

**Cuckoo Hall Academies  
Trust**

**Annual Report and Financial  
Statements**

Year ended 31 August 2019

Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registration Number  
07355559 (England and Wales)

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## Reference and administrative details

### Members

Dr D Graham (Chair)  
Prof. A O'Hear  
Dr A Cullen  
Mr M Evans (resigned 25/03/2019)  
Mr C Bond (resigned 11/01/2019)  
Mr A Lancaster (appointed 07/03/2019)

### Directors

Dr D Graham (Chair)  
Prof. A O'Hear  
Mr M Charalambous (Ex-Officio)  
Prof. D M Hewitt  
Mrs S Rubenstein  
Dr A Cullen (resigned 10/10/2018)  
Ms I Admiraal (resigned 01/04/2019)  
Ms K White (resigned 14/05/2019)  
Mr D Broadbent  
Mr R Bryant (appointed 14/02/2019)  
Ms J Tosh (appointed 02/04/2019)  
Ms S El Hadri (appointed 03/10/2019)

### Company Secretary

Mrs Angela Cattermole

### Senior Management Team

CEO

Mr Marino Charalambous

Director of Finance

Mrs Angela Cattermole

Head of HR

Miss Fiona Costley (resigned 17/10/2019)

Head Teacher

Miss Nicola Ross – Cuckoo Hall Academy

Head Teacher

Mr Matthew Clifford – Enfield Heights Academy/  
Kingfisher Hall Academy

Head Teacher

Mr Arthur Barzey – Heron Hall Academy

Head Teacher

Ms Sharon Parson (appointed 01/10/2018) –  
Woodpecker Hall Academy

Head of School

Jade-Simone Bacon – Enfield Heights Academy

### Principal and Registered Office

Cuckoo Hall Academy  
Cuckoo Hall Lane  
Edmonton  
London  
N9 8DR

### Company Registration Number

07355559 (England and Wales)

## Reference and administrative details

<b>Auditor</b>	Buzzacott LLP 130 Wood Street London EC2V 6DL
<b>Bankers</b>	National Westminster Bank plc 9 The Town Enfield N2 6LF
<b>Solicitors</b>	Hill Dickson LLP No 1 St Paul's Square Liverpool L3 9SJ

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and the auditor's reports on the charitable company for the period from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law. The trust operates 1 secondary and 4 primary academies in the Enfield area.

Following on from the ESFA's Financial Notice to Improve ('FNTI') issued in January 2015, the trustees feel that governance is strong and the conditions relating to the FNTI have been met. Therefore, the trustees expect the FNTI to be lifted in the near future.

## **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 Trust"). The trustees of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust Limited are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust.

Details of the trustees who serve on the board of the Trust are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

### **Members' liability**

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

### **Trustees' indemnities**

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the Academy Trust's expense to cover the liability of the trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust, provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as directors of the Academy Trust.

### **Trustees**

The trustees are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006. The trustees listed on page 1 were in office during the year and at the date of approval of these financial statements (except where indicated).

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)**

### **Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees**

As at 31 August 2019 the Academy Trust has the following as set out in its articles of association and funding agreement:

- ◆ up to 9 trustees who are appointed by members;
- ◆ up to 5 chairs of the local governing bodies;
- ◆ up to 5 Head Teachers of the Academies;
- ◆ the Chief Executive Officer; and
- ◆ additional Trustees can be appointed by the Secretary of State.

Trustees are appointed for a four year period, except for the Chief Executive Officer. Any election of the Academy Trust's directors that is contested shall be held by secret ballot.

### **Induction and training of trustees, governors and directors**

Trustees of CHAT and governors on local governing bodies will vary in their experience. New trustees sign up to the Purpose and Role of the Trustee & Code of Practice which sets out what is expected of a trustee or governor. The training and induction includes an annual planned programme to cover key governance areas. A skills audit is carried out periodically and training commissioned on the basis of the outcome of the skills audit.

### **Organisational structure**

Cuckoo Hall Academy, Woodpecker Hall Primary Academy, Kingfisher Hall Primary Academy, Enfield Heights Academy and Heron Hall Academy are governed by the Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust which delegates functions as appropriate to the individual School Governing Bodies, the governors of whom are appointed by the Academy Trust and include two parental representatives and one staff governor.

The organisational structure of the Academy Trust consists of three levels: the trustees, academy governors and the Senior Management Team. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget for the Academy Trust, monitoring progress in each Academy on a financial and performance basis at a strategic level and calling to account the individual academy governing bodies and the Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust ('CHAT') Senior Management Team for the progress in each academy. The trustees are also responsible for the appointment of senior staff in the Academy Trust, but may delegate appointments to the local governing body except for the appointment of a member of the CHAT Senior Management Team.

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

### Organisational structure (continued)

The individual academy governing bodies, along with the Chief Executive, are responsible for monitoring the performance of the Head Teachers and their Senior Leadership Teams ('SLT') on a regular basis.

The CHAT Senior Management Team members are the Chief Executive, Head Teachers of each of the academies, Head of Human Resources and the Director of Finance. These managers control the Academy Trust at an executive level, implementing the policies laid down by the trustees and reporting back to them. As a group the senior managers are responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and for the appointment of staff.

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

The key management personnel of the Trust are the members, directors and Senior Management Team. Pay decisions at CHAT are ultimately made by the CHAT Board but are delegated to the Chief Executive and the Head Teachers of the individual academies. The CHAT Board determine the Chief Executive's pay, the pay of the Head Teachers and other members of the Senior Management Team in consultation with the Chief Executive Officer.

### Trade union facility time

#### Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the period	Full-time equivalent employee number
1	1

#### Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

#### Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	£7,072
Total pay bill	£12,924,000
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as:	0.05%
(total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) x 100	

## STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (continued)

### Trade union facility time (continued)

#### *Paid trade union activities*

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

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

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### Connected organisations, including related party relationships

There are no related parties which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust. There are no external sponsors.

Transactions with trustees and governors are set out in note 19 to the accounts.

## OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

### Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the Charitable Company is the operation of academies to provide a broad and balanced education including English, Mathematics and Science as all-ability inclusive schools.

Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust is responsible for the operation of Cuckoo Hall Academy, Woodpecker Hall Academy (which opened in September 2011), Kingfisher Hall Academy (which opened in September 2012), Enfield Heights Academy (which joined CHAT on 1 September 2014) and Heron Hall Academy (a new Secondary free school which opened in September 2013).

