

HCAT

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

Forrester Boyd
Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

HCAT

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Reference and administrative details

Members	H Bellinger (appointed 17 October 2022) N Bowen S Ramskill (resigned 5 December 2022) A J Richards G Wilson
Trustees (Directors)	A J Richards, Chair of Trustees S Gallagher A Kent D Marsh M Gostelow A F Fearn I Dickinson M John Ross M Utley T Morris (appointed 6 December 2022)
Chief Executive Officer	T Banham
Company Secretary	V A Harrison
Key Management Personnel	T W Banham, CEO V A Harrison, Deputy CEO A Ravenscroft, Chief Finance Officer M Binns, Headteacher - WGPS C Huddart, Principal - Horizon R Paddock, Headteacher - WCPS/HCPS G Padfield, Headteacher - MPS K Trickett, Headteacher - Milefield S Honeyman, Headteacher - BPS
Principal and Registered Office	Unit 7 Dodworth Business Park Dodworth Barnsley England S75 3SP
Company Registration Number	08654591
Auditors	Forrester Boyd Waynflete House 139 Eastgate Louth Lincolnshire LN11 9QQ

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Reference and administrative details (continued)

Bankers Royal Bank of Scotland
747 Attercliffe Road
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S9 3RF

Solicitors Addleshaw Goddard
3 Sovereign Square
Sovereign Street
Leeds
LS1 4ER

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 01st September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

HCAT operates 6 primary academies and 1 secondary academy in Barnsley for pupils aged 3 to 16. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 3687 and had a roll of 4106 (including Nursery Numbers) (190 Birdwell, 427 HCPS, 348 Mapplewell, 307 Milefield, 406 WCPS, 434 WGPS and 1994 Horizon) in the school census on May 2023.

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 academy trust. The trustees of HCAT Limited are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as HCAT.

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.

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.

Trustees' indemnities

The Academy Trust has purchased RPA Liability insurance from the ESFA.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

All new Trustees are appointed by the members as it may determine. Full details relating to the appointment and removal of Trustees are contained within the Trusts Articles of Association.

When appointing new Trustees, the Board of Trustees will give consideration to the skills and experience mix of existing Trustees in order to ensure that the Board of Trustees has the necessary skills to contribute to the Trusts Development. This Board of Trustees is the overarching body of all schools within the Trust.

Each individual school have their own Local Governing Body (LGB) to undertake the operation of the school inline with the agreed Scheme of Delegation. The LGB constitutes as follows –

Type of Governor	Hoyland Common Primary	Mapplewell Primary	Ward Green Primary	Worsborough Common Primary	Horizon	Milefield	Birdwell
Head	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
Parent	2	1	2	2	1	1	2
Staff	2	2	2	2	2	2	1
Community	3	3	2	3	4	2	1
LA	-	-	1	-	1	1	1
Foundation	-	-	-	-	2	-	-
Total	8	7	8	8	11	7	5

Local Governors will have a term of Office of 4 Years, with the exception of the Head of School. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee or Governor, any Trustee or governor may be re-elected or reappointed.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

At HCAT, the Board of Trustees, Governing Body, CEO and Head teachers believe it is essential that all new Trustees and Governors receive a comprehensive induction package covering a broad range of issues and topics. We are committed to ensure that the new Trustees and Governors are given the necessary information and support to fulfil their role with confidence. We see this as an investment, leading to more effective governance and retention of both Trustees and Governors.

It is clear that the governance and leadership of Multi Academy Trusts both at Trustee level and Local Governing Body is becoming of greater and greater importance and with that in mind, during the year to August 2023, the Trust recruited a Governance Professional.

As the multi academy trust grows it is essential that we have clear lines of communication and accountability between the trust and local governing bodies. To ensure there is an appropriate level of challenge at board level it is important that Trustees receive information about schools from a range of different sources, so Link Trustees were established to be the single point between schools and trust.

A full review of Governance has been undertaken by the Governance Professional as well as an external DFE Review. A Task and Finish Group was established during the year and a clear Scheme of Delegation, Terms of Reference and reporting mechanisms have been established to roll out in September 2023.

A Governor SharePoint has also been developed with clear roles and remits for all and we annually undertake a “Governance Away Day” to set the scene for the year ahead.

Organisational structure

The Members of HCAT have ultimate control over the Trust, with the ability to appoint other Members and Trustees, and the right to amend the Trust’s Articles of Association. The Members monitor, challenge and hold the Trustees to account on finance, school improvements, Objects of the Trust and recruitment of schools to the Trust.

The Board sets the strategic direction of the Trust and monitors its performance. It appoints professionals from the public sector, private industry, voluntary sectors and the community, whose knowledge and expertise can make a difference to the lives of children and young people. Trustees work together on the Board in a voluntary capacity to ensure that the Trust meets the needs of the community it serves.

The Chief Executive Officer of the Trust is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the Trust and is accountable to the Board.

Management responsibilities are governed by a detailed Scheme of Delegation, which specifies those decisions that are reserved to the Board of Trustees and those delegated to Local Governing Bodies or to Senior Management. Principals/ Heads of School are accountable to their Local Governing Bodies.

The Board has Committees which act in an advice and scrutiny capacity to the Board to enable informed decisions to be made and the Board may appoint up to two co-opted members to each Committee.

The Terms of Reference of each Committee are reviewed annually by the Board.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Trustees of HCAT act with integrity, confidentiality, objectivity and honesty in the best interests of the Trust; are open about decisions made and actions taken and are prepared to explain decisions and actions to interested persons. Its procedures for determining pay are consistent with the principles of public life: objectivity, openness and accountability.

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the school's Key Management Personnel are based upon the Schools Pay Policy that includes references to the Teachers Pay and Conditions document.

The pay awarded to key teaching and leadership personnel is derived from the school's head teacher group and the head's Individual School Range (ISR) in accordance with paragraphs 5, 6, 8 and 10 of the document School Teachers' Pay and Conditions.

The pay of key support staff is determined on appointment in accordance with the scale of grades, currently where applicable in relation to employment with the LA, which the Trustees consider appropriate for the post.

The Trustees may from time to time review the scale of grades for support staff if there is a significant change to the role they were initially appointed to.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the academy is exposed, in particular those related to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the academy and its finances. This has resulted in a risk register and policy that is updated every summer term and monitored regularly.

The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess the risks that academies face in relation to teaching, health and safety, financial controls etc. and have introduced systems, including operational procedures and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where any significant financial risk may still remain they have ensured that adequate insurance cover is in place.

Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Academy trust

The Trust actively seeks to promote a positive and sustainable business relationship in its engagement with suppliers, customers and others which is key to its effectiveness as a company. Periodic reviews are undertaken with all key suppliers and customers with a focus on building and maintaining a two way relationship. The aim of this is to achieve the best value for money for an efficient service delivery whilst ensuring compliance to supplier payment terms, other stakeholder deadlines are consistently met.

We seek to nurture open, trusting relationships with all stakeholders and maintain these relationships by offering our customers a consistently high-quality excellent service. We also aim to develop long-term relationships with our customers and we use any customer feedback to drive continuous improvements to our service.

At HCAT we understand the need for supplier engagement and for us this is about collaboration and using this as a significant driver of performance. Whilst we may negotiate for favourable payment terms, once any order is placed, we appreciate that wherever possible the commitment should be honoured. Any problems arising in this regard are properly dealt with to maintain the goodwill and benefits to earn. We ensure that payment terms are adhered to so that any supplier is not impacted in a detrimental way.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

At HCAT we take the opinions of our workforce seriously and engage in consultation with our employees or their representatives regularly to take account of their views in making decisions likely to affect their interests. We regularly consult with Trade Unions on any amendments to policy to ensure they are content and these are shared with their members.

We complete Staff Questionnaires and respond to the feedback within them and we have worked hard to ensure that staff workload is considered at all times. We also have a staff intranet site and share communications and developments through this.

All the schools within our Trust have daily staff briefings that allow the sharing and flow of information to all staff, alongside a global email for important information from a Trust Level.

We actively encourage our employees' involvement in our performance and have introduced an employee share scheme, Vivup, a platform with perks specifically chosen to support our employees' physical, financial and mental wellbeing. We also offer staff free access to Lifetime Financial Planning support and have recently provided them with the opportunity to purchase a car lease through a salary sacrifice scheme, Tusker.

We engage in staff wellbeing and offer when relevant counselling sessions. We also offer a wide range of wellbeing initiatives during the year to show our appreciation of our staff. We have undertaken a Staff Wellbeing Survey and acted upon the requests and recommendations staff shared with us, including establishing a menopause support group.

Staff across Trust also took part in Yorkshire 3 Peaks to raise monies for a local charity, Barnsley Hospice.

To be able to provide a high quality education for the children in all our schools, HCAT believe that is it important to have a diverse and committed workforce. We actively support applications from disabled persons and should a member of staff have a disability, we ensure that we make reasonable adjustments to make sure workers with disabilities, or physical or mental health conditions, aren't substantially disadvantaged when doing their jobs.

