

Company Registration No. 07931627 (England and Wales)

FOREST WAY SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

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FOREST WAY SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

M Snow
N Palmer
M Kirton

Trustees

Mr J Shanley (Chair of Trustees)
Ms J Watkinson
Ms G Seaton (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)
Mrs R Hayes (Staff trustee) (Resigned 1 February 2021)
Mr R Cafferty
M Radley
K Thomas (Appointed 2 November 2020)
A Harris (Appointed 10 August 2021)
K Harrup (Appointed 22 April 2021)

Senior management team

- Headteacher	G Seaton
- Deputy Headteacher	A Brown (resigned 31 August 2021)
- Deputy Headteacher	G Donley-Williams
- Deputy Headteacher	S Wallace (appointed 23 August 2021)
- Assistant Headteacher	B Howard (resigned 31 August 2021)
- Assistant Headteacher	S Woodward
- Assistant Headteacher	L Larder
- Assistant Headteacher	B Tocker

Company secretary

Mr I Wood

Company registration number

07931627 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office

Warren Hills Road
Coalville
Leicestershire
LE67 4UU

Independent auditor

Accapita LLP
Christopher House
94b London Road
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE2 0QS
United Kingdom

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank plc
20 Belvoir Road
Coalville
Leicestershire
LE67 3QH

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson LLP
Mowbray House
Castle Meadow Road
Nottingham
NG2 1BJ

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates a special academy in the Leicestershire area for pupils aged 3 to 19 with a range of needs including multiple and profound learning difficulties. It has a pupil capacity of 245 in the age range 3-19 pupils and an additional 12 places in a Communication and Interaction Unit. Current on roll of 257 at October 11th 2021.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy 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.

The trustees of Forest Way School are trustees for the purposes of charity law and are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as Forest Way School.

The Company passed a special resolution in February 2020 adopting the new set of Articles of Association approved by the Department for Education and entered into a new Funding Agreement with the DfE.

The trustees of Forest Way School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on 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

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring on academy business.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The Trustees shall not be less than three but (unless otherwise determined by original resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum.

Subject to Articles 48-49 and 53, the Academy Trust shall have the following Trustees:

- a) up to 7 Trustees, appointed under Article 50; and
 - b) a minimum of 2 Parent Trustees elected or appointed under Articles 53-56Bc
- The Academy trust may also have any Co opted Governors appointed under Article 58.

The term of office for any Trustee shall be 4 years. Subject to remaining eligible any Trustee may be reappointed or re elected. No time constraints apply to the Headteacher.

At the first Full Governing Body (FGB) meeting each year the Trustees elect a chairperson, vice-chairperson and members of the Audit Committee. An External Review of Governance was carried out in June 2018 and a further review scheduled to commence August 2021.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees/Directors will depend on their existing experience. All Members, Trustees/Directors are supplied with access to the extensive range of on-line training through the National Governance Association (Gold Standard) and local training events provided through Leicestershire County Council's Governor Development Service. An annual Skills Audit of Trustees identifies weaknesses in knowledge which can be addressed through targeted training and recruitment.

Where necessary induction will provide training on charity and educational, legal and financial matters. All new Trustees will be given a tour of the academy and the chance to meet with staff and pupils. All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as a Trustee. Induction for new Trustees is tailored specifically to the individual. The following Policies and Procedures have been adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees:-

DfE Governance Handbook
Trustee Code of Conduct and visits
Trustee Allowances
Trustee Development Service Training Programme
Articles of Association
Academy Funding Agreement
Academies Handbook and Accounts Direction
Register of Pecuniary Interests
Safeguarding Policy and DBS information
Keeping Children Safe in Education
School Improvement Plan

Organisational structure

The leadership structure consists of Members, Trustees/Directors, the Headteacher and the Leadership Team. The Headteacher – Gail Seaton assumes the responsibility for the Forest Way Alliance (formerly Forest Way Teaching School Alliance) which continues to provide support and services to members of the Alliance through:-

- Initial Teacher Training
- Induction and CPD for Newly Qualified Teachers
- Continuing Professional Development
- Leadership Development and Succession Planning
- School to School Support
- Recruitment and deployment of SLE's and NLE's

The Headteacher and Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction of the academy and ensuring the financial stability and sustainability of the Trust.

The Leadership Team consists of the Headteacher, two Deputy Headteachers, three Assistant Headteachers, two Teachers with additional Teaching and Learning responsibilities and the Business Manager. These members of staff are responsible for both the day to day operations within the academy and for implementing the strategic priorities as outlined in the School Improvement Plan.

The structure ensures that major risks are continuously reviewed and systems and procedures are established to manage those risks through a comprehensive Risk Register which is reviewed by the Audit Committee and the Governing Body on a regular basis. The Risk Register drives a comprehensive programme of Internal Checks that are conducted termly by an external firm of Accountants. Academy Advisory Ltd were appointed to conduct our Internal Scrutiny programme of work on behalf of the Trust in 2020 following the requirements of the Academy Financial Handbook 2020-21. Any findings from the Internal Audit are reported and looked into by the Audit Committee and the findings reported on to the Governing Body for consideration.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Academy Trust recognises its responsibility to:

- Adopt a Pay Policy to provide a clear framework for the management of pay and grading issues for all staff employed in the school.
- Take decisions in accordance with key principles of public life (Nolan), including objectivity, openness and accountability.
- Ensure fair and transparent policy to determine the pay and grading for all staff employed in the school, which takes account of the conditions of service under which staff are employed.
- Comply with relevant legislation including the Equality Act 2010, the Employment Relations Act 1999, the Part time Workers (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2000, the Fixed Term Employees (Prevention of Less Favourable Treatment) Regulations 2002, and will ensure that all pay related decisions are taken equitably and fairly in compliance with statutory requirements.
- Adopt a whole school approach to pay issues. Pay decisions will take account of the resources available to the school. The school staffing structure will support the school improvement plan. The Governing Body will exercise its discretionary powers using fair, transparent and objective criteria in order to secure a consistent approach in school pay decisions.
- Ensure that all pay progression decisions for all teaching staff are linked to annual appraisal of performance and to ensure that this is achieved in a fair equitable and transparent way following consultation with staff and recognised trade unions.
- Ensure that every teacher's salary (including the salary of the Headteacher) is reviewed on an annual basis with effect from 1 September. The review will be completed no later than 31 October each academic year