All academies established by Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust will:

- ♦ ensure that pupils attending CHAT schools are provided with high quality, excellent education;
- ♦ provide a broad, balanced and enriched curriculum, underpinned by high quality traditional, but engaging, subject teaching to promote all pupils' achievement;
- ♦ be at the heart of its community in providing excellent local education and be a first choice for parents. Through its success it will strive to raise aspirations for pupils and families in an area with high levels of deprivation and diversity;
- ♦ promote inclusion, and take into account pupils' individual and/or exceptional needs. Promote the sharing of fundamental British values to establish tolerance, respect and understanding both within the school community and the community as a whole;



## **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (continued)**

### **Objects and aims (continued)**

- ◆ establish an admissions policy and admission arrangements which is in accordance with admissions law, and the DfE Codes of Practice;
- ◆ place an emphasis on the needs of the individual pupils including pupils with special education needs ('SEN'), both those with and without statements of SEN in accordance with the DfE's SEN Code of Practice;
- ◆ not charge in respect of admission to an academy, and the academy will only charge pupils where the law allows maintained schools to charge; and
- ◆ make provision for the teaching of religious education.

The aims of the Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust are to:

- ◆ promote the quality of education provision and standards to ensure excellent outcomes for all pupils;
- ◆ share resources, expertise and provision across the family of CHAT schools ensuring value for money for all CHAT academies;
- ◆ be a self-sustaining and self-improving group of schools, with emphasis on continuing high quality training and development for school leaders, teachers, trainee teachers and support staff; and
- ◆ share our expertise and success with as many young people and communities as is possible.

### **Objectives, strategies and activities**

The key priorities for the year are contained in the development plans for each academy and these are available from the Chief Executive Officer.

The key objectives for the Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust are to:

- ◆ make CHAT academies the primary and secondary school of choice for parents in the area and be fully subscribed;
- ◆ become an employer of choice with considerable competition for vacancies; and
- ◆ continue the successful growth of Heron Hall Academy

### **Public Benefit**

In setting the Academy Trust's objectives and planning its activities, the board of trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

## STRATEGIC REPORT

### Achievements and performance

The results for the year (provisional) have been set out below:

Primary Results	Cuckoo Hall	Woodpecker Hall	Kingfisher Hall	Enfield Heights	National
<b>Year 1 Phonics</b>	86%	79%	86%	87%	82%
<b>Key Stage 1:</b>					
- Reading					
'expected and above'	53%	75%	64%	63%	75%
'greater depth'	3%	17%	15%	17%	25%
- Writing					
'expected and above'	39%	72%	58%	57%	69%
'greater depth'	0%	10%	0%	0%	15%
- Maths					
'expected and above'	55%	80%	78%	60%	76%
'greater depth'	7%	17%	10%	17%	22%
<b>Key Stage 2:</b>					
- Reading					
'expected and above'	65%	61%	69%	56%	73%
'greater depth'	20%	18%	21%	16%	27%
- Writing					
'expected and above'	68%	72%	83%	76%	78%
'greater depth'	11%	0%	12%	16%	20%
- Maths					
'expected and above'	85%	61%	83%	76%	79%
'greater depth'	29%	8%	24%	12%	27%
<b>Combined</b>					
'expected and above'	58%	47%	67%	48%	65%
'greater depth'	6%		10%	8%	11%

The transition from mixed ability teaching to whole class teaching is now complete and new head teachers for all four primary academies were appointed at the beginning of 2018-19. The new heads have focused on developing curriculum and pedagogy through continuing professional development for all staff. Additional support has been provided to close gaps between key stages. Kingfisher Hall and Enfield Heights Academies have results for KS2 for the first time. Kingfisher Hall academy's results were very pleasing but further work is needed to establish attainment at both Woodpecker Hall Academy and Enfield Heights Academy. Cuckoo Hall Academy improved its KS2 outcomes and came out of special measures in September 2019. Overall, the Trust average for KS2 combined increased by 12%.

## STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)

### Achievements and performance (continued)

Secondary Results	Heron Hall	National
Progress 8	+0.34	0
Attainment 8	43.1	46.5
% students achieving 4+ in English & Maths	56%	63%
% students achieving 5+ in English & Maths	47%	43%

Heron Hall Academy continues to deliver better than average progress and its GCSE results were in the top 17% of schools in England. It was also in the top five secondary schools in the Borough of Enfield. Students made outstanding progress in both Maths and English with progress scores of +0.5 and +0.7 respectively. In March 2019, the academy was inspected by Ofsted and achieved a rating of 'Good' with the inspection report commenting on the fact that the Head teacher had strengthened a culture of high expectations and the school had introduced a greater level of challenge and support for all pupils.

### Key financial performance indicators

#### *Pupil numbers*

The pupil numbers from the Summer 2019 census are shown below for each individual school. The negative impact of a changing local demographic can be seen at both Woodpecker Hall and Cuckoo Hall. There is an increasingly transient community arising from high rental costs and low availability of affordable housing, which is impacting pupil numbers across the eastern part of the Borough of Enfield. However, Heron Hall is becoming increasingly popular with parents as it becomes more established.

#### 2018-19

Year Group	Cuckoo Hall	Enfield Heights	Heron Hall	Kingfisher Hall	Woodpecker Hall
Nursery	–	n/a	n/a	51	139
Reception	76	29	n/a	60	55
Year 1	88	30	n/a	56	55
Year 2	103	30	n/a	60	60
Year 3	108	23	n/a	60	54
Year 4	100	25	n/a	59	54
Year 5	116	25	n/a	60	57
Year 6	107	25	n/a	58	59
Year 7	n/a	n/a	232	n/a	n/a
Year 8	n/a	n/a	158	n/a	n/a
Year 9	n/a	n/a	119	n/a	n/a
Year 10	n/a	n/a	85	n/a	n/a
Year 11	n/a	n/a	84	n/a	n/a
Total	698	187	678	464	533

## **STRATEGIC REPORT (continued)**

### **Key financial performance indicators (continued)**

#### ***Staffing Ratio***

The cost of staffing salaries as a proportion of the total expenditure (excluding capital works and depreciation) was 80% (2018: 80%).