HCAT are committed to a policy and practice under which they recognise their obligations under the Equality Act 2010 not to discriminate unlawfully against people with disabilities at any stage of employment and undertake,

- to seek to employ people with disabilities in jobs suited to their aptitudes, abilities, and qualifications, making any reasonable adjustments necessary to do so;
- to seek to ensure that employees with disabilities are considered for promotion according to their aptitudes, abilities, and qualifications, making any reasonable adjustments necessary to do so;
- to ensure that assessments are carried out of the scope of reasonable adjustments which may be made to the workplace and its environment, so as to make it possible to retain an employee with a disability or to recruit a person with a disability;
- to make any reasonable alterations to Trust premises required to ensure that they are accessible and safe for people with disabilities;
- to make reasonable changes to the workplace and to employment arrangements so that a person with a disability is not at any substantial disadvantage compared to a non-disabled person.

The Trust is responsive to the needs of its employees. As such, should any employee of the Trust become disabled during their time with us, we will actively retrain that employee and make reasonable adjustments to their environment where possible, in order to keep the employee with our Trust. It is the policy of HCAT that the recruitment, training, career development and promotion of disabled persons should, as far as possible, be identical to that of other employees.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Alan Richards, Chair of the Trust at HCAT, sits on the Board of Learners First Schools Partnership, an independent, not-for-profit, school-led organisation governed by serving school leaders. During the year transactions totalling £300 were paid to this party.

Ian Dickinson, a Trustee at HCAT, has a material interest in Lifetime. The company provides financial advice and support to all employees of HCAT and their Schools. During the year transactions totalling £13,848 were paid to this party.

Margaret Gostelow and Stephen Gallagher, Trustees at HCAT, has a material interest in Barnsley Governors Association. The not for profit company provides training, advice and support to Governors across Barnsley and beyond. During the year transactions totalling £300 were paid to this party.

Gerry Foster Wilson, a Member of HCAT, is the CEO of ECM Trust, an independent, not-for-profit, school-led organisation. During the year transactions totalling £1,200 were paid to this party.

Helen Bellinger, a Member of HCAT, is a Director of Athena Education Services, a consultancy firm specialising in CPD and Pedagogy. Prior to becoming a member of the Trust, transactions totalling £1650 were paid to this party.

During the year, The Chair of the Trust, Alan Richards and the CEO, Tom Banham worked closely with Interaction and Communication Academy Trust as requested by the DFE.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
5	4

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	5

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	2023
	-
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time calculated as: (total cost of facility time divided by total pay bill) * 100	-

Paid trade union activities

	2023
Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as:	Nil

(total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period divided by total paid facility time hours) * 100

Trustees should refer to Statutory Instrument 2017 No. 328, The Trade Union Facility Time Publication Requirements Regulations 2017 for calculation details.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The development of HCAT is rooted in ensuring that children receive a world-class education. Children get one chance at their school education and we believe that, by schools working effectively in collaboration, we can ensure that one chance unlocks the potential for lifelong learning for all of our children.

The HCAT trustees are determined to see a high performing Multi Academy Trust that delivers the very best education for all pupils. The aims of our Academies during the period ended 31 August 2023 are summarised below:

- Develop a caring attitude with self-esteem – respecting themselves, others and their environment
- Developing confident, happy, self-motivated learners who enjoy learning and see it as a lifelong adventure
- An expectation that everyone achieves their full potential
- Have a vision for redressing the imbalance, re-shuffling the pack and give the young people of Barnsley a better hand – a better deal – breaking ‘vicious circles’ of underachievement and low aspirations and transforming the lives of every young person.
- Achieve the highest standards possible in all areas of the curriculum regardless of age, sex, creed, needs and ability and to raise the standard of educational achievement of all pupils; to develop the quality of learning, teaching and assessment;
- Develop values such as communication, commitment and relationships based on mutual respect and develop the ethos of each school and the Trust as a whole;
- Develop an effective home/school partnership
- to raise the standard of educational achievement of all pupils; to develop the quality of learning, teaching and assessment;
- We want young people to leave our Schools, well qualified and with a unique skill set that will enable them to stand out from the crowd. We want young people to be in possession of a passport of leadership and employability skills that will enable them to pursue exciting careers, attend prestigious universities, complete dynamic apprenticeships and play leading roles in regenerating this area.
- to improve the effectiveness of the Trust by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review and ensuring a strong infrastructure throughout the Multi Academy Trust.
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements; to provide value for money for the funds expended; and
- to conduct the Trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

Our schools will be the most forward thinking and innovative organisations within the communities that they serve, and all children will leave our care as well rounded individuals who have achieved high levels of academic success and are well prepared for life in modern Britain.

Objectives, strategies and activities

Key influences for the Academy's Development Plan for the period under review were to ensure that schools across the trust provide a high quality of education to all pupils and that all pupils attain highly and the vast majority of pupils made expected progress and a large proportion made better than expected progress in all subjects, specifically in English and Mathematics.

Having a robust and strategic approach to school improvement with challenge at all levels alongside sustaining improved performance and standards are rising and improvement is rapid. The self-evaluation of the academies is maturing so that they have greater ownership of their own requirements and make more bespoke support demands of the Trust

HCAT meets all its statutory obligations as a multi academy trust. The quality of education in all schools in the multi academy trust improved and outcomes for pupils, although impacted by COVID, have also seen improvements.

There was also the continued capacity to improve especially with the challenges and opportunities arising from the growth of the Multi Academy Trust, with the Trust working alongside 2 further schools by way of a Trust Development Partnership, one of which is now part of the Trust and the other is due to convert in September 2023. We ensured there continues to be a strong team of central staff with clear lines of accountability who are readily able to support and assist at every level across the Trust.

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Public benefit

The Academy Trust has referred to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives and in planning future activities. The Academy Trust contributes to public benefit in the following ways:

- the education it provides learners is balanced and broadly based
- it promotes spiritual, moral, cultural and physical development
- prepares learners for the opportunities, responsibilities and experiences of later life
- promotes knowledge and understanding in areas of study, skills and expertise

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

Academic Achievements

The table below highlights the positive outcomes for all children at HCAT primaries within the MAT.

Overall, the outcomes achieved in 2022-2023 have displayed a predominantly positive trend.

Clearly, reading proficiency, especially in achieving greater depth at Key Stage 2, stands as our foremost priority. Consequently, the KS2 Reading curriculum has undergone refinements, with an emphasis on providing teachers the tools and clarity to plan and deliver the appropriate sequence of learning. The HCAT reading tracker has also been adapted to align with these enhancements. To further enrich our reading resources, we have expanded our reading spine to encompass a wider range of texts. Recognizing the importance of accessible and challenging texts, a dedicated task and finish group of leaders throughout the trust is actively exploring options to ensure learners have suitable materials at their disposal.

The successes achieved in phonics and MTC (Mathematics, Times Tables, and Calculation) outcomes are particularly rewarding, demonstrating the positive returns on our investments in terms of both CPD and resources.

A comprehensive analysis of all KS2 SATs papers across the trust was conducted, pinpointing areas of need in Mathematics, particularly within fractions and geometry, as well as the importance of understanding vocabulary in reading.