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	2
Full-time equivalent employee number	1.60

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	63
Total pay bill	3,829,084
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	-
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FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Forest Way School was also a Teaching School established as part of the first cohort of Teaching Schools in 2011. Forest Way School is a single Academy Trust, financially independent but works collaboratively with other Schools, Universities, ITT providers and businesses to help raise achievement and gain best value. Since August 2021 the Teaching School no longer operates although an Alliance of schools continues to work collaboratively together under Forest Way Alliance.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the academy is to provide education for pupils with special educational needs between the ages of 3 and 19. Our school motto is "Thrive at Forest Way - where young people are at the heart of everything"

In accordance with the articles of association the academy has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Government specifies amongst other things, the basis for admitting pupils to the academy and that the curriculum should comply with the substance of the national curriculum with an emphasis on communication.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives, strategies and activities

The academy carries out the objectives by providing education for pupils appropriate to their needs, in a learning environment utilising the best possible teaching facilities and staff.

The activities provided include:

-teaching and learning opportunities for all pupils.

-a programme of sporting and leisure activities for all pupils.

-training opportunities for all staff.

-to prepare students for life after school including work experience opportunities and smooth transition for Post 19

The Academy has a continuous cycle of school improvement and self-evaluation. This involves setting the School Improvement Plan at the beginning of the year which generates objectives and actions. These objectives are evaluated at the end of the year and this information then feeds into next year's School Improvement Plan. The key priorities that are identified annually also thread through the individual curriculum leader action plans and staff performance management targets.

The Self Evaluation Form is updated termly and the individual School Improvement Plan actions are evaluated termly.

The objectives of the academy during the year ended 31 August 2021 as recorded in the School Improvement Plan are summarised below:

-To facilitate and support all pupils and staff back to school full time following COVID lockdown and ensure that pupils' holistic well-being needs are met

-To ensure that teaching and learning across the curriculum EYFS-P16 is of the highest quality and this includes the full integration of The Den and Post 16 Hub into the FW Community.

-To ensure the Forest Way curriculum is innovative and personalised for all pupils, allowing them full access to a holistic learning experience appropriate for their needs and considers new legislation and the National Curriculum.

-To work closely with curriculum leaders to continue to develop and update schemes of work appropriate to all learner levels in a clear, coherent and progressive manner to ensure learner journeys are as effective as possible.

-To have impact wider than FWS, including with parents/carers, professionals and the local community

Equality policy

The trustees recognise that equality should be an integral part of good practice within the workplace. The academy aims to establish equality in all areas of its activities including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued.

Disabled persons

As a significant proportion of our pupils have a physical disability the whole site has been designed carefully to meet their needs.

Public benefit

The trustees have regard to the Charity Commission's guidance on public benefit Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011. The trustees ensure that the academy's activities are undertaken in line with the charitable aims and objectives.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

-Reopened as Area Special School in new award winning building, January 2009 and became an academy March 2012. On adjacent site with Castle Rock School, older students access the Swimming Pool.

-255 pupils on roll, pupils aged 4-19 - MLD, SLD, PMLD. This includes 12 pupils in the The Den, a Communication and Interaction Resource Base for primary pupils with Communication and Interaction as their main area of need.

-Intent of curriculum key threads are promoting pupil's communication and independence. 3 pathways identified: Vocational, Life Skills or Life Choices Learners are grouped in mixed ability classes in key stages then receptive understanding ability groups across some subjects.

-Identification of pathways occurs in Key Stage 2 through grouping by receptive understanding for core subjects.

-In Key stage 3 and 4 this grouping is continued and pupils on the vocational pathway are taught together at Forest Lodge.

-There are 7 pupils living in care, 11 pupils Adopted from Care and 16 pupils are identified as a Child in Need. Regular meetings take place with all professionals, social care and carers involved.

-There are currently no pupils on a Child Protection Plan. We have 79 pupils eligible for Free School Meals in addition to Universal Free School Meals scheme, which equates to 32.4%. This does not include Universal Free Schools Meals for pupils in EYFS and Key Stage 1.

-We have 82 pupils eligible for Pupil Premium – which is 40.1% of eligible pupils (201 eligible). Of these: 65 (32.3%) receive the deprivation (FSM) pupil premium, 2 (1%) receive the service pupil premium, 10 (5%) receive the Adopted from Care premium and 6 (3%) receive the Looked After premium.

-Adjacent bungalow, The Croft, purchased and used from August 2013 as a Post 16 life-skills teaching area including woodwork area and Teaching School/Forest Way Alliance base. This enables young people to transition in a safe way to a different environment in preparation for Post 19 provision.

-Planned expansion project completed by July 2021, this involved creating places as part of the Leicestershire County Council High Needs Block Strategy. In 2019/20 the Forest Lodge modular classroom was built which increased capacity by 13 pupils. Communication and Interaction Resource Base, The Den, for primary pupils opened September 22nd 2020, now has 12 pupils. The renovation of the Tennis Courts to a Multi -Purpose Astro Turf Sports Area was completed in July 2021.

-Investment in Forest Schools' training during past 6 years. Forest Schools' embedded within curriculum across all key stages, new staff training 2019/20, 20/21. The site has an extensive wooded area that provides ample space for groups across all school to participate in Forest Schools.

-Horticultural Area and Dome provide extensive opportunities for gardening activities.

-Effective governing body. Separation of Members and Trustees occurred in June 2020. 3 new Members of the Trust have been recruited. Vision statement written with input from staff, parents and trustees in 2018/19. New Trustees recruited following annual skills audit to identify areas that could be strengthened. New style summary SIP designed and published for 2019/20. Updated in 2020/21. External Review of Governance in 2017. Further External Review underway September 2021.

-Headteacher Gail Seaton, appointed August 2016, having worked at the school for over 11 years prior to appointment. Deputies Gaynor Donley-Williams appointed Easter 2020, Sarah Wallace who have mainstream and Special School background.