#### ***Other Key Financial Performance Indicators***

The range of key performance indicators that trustees may consider is constantly under review. Trustees consider it essential that they utilise a range of key financial performance indicators that are relevant and applicable to monitoring the performance of the Academy Trust.

#### ***Pupil Premium***

The Academy Trust acknowledges the responsibility for 'socially disadvantaged' pupils and is committed to meeting their pastoral, social and academic needs within the academies environment. The Trust is committed to 'Diminishing the Gap' between vulnerable pupils and the pupil premium forms a vital part of that process. CHAT Academies approach the pupil premium through the following principles:

- ♦ ensuring that teaching and learning opportunities meet the needs of all the pupils;
- ♦ ensuring that appropriate provision is made for pupils who belong to vulnerable groups, including ensuring the needs of socially disadvantaged pupils are adequately assessed and addressed; and
- ♦ recognising that not all pupils who receive free school meals will be socially disadvantaged or that not all pupils who are socially disadvantaged are registered or qualify for free school meals.

Provision is made through:

- ♦ enabling pupils' access to well-planned education;
- ♦ enabling pupils' access to an appropriately planned curriculum; and
- ♦ additional support and intervention within the Academy environment.

This will take the form of the following provision:

- ♦ small group matched level daily English and Mathematics teaching thus overcoming gaps in learning and accelerating progress;
- ♦ 1:1 and small group tutorials in English and Mathematics thus ensuring that all pupils make the best possible progress with no pupils 'slipping through the net';
- ♦ intervention programmes to promote behaviour, social skills, expressive language development and homework/curriculum support;

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE** (continued)

### **Key financial performance indicators** (continued)

#### ***Pupil Premium*** (continued)

- ♦ enrichment programmes to widen pupils' experiences and knowledge through well planned cultural visits and events;
- ♦ support from trained staff to promote excellent attendance and punctuality, pastoral programmes and family support;
- ♦ additional teaching and learning opportunities provided through learning mentor, counsellors, Educational Psychologist, behaviour support, trained TAs and external agencies;
- ♦ reducing class sizes thus improving learning opportunities;
- ♦ breakfast and afterschool care;
- ♦ after school homework and learning clubs;
- ♦ after school curriculum clubs including provision for the more able;
- ♦ personalised provision, tailor made to suit individual need;
- ♦ speech, language and communication provision;
- ♦ behaviour, emotional and social skills provision;
- ♦ targeting of able children on Free Schools Meals to achieve National Curriculum level 3 at the end of KS1 or level 5 at the end of KS2; and
- ♦ Educational Welfare Officer's commitment to improve attendance.

Pupil Premium of £1,073,773 was received in financial year 2019 (2018: £1,060,046).

#### **Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the trustees have 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 on pages 31 to 36.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial report for the year**

The financial position of the Academy Trust at the year ended 31 August 2019 is shown on page 29.

The vast majority of the Academy Trust's income is obtained from the DfE in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2019 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy Trust's total income for the year ended 31 August 2019 amounted to £15,758,000 (2018: £14,503,000), including £13,798,000 (2018: £12,652,000) related to ESFA revenue grants, and £367,000 (2018: £143,000) related to capital grants.

The Academy Trust held a fund balance of £33,459,000 (2018: £36,017,000) at 31 August 2019 which includes a surplus on unrestricted funds before transfers of £732,000 (2018: £855,000). Restricted funds at 31 August 2019 amounted to £31,963,000 (2018: £34,375,000).

The Academy Trust has also received grants for fixed assets from the DfE for the building costs of Heron Hall Academy. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the useful life of the assets concerned as defined in the Academy Trust's accounting policies.

### **Financial and risk management objectives and policies**

The Academy Trust has agreed a risk management strategy and a risk register. These have been discussed by the trustees and include the financial risks to the schools. The register is constantly reviewed in light of any new information and formally reviewed through the Audit Committee on a regular basis.

### **Principal risks and uncertainties**

The Academy Trust's principal risks and uncertainties are surrounding the future financing of education and the implications for the Academy Trust. In the current economic climate, we are unable to predict with any certainty the financing of schools, especially with the current proposals to move to a new National Funding Formula. Nevertheless with the academies' cost base, rigorous curriculum based planning and pooling of GAG funding as an Academy Trust we believe we are well placed to meet the financial uncertainties we will face in the future. The trustees seek to ensure that there are appropriate structures to meet the needs of the organisation as a Multi-Academy Trust.

The trustees have considered strategic risks and uncertainties rather than the detailed operational list. These strategic risks, in addition to the risks identified above, focused on the following areas:

- ♦ Financial Notice to Improve remains in place, although the trustees believe this continues to be a low risk;

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW (continued)**

### **Principal risks and uncertainties (continued)**

- ◆ cost pressures on revenue budgets for primary academies exacerbated by falling pupil numbers make setting a balanced budget for the next 3 years a significant challenge;
- ◆ inability to maintain the Trust estate and replace equipment on a timely basis due to budgetary constraints;
- ◆ inability to adequately support pupils with EHCPs due to insufficient funding; and
- ◆ inability to deliver a high quality wider curriculum at primary level due to inexperienced staff.

Trustees identify the likelihood of each risk happening via RAG ('Red', 'Amber', 'Green') ratings, their impact, the response to the risk and the control procedures in place to meet the risk.

### **Reserves policy**

The trustees review the reserve levels of the Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The trustees expect to see the revenue budget for the coming financial year to be balanced within that year's income and not to utilise any of the previous year's underspend in order to balance the budget.

Reserves, from any previous years underspend, may be utilised for infrastructure, academy improvement, or for urgent health and safety matters. The minimum target for these reserves is equal to at least one month's average payroll costs. This level of reserves is intended to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipts of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

The trustees have also identified the need for a separate designated reserve to be created to provide for future repairs and maintenance. Some of the Trust estate is in poor condition and the trustees wish to make prudent provision for costs likely to arise in future years. The Academy Trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amounts held as fixed asset funds and pension reserve) is £1,496,000 (2018: £2,197,000). During the year the Trust has used some of its free reserves to support the investment in a 3G artificial turf football pitch at Heron Hall Academy, which not only provides outstanding sport facilities for pupils across the Trust, but which will also be a future source of revenue from evening and weekend lettings.