	2023	HCPS		WGPS		WCPS		MPS		MFPS		BPS		HSPS		HCAT		
		%	Gap	%	Gap	%	Gap	%	Gap	%	Gap	%	Gap	%	Gap	%	Gap	
GLD	67.9%	67%	-0.9%	67%	-0.9%	65%	-2.9%	73%	5.1%	64%	-3.9%	70%	2.1%	80%	12.1%	68%	-0.2%	
Y1 Phonics	79.5%	84%	4.5%	93%	13.5%	92%	12.5%	90%	10.5%	78%	-1.5%	90%	10.5%	100%	20.5%	89%	9.3%	
Y2 Phonics	87.0%	91%	4.0%	93%	6.0%	88%	1.0%	98%	11.0%	90%	3.0%	93%	6.0%	100%	13.0%	92.5	5.5%	
KS1	National Standard Reading	68.0%	70%	2.0%	60%	-8.0%	64%	-4.0%	71%	3.0%	68%	0.0%	70%	2.0%	69%	1.0%	67%	-1.2%
	Greater Depth Reading	18.0%	21%	3.0%	10%	-8.0%	3%	-15. %	21%	3.0%	15%	-3.0%	17%	-1.0%	31%	13.0%	15%	-2.8%
	National Standard Writing	59.4%	65%	5.6%	58%	-1.4%	54%	-5.4%	67%	7.6%	60%	0.6%	63%	3.6%	77%	17.6%	62%	2.4%
	Greater Depth Writing	7.5%	18%	10.5%	9%	-4.5%	0%	-7.5%	14%	6.5%	10%	2.5%	17%	9.5%	23%	15.5%	11%	3.1%
	National Standard Maths	70.3%	74%	3.7%	70%	-0.3%	67%	-3.3%	71%	0.7%	68%	-2.3%	73%	2.7%	85%	14.7%	71%	0.9%
	Greater Depth Maths	15.6%	16%	0.4%	8%	-7.6%	8%	-7.6%	21%	5.4%	10%	-5.6%	23%	7.4%	31%	15.4%	14%	-1.2%
	WRM Combined N/S	56.0%	63%	7.0%	52%	-4.0%	54%	-2.0%	64%	8.0%	58%	2.0%	60%	4.0%	54%	-2.0%	58%	2.1%
WRM Combined H/S	6.0%	9%	3.0%	3%	-3.0%	0%	-6.0%	14%	8.0%	8%	2.0%	17%	11.0%	8%	2.0%	8%	1.9%	
Y4	MTC Percent Score 20+25	61%	100%	39.0%	83%	22.0%	81%	20.0%	90%	29.0%	75%	14.0%	92%	31.0%	88%	27.0%	87%	26.2%
	% Of pupils Scoring 25	32%	43%	10.6%	41%	8.6%	47%	14.6%	34%	1.6%	42%	9.6%	54%	21.6%	31%	-1.4%	42%	9.9%
	Average Score	20.5	24.0	3.5	22.7	2.2	22.0	1.5	22.5	2.0	21.0	0.5	24.0	3.5	23.0	2.5		
KS2	National Standard Reading	73%	72%	-2%	57%	-16%	65%	-8.0%	95%	22.0%	84%	11.0%	77%	4.0%	73%	0.0%	73%	0.4%
	Higher Score Reading	28%	21%	-7.0%	16%	-12%	18%	-10%	37%	9.0%	27%	-1.0%	27%	-1.0%	20%	-8.0%	23%	-4.9%
	National Standard Writing	71%	78%	7.0%	73%	2.0%	70%	-1.0%	83%	12.0%	73%	2.0%	77%	6.0%	73%	2.0%	75%	4.1%
	Greater Depth Writing	14%	28%	14.0%	9%	-5.0%	8%	-6.0%	20%	6.0%	20%	6.0%	19%	5.0%	20%	6.0%	17%	3.1%
	National Standard Maths	73%	90%	17.0%	64%	-9.0%	70%	-3.0%	98%	25.0%	78%	5.0%	77%	4.0%	73%	0.0%	79%	5.7%
	Higher Score Maths	23%	36%	13.0%	21%	-2.0%	20%	-3.0%	39%	16.0%	36%	13.0%	31%	8.0%	20%	-3.0%	29%	6.3%
	National Standard GPS	72%	79%	7.0%	73%	1.0%	65%	-7.0%	90%	18.0%	69%	-3.0%	81%	9.0%	60%	-12%	74%	2.4%
	Higher Score GPS	29%	40%	11.0%	21%	-8.0%	22%	-7.0%	24%	-5.0%	29%	0.0%	31%	2.0%	20%	-9.0%	27%	-1.6%
	RWM Combined Expected	59%	64%	5.0%	46%	-13%	60%	1.0%	80%	21.0%	69%	10.0%	69%	10.0%	67%	8.0%	63%	4.5%
	RWM Combined Higher	8%	12%	4.0%	7%	-1.0%	5%	-3.0%	15%	7.0%	18%	10.0%	15%	7.0%	13%	5.0%	11%	3.4%
	Average Scaled Score R	104.1	104.0	-0.1	102.0	-2.1	103.0	-1.1	108.0	3.9	106.0	1.9	105.0	0.9	103.0	-1.1	104.8	0.7
	Average Scaled Score M	104.8	107.0	2.2	103.0	-1.8	103.0	-1.8	108.0	3.2	106.0	1.2	106.0	1.2	104.0	-0.8	104.9	0.1
	Average Scaled Score GPS	103.4	107.0	3.6	103.0	-0.4	101.0	-2.4	107.0	3.6	104.0	0.6	105.0	1.6	100.0	-3.4	104.1	0.7
	Progress Measure Reading	0	-2.30	-2.3	-2.10	-2.1	-0.60	-0.6	3.40	3.4	3.20	3.2	1.70	1.7	-1.60	-1.6	0.04	0.04
	Progress Measure Writing	0	0.4	0.4	0.90	0.9	0.40	0.4	1.80	1.8	2.20	2.2	3.10	3.1	0.01	0.0	1.17	1.17
Progress Measure Maths	0	1.0	1.0	-0.40	-0.4	0.90	0.9	3.80	3.8	3.40	3.4	4.10	4.1	0.37	0.4	1.70	1.70	

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Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

The table below highlights the outcomes for all students at our Secondary School - Horizon Community College.

College Overview 2023 - Headline figures

Covid yrs							Covid yrs								
Attainment 8	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Progress 8	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Overall	47.1	43.3	45.0	50.4	49.3	51.5	49.7	Overall	0.17	0.02	0.08	0.41	0.60	0.31	0.38
English	9.8	9.6	9.6	10.4	9.8	10.4	9.9	English	-0.02	0.15	0.02	0.25	0.29	-0.01	0.02
Maths	8.1	8.1	8.3	9.2	9.3	9.7	9.3	Maths	-0.35	-0.09	-0.10	0.10	0.48	0.19	0.17
Ebacc	12.4	11.3	12.3	13.8	13.6	14.8	14.2	Ebacc		-0.30	-0.09	0.18	0.44	0.27	0.35
Open	17.0	14.3	14.9	17.0	16.5	16.6	16.3	Open		0.33	0.41	0.94	1.03	0.64	0.78

Covid yrs							Covid yrs								
Attainment 8 Cohorts	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023	Progress 8 Cohorts	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Overall		43.3	45.0	50.4	49.3	51.5	49.7	Overall		0.02	0.08	0.41	0.60	0.31	0.38
Males		41.4	42.7	49.0	46.2	49.3	49.3	Males		-0.16	-0.12	0.22	0.36	0.12	0.33
Females		45.3	47.5	51.9	53.0	53.8	50	Females		0.22	0.30	0.60	0.89	0.50	0.42
PP		35.9	39.5	41.7	41.6	42.8	40.2	PP		-0.21	-0.03	0.16	0.25	-0.04	0.01
SEND		39.3	38.7	38.9	37.6	36.9	33.8	SEND		0.36	0.07	0.08	0.19	-0.38	0.04
SEN - K		44.2	42.2	41.1	39.2	38.0	37	SEN - K		0.46	0.17	0.14	0.28	-0.33	0.4
SEND - E		28.8	23.0	30.6	28.9	26.4	21.2	SEND - E		0.13	-0.35	-0.10	-0.27	-0.87	-1.8
High Prior Attainers					69.9	74.8	67.2	High Prior Attainers		-0.10	-0.03	0.40	0.43	0.56	0.32
Middle Prior Attainers					52.2	51.9	50.1	Middle Prior Attainers		-0.02	0.15	0.45	0.73	0.21	0.38
Low Prior Attainers					34.8	35.4	33.5	Low Prior Attainers		0.42	0.16	0.28	0.46	0.40	0.44

Covid yrs							
English and Maths Match up (%)	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
7+	7.6	5.2	8.8	17.5	14.0	16.4	10
5+	33.3	31.9	33.8	45.2	39.3	50.9	48.1
4+	60.9	57.3	56.3	68.4	68.6	66.2	67.9

Covid yrs							
Ebacc	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
% Entered	49.5	51.6	57.1	51.9	49.3	42.6	54.2
% Achieved 5+	24.0	10.7	14.6	24.6	19.5	31.4	25.2
% Achieved 4+	31.8	25.9	25.7	33.2	30.3	37.9	38.8

Initial results for 2023 show overall attainment is slightly lower than in 2022 but suggest that overall progress is up. The drop in attainment, from a cohort who came in with Key Stage 2 data slightly above that of the previous year, reflects a national move back to pre-pandemic grading and is most evident with High Prior Attainers - again a trend reflected nationally. If our indicative Progress 8 figure of 0.38 (SISRA Collaboration 1) is maintained when the first national data is published in November, it will mean that our students made, on average, over 1/3 grade more progress in each subject than their peers nationally. It should also put us in the top 20% of all school nationally for progress for the first time. Of particular note this year are the excellent outcomes in Maths, Science and History, along with the greatly improved progress figures for SENK students and boys.

HCAT heavily invests in the growth and development of its entire workforce, so they are prepared for the next phase of their careers. It strongly promotes 'one team' working hard to support each other. The ethos of staff development is reinforced by an offer of continuing professional development designed to respond to key priorities.

A strategic programme of CPD was planned, delivered and monitored throughout the year to ensure progress towards those key priorities and other areas of need identified during the year. The personalised and bespoke systems of assessment for HCAT was used to track individual, cohorts and groups in reading, writing and maths and accurately identified progress and attainment. Further developed network meetings and moderation challenge meetings across the Trust have enabled a robust internal moderation process which has evidenced accuracy of HCAT judgements.

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Key non-financial performance indicators

The Trust has a robust school improvement model and internal monitoring processes to evaluate and record progress. These are reported at both school and Trust level.

HCAT Schools are all subjected to an external review of their performance and from that, alongside termly CEO Reviews, their key priorities and areas for development are identified. These are then addressed in each individual Schools Improvement Plans (SIP).

