</b>		17,634	
Cash at bank and in hand		<b>53,681</b>		99,364	
		<b>88,094</b>		121,650	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	<b>(45,786)</b>		(83,081)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>42,308</b>		38,569
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>			<b>1,031,852</b>		1,034,596
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24		<b>(47,000)</b>		(387,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<b>984,852</b>		647,596
<b>Funds of the Academy Trust</b>					
<b>Restricted funds:</b>					
Fixed asset funds	18	<b>992,998</b>		1,000,475	
Restricted income funds	18	-		2,165	
Pension reserve	18	<b>(47,000)</b>		(387,000)	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	18		<b>945,998</b>		615,640
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	18		<b>38,854</b>		31,956
<b>Total funds</b>			<b>984,852</b>		647,596

The financial statements on pages 30 to 60 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

**Mr N Jones**  
Chair of Trustees  
Date: 16 December 2022

The notes on pages 33 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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	<b>Note</b>	<b>2022 £</b>	<b>2021 £</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	<b>(40,772)</b>	42,965
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	21	<b>(4,911)</b>	(823)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>(45,683)</b>	42,142
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<b>99,364</b>	57,222
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	22, 23	<b>53,681</b>	99,364

The notes on pages 33 to 60 form part of these financial statements

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

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**1. Accounting policies**

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

**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 historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Ickford Learning Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office, principal place of operations and registered number are detailed on page 1. The nature of the Academy Trust's operations and principal activity are detailed in the Trustees' Report.

The Financial Statements are prepared in British Pound Sterling (£), the functional and presentational currency, rounded to the nearest £1.

**1.2 Fund accounting**

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

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

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

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

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is 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 not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are spent.

- **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 fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy Trust)**

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy Trust's accounting policies.

**1.4 Expenditure**

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

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.4 Expenditure (continued)**

- **Charitable activities**

Expenditure on charitable activities 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 Going concern**

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy Trust to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements. The Trust has revenue reserves of £38,854 at 31 August 2022 and is budgeting a revenue deficit for the year to 31 August 2023 of £18k, which, with additional rising costs, may deplete reserves further. The Trustees are aware of the low level within which the Trust operates, and continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing £500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account 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 incorporating Income and Expenditure Account.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than long leasehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Leasehold property	- 2% straight line (on buildings only)
Fixtures and fittings	- 33.3% straight line
Computer equipment	- 33.3% straight line

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

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.7 Operating leases**

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

**1.8 Stocks**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

**1.9 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

**1.10 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.

**1.11 Liabilities and provisions**

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.

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

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

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.12 Financial instruments**

The Academy Trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy Trust and their measurement bases are as follows:

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

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

**1.13 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.

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

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**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.14 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 net income/ (expenditure) are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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



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

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**2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

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

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 24, 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 judgement:

The judgements that have a significant effect on amounts recognised in the financial statements are those concerning the choice of depreciation policies and asset lives.

**3. Income from donations and capital grants**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>
Donations	<b>8,426</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>994</b>	<b>12,320</b>
Capital grants	-	-	<b>5,575</b>	<b>5,575</b>
	<b>8,426</b>	<b>2,900</b>	<b>6,569</b>	<b>17,895</b>

**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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

**3. Income from donations and capital grants (continued)**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	1,176	7,070	3,045	11,291
Capital grants	-	-	5,418	5,418
	<u>1,176</u>	<u>7,070</u>	<u>8,463</u>	<u>16,709</u>

**4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations**

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>		
General Annual Grant (GAG)	602,845	602,845
Other DfE/ESFA grants		
Pupil premium	2,722	2,722
PE Sports Grant	17,200	17,200
Others	11,521	11,521
	<u>634,288</u>	<u>634,288</u>
<b>Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations</b>	14,580	14,580
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)</b>		
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 Funding	2,405	2,405
	<u>2,405</u>	<u>2,405</u>
	<u>651,273</u>	<u>651,273</u>

**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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

**4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations (continued)**

	Restricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>		
General Annual Grant (GAG)	522,390	522,390
Other DfE/ESFA grants		
Pupil Premium	3,475	3,475
PE Sports Grant	17,070	17,070
Teachers Pension Grant	17,538	17,538
Others	9,740	9,740
	<u>570,213</u>	<u>570,213</u>
<b>Other Government grants</b>		
Other Local Authority Income	5,157	5,157
	<u>5,157</u>	<u>5,157</u>
<b>Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations</b>	1,129	1,129
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)</b>		
Catch-up Premium	11,120	11,120
	<u>11,120</u>	<u>11,120</u>
	<u><u>587,619</u></u>	<u><u>587,619</u></u>

The academy received £11,120 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding tottalled £11,120