### **Investment policy**

The Academy Trust currently holds no investments. Current accounts were held with NatWest bank during the year and any surplus funds above £1,000 were swept at the end of the banking day to a Business Interest Reserve Account which pays a higher rate of interest.

## **FUNDRAISING**

The Academy Trust only held small fundraising events predominantly to raise funds for third party charities. The Academy Trust does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year, no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events.

## PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Trustees, in consultation with staff, parents and pupils, have developed a new strategy for the Trust "Stronger Together". This has the over-arching aim of providing every child and young person associated with the Trust with an enriching and inspiring educational experience, where they can thrive academically and socially, both during the time with the Trust and in the future.

The key objectives for the next three years are grouped into five themes.

### 1. Preparing students for the future

- Developing and embedding our Trust-wide curriculum principles; ensuring that this provides contributed to high quality outcomes for pupils and underpins a culture of collaboration between teachers across our schools;
- Developing and embedding a high-quality STEM and STEAM curriculum, from ages four to sixteen, that is informed by expert teachers, external organisations (including employers and higher education institutions), and cutting-edge thinking;
- We will continue to ensure students are ready for Ebac;
- Developing and rolling out the CHAT Pledges, ensuring all our pupils gain at least ten fundamental and enriching early-life experiences before the age of sixteen.

### 2. Schools at the heart of their communities

- Ensuring we engage parents and carers in the lives of our schools by providing multiple opportunities for them to be involved in the school and through communication that meets their needs;
- Further developing our Community Outreach Services, ensuring that this is available in all of our schools and to our different and diverse communities;
- Building a formal and sustainable bank of 'CHAT volunteers' who can bring a wide-range of skills, experience and passion to enrich the work of our schools; and
- Enhancing our strategic partnerships, ensuring that our Trust is at the cutting-edge of practice and draws on the social and professional capital within its communities and beyond.

### 3. An employer of choice for our staff

- Developing a recruitment and retention plan through a new People strategy;
- Ensuring all staff have a personalised career development pathway, supported by their line manager;
- Ensuring we build a balanced culture of support and accountability, that workload is manageable, with shared resources and planned opportunities for staff recognition;
- Regular formal 360 feedback and staff surveys to continuously improve how we engage our people;
- Adopting the Early Career Framework (ECF) to ensure all of our new teachers develop the right skills to succeed;
- Using opportunities in the Trust to develop talent and succession planning;
- Communicating the benefits of working for us through having a strong CHAT brand, active and attractive website and social media platforms.



## **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS (continued)**

### **4. High quality leadership**

- Putting in place high quality professional development pathways into and through leadership roles with a commitment to invest in our leaders;
- Through the new People strategy ensuring leaders at all levels understand our values and agreed behaviours and have a shared understanding of what good teaching looks like by putting in place Trust wide guidance and systems for continuous improvement;
- Having a commitment to creativity and innovation;
- Setting expectations for cross-school improvement ship roles;
- Review our school improvement strategy to ensure it is robust and sustainable.

### **5. A sustainable Trust**

- Regular external-review of governance, to ensure governance remains of the highest standard and continues to improve;
- Ensuring new trustees receive a full and high-quality induction; and that all trustees and governors have guaranteed ongoing professional development;
- Developing a suite of central services that are highly valued by our headteachers, staff and pupils, clearly set out in terms of the roles of central and school teams, and continuously improved through collective feedback;
- Continuing to monitor our financial audit, centralised accounting, and financial compliance to ensure financial controls are in place;
- Continue to use our Trust-wide economies of to secure better deals and value for money that individual schools could not achieve on their own;
- Support each of our Academies in reviewing local staff and non-staff budgets and income so that each Academy has a sustainable budget;
- Ensuring our accountability and responsiveness to our schools, the Trust will survey headteachers and staff each year on the quality and responsiveness of our central services, including identifying what is valued and where further improvements are necessary. This will form part of the executive team's own accountability to trustees;
- A commitment to environmental sustainability.

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


There are no funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

**AUDITOR**

In so far 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.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 17 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. H. M.', is written over a horizontal line.

Chair of Trustees

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

### Scope of responsibility

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

The trustees have delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Chief Executive is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

### Governance

The board of trustees has formally met five times during the year, and attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr M Charalambous	5	5
Dr D Graham	5	5
Prof A O'Hear	3	5
Mrs S Rubenstein	4	5
Dr A Cullen	1	1
Prof D M Hewitt	5	5
Ms K White	2	4
Ms I Admiraal	2	3
Mr D Broadbent	1	5
Mr R Bryant	3	3
Ms J Tosh	2	2

Although the board has met less than six times a year monthly management accounts have been presented to the Chair of Trustees and all trustees have received management accounts six times during the year. Also, the Finance, Risks & Audit Committee has met 4 times during the year and has reviewed the Trust's financial position in detail at each meeting.

The Finance, Risk and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to assist the board in ensuring sound management of the Academy Trust's finances and resources, including proper planning and monitoring and ensuring that there is probity; and also to consider matters relating to internal controls, risk management and auditors' reports (internal and external). The committee recommended approval of the budgets for 2019-20 for CHAT and its academies, as well as monitoring in-year financial performance.

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

### Governance (continued)

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

Director	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr M Charalambous	4	4
Dr D Graham	4	4
Ms K White	2	3

### Review of Value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes 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 available. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year as per the following:

- ♦ The Trust has utilised part of its unrestricted reserves to develop a 3G artificial turf pitch at Heron Hall Academy. This will generate funds through evening and weekend lettings in future years and also provide outstanding sports facilities for all the academies in the Trust.
- ♦ The Trust has established a centralised purchasing function, which collates and processes all purchase orders for the Trust. A commitment based accounting system requires all requisitions to be authorised by the relevant budget holder and prevents financial commitments in excess of budget.
- ♦ Pay costs are controlled centrally and each post is reviewed when it becomes vacant to ensure that staffing levels are as efficient as possible. A curriculum based approach to financial planning supports the development of efficient staffing structures across the Trust.

### 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 the Academy Trust's 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 at the Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT** (continued)

**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 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

**The risk and control framework**

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

- ◆ comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees;
- ◆ regular reviews by the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- ◆ setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- ◆ clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- ◆ delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- ◆ identification and management of risks.