As a Multi Academy Trust we have clear strategic aims which are founded in our visions and values. The Strategic Plan 2020-2023 outlined the goals and targets of HCAT over the 3 years to ensure that as a Trust, the public, parents and all stakeholders have confidence in our approach.

The Strategic Plan:

- Shares and defines the vision of the Trust for the three years to 2023
- Expands on the Trust's strategic objectives
- Defines the key goals and performance measures that will demonstrate our successes and the success of the individual academies
- Explains how we will track opportunities and risks in a continually changing environment
- Builds upon the individual academy successes already achieved.

Underpinning the Strategic Plan is an Operational Development Plan along with financial, marketing and the school improvement plans. These plans are tracked and audited through the year.

HCAT has chosen to focus on two important principles, all academies working towards outstanding and this being achieved at pace. It has carefully worked on embedding systems and processes to have the solid foundations upon which it can take the next steps in its growth.

HCAT will achieve this vision by focusing on four strategic objectives that will be reviewed and measured annually:

Objective 1: School Improvement - To deliver a clear methodology for school improvement that ensures all schools deliver a high-quality education resulting in strong academic success.

We will:

- Embed the HCAT vision and values in to the day to day operations of each school, ensuring our children are ready for the next stage of their education.
- Raise attainment and improve progression by ensuring that there is a rigorous and robust programme of Quality Assurance that helps to support teachers and leaders, build expertise and capacity and raise standards in our academies to deliver positive outcomes for pupils.
- Implement a CPD Programme for our academies that will ensure that our staff have the right skills to further raise standards, deliver high quality teaching and learning and disseminate best practice to ensure rapid improvement.
- Support excellent standards of teaching and learning to ensure that our academies provide the very best teaching, in order to promote and provide high quality learning for our children and young people and ensure there is support in place for teachers to achieve this and make a difference to our pupils.
- Concentrate on the well being of everyone in our communities, by working with stakeholders to develop and implement policies and practice to improve the well being of staff, students and families.

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Objective 2: Growth - Growing to enhance the sustainability of the Trust and our ability to add value to the schools in the Trust. When we consider growing our MAT the discussion always goes back to our values, our vision and what we want to achieve as a multi-academy trust. Our ambition isn't to have hundreds of schools; this simply becomes unmanageable.

We:

- Are committed to measured and responsible growth and will share the 'HCAT' offer as widely as possible to benefit children in our extended community.
- Forge and maintain excellent relationships with other local schools who may, in the future, choose to join us. We are helping our schools to grow together by strengthening school to school support within the Trust.

Objective 3: To build a strong infrastructure - Enabling school leaders to focus on their core educational purpose by delivering outstanding central services.

We will:

- Monitor this and continually work to enhance the services we offer.
- Regularly evaluate and be mindful of risk. To manage this we need to be reflective, evaluative and be realistic.
- Be honest and open and focus on risks in advance.
- Manage risks rather than avoid them so that we can remain competitive and innovative in all that we do for those that we serve.
- Become a more digitally efficient organisation and have implemented plans to provide better support for our children and staff through technology, so making cooperation easier and allowing connectivity and stability across the Trust.

Objective 4: Strengthening Governance - To strengthen governance in all schools to ensure that all statutory information is provided to ensure wise decisions are taken at all levels based on evidence.

We will:

- Ensure a comprehensive governance framework that supports clear roles and responsibilities is implemented. Having a robust accountability framework enables us to continue to work strategically towards the Trust's objectives.
- Work, in conjunction with Trustees and Local Governors, to enhance the scheme of delegation, and also provide a training programme that develops the skills and experience of our Trustees and Governors.

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 Trust to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

The Trustees have considered the level of grant funding for 2023-24 and projected student numbers for 2023-24, together with the increases in both staff costs and utility charges and other significant cost pressures.

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.

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Promoting the success of the academy

As a Multi Academy Trust we have clear strategic aims which are founded in our visions and values. The trust was established to continue and share the philosophy of collaboration developed by Hoyland Common Primary School and Tykes Teaching Alliance. At HCAT, we firmly believe in school autonomy; member schools benefit from maintaining their own identity with access to shared best practice across a range of schools. This allows schools to focus on the key priorities of teaching and learning whilst the trust can lead on the financial and resource management and provide high quality school improvement. With the educational landscape changing at such an unprecedented rate, the trust aims to provide support and will work in collaboration to ensure that each school within HCAT continues to thrive, leading to improved educational outcomes for all its members.

We have continued to build and grow our strong and effective team during the last 12 months and we have moved the trust forward with a period of growth. We have a clear business model that delivers the efficiency, effectiveness and challenge and also have the leadership and a track record to succeed.

At HCAT we take the opinions of our workforce seriously and engage in consultation with our employees or their representatives regularly to take account of their views in making decisions likely to affect their interests.

We seek to nurture open, trusting relationships with all stakeholders and maintain these relationships by offering our customers a consistently high-quality excellent service. We also aim to develop long-term relationships with our customers and we use any customer feedback to drive continuous improvements to our service.

At HCAT we understand the need for supplier engagement and for us this is about collaboration and using this as a significant driver of performance. We ensure that payment terms are adhered to so that any supplier is not impacted in a detrimental way.

Successful education is also about working in close partnership with our families and the community to ensure our students succeed in each School year and are prepared for the next appropriate phase of their education. We are wholly aware that everyone has a role to play in building a positive school climate. Success depends on a whole school approach that includes the active involvement of school leaders, staff members, students, parents/guardians and community members who are committed to a shared vision of a safe, inclusive and accepting school community.

Fundraising

Under the provisions of the Charities Act 2016, charities must include a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although we do not undertake widespread fundraising from the general public, the legislation defines fundraising as “soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes.” Such amounts receivable are presented in our accounts as “voluntary income” and include legacies and grants.

In relation to the above we confirm that all solicitations are managed internally, without involvement of commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Executive team, who are accountable to the Trustees.

The charity is not bound by any undertaking to be bound by any regulatory scheme and we have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. The appropriateness of our fundraising activity continues to form a natural part of our risk management framework and our scheme of delegation.

The Trust has also continued with payments for school meals to help secure continuity of supply of this critical service in the medium and long term.

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

	2023	2022
UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022		
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	-	3,158,846
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Owned transport - mini-buses	0.00	0.21
Gas consumption	273.87	273.50
Total scope 1	273.87	273.71
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Purchased electricity	328.64	321.12
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Business travel in employee-owned vehicles	1.33	2.71
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	603.84	597.54
Intensity ratio		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.15	0.17

Quantification and Reporting Methodology:

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard and have used the 2022 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We have installed smart meters across all sites and increased video conferencing technology for staff meetings, to reduce the need for travel between sites.

Plans for future periods

HCAT plans to maintain a clear focus on learning and the teaching that promotes it, including continuing to raise achievement and student skills, with the aim to provide the highest quality provision.

While we must ensure the highest levels of teaching and performance in our academies, we must remember that education is also about the widening of opportunity of experience for all our students, especially the most vulnerable and challenged and also ensuring that we modify the school curriculum to address gaps in knowledge for disadvantaged, SEND and vulnerable pupils.

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Financial review

The Academy Trust is in a secure financial position and has reserves to manage any unexpected expenditure.

Trustees have made it a priority to ensure that high standards are maintained within the framework of a budget that is sustainable and have been rigorous in evaluating any proposals for additional expenditure. The Board along with the COO and CFO conduct regular reviews of the actual expenditure and income against budgets of all schools and these are reported to the Board and LGB.

The COO, CFO and the Chair of the Trust meet each month to review the Management Reports and the Cashflow position.

During the period under review the principal sources of income have been General Annual Grant (GAG) and other grant related income from the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). These are the main income sources of the Trust and they are used to pay for the following principal expenses:

- Teaching and support staff within the classrooms
- The non-teaching support for finance, administration, HR, H&S
- Staff Training
- Contracts required to manage day to day affairs
- Educational Resources and IT Resource across the school

The Academy Trust also received Pupil Premium funding, identified by the number of children in receipt of free school meals at any point during the preceding year. The funding is directed principally to the children whose social and educational needs may require additional support. This support may include teaching, training for staff and any other additional resource.

Key financial policies reviewed during the year include the Finance Policy which establishes the framework for financial management, including the key financial responsibilities of the Board, its committees and the key officers of the academy, as well as delegated authority for spending decisions. The Fraud and Anti-Corruption Policy alongside the Debt Recovery policy were also reviewed.

Trustees have appointed an Internal Audit Team and they have undertaken a programme of internal checks on financial, HR, Payroll and ICT controls and these have been reported to the Finance Committee and also shared in meetings of the Board.

Reserves policy

The Academy Trust aims to carry forward a prudent level of resources from the General Annual Grant, the General Non-GAG Restricted Fund and the General Unrestricted Fund to cover the medium- and long-term needs for renewal and replacement of equipment, for major unforeseen contingencies and to provide for the uncertainty of the effects of diminishing public funding. At the end of the period under review the balances held in these funds were as follows:

Restricted General Fund - £2,012,981 (2022: £1,696,232)

Unrestricted Fund - £2,574,832 (2022: £1,658,777)

Restricted Fixed Asset Fund - £17,094,605 (2022: £15,154,097)

Pension surplus/(deficit) - £nil (2022: (£1,387,000))

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Investment policy

The Academy does not hold investments other than Cash at Bank.