**5. Income from other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Hire of facilities	2,399	2,399
School fund	5,224	5,224
Other income	12,169	12,169
Before and after school clubs	12,821	12,821
	<u>32,613</u>	<u>32,613</u>

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

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

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**5. Income from other trading activities (continued)**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Hire of facilities	1,459	1,459
School fund	6,161	6,161
Other income	18,138	18,138
Before and after school clubs	8,006	8,006
	<u>33,764</u>	<u>33,764</u>

**6. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>91</u>	<u>91</u>

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Bank interest receivable	<u>125</u>	<u>125</u>

**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**7. Expenditure**

	<b>Staff Costs 2022 £</b>	<b>Premises 2022 £</b>	<b>Other 2022 £</b>	<b>Total 2022 £</b>
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	<b>502,933</b>	-	<b>55,826</b>	<b>558,759</b>
Allocated support costs	<b>92,351</b>	<b>59,803</b>	<b>45,703</b>	<b>197,857</b>
	<b>595,284</b>	<b>59,803</b>	<b>101,529</b>	<b>756,616</b>
	<b>Staff Costs 2021 £</b>	<b>Premises 2021 £</b>	<b>Other 2021 £</b>	<b>Total 2021 £</b>
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	459,628	-	46,518	506,146
Allocated support costs	78,613	64,019	30,834	173,466
	<b>538,241</b>	<b>64,019</b>	<b>77,352</b>	<b>679,612</b>

**8. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2022 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>
Academy's educational operations	<b>558,759</b>	<b>197,857</b>	<b>756,616</b>
	<b>Activities undertaken directly 2021 £</b>	<b>Support costs 2021 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Academy's educational operations	506,146	173,466	679,612

**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)**

**Analysis of direct costs**

	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Staff costs	<b>502,933</b>	459,628
Technology costs	<b>9,452</b>	9,554
Educational supplies	<b>13,439</b>	16,850
Educational consultancy	<b>435</b>	5,979
Staff expenses	<b>10,488</b>	7,136
Other direct costs	<b>22,012</b>	6,999
	<b>558,759</b>	506,146

**Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Total funds 2022 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2021 £</b>
Pension finance cost	<b>6,000</b>	4,000
Staff costs	<b>92,351</b>	78,613
Depreciation	<b>18,054</b>	20,409
Technology costs	<b>617</b>	730
Premises costs	<b>45,653</b>	49,922
Other support costs	<b>20,555</b>	8,072
Governance costs	<b>14,627</b>	11,720
	<b>197,857</b>	173,466

**9. Analysis of specific expenses**

Included within expenditure are the following transactions:

	<b>Total £</b>	<b>Individual items above £5,000 Amount £</b>	<b>Reason</b>
Gifts made by the Academy Trust	<b>84</b>	-	

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**ICKFORD LEARNING TRUST**  
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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**10. Net income/(expenditure)**

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Operating lease rentals	<b>2,095</b>	2,442
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	<b>18,054</b>	20,409
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	105
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	<b>6,500</b>	5,735
- other services	<b>5,175</b>	5,435
	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>

**11. Staff**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	<b>2022</b>	2021
	<b>£</b>	£
Wages and salaries	<b>407,743</b>	371,963
Social security costs	<b>36,431</b>	29,262
Pension costs	<b>141,120</b>	117,355
	<b>585,294</b>	518,580
Agency staff costs	<b>9,990</b>	19,661
	<b>595,284</b>	538,241
	<b>=====</b>	<b>=====</b>

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

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**11. Staff (continued)**

**b. Staff numbers**

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

	<b>2022 No.</b>	<b>2021 No.</b>
Teaching	<b>6</b>	<b>4</b>
Administration and support	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
Management	<b>3</b>	<b>3</b>
	<b>19</b>	<b>18</b>

**c. Higher paid staff**

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

	<b>2022 No.</b>	<b>2021 No.</b>
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	<b>1</b>	<b>1</b>

**d. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £208,788 (2021 - £220,264).



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

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**12. Related party transactions - 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:

		<b>2022</b>	<b>2021</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
D Basnett	Remuneration	<b>45,000 - 50,000</b>	45,000 - 50,000
	Pension contributions paid	<b>10,000 - 15,000</b>	10,000 - 15,000
J Ronane, Accounting Officer	Remuneration	<b>75,000 - 80,000</b>	75,000 - 80,000
	Pension contributions paid	<b>15,000 - 20,000</b>	15,000 - 20,000
K Vukomanovic, (Appointed on 21 December, 2021)	Remuneration	<b>25,000 - 30,000</b>	
	Pension contributions paid	<b>5,000 - 10,000</b>	

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL).