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the trustees have appointed Buzzacott, the external auditor, to carry out a programme of internal checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. During the year, an external organisation visited the Academy Trust twice to carry out these checks and reported their findings to the Academy Trust. These reports were presented to and reviewed by the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee. The reports look at the operation of the systems of control and the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- ◆ testing of payroll systems
- ◆ testing of the effectiveness of internal controls for income recognition, purchasing and monthly reporting.

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT** (continued)

**Review of effectiveness**

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

- ◆ the work of the external firm reviewing the financial systems;
- ◆ the work of the external auditor;
- ◆ the financial management and governance self-assessment process; and
- ◆ the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has advised the Finance, Risk and Audit Committee of the implications of his review of the system of internal control and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees and signed on their behalf by:

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to the Chair of Trustees.

(Chair of Trustees)

A smaller, more compact handwritten signature in black ink, likely belonging to the Accounting Officer.

(Accounting Officer)

Approved on: 17 December 2019

**Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance 31 August 2019**

As Accounting Officer of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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 Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M. A.', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Accounting Officer

Date: 17 December 2019

## Statement of trustees' responsibilities 31 August 2019

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

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


- ♦ select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- ♦ observe the methods and principles in the Charities' SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019;
- ♦ make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- ♦ state whether applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- ♦ prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Academy Trust will continue in operation.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the Academy Trust's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Academy Trust 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 Academy Trust 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 Academy Trust 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 of trustees on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



Chair of Trustees



**Independent auditor's report to the members of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), 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) (the Charities SORP 2015) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

In our opinion, the financial statements:

- ◆ give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2019 and of its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- ◆ have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- ◆ have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

**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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- ◆ the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- ◆ the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the charitable company's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

**Other information**

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.

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report including the strategic report.

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

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's 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.

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

### **Use of our report**

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



Avnish Savjani (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Buzzacott LLP, Statutory Auditor  
130 Wood Street  
London  
EC2V 6DL

19 December 2019

**Independent reporting auditor's assurance report on regularity to Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 6 April 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust during the period from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust 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 Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust's accounting officer and the reporting auditor**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 19 July 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the 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.

**Approach** (continued)

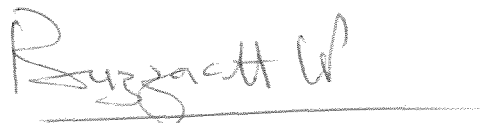
Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity and propriety of the academy trust's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

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

**Conclusion**

Nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Buzzacott LLP  
Chartered Accountants  
130 Wood Street  
London  
EC2V 6DL

19 December 2019

**Statement of financial activities (including income and expenditure account) Year to 31 August 2019**

		Unrestricted general fund £'000	Restricted funds		2019 Total funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
			General £'000	Fixed assets fund £'000		
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	1	—	—	367	367	143
Charitable activities						
. Funding for the academies' educational operations	4	—	14,659	—	14,659	13,506
Other trading activities	2	727	—	—	727	852
Investments	3	5	—	—	5	2
<b>Total income</b>		<b>732</b>	<b>14,659</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>15,758</b>	<b>14,503</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities						
. Academies' educational operations	6	—	16,124	1,207	17,331	15,091
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>—</b>	<b>16,124</b>	<b>1,207</b>	<b>17,331</b>	<b>15,091</b>
<b>Net income (expenditure)</b>		<b>732</b>	<b>(1,465)</b>	<b>(840)</b>	<b>(1,573)</b>	<b>(588)</b>
Transfers between funds	15	(878)	156	722	—	—
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>						
Actuarial (losses) gains on defined benefit pension scheme	18	—	(985)	—	(985)	409
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(146)</b>	<b>(2,294)</b>	<b>(118)</b>	<b>(2,558)</b>	<b>(179)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total fund balances brought forward at 1 September 2018		1,642	(594)	34,969	36,017	36,196
<b>Total fund balances carried forward at 31 August 2019</b>		<b>1,496</b>	<b>(2,888)</b>	<b>34,851</b>	<b>33,459</b>	<b>36,017</b>

All of the Academy Trust's activities derived from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

All recognised gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

**Balance sheet** 31 August 2019

	Notes	2019 £'000	2019 £'000	2018 £'000	2018 £'000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	12		<u>34,851</u>		<u>34,969</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	13	660		424	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>2,024</u>		<u>2,808</u>	
		2,684		3,232	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(1,188)</u>		<u>(1,035)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>1,496</u>		<u>2,197</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<u>36,347</u>		<u>37,166</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension scheme liability</b>			36,347		37,166
Defined benefit pension scheme liability			(2,888)		(1,149)
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>33,459</u>		<u>36,017</u>
<b>Funds of the Academy</b>					
Restricted funds					
. Fixed asset fund	15		34,851		34,969
. Restricted ESFA fund	15		—		555
. Pension reserve	15		<u>(2,888)</u>		<u>(1,149)</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			<u>31,963</u>		<u>34,375</u>
Unrestricted income funds					
. General fund	15		1,150		1,642
. Designated fund	15		<u>346</u>		<u>—</u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>33,459</u>		<u>36,017</u>

The financial statements on page 28 to 53 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 17<sup>th</sup> December 2019 and are signed on their behalf by:



Chair

Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust  
Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registration Number: 07355559 (England and Wales)

**Statement of cash flows** Year to 31 August 2019

		2019 £'000	2018 £'000
<b>Net cash inflow from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	A	(57)	1,014
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
	B	(727)	(54)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>(784)</b>	<b>960</b>
<b>Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds:</b>			
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2018		2,808	1,848
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2019	C	<b>2,024</b>	<b>2,808</b>
<b>A Reconciliation of net (expenditure) income to net cash flow from operating activities</b>			
		2019 £'000	2018 £'000
<b>Net (expenditure) income for the year (as per the statement of financial activities)</b>		<b>(1,573)</b>	<b>(588)</b>
<b>Adjusted for:</b>			
Depreciation charges (note 12)		1,207	1,170
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income		(367)	(142)
Interest receivable (note 3)		5	2
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 18)		728	373
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (note 18)		26	24
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		(236)	690
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		153	(515)
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>(57)</b>	<b>1,014</b>
<b>B Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
		2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		(5)	(2)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,089)	(194)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA		367	142
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(727)</b>	<b>(54)</b>
<b>C Analysis of cash and cash equivalents</b>			
		2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Cash at bank and in hand		2,024	2,808
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>		<b>2,024</b>	<b>2,808</b>



### **Statement of accounting policies**

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

### **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 2017 to 2018 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Cuckoo Hall Academies Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102. These financial statements are presented in sterling and rounded to the nearest thousand pounds.