The Board of Trustees are firmly committed to ensuring that all funds under their control are administered in such a way as to maximise return while minimising risk. Trustees do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, but rather a requirement for the effective management of the various funds entrusted to the Board.

Trustee's management of cashflow should ensure that there are always sufficient funds in the main bank accounts to cover operational costs. The Bank has been selected from the FSA Approved List included in the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).

Trustees seek to ensure that any cash not required for operating expenses is placed on deposit at the most favourable rate and this will be drawn into the current accounts as and when required to meet operational expenditure.

The approval of the Board of Trustees is required before any investment is made. The following criteria should be used in selecting an appropriate investment:

- What level of risk does the investment represent? The Trustees' approach to risk is cautious – typical investments will include corporate bonds and fixed interest funds.
- The historical performance of the investment or fund
- The anticipated level of return
- Management fees and associated costs
- Any penalties e.g. for early redemption
- Ease of access should governors wish to realise the investment

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Principal risks and uncertainties

There are a number of principal risks and uncertainties facing the Trust, and these are as follows:

Financial

The Trust has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the EFA. In the last period over 85% of the Trust's incoming resources was ultimately Government funded and whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.

Estates Management

The Trust have implemented an Estates Strategy that outlines the planned spend for the Trust based on external findings from condition surveys. HCAT use an online compliance system to ensure all the Schools within the Trust are compliant with statutory legislation, alongside weekly, monthly and annual checks. Each School has an annual external Audit of H&S as well as a termly internal audit.

Governance and Management Risk

The Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.

Reputational Risk

The continuing success of the Academy Trust depends on maintaining the highest educational standards in order to continue to attract pupils in sufficient numbers. Trustees are clearly focused on monitoring and reviewing the achievement and success of pupils. They are wholly aware of the Recovery Plans for Schools within the Trust and how these are to be implemented and the intended impact of those. All Trust Schools are offering live teaching in the eventuality of any further school closures.

Trustees continue to give due consideration to other aspects of the school's activities where there could be a reputational risk, including discipline, safeguarding, Health and Safety etc.

Safeguarding and Child Protection Risks

Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the selection and monitoring of staff and volunteers, the operation of child protection policies in our schools and in training and support, in order to protect the vulnerable young people in its care.

Significant Changes in Staff

Trustees have put in place a clear succession planning policy, and continue to review and monitor arrangements for recruitment, retention and the development of existing staff to minimise the risk resulting from major changes in key staff.

HCAT

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

Fundraising

Under the provisions of the Charities Act 2016, charities must include a statement regarding fundraising activities. Although we do not undertake widespread fundraising from the general public, the legislation defines fundraising as “soliciting or otherwise procuring money or other property for charitable purposes.” Such amounts receivable are presented in our accounts as “voluntary income” and include legacies and grants.

In relation to the above we confirm that all solicitations are managed internally, without involvement of commercial participators or professional fund-raisers, or third parties. The day to day management of all income generation is delegated to the Executive team, who are accountable to the Trustees.

The charity is not bound by any undertaking to be bound by any regulatory scheme and we have received no complaints in relation to fundraising activities. The appropriateness of our fundraising activity continues to form a natural part of our risk management framework and our scheme of delegation.

The Trust has also continued with payments for school meals to help secure continuity of supply of this critical service in the medium and long term.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The Trust and its Trustees do not act as the custodian Trustees of any other charity.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 11 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
A J Richards
Chair of Trustees

HCAT

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that HCAT 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 Government Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to T Banham, Chief Executive Officer, as Chief Executive Officer (CEO), 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 HCAT and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year and there were also several committee meetings throughout the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A J Richards, Chair of Trustees	6	6
M John Ross	1	6
M Utley	9	9
I Dickinson	6	9
T Morris (appointed 6 December 2022)	4	6
A F Fearn	0	9
S Gallagher	7	7
M Gostelow	6	6
A Kent	5	6
D Marsh	0	6

HCAT

Governance statement (continued)

The Trust Board are aware that the governance and leadership of Multi Academy Trusts both at Trustee level and Local Governing Body is becoming of greater and greater importance. The Board undertook a review of its constitution and scheme of delegation and there is a CPD Programme in place for Governance.

The role of the HCAT Board is -

To consider all staffing and personnel issues, working with the CEO and other leaders to determine the staffing structure to meet the respective Academy's needs. To review the appointment of new staff, including Director/Governor representation and review all policies regarding staffing.

To support the respective local governing bodies in ensuring that the procurement of goods and services in support of its buildings, ICT, other equipment and educational resources meets the requirements set out in the financial handbook.

To consider the respective Academy's indicative funding, receive initial draft budgets and review management accounts on a monthly basis. Consider service level agreements with third party suppliers and make recommendations on behalf of the Board/Local Governing Body about on-going arrangements.

To consider external and internal audit reports and to ensure that recommendations form part of an action plan that is regularly monitored. Reviewing the Risk Register all significant risks likely to impact on the Trust.

As such HCAT have an approach to the developing of skills at all levels across the trust and increasing the level of accountability and challenge from the current governance structures.

As the multi academy trust grows it is essential that we have clear lines of communication and accountability between the trust and local governing bodies. To ensure there is an appropriate level of challenge at board level it is important that Trustees receive information about schools from a range of different source. With that in mind it, Link Trustees have been established to be the single point between schools and trust.

Trustee links are used to support and challenge our Trust Schools and the Trust as a whole to support on-going improvement of all our schools.

We also made the decision to have transitional Boards at the 2 schools that have joined the Trust to allow their Local Governors to see modelled challenge and support from experienced governance professionals to allow guidance during their first year of being part of the Trust.

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the CEO, Tom Banham, 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 education 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 that the Trust keeps up-to-date with all EFA developments and constantly explores opportunities for generating additional income and applies for all grant funding available.
- Reviewing all contracts to ensure they are fit for purpose and best value for the Schools. Plans are in place to move certain contracts when current ones expire to save costs and improve the quality of service the Trust receives. The Trust has also centralised its HR Services and some in house aspects of Health and Safety.
- Improve procurement procedures and improve economies of scale.
- Tracking and monitoring systems record all aspects of student data including progress through school and to ensure that interventions and support are targeted to achieve Value for Money.
- Partnering with external agencies to work alongside families and pupils particularly the most vulnerable. Staff and governor training has been given to ensure everyone working within the Trust has focussed upon core needs linked to welfare.
- Developing the curriculum within the Trust in a variety of ways including an extensive staff training and CPD programme.

HCAT

Governance statement (continued)

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in HCAT for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

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 Board of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of any expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific reviewer function and has used a series of agencies to undertake a variety of reviews. Their role includes giving advice and performing a range of checks on the Academies systems and processes. The reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of Board's responsibilities.

The reviewer function has been fully delivered in line with the ESFA's requirements. No material control issues arising as a result of the reviewer's work have been identified.

The reviewers role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems. Checks were undertaken during the year and some of these included:

- Review of finance systems and delegation
- Review of Safeguarding
- Health and Safety Audits

On a termly basis the audit reports are shared with the Board. The reports include the operation of the systems and controls, and outline the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the Board consider actions and assess year on year progress.

There were no material control issues, just minor points that were suggested improvements to fine tune the operation of the systems as opposed to pointing to any serious flaws.

HCAT

Governance statement (continued)

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, T Banham 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 responsible officer;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive team 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: FNtI/NtI 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 Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 11th December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
A J Richards
Chair of Trustees

.....
T Banham
Accounting Officer

HCAT

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As accounting officer of HCAT 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, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

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

.....
T Banham, Chief Executive Officer
Accounting Officer

11 December 2023

HCAT

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards FRS 102 have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board on 11 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

.....
A J Richards
Chair of Trustees

HCAT

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of HCAT

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information (covers the Reference and administrative details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance statement)

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

HCAT

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of HCAT (continued)

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 24, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance held.
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made within significant accounting estimates and judgements such as depreciation and the local government pension scheme liability.
- Testing of income, bank, purchases and payroll, systems and controls and providing conclusions on the regularity of samples chosen.
- Identification of key laws and regulations central to the academies operations and review of compliance with such laws including a review of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022 and correspondence with solicitors to identify any on-going litigation.
- Testing of journal entries and potential override of systems.

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

HCAT

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of HCAT (continued)

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy'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's Members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Academy and its Members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

.....
Adam Millson ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd, Statutory Auditor

Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

11 December 2023

HCAT

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 August 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by HCAT during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to HCAT and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to HCAT and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than HCAT and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Board of Trustee's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Board of Trustees's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 19 December 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

- evaluating the systems and control environment;
- assessing the risk of irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance;
- confirming the activities of the Academy are in keeping with the Academy's framework and the charitable objectives; and
- obtaining representations from the Accounting Officer and Key Management Personnel.