**13. Trustees' and officers' insurance**

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

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**14. Tangible fixed assets**

	Leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 September 2021	1,062,502	10,301	18,269	1,091,072
Additions	-	3,576	7,995	11,571
At 31 August 2022	1,062,502	13,877	26,264	1,102,643
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2021	70,310	6,584	18,151	95,045
Charge for the year	14,150	1,175	2,729	18,054
At 31 August 2022	84,460	7,759	20,880	113,099
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2022	978,042	6,118	5,384	989,544
At 31 August 2021	992,192	3,717	118	996,027

Included in long-term leasehold property is leasehold land at valuation of £355,000 (2021: £355,000) which is not depreciated.

**15. Stock**

	2022 £	2021 £
School uniforms	2,574	4,652

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**16. Debtors**

	<b>2022</b> £	2021 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	<b>59</b>	-
Other debtors	<b>13,098</b>	357
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>7,735</b>	15,084
VAT recoverable	<b>10,947</b>	2,193
	<b>31,839</b>	17,634

**17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2022</b> £	2021 £
Trade creditors	<b>4,625</b>	12,622
Other taxation and social security	<b>8,799</b>	8,163
Other creditors	<b>12,486</b>	45,768
Accruals and deferred income	<b>19,876</b>	16,528
	<b>45,786</b>	83,081

	<b>2022</b> £	2021 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	<b>2,147</b>	2,061
Resources deferred during the year	<b>5,702</b>	2,147
Amounts released from previous periods	<b>(2,147)</b>	(2,061)
	<b>5,702</b>	2,147

Deferred income relates to monies received in advance for trips taking place in the next academic year.

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**18. Statement of funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General unrestricted funds	31,956	41,130	(8,139)	(26,093)	-	38,854
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	602,845	(624,930)	22,085	-	-
Pupil premium	-	2,722	(2,722)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	28,721	(28,721)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	2,165	17,480	(19,645)	-	-	-
Other DFE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	2,405	(2,405)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(387,000)	-	(52,000)	-	392,000	(47,000)
	<u>(384,835)</u>	<u>654,173</u>	<u>(730,423)</u>	<u>22,085</u>	<u>392,000</u>	<u>(47,000)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Fixed asset fund	996,027	-	(18,054)	11,571	-	989,544
Other DfE/ESFA capital grants	4,448	5,575	-	(6,569)	-	3,454
Donations	-	994	-	(994)	-	-
	<u>1,000,475</u>	<u>6,569</u>	<u>(18,054)</u>	<u>4,008</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>992,998</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>615,640</u>	<u>660,742</u>	<u>(748,477)</u>	<u>26,093</u>	<u>392,000</u>	<u>945,998</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>647,596</u></u>	<u><u>701,872</u></u>	<u><u>(756,616)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>392,000</u></u>	<u><u>984,852</u></u>

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

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**18. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

General unrestricted funds can be spent on meeting objectives at the discretion of the Trustees.

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the Academy that has been provided to the Academy via the Education and Skills Funding Agency and the Department for Education. The GAG fund has been set up because the GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

The other DfE/ESFA restricted funds represent other funding received from the government which does not form part of GAG but is received in relation to specific purposes.

The transfer from other restricted funds and unrestricted funds to the General Annual Grant fund is to top up General Annual Grant funds. Transfers from unrestricted to restricted fixed asset funds represent capital additions in the year.

The pension reserve fund represents the separately identifiable pension scheme deficit inherited from the local authority upon conversion to academy status, and through which all the pension scheme movements are recognised.

The fixed assets fund has been set up to recognise the tangible assets gifted to the Academy upon conversion which represent the school site including the long leasehold land and buildings and all material items included therein, and all additions subsequent to conversion. Depreciation charged on those inherited assets is allocated to the fund. It also includes all other tangible fixed assets bought from grants.

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.

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**18. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General unrestricted funds	28,465	35,065	(6,218)	(25,356)	-	31,956
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	522,390	(547,746)	25,356	-	-
Pupil premium	-	3,475	(3,475)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	44,348	(44,348)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	13,356	(11,191)	-	-	2,165
Catch-up premium	-	11,120	(11,120)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(314,000)	-	(35,000)	-	(38,000)	(387,000)
	(314,000)	594,689	(652,880)	25,356	(38,000)	(384,835)
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Class II Restricted Funds - all funds	1,007,130	-	(20,514)	9,411	-	996,027
Other DfE/ESFA capital grants	5,396	5,418	-	(6,366)	-	4,448
Donations	-	3,045	-	(3,045)	-	-
	1,012,526	8,463	(20,514)	-	-	1,000,475
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	698,526	603,152	(673,394)	25,356	(38,000)	615,640
<b>Total funds</b>	726,991	638,217	(679,612)	-	(38,000)	647,596