### **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.

### **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.

The 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.

**Income** (continued)

**Grants** (continued)

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

**Donations**

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

**Other income**

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

**Expenditure**

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

**Expenditure on raising funds**

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

**Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are stated net of recoverable VAT.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

#### **Tangible fixed assets (continued)**

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

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

- ♦ Freehold and leasehold buildings      50 years
- ♦ Fixtures, fittings and equipment      5 years
- ♦ Long-life equipment      10 years
- ♦ Motor vehicles      5 years

A full year of depreciation is charged in the year of acquisition.

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.

#### **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 under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### **Financial instruments**

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

**Financial instruments (continued)**

*Financial assets* – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

*Financial liabilities* – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

**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.

**Pensions benefits**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 18, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

**Pensions benefits (continued)**

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

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

**Fund accounting**

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other grants received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Restricted other funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Local Authority, London Borough of Enfield.

**Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

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

***Critical accounting estimates and assumptions***

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

## **Principal accounting policies 31 August 2019**

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 18, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### ***Critical areas of judgement***

There have been no judgements made in the preparation of these financial statements that are considered to have had a significant impact.

**1 Donations and capital grants**

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total funds £'000
Capital grants	—	367	367
	—	367	367

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
Capital grants	—	142	142
Other donations	1	—	1
	1	142	143

**2 Other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total funds £'000
Hire of facilities	73	—	73
Trip income	65	—	65
Catering income	344	—	344
Miscellaneous income	245	—	245
	727	—	727

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
Hire of facilities	68	—	68
Trip income	81	—	81
Catering income	377	—	377
Miscellaneous income	326	—	326
	852	—	852

**3 Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total funds £'000
Interest receivable	5	—	5
	<u>5</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>5</u>

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
Interest receivable	2	—	2
	<u>2</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>2</u>

**4 Funding for academies' educational operations**

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total funds £'000
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	12,026	12,026
Other DfE/ESFA grants	—	1,598	1,598
National College grants	—	174	174
	<u>—</u>	<u>13,798</u>	<u>13,798</u>
<b>Other government grants</b>			
Local authority grants	—	857	857
Department of Health	—	4	4
	<u>—</u>	<u>861</u>	<u>861</u>
<b>2019 total funds</b>	<u>—</u>	<u>14,659</u>	<u>14,659</u>

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	—	11,193	11,193
Other DfE/ESFA grants	—	1,267	1,267
National College grants	—	192	192
	<u>—</u>	<u>12,652</u>	<u>12,652</u>
<b>Other government grants</b>			
Local authority grants	—	849	849
Department of Health	—	5	5
	<u>—</u>	<u>854</u>	<u>854</u>
<b>2018 total funds</b>	<u>—</u>	<u>13,506</u>	<u>13,506</u>



## 5 Expenditure

		Non pay expenditure		2019
	Staff costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	Total funds £'000
Expenditure on raising funds				
Academies' educational operations				
. Direct costs	9,222	1,207	1,492	11,921
. Allocated support costs	3,702	778	930	5,410
<b>2018 total funds</b>	<b>12,924</b>	<b>1,985</b>	<b>2,422</b>	<b>17,331</b>

<b>Net income for the year includes:</b>	<b>2019 £'000</b>
Operating lease rentals	60
Depreciation	1,207
Fees payable to auditor	
. Statutory audit	13
. Other services	8

		Non pay expenditure		2018
	Staff costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	Total funds £'000
Expenditure on raising funds				
Academies' educational operations				
. Direct costs	8,155	1,170	966	10,291
. Allocated support costs	3,050	805	945	4,800
<b>2018 total funds</b>	<b>11,205</b>	<b>1,975</b>	<b>1,911</b>	<b>15,091</b>

<b>Net income for the year includes:</b>	<b>2018 £'000</b>
Operating lease rentals	47
Depreciation	1,170
Fees payable to auditor	
. Statutory audit	13
. Other services	8

Included within expenditure in 2019 is a compensation payment of £8,978 which was paid because the cost of the compensation payment was less than the cost of defending the tribunal case brought by the ex-employee (2018 - £Nil).

**6 Charitable activities – academies’ educational operations**

	2019 Total funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
Direct costs	11,921	10,291
Support costs	5,410	4,800
	<b>17,331</b>	<b>15,091</b>

	2019 Total funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	3,702	3,050
Technology costs	250	233
Premises costs	778	805
Other support costs	557	644
Governance costs	123	68
<b>Total support costs</b>	<b>5,410</b>	<b>4,800</b>

## 7 Comparative information

Analysis of income and expenditure in the year ended 31 August 2018 between restricted and unrestricted funds:

	Unrestricted general fund £'000	Restricted funds		2018 Total funds £'000
		General £'000	Fixed assets fund £'000	
<b>Income from:</b>				
Donations and capital grants	1	—	142	143
Charitable activities				
. Funding for the academies' educational operations	—	13,506	—	13,506
Other trading activities	852	—	—	852
Investments	2	—	—	2
<b>Total income</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>13,506</b>	<b>142</b>	<b>14,503</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
Charitable activities				
. Academies' educational operations	—	13,921	1,170	15,091
<b>Total expenditure</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>13,921</b>	<b>1,170</b>	<b>15,091</b>
<b>Net income (expenditure)</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>(415)</b>	<b>(1,028)</b>	<b>(588)</b>
Transfers between funds	—	(31)	31	—
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension scheme	—	409	—	409
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	<b>855</b>	<b>(37)</b>	<b>(997)</b>	<b>(179)</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total fund balances brought forward at 1 September 2017	787	(557)	35,966	36,196
<b>Total fund balances carried forward at 31 August 2018</b>	<b>1,642</b>	<b>(594)</b>	<b>34,969</b>	<b>36,017</b>

## 8 Staff

### (a) Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2019 Total funds £'000	2018 Total funds £'000
Wages and salaries	9,259	8,422
Social security costs	913	827
Pension costs	1,911	1,452
	<b>12,083</b>	<b>10,701</b>
Supply staff costs	841	504
	<b>12,924</b>	<b>11,205</b>

## 8 Staff (continued)

### (a) Staff costs (continued)

During the year, non-contractual severance payments totalling £Nil (2018: £NIL) were made.