HCAT

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

Conclusion

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

.....
Adam Millson ACA Reporting Accountant
For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd, Chartered Accountants

Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

11 December 2023

HCAT

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/23 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and capital grants	2	208,275	-	526,435	734,710
Transfer from local authority on conversion		25,763	(241,348)	2,130,000	1,914,415
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	26,134,539	-	26,134,539
Teaching schools		168,050	137,182	-	305,232
Other trading activities	4	1,323,624	34,852	-	1,358,476
Investments	5	55,169	-	-	55,169
Total		<u>1,780,881</u>	<u>26,065,225</u>	<u>2,656,435</u>	<u>30,502,541</u>
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	568,489	26,160,297	715,927	27,444,713
Teaching schools		<u>88,049</u>	<u>188,467</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>276,516</u>
Total		<u>656,538</u>	<u>26,348,764</u>	<u>715,927</u>	<u>27,721,229</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		1,124,343	(283,539)	1,940,508	2,781,312
Transfers between funds		(208,288)	208,288	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	1,779,000	-	1,779,000
Net movement in funds		916,055	1,703,749	1,940,508	4,560,312
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2022		<u>1,658,777</u>	<u>309,232</u>	<u>15,154,097</u>	<u>17,122,106</u>
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		<u><u>2,574,832</u></u>	<u><u>2,012,981</u></u>	<u><u>17,094,605</u></u>	<u><u>21,682,418</u></u>

HCAT

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2022 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and capital grants	2	124,781	-	309,035	433,816
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	23,885,958	-	23,885,958
Teaching schools		157,285	95,532	-	252,817
Other trading activities	4	1,098,360	28,865	-	1,127,225
Investments	5	2,269	-	-	2,269
Total		<u>1,382,695</u>	<u>24,010,355</u>	<u>309,035</u>	<u>25,702,085</u>
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	711,639	24,903,914	646,343	26,261,896
Expenses relating to other educational activities		<u>30,244</u>	<u>173,423</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>203,667</u>
Total		<u>741,883</u>	<u>25,077,337</u>	<u>646,343</u>	<u>26,465,563</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		640,812	(1,066,982)	(337,308)	(763,478)
Transfers between funds		(255,878)	180,791	75,087	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23	<u>-</u>	<u>13,619,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>13,619,000</u>
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		384,934	12,732,809	(262,221)	12,855,522
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2021		<u>1,273,843</u>	<u>(12,423,577)</u>	<u>15,416,318</u>	<u>4,266,584</u>
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2022		<u><u>1,658,777</u></u>	<u><u>309,232</u></u>	<u><u>15,154,097</u></u>	<u><u>17,122,106</u></u>

HCAT

(Registration number: 08654591) Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	16,652,778	14,882,567
Current assets			
Debtors	14	752,861	560,022
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>5,927,790</u>	<u>4,820,170</u>
		6,680,651	5,380,192
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(1,651,011)</u>	<u>(1,753,653)</u>
Net current assets		<u>5,029,640</u>	<u>3,626,539</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>21,682,418</u>	<u>18,509,106</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset/(liability)		21,682,418	18,509,106
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,387,000)</u>
Total net assets		<u>21,682,418</u>	<u>17,122,106</u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	16	2,012,981	1,696,232
Restricted fixed asset fund	16	17,094,605	15,154,097
Pension reserve	16	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,387,000)</u>
		19,107,586	15,463,329
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund	16	<u>2,574,832</u>	<u>1,658,777</u>
Total funds		<u>21,682,418</u>	<u>17,122,106</u>

The financial statements on pages 30 to 60 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 11 December 2023 and signed on their behalf by:

.....
A J Richards
Chair of Trustees

HCAT

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Net cash inflow from operating activities	19	535,876	1,586,977
Cash flows from financing activities		-	-
Cash flows from investing activities	20	<u>571,744</u>	<u>236,040</u>
Increase in cash in the year		<u>1,107,620</u>	<u>1,823,017</u>

HCAT

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

1 Accounting policies

General information

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity incorporated in England & Wales. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The company registration number is 08654591.

The address of its registered office is:

Unit 7
Dodworth Business Park
Dodworth
Barnsley
England
S75 3SP

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

These financial statements cover the individual entity, HCAT.

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

HCAT meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

These financial statements have been prepared using sterling, the company's functional currency and are rounded to the nearest pound.

Conversion to an academy trust

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £Nil consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from to an academy trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in [(for net gain) Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion/ (for net loss) Charitable activities - transfer from local authority on conversion] in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds. Further details of the transaction are set out in the notes.

Going concern

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

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

Transfer on conversion

Where assets and liabilities are received by the academy trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.

Expenditure

All expenditure is recognised in the period in which a liability is incurred and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

All resources are exclusive of VAT except where irrecoverable.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Charitable activities

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

Intangible fixed assets

Intangible assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment. Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer Software	Straight line over 3 and 4 years

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

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

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

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

Hoyland Common Primary School occupies the land on a 125 year lease with Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC). Horizon Community College also occupies the land on a 125 year lease with the trustees of Horizon Archbishop Holgate Foundation. The buildings are occupied under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) agreement which passed from BMBC on a 50 year lease at Hoyland Common and a 25 year lease at Horizon College on conversion to an academy trust.

Ward Green, Worsborough Common, Mapplewell Primary School, Milefield and Birdwell Primary School occupies the land and buildings on a 125 year lease from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC).

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Long-term Leasehold Buildings	Straight line over 50 years
Long-term Leasehold Land	Straight line over 125 years
Motor Vehicles	Straight line over 5 years
Fixtures and Fittings	Straight line over 5 years
Computer Equipment	Straight line over 3 years

Cash and cash equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents comprise cash on hand and call deposits, and other short-term highly liquid investments that are readily convertible to a known amount of cash and are subject to an insignificant risk of change in value.

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Liabilities

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

Leased assets

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Taxation

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

Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Pension benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on 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.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

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.

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 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 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Transfer on conversion	25,763	(241,348)	2,130,000	1,914,415	-
Other voluntary income					
Educational trips and visits	177,565	-	-	177,565	105,058
Capital grants	-	-	526,435	526,435	309,035
Other donations	30,710	-	-	30,710	19,723
	<u>208,275</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>526,435</u>	<u>734,710</u>	<u>433,816</u>
Total voluntary income	<u>234,038</u>	<u>(241,348)</u>	<u>2,656,435</u>	<u>2,649,125</u>	<u>433,816</u>

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted General Funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Educational operations			
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant	21,159,904	21,159,904	20,241,360
Pupil Premium	1,472,768	1,472,768	1,316,186
PE and Sports Grant	102,450	102,450	118,270
Universal Free School Meals	282,051	282,051	265,897
Rates Relief	101,376	101,376	47,023
Teacher's Pension Grant	13,409	13,409	22,963
Teacher / Student placements	43,539	43,539	27,865
Start Up Grant	110,000	110,000	-
Teacher's Pay Grant	4,745	4,745	8,127
Other DfE Income	1,176,488	1,176,488	502,570
	<u>24,466,730</u>	<u>24,466,730</u>	<u>22,550,261</u>
Other government grants			
Early Intervention Grant (EIG)	613,474	613,474	405,976
Other LA Grants	36,656	36,656	82,512
High Needs Funding	611,775	611,775	487,805
Other Government Grants	19,215	19,215	-
	<u>1,281,120</u>	<u>1,281,120</u>	<u>976,293</u>
Exceptional government funding			
Coronavirus exceptional support	241,914	241,914	226,150

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

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

	Restricted General Funds £	2022/23 Total £	2021/22 Total £
Non-government grants and other income			
Other income	120,241	120,241	69,325
Other grants	24,534	24,534	63,929
	144,775	144,775	133,254
Total grants	26,134,539	26,134,539	23,885,958

The Trust received £241,914 (2022: £226,150) of COVID-19 catch-up premium and support and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £241,914 (2022: £226,150)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Hire of facilities	85,612	-	85,612	59,582
Catering income	781,127	-	781,127	695,899
Other sales	456,885	34,852	491,737	371,744
	1,323,624	34,852	1,358,476	1,127,225

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Short term deposits	55,169	55,169	2,269

6 Resources expended

	Non Pay Expenditure			2022/23	2021/22
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	Total £	Total £
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	12,763,689	322,293	1,836,160	14,922,142	13,858,848
Allocated support costs	7,151,444	3,588,565	1,782,562	12,522,571	12,403,048
Teaching school hub					
Teaching school hub - Direct costs	-	-	378	378	983
Teaching school hub - Allocated support costs	215,580	18,944	41,614	276,138	202,684
	20,130,713	3,929,802	3,660,714	27,721,229	26,465,563

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating leases - plant and machinery	86,830	82,965
Operating leases - other leases	2,188,158	2,049,091
Depreciation	369,649	335,427
Fees payable to auditor - audit	16,245	14,750
- other audit services	7,925	6,930