-Forest Way was one of the first 100 Teaching Schools nationally. Teaching School was successfully re-designated in August 2019 and Gail is now Head of school and the Forest Way Alliance. Sarah Wallace's role encompasses the Lead Practitioner of the Alliance alongside that of Deputy.

-Forest Way Alliance currently includes a number schools across primary, secondary and 4 special schools and continues to share a moral purpose towards improved attainment for all pupils across the alliance.

-Following designation of Teaching School Hubs and consultation with members we will continue to work with local schools under the new name of Forest Way Alliance. Alliance schools have opted to continue as members, new Heads/Partners Communication Forum established to help inform focus of offer. Strong link already established with Leicestershire Teaching Hub – Thomas Aquinas, for Early Career Framework and Appropriate Body. School Direct will continue to be run by Forest Way. CPD and school to school support, which includes Outreach work and deployment of SLEs and LLEs.

-Finalist in Leicestershire Heroes Award 2019 for Community Building, nominated for work with young people and after school clubs such as Drama.

Overall effectiveness: The quality of Teaching and standards of education

-Analysis of quality of teaching over time shows exceptional progress. The last inspection found the teaching to be outstanding. (Evidence Ofsted – May 2016). Yearly Health Checks completed by external consultant supported the school's judgement in 2018 & 2019. (See report 2019 & 2018). Further assessments in 2021 evidence further improvements.

-The school's current judgement is that overall effectiveness is 'Good' because the Quality of Education is judged to be Good. The curriculum has been refined and redesigned recently to reflect the changing cohort of pupils. Initial indicators are that the impact of the new curriculum is effective.

-Behaviour and Attitudes is judged to be 'Outstanding', (External Report from School Improvement Partner Gary

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Education Health and Care Plans, Therapies and Interventions

-All pupils on admission have an EHCP. There is a rolling programme for IEP target setting and assessment that reflects the young person's annual review cycle. Each pupil has IEPs set yearly that reflect their outcomes from their EHCP, these are outcomes evaluated at the time of their Annual Review. Parents and professionals contribute towards the target setting.

-IEPs are written into an implementation plan and evaluated by Class Staff half-termly, with new mini-targets being set when achievements occur.

-The key threads of communication are integral to our learner's IEP yearly targets, teachers work collaboratively with Speech and Language Therapists to ensure that targets are SMART and closely matched to need and include receptive and expressive communication.

-Music therapy for the Den pupils has been very successful and this will continue next academic year.

-ELSA sessions for pupils has supported their emotional well being and challenges that was affecting their engagement in class. This has had a positive impacted the pupils on how they are able to manage their emotions and deal with the personal challenges they have had particularly over the pandemic, when a number of the pupils have been dealing with grief. The skill of the ELSA practitioners has also been embedded into the class to support all the pupils throughout the pandemic

-Lego therapy has been used in class to support building positive relationship between peers, it promotes turn taking and communication and good interaction between pupils.

-School staff liaise closely with professionals to support their physical and medical needs, for example physiotherapists and occupational therapists. Swimming is a core aspect of this with timetabled weekly sessions for those pupils and young people who benefit the most from this. Swimming has resumed from May 2021 for the pupils who have physio needs and has been beneficial for the mobility and well being for our more complex pupils.

-Attention autism training for all teachers has taken place and is being implemented in classes. The impact of this has contributed to the calm atmosphere in lessons.

COVID from March 2020

We have provided outstanding support to our pupils, young people and their families during the challenging circumstances presented by lockdown and the COVID pandemic.

-During the entire lockdown period Forest Way remained open to pupils, including most of holiday period and always had a DSL on site.

-Initially attendance was for some pupils namely those children of critical workers and those children who could not be safely cared for at home. We worked closely with parents to risk assess who needed a school place and who could be cared for safely at home. Those children with a Social Worker were risk assessed by School Leaders and DSL/Deputy DSLs in consultation with Social Care to ascertain if they needed a school place or whether their needs could be met at home. Also considered was whether the young person was medically vulnerable and hence safer at home.

-Microsoft Teams was set up quickly as a home learning platform. Teachers set work and activities, as well as having communication with parents through this platform. This ensured that pupils could access work and learning activities as well as having contact with school. A personalised approach was taken to providing work and activities throughout the lockdown period with some parents requesting hard copies of work. Sensory pupils were provided with boxes of resources and sensory stories for parents to use at home, these were well received. Weekly PE sessions and physical challenges were sent home for pupils to complete during home learning which helped parents to encourage the pupils' activity. Laptops and iPads were allocated to those pupils that required them.

-Parents used Tapestry platform to record the achievement of pupils and young people whilst at home which enabled teachers to track the pupils progress and also maintained communication between home and school.

-Families were communicated with at least twice a week throughout the period March – June 2020 with the Leadership Team monitoring the layer of pupils we risk assessed as being potentially more vulnerable due to their home circumstances. They were called more frequently during the week to ensure that any issues were identified early.

-The DSL/Deputy DSLs called daily, the pupils who are our highest risk pupils, where parents and or social worker have agreed it's safer at home. This regular contact ensured that we knew pupils were safe and parents had regular opportunities to discuss any issues.

-Parents and families were also provided with support for managing behaviour at home. This took the form of either practical discussions and strategies with the Behaviour Manager or Senior Leaders and also personalised social stories and visual aids that were produced by our Communication Technician.

-An out of hours email was also set up for parents to access to facilitate more efficient communication, this proved successful especially if parents needed an urgent response over the weekend.

-Pupils who have free school meals were provided with payments to their bank accounts. We understood from many of our parents that accessing a large supermarket was difficult so by proving payments they were able to use local shops which was practically easier for them with the complexity of their home lives. We also delivered food

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Transition

-12 new starters in EYFS/Year 1 for August 2020, parents were communicated with via phone and TEAMS. Comprehensive transition organised to ensure smooth start at the beginning of the academic year 2021. This enabled pupils to transition to full time schooling effectively and feedback from parents was positive.