### (b) Staff numbers

The number of persons (including the senior management team) employed by the charitable company during the year ended 31 August 2019, expressed as average headcount, was as follows:

Charitable activities	2019 No	2018 No
Teachers	139	128
Administration and support	194	196
Management	7	7
	<b>340</b>	<b>331</b>

### (c) Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	2019 No	2018 No
£60,001 - £70,000	6	5
£70,001 - £80,000	2	1
£80,001 - £90,000	1	1
£90,001 - £100,000	2	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	1

Eight of the above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Four of the above employees participated in the Local Government Pension Scheme. Details of these schemes are provided in note 18.

### (d) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the trustees and the Senior Management Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £772,564 (2018: £774,679).

## 9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Principal and staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Principal and staff and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy Trust in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Mr M Charalambous, CEO		
. Remuneration	110 - 115	110 - 115
. Employer's pension contributions	15 - 20	15 - 20

During the year ended 31 August 2019, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £845.42 (2018: £425.40) were reimbursed to three trustees (2018: two) in their role as trustees.

## 10 Central services

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

- ♦ human resources;
- ♦ financial and administration services;
- ♦ legal services;
- ♦ educational support services; and
- ♦ operational support.

The Trust charges for these services on the basis of a combination of head count and pupil numbers.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Cuckoo Hall Academy	606	686
Heron Hall Academy	500	416
Kingfisher Primary Academy	340	322
Woodpecker Hall Academy	299	344
Enfield Heights Academy	137	126
	<b>1,882</b>	<b>1,894</b>

## 11 Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2019 was included within a wider policy (as in 2018).

## 12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £'000	Leasehold land and buildings £'000	Assets under const- ruction £'000	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £'000	Motor vehicles £'000	Total £'000
<b>Cost/valuation</b>						
At 1 September 2018	10,618	26,813	—	2,118	34	39,583
Additions	—	65	201	823	—	1,089
At 31 August 2019	10,618	26,878	201	2,941	34	40,672
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2018	1,127	1,954	—	1,501	32	4,614
Charge in year	217	546	—	442	2	1,207
At 31 August 2019	1,344	2,500	—	1,943	34	5,821
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2019	9,274	24,378	201	998	—	34,851
At 31 August 2018	9,491	24,859	—	617	2	34,969

The land on which Cuckoo Hall and Enfield Heights are sited is owned by the Academy Trust. For the purposes of these financial statements, the freehold land is deemed to have no commercial value.

The land on which Woodpecker Hall Academy is sited is currently leased from the London Borough of Enfield at a peppercorn rent over a term of 125 years. The land on which Kingfisher Hall Academy is sited is currently leased from the College of Haringey, Enfield and North East London at a peppercorn rent over a term of 125 years. The land on which Heron Hall Academy is sited is currently leased from the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government at a peppercorn rent over a term of 125 years. The value of the leasehold land has not been included in these financial statements because the sites are designated for educational purposes only and have no open market value.

## 13 Debtors

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Trade debtors	32	2
VAT recoverable	133	84
Prepayment and accrued income	495	338
	<b>660</b>	<b>424</b>

**14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Trade creditors	423	421
Taxation and social security	219	190
Other creditors	183	148
Accruals and deferred income	363	276
	<b>1,188</b>	<b>1,035</b>
<b>Deferred income</b>		
Deferred income at 1 September 2018	199	449
Resources deferred in the year	244	199
Released during the year	(199)	(449)
Deferred income at 31 August 2019	<b>244</b>	<b>199</b>

**15 Funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2019 £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
. General Annual Grant (GAG)	555	12,026	(12,737)	156	—
. Pupil Premium	—	1,074	(1,074)	—	—
. Other grants	—	1,559	(1,559)	—	—
. Pension reserve	(1,149)	—	(754)	(985)	(2,888)
	<b>(594)</b>	<b>14,659</b>	<b>(16,124)</b>	<b>(829)</b>	<b>(2,888)</b>
<b>Restricted fixed assets fund</b>					
. Transfer on conversion	5,952	—	(205)	—	5,747
. DfE/ESFA capital grants	28,461	367	(982)	—	27,846
. Capital expenditure from GAG	437	—	(15)	—	422
. Capital expenditure - other restricted	45	—	(2)	722	765
. Private sector capital sponsorship	74	—	(3)	—	71
	<b>34,969</b>	<b>367</b>	<b>(1,207)</b>	<b>722</b>	<b>34,851</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>34,375</b>	<b>15,026</b>	<b>(17,331)</b>	<b>(107)</b>	<b>31,963</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
. General funds	1,642	732	—	(1,224)	1,150
. Designated funds	—	—	—	346	346
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>1,642</b>	<b>732</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>(878)</b>	<b>1,496</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>36,017</b>	<b>15,758</b>	<b>(17,331)</b>	<b>(985)</b>	<b>33,459</b>

## 15 Funds (continued)

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

### *General Annual Grant (GAG)*

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the academies that has been provided to the Academy Trust via the Education and Skills Funding Agency by the Department for Education. The General Annual Grant Fund has been set up because the GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the academies. GAG was received for all CHAT Academies in 2017.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2017.

The pension reserve represents the net deficit on the LGPS defined benefit pension scheme. Future GAG funding from the ESFA is expected to be sufficient to fund the deficit.

The other restricted grants represent incoming resources for the following specific purposes:

### *Other DfE/ESFA Grants*

This is comprised of other funding received from either the ESFA or DfE; mainly NCTL and UIFSM funding.

### *Local Authority Grants*

Local authority funding comprises SEN and Early Years funding.

### *Restricted fixed assets fund*

The donated fixed assets on conversion and acquisition fund was set up to recognise the tangible assets gifted to the Academy Trust upon conversion by the local authority, which represent the school site inherited from the local authority including the freehold land and buildings and all material items of plant and machinery included therein. Depreciation charged on those inherited assets is allocated to the fund.

The capital expenditure from GAG, other restricted and unrestricted funds have been set up to recognise the tangible assets purchased using these respective funds. Depreciation charged on these purchased assets is allocated to the funds.

### *Designated fund*

The trustees have identified the need for a separate designated reserve to be created to provide for future repairs and maintenance. Some of the Trust estate is in poor condition and the trustees wish to make prudent provision for costs likely to arise in future years.