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

7 Charitable activities

	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Direct costs - educational operations		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	12,763,689	11,946,901
Depreciation	322,293	298,383
Technology costs	467,167	352,103
Educational supplies	599,258	428,246
Examination fees	194,263	196,777
Staff development	96,768	69,813
Educational consultancy	153,604	216,005
Other direct costs	325,100	350,620
	14,922,142	13,858,848
Support costs - educational operations		
Support staff costs	7,131,444	6,198,828
LGPS Service cost adjustment	20,000	1,288,000
Depreciation	47,356	37,681
Technology costs	380,369	282,611
Maintenance of premises and equipment	565,261	635,226
Cleaning	123,220	73,410
Rent, rates and utilities	519,730	260,856
Insurance	82,829	74,778
Recruitment and support	23,023	21,944
Security and transport	26,816	16,248
Catering	992,418	860,816
Bank interest and charges	15,145	11,578
Interest on defined benefit pension scheme	72,000	240,000
Professional fees	98,896	74,162
Other support costs	153,695	188,815
PFI charges	2,250,169	2,113,198
Governance costs	20,200	24,897
	12,522,571	12,403,048
Total direct and support costs	27,444,713	26,261,896

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	15,208,066	13,913,184
Social security costs	1,388,362	1,299,082
Pension costs	3,179,839	4,213,745
	19,776,267	19,426,011
Supply teacher costs	297,869	152,561
Staff restructuring costs	56,577	21,289
	20,130,713	19,599,861
	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Other restructuring costs	56,577	21,289

Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Academy during the year was as follows:

	2023 No	2022 No
Charitable Activities		
Teachers	239	231
Administration and support	425	322
Management	9	9
	673	562

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No	2022 No
£60,001 - £70,000	10	7
£70,001 - £80,000	5	4
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	2	-
£110,001 - £120,000	-	1
£120,001 - £130,000	1	1
£130,001 - £140,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £996,638 (2022: £942,173).

9 Central services

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

- Teaching staff
- Support staff
- Governance
- HR
- Finance support
- IT support

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

- Flat percentage of income (5% of GAG)

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Hoyland Common Primary School	86,364	84,792
Ward Green Primary School	88,140	83,040
Horizon Community College	462,504	239,339
Worsborough Common Primary School	96,228	100,500
Mapplewell Primary School	65,040	61,416
Milefield Primary School	67,500	63,324
Birdwell Primary School	18,525	-
	<u>884,301</u>	<u>632,411</u>

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

10 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

D Marsh :

Remuneration: £50,000 - £55,000 (2022 - £45,000 - £50,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2022 - £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2023, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £1,328 (2022 - £171) were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 trustees (2022 - 1).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 24.

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on business. The academies in the trust have opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA) for academy trusts. This scheme provides unlimited cover. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

12 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software £	2022/23 Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2022	12,495	12,495
At 31 August 2023	12,495	12,495
Amortisation		
At 1 September 2022	12,495	12,495
At 31 August 2023	12,495	12,495
Net book value		
At 31 August 2023	-	-
At 31 August 2022	-	-

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Long Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	16,132,945	63,578	9,000	300,108	16,505,631
Additions	2,130,000	9,860	-	-	2,139,860
At 31 August 2023	18,262,945	73,438	9,000	300,108	18,645,491
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	1,356,104	54,028	9,000	203,932	1,623,064
Charge for the year	322,293	3,490	-	43,866	369,649
At 31 August 2023	1,678,397	57,518	9,000	247,798	1,992,713
Net book value					
At 31 August 2023	16,584,548	15,920	-	52,310	16,652,778
At 31 August 2022	14,776,841	9,550	-	96,176	14,882,567

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade debtors	83,791	103,878
Prepayments	179,564	143,160
Accrued grant and other income	257,285	231,163
VAT recoverable	224,383	80,820
Other debtors	7,838	1,001
	<u>752,861</u>	<u>560,022</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	444,027	518,866
Other taxation and social security	329,403	309,346
Other creditors	1,585	33,925
Pension scheme creditor	367,115	329,406
Accruals	508,881	562,110
	<u>1,651,011</u>	<u>1,753,653</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant	1,351,122	21,159,905	(21,128,148)	208,288	1,591,167
Other DfE grants	-	1,442,006	(1,442,006)	-	-
Other government grants	-	1,308,380	(1,308,380)	-	-
Pupil premium	231,163	1,472,768	(1,446,646)	-	257,285
Universal Free School Meals Income	113,947	282,051	(231,469)	-	164,529
Mutli-Academy Trust Start-Up grant	-	110,000	(110,000)	-	-
Other income	-	152,367	(152,367)	-	-
Reserves transferred on conversion	-	58,652	(58,652)	-	-
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	241,914	(241,914)	-	-
Teaching school	-	137,182	(137,182)	-	-
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Assets transferred on conversion	14,850,791	2,130,000	(396,243)	-	16,584,548
DfE capital grants	303,306	526,435	(319,684)	-	510,057
<i>Pension reserve funds</i>					
LGPS deficit	<u>(1,387,000)</u>	<u>(300,000)</u>	<u>(92,000)</u>	<u>1,779,000</u>	<u>-</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>15,463,329</u>	<u>28,721,660</u>	<u>(27,064,691)</u>	<u>1,987,288</u>	<u>19,107,586</u>
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
General Funds	<u>1,658,777</u>	<u>1,780,881</u>	<u>(656,538)</u>	<u>(208,288)</u>	<u>2,574,832</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,658,777</u>	<u>1,780,881</u>	<u>(656,538)</u>	<u>(208,288)</u>	<u>2,574,832</u>
Total funds	<u><u>17,122,106</u></u>	<u><u>30,502,541</u></u>	<u><u>(27,721,229)</u></u>	<u><u>1,779,000</u></u>	<u><u>21,682,418</u></u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant	660,409	20,241,360	(19,731,438)	180,791	1,351,122
Other DfE grants	-	726,818	(726,818)	-	-
Other government grants	-	976,293	(976,293)	-	-
Pupil premium	219,961	1,316,186	(1,304,984)	-	231,163
Universal Free School Meals Income	140,628	265,897	(292,578)	-	113,947
Other income	33,425	162,119	(195,544)	-	-
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	226,150	(226,150)	-	-
Teaching school	-	95,532	(95,532)	-	-
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
Assets transferred on conversion	15,200,694	-	(349,903)	-	14,850,791
DfE capital grants	200,405	309,035	(206,134)	-	303,306
Capital Donations	3,228	-	(3,228)	-	-
Fixed Assets purchased from GAG	11,991	-	(87,078)	75,087	-
<i>Pension reserve funds</i>					
LGPS deficit	(13,478,000)	-	(1,528,000)	13,619,000	(1,387,000)
Total restricted funds	<u>2,992,741</u>	<u>24,319,390</u>	<u>(25,723,680)</u>	<u>13,874,878</u>	<u>15,463,329</u>
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
General Funds	<u>1,273,843</u>	<u>1,382,695</u>	<u>(741,883)</u>	<u>(255,878)</u>	<u>1,658,777</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,273,843</u>	<u>1,382,695</u>	<u>(741,883)</u>	<u>(255,878)</u>	<u>1,658,777</u>
Total funds	<u><u>4,266,584</u></u>	<u><u>25,702,085</u></u>	<u><u>(26,465,563)</u></u>	<u><u>13,619,000</u></u>	<u><u>17,122,106</u></u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

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

General Annual Grant (GAG) must be used for the normal running costs of the academy. The Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on GAG carry-forward.

Pupil Premium may be spent for the educational benefit of pupils registered at that school, or for the benefit of pupils registered at other schools; and on community facilities i.e. services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of pupils at the school or their families, or people who live or work in the locality in which the school is situated. The grant does not have to be completely spent by schools in the period.

Universal Infant Free School Meals must be used to provide all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 with a free school lunch.

The Multi-Academy Trust start-up grant is allocated to the Academy to contribute to costs, such as leadership, as the trust grows in capacity.

Capital expenditure from GAG is made up of any fixed assets purchased during the period and the expense is the depreciation relating to these additions.

DfE Capital grants is made up of Devolved Formula capital which is allocated direct by the DfE and must be spent on capital purposes.

A transfer of £208,288 (2022: £255,878) was made from unrestricted funds to the restricted general fund to support restricted expenditure within the Trust. The Trust continue to generate large amounts of unrestricted income, some of which have been transferred to support the restricted income funds. In 2022, a transfer of £75,087 was also made from GAG funding which was used for Restricted Fixed Asset expenditure.