-ELG were monitored for the EYFS cohort from Sep 19 in Dec 20 and showed that 64% of pupils had made progress in all 7 areas of learning, 82% in at least 5 and 91% in at least 3 areas. 36% of pupils achieved their Early Learning Goal in at least 1 area and 18% achieved 3 Early Learning Goals.

P16/Year 11 Leavers

-Transition to new placements for leavers was supported remotely in 2020 and Senior Leaders liaised regularly with parents and new providers to ensure that students were confident in entering the new phase of their lives. No NEETS.

-All students from Oaks 9 and 10 were successful in completing the Environment and Conservation course in 2020, despite Lockdown and achieved a Nationally recognised qualification

Covid period 2020-2021 P16

-Functional skills qualifications in English (reading and writing) and maths taken by 8 students in Post 16 at Entry level 1. This gives the students a formal qualification and an opportunity to work up towards GCSE level when at FE college

-Agreement made with Stephenson College to use one of their classroom as an additional space for academic year of 2021-22 allowing a better, longer transition for students into an FE environment

-Students began to access the community after Covid restrictions lifted in May. Important for students' mental health and confidence, as many have been out very little since lockdown

-All students have applied for college 2020-21 (apart from one who is working with Yes Project) despite Colleges remaining closed until April 2021

-Visit from Police to teach students about consequences of peer on peer abuse

-Success of Young Enterprise, Skillsbuilder, Employability skills as part of vocational skills curriculum

Behaviour and Attitudes

-There is a high level of engagement in all lessons with a calm atmosphere, positive ethos and mutual respect which impacts very positively on progress in lessons and throughout the school. There is very rarely any low-level disruption and any incidents of challenging behaviour are dealt with consistently and effectively. All staff receive behaviour training based on the Engage, Dis-engage and Re-engage (EDR) framework. The school currently has 5 members of staff trained as EDR trainers who can lead whole school training.

-Almost all pupils say they feel safe and this is supported by the views of parents/carers. (Evidence – pupil/parent/carers' questionnaires, Annual Reviews, home/school contact etc).

-Pupils are proud of the school and keen to gain positive rewards such as praise, stickers, Student of the Week, choosing baskets and individual trips out.

-Analysis of behaviour incidents show that behaviour is managed extremely well with potentially very challenging pupils. Any use of force is either part of a planned response consistent with behaviour/crisis plan, or it is an unplanned response which triggers a behaviour/crisis plan being written. This is regularly monitored by trustees (See pupils' files, Behaviour database, analysis of behaviour – reports to governors, records of racist and e-safety incidents)

-EDR lead in the school is also part of the Leicestershire EDR Leads Team focusing on quality assurance in Special Schools across the county. Training has been completed with local primary schools and social care services to create consistency across the area.

-Clear policies for Behaviour and Equality ensure consistency across school.

-Clear whole school focus on pupil physical and mental health and wellbeing. Deputy Headteacher is Mental Health Lead for the school. At least two hours of curriculum PE guaranteed for every pupil and Sports Leader Awards introduced in Key Stages 4 and 5 to promote independence, self-esteem and confidence

-The last full analysis of attendance was for the academic year 2018-19 at 91%. During the academic year 2020-2021 official attendance figures, which do not include any COVID related absences e.g. bubble closures, self-isolation, positive or suspected cases, show that during the autumn term, average attendance was 92%. This dropped in the spring term to 66% due the country going into lockdown and many parents choosing to keep their children at home. With the full reopening of schools to all students, the average attendance figure for the summer term is 91% up to the end of May.

-Taking all the COVID related absences into account, the average attendance figure for the autumn term was 78%, dropping to 59% in the spring term and then going up to 91% in the summer term (up to the end of May). The % of unauthorised absence during the full return to school Summer Term 2021 is 0.8%. There have been no exclusions 2020-21

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Personal Development

-The curriculum is broad, balanced and stimulating. It prepares pupils for life in modern Britain, encouraging mutual respect and tolerance for each other. Daily act of Collective Worship encourages spiritual reflection. This has been continued during the pandemic over TEAMS. There is cultural enrichment through workshops, visits etc and SMSC permeates the whole curriculum. Pre-lockdown there were a range of successful inclusion links including, EYFS having weekly swimming sessions at the Hermitage Leisure centre at a public SEN swimming session and a weekly link to Broomleys Primary school.

-Social, Moral, Spiritual and Cultural (SMSC) Education continued to be an important part of our teaching and themes were woven through the curriculum, including moral and ethical decisions, appreciation of different religions and local citizenship.

-As part of the SMSC work, and through other subjects, we were required to continue to teach pupils about the four fundamental British Values which are: Individual liberty, Rule of law, Democracy and Mutual Respect and the Tolerance of those with different Faiths and Beliefs.

-Pre-Lockdown there was a comprehensive, targeted programme of sports activities that enabled as many pupils as possible to participate in festivals and events, as well as including a route for gifted and talented athletes that has resulted in success extending to national level for the previous 8 years. In June 2019, fifteen pupils took part in the Mencap National Athletics Finals with 22 medals won including nine national champions. Forest Way won the NWL Secondary School of the Year for Sport in 2018.

-Pre-lockdown there were a range of after school clubs offered including sports, drama, forest schools and Parent/Child Swim Club. In May 2020 after-school clubs were re-introduced in a COVID secure manner. This enabled 56 pupils to access at least 1 session after school in either gardening, forest schools, outdoor adventure, basketball or cricket.

-Pupils have a strong voice in decision making. Active Student Council meet and are involved in staff interviews. Sports Council met pre-COVID regularly. Close links with parent/carers to support pupils' progress. Pre-lockdown there were very popular school and social events held regularly that are well supported. Parent Carers group met regularly and included 'Friends of Forest Way'. Parental Makaton courses delivered over last 2 years.

-The pupil questionnaire was completed by all students for whom it was appropriate in 2019. The questions were given to pupils in both written and symbolised form with staff supporting to make the questions as accessible as possible. The results show that a high proportion of pupils feel safe, happy and listened to in school.

-All key stages were encouraged to go out on trips starting from Early Years up to weekly community visits for Post 16. They are linked to the curriculum but will often focus on skills such as communication, adapting to change and the environment, road safety and life skills such as dealing with money.