## 15 Funds (continued)

### Analysis of academies by fund balance

All fund balances are held by the Trust:

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Central Trust	1,496	2,197
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	1,496	2,197
Restricted fixed asset fund	34,851	34,969
Pension reserve	(2,888)	(1,149)
<b>Total</b>	<b>33,459</b>	<b>36,017</b>

### Analysis of Academies by cost

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows (excluding depreciation which is not allocated between entities):

	Teaching and educational support staff Costs £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £'000	2019 Total £'000
Cuckoo Hall Academy	2,688	349	368	521	3,926
Enfield Heights Academy	558	79	95	119	851
Heron Hall Academy	2,727	288	354	418	3,787
Kingfisher Hall Academy	1,456	196	201	296	2,149
Woodpecker Hall Academy	1,123	172	195	256	1,746
Central Trust	31	3,257	274	103	3,665
	8,583	4,341	1,487	1,713	16,124

	Teaching and educational support staff Costs £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £'000	2018 Total £'000
Cuckoo Hall Academy	2,517	365	243	488	3,613
Enfield Heights Academy	553	67	52	94	766
Heron Hall Academy	2,309	222	217	301	3,049
Kingfisher Hall Academy	1,022	171	112	232	1,537
Woodpecker Hall Academy	1,227	183	124	240	1,774
Central Trust	28	2,537	220	433	3,218
	7,656	3,545	968	1,788	13,957

15 Funds (continued)

**Comparative information**

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2018 £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
. General Annual Grant (GAG)	604	11,193	(11,211)	(31)	555
. Pupil Premium	—	1,060	(1,060)	—	—
. Other grants	—	1,253	(1,253)	—	—
. Pension reserve	(1,161)	—	(397)	409	(1,149)
	<u>(557)</u>	<u>13,506</u>	<u>(13,921)</u>	<u>378</u>	<u>(594)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed assets fund</b>					
. Transfer on conversion	5,952	—	(194)	—	5,758
. DfE/ESFA capital grants	29,489	142	(959)	—	28,672
. Capital expenditure from GAG	406	—	(13)	31	424
. Capital expenditure - other restricted	45	—	(2)	—	43
. Private sector capital sponsorship	74	—	(2)	—	72
	<u>35,966</u>	<u>142</u>	<u>(1,170)</u>	<u>31</u>	<u>34,969</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>35,409</u>	<u>13,648</u>	<u>(15,091)</u>	<u>409</u>	<u>34,375</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
. General funds	787	855	—	—	1,642
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>787</u>	<u>855</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>—</u>	<u>1,642</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>36,196</u>	<u>14,503</u>	<u>(15,091)</u>	<u>409</u>	<u>36,017</u>

## 16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £'000	Total 2019 £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	34,851	34,851
Current assets	1,496	1,188	—	2,684
Current liabilities	—	(1,188)	—	(1,188)
Pension scheme liability	—	(2,888)	—	(2,888)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,496</b>	<b>(2,888)</b>	<b>34,851</b>	<b>33,459</b>

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £'000	Total 2018 £'000
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	—	—	34,969	34,969
Current assets	1,642	1,590	—	3,232
Current liabilities	—	(1,035)	—	(1,035)
Pension scheme liability	—	(1,149)	—	(1,149)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,642</b>	<b>(594)</b>	<b>34,969</b>	<b>36,017</b>

## 17 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

## 18 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 the London Borough of Enfield. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

£147,597 (2018: £130,814) was outstanding at the end of the financial year. There were no prepaid contributions at either the beginning or end of the financial year.

## 18 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

### *Teachers' Pension Scheme*

#### *Introduction*

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

#### *Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme*

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

- ♦ employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge).
- ♦ total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- ♦ the assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices from 2019. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 4.45% from 2019.

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 16.48%. The TPS valuation for 2016 determined an employer rate of 23.68%, which is payable from September 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £683,000 (2018: £640,000).

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

## 18 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

### *Teachers' Pension Scheme (continued)*

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

### *Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)*

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 2019 was £647,000 of which employer's contributions totalled £463,000 and employees' contributions totalled £184,000. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 16.3% for employers and 5.5-11.4% for employees.

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.

Principal Actuarial Assumptions	At 31 August 2019 %	At 31 August 2018 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6	3.5
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.1	2.0
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.9	2.8
Inflation assumption (RPI)	3.1	3.1
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.1	2.0
Pension accounts revaluation rate	2.1	2.0

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

	At 31 August 2019	At 31 August 2018
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	23	25
Females	26	27
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	25	27
Females	28	29

The effect on the net pension liability as a result of changes in actuarial assumption would be as follows:

**18 Pension and similar obligations** (continued)

**Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS)** (continued)

	At 31 August 2019 £'000	At 31 August 2018 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(211)	(143)
Discount rate -0.1%	216	147
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	(301)	(171)
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	304	172

The Academy's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme were:

	Fair value at 31 August 2019 £'000	Fair value at 31 August 2018 £'000
Equities	2,813	2,575
Bonds	1,704	915
Property	441	328
Cash and other liquid assets	1,170	1,153
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>6,128</b>	<b>4,971</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £145,000 (2018: £536,000).

Amounts recognised in statement of financial activities	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Current service cost	322	357
Past service cost	406	16
Interest income	(149)	(113)
Interest cost	175	137
<b>Total amount recognised in the SOFA</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>397</b>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
At 1 September	(6,120)	(5,381)
Current service cost	(785)	(813)
Past service cost	(406)	(16)
Interest cost	(175)	(137)
Employee contributions	(184)	(175)
Actuarial (loss)/gain	(1,279)	377
Benefits paid	(67)	25
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>(9,016)</b>	<b>(6,120)</b>

## 18 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

### *Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) (continued)*

Changes in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme assets:	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
At 1 September	4,971	4,220
Interest income	149	113
Actuarial gain	294	32
Employer contributions	463	456
Employee contributions	184	175
Benefits paid	67	(25)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>6,128</b>	<b>4,971</b>

## 19 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust's operations 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 a member or a trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

## 20 Capital commitments

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	239	479

## 21 Commitments under operating leases

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Amounts due within one year	56	47
Amounts due between one and five years	88	44
	<b>144</b>	<b>91</b>