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Hoyland Common Primary School	196,570	193,638
Ward Green Primary School	269,339	242,941
Horizon Community College	2,222,385	1,343,199
Horizon Enterprise	63,205	108,186
Worsborough Common Primary School	740,064	638,553
Mapplewell Primary School	278,561	183,195
Milefield Primary School	248,155	218,016
Birdwell Primary School	77,216	-
Tykes Teaching School Alliance	143,931	115,215
Central services	348,387	312,066
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	4,587,813	3,355,009
Restricted fixed asset fund	17,094,605	15,154,097
Pension reserve	-	(1,387,000)
Total	<u>21,682,418</u>	<u>17,122,106</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2023 £
Hoyland Common Primary School	1,090,319	653,234	34,718	752,042	2,530,313
Ward Green Primary School	1,000,712	869,876	59,535	436,395	2,366,518
Horizon Community College	7,183,772	3,054,485	333,805	3,526,560	14,098,622
Horizon Enterprise	-	-	26,374	68,848	95,222
Worsborough Common Primary School	1,125,143	924,874	48,175	502,864	2,601,056
Mapplewell Primary School	829,986	403,436	41,729	364,360	1,639,511
Milefield Primary School	843,971	486,276	45,782	498,562	1,874,591
Birdwell Primary School	219,461	116,989	7,946	128,397	472,793
Tykes Teaching School Alliance	-	215,580	261	60,675	276,516
Central services	470,325	624,274	1,194	282,646	1,396,437
Academy Trust	<u>12,763,689</u>	<u>7,349,024</u>	<u>599,519</u>	<u>6,621,349</u>	<u>27,351,579</u>

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2022 £
Hoyland Common Primary School	1,010,404	652,830	31,313	636,714	2,331,261
Ward Green Primary School	89,802	803,231	49,002	1,280,318	2,222,353
Horizon Community College	7,079,806	2,759,622	172,062	3,064,770	13,076,260
Horizon Enterprise	-	6,170	42,281	51,213	99,664
Worsborough Common Primary School	1,125,143	850,880	49,760	514,465	2,540,248
Mapplewell Primary School	804,600	394,262	36,407	370,223	1,605,492
Milefield Primary School	769,428	452,804	44,257	389,554	1,656,043
Tykes Teaching School Alliance	-	166,132	-	37,535	203,667
Central services	283,361	1,567,029	1,164	572,957	2,424,511
Academy Trust	<u>11,162,544</u>	<u>7,652,960</u>	<u>426,246</u>	<u>6,917,749</u>	<u>26,159,499</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	16,652,778	16,652,778
Current assets	2,574,832	3,663,992	441,827	6,680,651
Current liabilities	-	(1,651,011)	-	(1,651,011)
Total net assets	2,574,832	2,012,981	17,094,605	21,682,418

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	14,882,567	14,882,567
Current assets	1,658,777	3,449,885	271,530	5,380,192
Current liabilities	-	(1,753,653)	-	(1,753,653)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,387,000)	-	(1,387,000)
Total net assets	1,658,777	309,232	15,154,097	17,122,106

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

18 Commitments under operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	2,560,036	2,274,998
Amounts due between one and five years	10,096,608	8,884,106
Amounts due after five years	22,489,946	21,863,154
	35,146,590	33,022,258

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure)	2,781,312	(763,478)
Depreciation	369,649	335,427
Donated capital and capital grants	(526,435)	(309,035)
Interest receivable	(55,169)	(2,269)
LGPS interest on defined benefit pension scheme	72,000	240,000
LGPS service cost adjustment	20,000	1,288,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(192,839)	231,115
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(102,642)	567,217
Transfer of fixed assets on conversion	(2,130,000)	-
LGPS deficit transferred on conversion	300,000	-
	535,876	1,586,977

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

20 Cash flows from investing activities

	2023	2022
	£	£
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(9,860)	(75,264)
Capital grants from DfE	526,435	309,035
Interest receivable	55,169	2,269
Net cash inflow from investing activities	<u>571,744</u>	<u>236,040</u>

21 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022	Cash flows	At 31 August 2023
	£	£	£
Cash	4,820,170	1,107,620	5,927,790
Loans falling due within one year	<u>(1,753,653)</u>	<u>68,026</u>	<u>(1,685,627)</u>
Total	<u>3,066,517</u>	<u>1,175,646</u>	<u>4,242,163</u>

22 Member 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.

23 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by . Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £(367,115) (2022 - £(329,406)) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 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 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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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 30 October 2023.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £2,099,265 (2022: £2,008,737).

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

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

Local government pension schemes

Hymans Robertson LLP

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £1,345,000 (2022 - £1,181,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,028,000 (2022 - £903,000) and employees' contributions totalled £317,000 (2022 - £278,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employers and 20.3 per cent for employees. The scheme is managed by South Yorkshire Pension Fund.

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

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.60	4.10
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.00	3.10
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<u>5.20</u>	<u>4.30</u>

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2023	2022
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.60	22.60
Females retiring today	23.60	25.40
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	21.40	24.10
Females retiring in 20 years	25.00	27.30
Sensitivity analysis		
	2023	2022
	£	£
Discount rate -0.1%	434,000	411,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	662,000	619,000
CPI rate +0.1%	387,000	316,000

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

	2023	2022
	£	£
Equities	12,128,820	9,861,000
Government bonds	3,691,380	2,817,000
Property	1,582,020	1,268,000
Cash	175,780	141,000
Total market value of assets	17,578,000	14,087,000

The actual return on scheme assets was (£422,000) (2022 - (£232,000)).

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
Current service cost	(1,048,000)	(2,191,000)
Interest income	712,000	233,000
Interest cost	<u>(640,000)</u>	<u>(473,000)</u>
Total amount recognized in the SOFA	<u>(976,000)</u>	<u>(2,431,000)</u>

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

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
At start of period	15,474,000	26,646,000
Conversion of academy trusts	710,000	-
Current service cost	1,048,000	2,191,000
Interest cost	712,000	473,000
Employee contributions	317,000	278,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(1,508,000)	(14,084,000)
Benefits paid	<u>(195,000)</u>	<u>(30,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>16,558,000</u>	<u>15,474,000</u>

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

	2022/23 £	2021/22 £
At start of period	14,087,000	13,168,000
Conversion of academy trusts	410,000	-
Interest income	640,000	233,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	1,291,000	(465,000)
Employer contributions	1,028,000	903,000
Employee contributions	317,000	278,000
Benefits paid	(195,000)	(30,000)
Asset ceiling adjustment	<u>(1,020,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
At 31 August	<u>16,558,000</u>	<u>14,087,000</u>

24 Related party transactions

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

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

24 Related party transactions (continued)

Expenditure related party transactions

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

Barnsley Governors Association Limited

(S Gallagher (Trustee) and M A Gostelow (Trustee) have a material interest in this company)

Purchase invoices totalling £245 (2022: £nil) were charged to the trust.

In entering into the transaction the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Barnsley Governors Association Limited was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Learner's First Schools Partnership Limited

(A J Richards (Chair of Trustees) has a material interest in this company)

Purchase invoices totalling £250 (2022: £25,350) were charged to the trust

In entering into the transaction the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

At the balance sheet date the amount due from Learner's First Schools Partnership Limited was £525 (2022 - £481).

Athena Education Services

(H Bellinger (Member) is a director of the company)

Purchase invoices totalling £1,650 (2022: £nil) were charged to the trust

In entering into the transaction the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Athena Education Services was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

Every Child Matters Academy Trust

(G F Wilson (Member) is the Chief Executive Officer of the trust)

Purchase invoices totalling £13,196 (2022: £10,707) were charged to the trust

In entering into the transaction the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Every Child Matters Academy Trust has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due (to)/from Every Child Matters Academy Trust was £Nil (2022 - £240).

Lifetime Digital Planning Ltd

(I Dickinson (Trustee) is the Managing Director of the company)

Purchase invoices totalling £13,848 (2022: £19,387) were charged to the company

In entering into the transaction the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Lifetime Digital Planning Ltd has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Lifetime Digital Planning Ltd was £Nil (2022 - £Nil).

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

24 Related party transactions (continued)

Income related party transactions

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

Interaction and Communication Academy Trust Limited

(A J Richards (Chair) was appointed a Trustee of the trust and T Banham (Accounting Officer) was appointed as an off payroll Accounting officer on 10th February 2023)

Sales invoices totalling £10,316 (2022: £nil) were charged from the trust to Interaction and Communication Academy Trust Limited.

Learner's First Schools Partnership Limited

(A J Richards (Chair of Trustees) has a material interest in this company)

Sales invoices totalling £16,896 (2022: £11,442) were charged from the trust to Learner's First Schools Partnership Limited.

Every Child Matters Academy Trust

(G F Wilson (Member) is the Chief Executive Officer of the trust)

Sales invoices totalling £2,755 (2022: £5,410) were charged from the trust to Every Child Matters Academy Trust.

Lifetime Digital Planning Ltd

(I Dickinson (Trustee) is the Managing Director of the company)

Sales invoices totalling £nil (2022: £400) were charged from the trust to Lifetime Digital Planning Ltd.

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

25 Events after the end of the reporting period

On 1st September 2023, Hoylandswaine Primary School converted and joined HCAT.

HCAT

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

26 Conversion to an academy trust

On the 1st April 2023, Birdwell Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to HCAT from Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council for £Nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of Financial Activities as Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the SOFA.

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted general fund £	Restricted fixed asset fund £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets				
Leasehold land and buildings	-	-	2,130,000	2,130,000
Budget surplus on LA funds	25,763	58,652	-	84,415
LGPS pension deficit	-	(300,000)	-	(300,000)
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>25,763</u>	<u>(241,348)</u>	<u>2,130,000</u>	<u>1,914,415</u>

The above net assets include £83,594 that were transferred as cash.