-Key Stage 4 and Post 16 had the opportunity to complete the NCS Award – there are three areas that need completing. These include a residential trip where pupils undertake outdoor and adventurous activities, a teambuilding phase and a social action project. This has run in 2017/18 and 2018/19 where 31 pupils have completed it

Leadership and management of the school

-School Improvement Plan at heart of school's drive for constant improvement. Pre-lockdown a whole school celebration evening contributed to evaluation of strategic priorities at the end of the year. This year a COVID secure event was attended by all staff in bubbles and using TEAMS to communicate. This enabled all staff to contribute to and celebrate the successes of the year and make suggestions for priorities for next year. Pupil voice was included with one of our leavers being interviewed live and expressing the impact that Forest Way had had for him.

-Additional summary SIP with 3 key priorities for 2019/20 published. 2020/21 Full SIP written, summary SIP written, both updated Termly 2020. Trustees have a linked Priority.

-Monitoring and evaluation significantly impacts on improving teaching and learning through lesson observation, peer to peer work, learning walks, performance management and internal/external moderation.

-Strong Curriculum Leaders have clearly defined roles and autonomy. Innovation is encouraged.

-Comprehensive induction and high quality CPD develops staff who work in teams, are flexible and embrace change.

-In 2020, 2 NQTs were provided with a personalised programme of support and successfully passed in 2020, 1 has permanent full time post with us, the other left to pursue a career abroad.

-In 2021 – a staff member has successfully achieved QTS following the Assessment only route qualification through Derby University. This is the first time that we have used this route and the external reviewers from Derby University were particularly impressed with the quality of teaching and learning that they observed.

-Another staff member is on track to pass her Apprentice Teacher Course and has just had a successful placement in a mainstream school.

-We had 3 NQTs join us in 2020-21 of which 1 teacher successfully passed her NQT year at Easter. The 2nd

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

teacher is on track to pass her NQT year this term: she had an external moderated lesson observation from the Appropriate Body at Launde School which was commended for the high standards she has achieved. Our final Newly Qualified Teacher has made improvements this term but we feel she would benefit from an extension to her NQT year to the end of the Autumn Term to help her achieve the standard required, so we will be continuing to support with this during next term.

-Effective Governing Body, high attendance at meetings. Meet all statutory duties and hold the school to account through Trustee Meetings and monitoring visits.

-Excellent budget planning and management reporting. Balanced budget for the next 5 years using strength of reserves to achieve sustainability, best use of resources and value for money. Objective to achieve in year balanced budget rather than relying on reserves but staff cost ratio will make achieving this difficult as safety of pupils at school is a priority. Follow Best Value principles. Trustees have additional responsibilities and clear monitoring and evaluation role.

-Close working with Leicestershire Special Schools and beyond for external moderation of judgements. This includes peer to peer challenge of work scrutiny and EDR behaviour.

-Outward facing LT work collaboratively with groups across Leicestershire Special Schools, including Deputies, EDR leads, Assessment, Leicestershire Primary Heads, EYFS, Computing and Post 16. Collaboration with Hamilton School in Birmingham includes LT and joint learning walks.

-Headteacher represents Leicestershire Special Schools on Leicestershire Education Excellence Board and workstream 2 (vulnerable learners).

-Leadership Development includes the middle leaders. Four staff members have passed their NPQML course in October 2019. Steph secured a promotion onto the Leadership Team June 2020. Their projects include rolling out a pilot 'Engagement Profile'. DHT in 19/20 successfully passed NPQH and secured a Headship from Easter 2020. DHT in 20/21 successfully passes NPQH and secured an Executive Headship position across 2 primary schools.

-Safeguarding procedures are effective and robust. DSL and 5 Deputy DSPs ensure that all concerns are followed up appropriately and there is liaison with wider professionals including CAMHS and Social Care where necessary. All staff receive safeguarding training which includes keeping safe on social media and peer on peer abuse.

-Safer recruitment practices are followed and the Single Central Record is complete and upto date.

-E-Safety: 2 parent workshops offered 2019/20 year, one led by Police Officer.

-E-Safety Awareness afternoon delivered across all Key stages.

-SLEs support in behaviour, business and SEND outreach across Teaching School Alliance schools and wider.

-Wider staff encouraged and supported to collaborate and be outward facing. 4 teachers, Pastoral/Behaviour Manager and Communication Technician have been involved in SEND Outreach work across the Alliance. English Lead and Grade 8s visited Dorothy Goodman School for 'age appropriateness work. DHT/Middle Leader coordinate School Direct ITT and Loughborough PGCE primary students SEN placements within FW. PE teacher offers support in PE provision to special schools in the alliance via the Sport England Project.

-Headteacher supports Alliance schools through individual support work, SEND Reviews and deployment of SLEs

-Induction procedures are thorough to ensure Leadership Team, teachers and support staff to work as effectively as possible. This includes extensive training (Evidence – CPD database) Coaching/team teaching and planning are provided initially. NQT and NQT + 1 course by FW TSA.

-Performance Management is key to sustaining and improving standards for all staff. Blue Sky platform introduced in September 2018 for all staff. Career Stage Expectations linked to Teacher Standards revised September 2020.

-School direct Trainees are well supported and fully immersed in the whole school ethos

-Awarded Makaton Friendly School status. Makaton Regional Tutor/SALTs support ongoing staff training which ensures that signing is high quality and consistent across school

Early Years

-Teaching is of a standard which ensures outstanding pupil progress. External review with SLE from Ashmount School carried out Summer 2019.

-EYFS class established with appropriately trained early years staff. Transition developed on an individual basis after close liaison with parents.

-Assessment is rigorous and reflects individual learners small step progress against Development Matters. Assessment of progress toward Early Learning Goals monitored at 3 points throughout the year, highlighting achievement of all pupils.

-An exciting curriculum is delivered to all the pupils. The classroom environment encourages all learners to explore and they are enthusiastic, participating in a range of exciting, varied learning opportunities. Outdoor provision updated to promote outdoor learning and inspire pupils to engage.