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**19. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	989,544	989,544
Current assets	38,854	45,786	3,454	88,094
Creditors due within one year	-	(45,786)	-	(45,786)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(47,000)	-	(47,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>38,854</b>	<b>(47,000)</b>	<b>992,998</b>	<b>984,852</b>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	996,027	996,027
Current assets	31,956	85,246	4,448	121,650
Creditors due within one year	-	(83,081)	-	(83,081)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(387,000)	-	(387,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>31,956</b>	<b>(384,835)</b>	<b>1,000,475</b>	<b>647,596</b>

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**20. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities**

	<b>2022</b> £	2021 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<b>(54,744)</b>	(41,395)
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	<b>18,054</b>	20,409
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	<b>(6,569)</b>	(8,463)
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	<b>2,078</b>	(854)
Increase in debtors	<b>(14,205)</b>	(8,746)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	<b>(37,295)</b>	47,034
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	<b>(91)</b>	(125)
Pension adjustments	<b>52,000</b>	35,000
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed asset	<b>-</b>	105
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(40,772)</b>	42,965

**21. Cash flows from investing activities**

	<b>2022</b> £	2021 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<b>(11,571)</b>	(9,411)
Capital grants from DfE Group	<b>5,575</b>	5,418
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	<b>994</b>	3,045
Investment income	<b>91</b>	125
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>(4,911)</b>	(823)

**22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2022</b> £	2021 £
Cash in hand and at bank	<b>53,681</b>	99,364



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

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	99,364	(45,683)	53,681
	<u>99,364</u>	<u>(45,683)</u>	<u>53,681</u>

**24. 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 Buckinghamshire 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.

Contributions amounting to £10,685 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021 - £10,207) and are included within creditors.

**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 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.

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**24. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £71,847 (2021 - £63,250).

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.

**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 £31,000 (2021 - £30,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £25,000 (2021 - £24,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 6,000 (2021 - £6,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23.0 per cent for employers and 16.8 per cent for employees.

As described in note 1.14 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.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**24. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Principal actuarial assumptions**

	<b>2022</b> %	2021 %
Rate of increase in salaries	<b>3.90</b>	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	<b>2.90</b>	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<b>4.25</b>	1.65
Inflation assumption (CPI)	<b>2.90</b>	2.90
RPI increase	<b>3.90</b>	3.20

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

	<b>2022</b> Years	2021 Years
Retiring today		
Males	<b>21.0</b>	21.6
Females	<b>24.6</b>	25.0
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	<b>22.3</b>	22.9
Females	<b>26.0</b>	26.4

**Sensitivity analysis**

	<b>2022</b> £000	2021 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	<b>(10)</b>	(19)
Discount rate -0.1%	<b>10</b>	20
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	<b>(11)</b>	(30)
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	<b>11</b>	31
CPI rate +0.1%	<b>10</b>	19
CPI rate -0.1%	<b>(10)</b>	(18)

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

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Equities	195,000	189,000
Gilts	26,000	32,000
Bonds	45,000	49,000
Property	23,000	20,000
Other	61,000	58,000
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>350,000</b>	<b>348,000</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £(22,000) (2021 - £52,000).

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Current and past service cost	(71,000)	(55,000)
Interest cost	(6,000)	(4,000)
<b>Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>(77,000)</b>	<b>(59,000)</b>

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

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Opening defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>735,000</b>	<b>596,000</b>
Current service cost	71,000	55,000
Interest cost	12,000	9,000
Employee contributions	6,000	6,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(420,000)	85,000
Benefits paid	(7,000)	(16,000)
<b>Closing defined benefit obligation</b>	<b>397,000</b>	<b>735,000</b>

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**24. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Opening fair value of scheme assets</b>	<b>348,000</b>	282,000
Interest income	<b>6,000</b>	5,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	<b>(28,000)</b>	47,000
Employer contributions	<b>25,000</b>	24,000
Employee contributions	<b>6,000</b>	6,000
Benefits paid	<b>(7,000)</b>	(16,000)
<b>Closing fair value of scheme assets</b>	<b>350,000</b>	348,000

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>The amount shown in the Statement of Financial Activities is:</b>		
Changes in financial assumptions	<b>420,000</b>	(85,000)
Return on assets excluding amounts included in net interest	<b>(28,000)</b>	47,000
<b>Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes</b>	<b>392,000</b>	(38,000)

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>The amount shown in the Balance Sheet is:</b>		
Present value of defined benefit obligation	<b>(397,000)</b>	(735,000)
Fair value scheme assets	<b>350,000</b>	348,000
<b>Defined benefit pension scheme liability</b>	<b>(47,000)</b>	(387,000)

**25. 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 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	<b>2,892</b>	2,892
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	<b>10,938</b>	9,215
Later than 5 years	<b>3,528</b>	5,880
	<b>17,358</b>	17,987

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
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**26. 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 £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

**27. 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 Academies Financial 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.

The Trust paid £300 for services provided by Fuze Technologies Limited, a company in which J Silvera, member, is a director.