-Pupils are highly motivated to participate in active learning due to the exciting and imaginative activities on offer. They are encouraged by skilled staff to be creative and where appropriate think critically.

-Children's wellbeing and education are enhanced by careful timetabling ensuring access to specialised rooms/facilities and a high staff/pupil ratio.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

- A close relationship between all those involved in the pupils' learning including parents/ carers, multi-professionals and teaching staff ensures a child centred approach to spiritual, moral, cultural and social development.
- Regular training is provided to staff to ensure excellent, consistent practice.
- EYFS moderation meetings are attended to ensure teachers are being consistent with assessment across the alliance.
- EYFS network meetings are attended to ensure teachers are up to date with the latest statutory information

Post 16

- Pupils enjoy a life skills based curriculum, developing basic skills through functional situations, this includes Young Enterprise, Home Management, Arts and Culture, Skills-BUILDER and STEM. Curriculum remains broad despite Covid-19 restrictions. This curriculum is linked to Preparing For Adulthood and helps to give students the knowledge and skills they need to be successful in adult life.
- Post 16 Maplewell Hub at Charnwood College attended by group on 'vocational' pathway. Students access 'clubs' with Maplewell students as well as having access to a room in which to complete lessons supported by Forest Way staff and taking lunches in the school canteen. This has given students a wider range of peers to interact with and an experience of college life to which supports them by having a longer transitions period into FE learning.
- Pupils complete functional Maths and English sessions to make their learning more relevant to life beyond school. This includes following the Functional Skills English and Maths Curriculum at Entry level for those students that can access it.
- We have close relationship between students and all those involved in the transition process leading to high quality Post 19 provision. Students in Oaks 8 and 9 had College Taster days (3) at RNIB 2019/20. In academic year 2022-21, all students in Post 16 have applied for college places with the exception of 1 whose needs are being met by Yes Project.
- Safeguarding and the ability to stay safe is emphasised in our PSHEC, Life Skills, RSE and Community Skills/Independent Travel Training lessons.
- All pupils when they leave go onto Post 19 education and/or Social Care provision or similar (see destination data for leavers 2019 2020 & 2021). This is to ensure we have no NEETS.
- Regular contact with Young Adults Disability Team means that student's social care needs are being met Post 18. Safeguarding information is shared at the end of year as per guidance from Young Adults Disability Team who then disseminate to Post 19 providers as necessary.
- Successful transitions events held at school for all potential leavers during 2017, 18 &19. Attended by local colleges, social day care providers and the DWP. Offered to families of year 11+ pupils. This allows parents and students to make informed choices about life beyond Forest Way.
- Internal and external work experience enables students to make informed career choices. (see P16 evaluation of year 2019/20)
- Students have positive engagements with employers such as Meggitt, Loros , DWP and Seven Trent Water. Students are now more confident at engaging in conversation with employers they have not met before.
- One student is now employed by school as a cleaner after hours, having previously worked as a catering assistant at lunch. Employment has boosted his confidence and he is more willing to attempt new tasks in different settings. He has more confidence in dealing with issues independently such as wages and talking to line managers. He was able to confidently address the whole staff group remotely during the recent School Improvement Meeting and talk about his achievements.
- 9 Post 16 students completed external work experience placements during the Autumn term 2019, 2 completed external work experience in the first half of the spring term and one has achieved a long term placement and the offer of employment from this.
- In 2019/20 Gorse Hill Farm was being used by Post 16 for long term work experience placements for over a year
- In 2019/20 approximately 20 students from Post 16 and Key Stage 4 completed a careers interview, CV and team building workshops led by DWP and the local job centre. Students now have a basic CV which they can add qualifications and experiences to such as their Enstruct BTec in Environmental Skills.
- 20 Students took part in a local careers and jobs fair aimed specifically at SEND students in 2019/20
- Every student in Post 16 and Key stage 4 have achieved at least 1 qualification at Entry Level 1, 2 or 3 in OCR Life and Living skills (part of the QCF) during 2017, 2018 and 2019.
- In 2019/20 23 students gained an ABC certificate or award at Level 1 in Environmental studies and Conservation and 10 students gained a food hygiene certificate at level 1.
- 10 students in 2019/20 involved with Young Enterprise scheme, setting up their own business. Placed 2nd in National competition to design logo. One pupil in Oaks 10 won the design Award for best logo in Midlands. In 2020/21 Young Enterprise expanded to 2 groups who will participate.
- 12 students attended the Hermitage Leisure Centre joining in with Absolute Core class and using the gym 19/20. Students become used to using leisure facilities and healthier life style is promoted.
- Ulverscroft Grange used for community action allotment. Proceeds go to Shuttlewood Clarke Foundation. This

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

allows our students to work within and 'give back' to the local community.

-Students worked with DSA Associates Ltd to make bird and bat boxes for new build schools 19/20. This again 'gives back' to community as well as improving practical skills.

-In 2019/20 a small group of less able Oaks 8 pupils took part in a four day residential at Wingate Centre in Cheshire. This is often the first time student's have had a holiday independent of parents.

-We are a member of the Careers Hub with the Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership, this is a collaboration of 20 schools and colleges working across the 2 counties. One of our Trustees has attended careers Governor training hosted by LLEP

-A member of LT completed Careers leader training via Derby University 2020 and School is member of Leicester and Leicestershire Enterprise Partnership and has own Employment Advisor. The school is working towards the Gadsby Benchmarks.

-In July 2019 all Post 16 students took part in an end of year Prom at a local venue, had a three course meal and enjoyed dancing to a live band. This is the first year we have had the celebration out of school as we wanted it to be more age appropriate and reflect what happens in mainstream schools.

-In September 2020 Post 16 Year 14 students have had Careers Adviser interviews offering impartial careers related advice at Level 6. Action plans written with Year14 and careers adviser

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Key performance indicators

The Academy Trust prepares comprehensive monthly management reports including an income and expenditure account, variation to budget report, cash flows and balance sheet. A thorough review of actual income and expenditure incurred is conducted against forecast projections. The management reports include a monthly variance report on both overspends and underspends together with information on the impact of these variances on the end of year and 3 and 5 year financial position. These reports are the basis for ongoing strategic discussions with the Headteacher as Accounting Officer and the Governing Board. All material budget variations are investigated and reported to the Trustees/Directors through the Governing Body meetings. The overall capacity of the school has increased following the successful completion of the Communication and Interaction Unit opened in September 2020 with build costs provided by the Local Authority. A significant Change application in relation to the increase in capacity was approved by the Regional Schools Commissioner in September 2021. The Unit is operationally and at full capacity with 12 pupils.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

The academy continues to challenge and drive down costs where possible and meet its obligations towards strong financial management and governance.

Financial review

Key financial performance indicators

During the year ended 31 August 2021, the total revenue expenditure of the academy trust of £6,073,120 was met by General Annual Grant funding from the DfE together with special educational needs top-up funding received from local authorities, Pupil Premium income and other fund income.

The incoming resources during the year ended 31 August 2021 were £5,347,799. The overall deficit for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £2,227,321 after depreciation charges of £277,658 and actuarial adjustments on the LGPS pension scheme of £1,502,000.

As at 31 August 2021 the net book value of tangible fixed assets of the academy trust was £10,063,254.

The academy trust held fund balances at 31 August 2021 of £483,904 of restricted funds and £450,196 of unrestricted funds.

The in-year deficit on restricted general funds and unrestricted funds was £18,159. The actual position of reserves excluding the pension reserve as at 31 August 2021 was £934,100.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Principal funding sources

In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Account Activities by Charities' (SORP 2005), 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 expected useful life of the assets concerned.

In addition, funds are received from various activities carried out to generate funds such as lettings, provision of catering, etc. Any surplus is carried forward as an unrestricted fund in the balance sheet. Income from Lettings and events has again been affected as a result of COVID 19.

The Teaching School Alliance is now operating as Forest Way Alliance and looking to continue its success in providing support to the Northwest Leicestershire Area through quality CPD events, School to School support and Initial Teacher Training through the School Direct. Scheme.

Reserves policy

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the academy annually. There is a continued focus to continue to create adequate reserves to meet the challenges of sustainability and rising academy running costs in the future. The retention of reserves is considered by the Trustees to be critical to the sustainability of the trust, particularly in the current economic climate. Equally important is the balance between reserves and ensuring that pupils at school are benefiting in full from all available funding whilst at school now. The use of Reserves meets the objectives of the Trustees/Directors to provide to improve the fabric and capacity of the current school building(s).

The Trust was able to secure a significant financial contribution from Leicestershire County Council towards the overall costs of the new modular classroom and Communication and Interaction Unit resulting in increase in pupil places overall.

The current level of funds held is £4,448,354 of which £10,063,254 can only be realised by disposing of tangible fixed assets.

In accounting for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) the academy trust has recognised a pension fund deficit of £6,509,000 included in restricted funds, resulting in a deficit on the restricted funds. The amount of the deficit on the pension scheme does not represent an immediate liability which will crystallise but rather is expected to result in an increase in contributions by the academy trust over a period of years, to be met from the academy trust's budgeted annual income. Whilst the increased contributions may not eliminate the deficit on the scheme there should be no actual cashflow deficit on the fund, or direct impact on the free reserves of the academy trust as a consequence of recognising the deficit.

Investment policy

The Board of Trustees/Directors ensures that the Trust's funds/investments are properly managed in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook and above all provide value for money and security for the Academy trust. The level of Reserves at present restricts the opportunity for investment although short notice accounts with higher interest rates are used where possible. There is also a desire from the Governing Board to make full use of funding to improve children's outcomes in year whilst maintaining adequate reserve. The Trustees review the level of Reserves as part of the monthly budget monitoring process.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have considered the major risks to which the Trust is exposed to and continues to review these risks and embed systems and procedures to manage these risks. The Trust maintains a comprehensive Risk Register and overall responsibility for risk management through the Audit Committee.

The Academy has a Covid Risk Assessment that has been through full consultation with staff, trustees and externally reviewed. This Risk Assessment is in addition to and supplements the Academies Risk Assessment. The Academy Trust has undertaken a financial risk assessment based on potential key risks identified as:-

- Not-operating within its budget and running a deficit
- Changes in funding/pupil numbers
- Inappropriate or ineffective financial controls and systems
- Fraudulent activity
- Financial commitments made without adequate authorisation

The key controls used by the academy to reduce risk:

- Detailed terms of reference for Academy Board meetings
- Formal agendas for the Academy board
- Schemes of Delegation and formal financial regulations
- Formal written policies
- Clear authorisation and approval levels
- Monthly Accounts
- Monthly comprehensive financial reporting to Headteacher/Trustees/Directors
- Monthly variance reports
- Risk Management/Register

The Trustees/Directors of the academy trust have a duty to identify and review the risks to which the academy is exposed and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide assurance against fraud and error. The academy has a Risk Register which highlights potential risks facing the academy. The Risk Register is reviewed by the Audit Committee on a termly basis with findings/recommendations being reported through to full governing body meetings. Any identified risks are mitigated where possible.

Fundraising

The academy raises funds for the benefit of the pupils through events held throughout the year at the school for parents and children to attend. The annual Christmas Fayre generated further funding in this respect and whilst there is no doubt that overall funding from this source has been affected by the COVID 19 situation, we have continued to receive generous donations from a wide range of private individuals, local companies, charities and other organisations.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Plans for future periods

Plans for the future are detailed within the current School Improvement Plan as follows:

-To support all pupils and staff in school, ensuring that pupils' holistic well-being and personal development needs are met

-To enhance and further refine the quality of education across EYFS-P16 and this includes the full integration of The Den and Post 16 Hubs into the FW Community -To ensure the curriculum is innovative, personalised, clear, coherent, and progressive for all learners

-To have impact wider than FWS, including with parents/carers, professionals, and the local community.

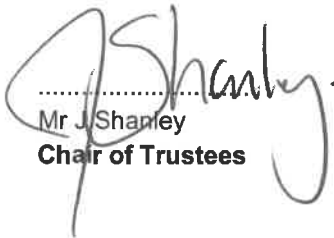
The provision of additional classroom space through the completion of the new Modular Classroom called The Lodge plus the completion of the Communication and Interaction Unit has enabled us to increase the available spaces at Forest Way School, an outstanding and sought after school. The continued success of the school in improving children's outcomes increases the demand for places both locally and further afield. The school has also been successful in its 2021-22 Condition Improvement Application securing further funding towards completion of Stage 2 Water Tightness involving replacement of the main school building roof. A Significant Change relating to the increase in capacity has been approved by the Regional Schools Commissioner but it is considered unlikely that further increases in capacity will be unlikely due to a lack of further available space for development.

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.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on^{31.12.21} and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mr J. Shanley
Chair of Trustees

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Forest Way School 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 board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, 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 Forest Way School and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

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

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr J Shanley (Chair of Trustees)	6	6
Ms J Watkinson	3	6
Ms G Seaton (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)	6	6
Mrs R Hayes (Staff trustee) (Resigned 1 February 2021)	3	3
Mr R Cafferty	6	6
M Radley	5	6
K Thomas (Appointed 2 November 2020)	4	4
A Harris (Appointed 10 August 2021)	0	0
K Harrup (Appointed 22 April 2021)	1	2

There have been three Trustee/Director appointments within the year and one trustee whose period has ended. In line with the recommendations from our External Review of Governance undertaken by Mark Blois in June 2018 the overall number of Trustee/Directors has now increased to the number considered appropriate to achieving effective governance. The current Board of Trustees/Directors also has the relevant skillset to meet the challenge of governance in a successful academy, particularly in areas involving Finance, Education, Health and Safety and HR. The analysis of Trustee skills conducted annually is ongoing with any necessary recruitment targeting perceived possible areas of weakness resulting from Trustee resignations and succession planning.

The Board of Trustees/Directors' role is informed by both financial and non-financial data provided by the members of the Senior Leadership team and trust officials. The Board of Trustees/Directors consider that the data supplied is accurate, sufficient and relevant for their decision making purposes.

The Board of Trustees/Directors meet at least 6 times a year and operates a circle of governance model. As required by The Academy Trust Handbook an Audit Committee meets under its own terms of reference 3 times a year. Staffing, Pay and the financial position of the Trust are considered in detail at each meeting of the full governing body in line with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook. The Audit Committee is responsible for directing the Trusts programme of internal scrutiny, overseeing internal controls and risk management.

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the principal 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.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

Forest Way School is a special school providing education for pupils with a wide range of special needs from moderate, to severe and profound. The Board of Trustees/Directors considers that the best use of academy resources is to invest in staffing and ensuring that our children receive the best quality of teaching thereby maximising the outcomes for our children. Additional specialist services such as nursing, speech and language therapy and music therapy have also been provided to further enhance the pupils' school experience and allow them to reach their full potential. The individual needs of pupils with specific needs including behavioural difficulties and complex medical health issues are supported by targeting extra staffing across the timetable and at key times of the day.

Forest Way School is a centre of excellence and is highly regarded locally, nationally and internationally. It has had 3 consecutive outstanding Ofsted reports with no key issues identified on any occasion. It was designated in the first cohort of 100 schools nationally as a Teaching School. It facilitates an alliance of schools, primary, secondary and special, providing a wide range of courses to share delivery and good practice. This has impacted on improvements across the whole alliance.

We ensure that we provide the appropriate financial provision to maintain the high standards of equipment/decoration/maintenance, so that our pupils continue to benefit from the positive educational environment that we have created. Demand for places at what is a sought after education establishment has pushed our numbers on roll to unprecedented levels. The acquisition of an adjoining residential property and successful integration into the curriculum has been hugely successful and has become a place where our more able students can enhance their learning in a real life environment. Completion of building projects for The Lodge and The Den has increased pupil capacity and created a bespoke provision for Communication and Interaction Unit. The Trustees continue to challenge all our service levels and contract costs, deploying excellent value maintenance schemes to minimise our risks and enabling more accurate budget planning. We will, however, always strive to achieve the appropriate balance between quality of workmanship that preserves/enhances the appearance of the school against competitive costs. We are confident in our business dealings and have strong internal financial controls that permeate down from the Board of Trustees/Directors throughout all aspects of school life. Members of the Board of Trustees/Directors play an active part in their governance, leading the school strategically and providing challenging monitoring in all areas to ensure a positive impact on the quality of teaching and learning for the pupils and continuing to improve and produce outstanding outcomes for pupils.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Forest Way School for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

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 period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The risk and control framework

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

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

In addition, the Trustees have considered the guidance for directors of public listed companies contained within the Turnbull Report. They believe that although it is not mandatory for the academy it should, as a publicly funded body, adopt these guidelines as best practice. Accordingly they have set policies on internal controls which cover the following:

- the type of risks the academy faces.
- the level of risks which they regard as acceptable.
- the likelihood of the risks materialising.
- the academy's ability to reduce the incidence and impact on the academy's operations of risks that do materialise.
- the costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefits obtained.
- clarified the responsibility of the leadership team to implement the Trustees' policies and to identify and evaluate risks for the Trustees' consideration.
- explained to employees that they have responsibility for internal control as part of their accountability for achieving objectives.
- embedded the control system in the academy's operations so that it becomes part of the culture of the academy.
- developed systems to respond quickly to evolving risks arising from factors within the academy and to changes in the external environment.
- including procedures for reporting failings immediately to appropriate levels of management and the Trustees together with details of corrective action to be taken.

The board of Trustees decided that Academy Advisory Ltd will be appointed to conduct termly a Programme of Internal Control checks during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The Audit Committee oversees the completion of a Programme of Internal Control Checks and reviews the reports raised after each Internal Audit visit. The checks undertaken include financial records relating to the Teaching School which are part of the Trust finances. Reports on any findings/recommendations or confirmation that no issues have arisen are submitted directly to Trustee/Directors who are members of the Audit Committee. Any issues arising are investigated and reported through to full governing body meetings. No significant issues have arisen from the Internal Audit checks undertaken during the period. with appropriate action being taken on all minor issues raised where applicable.

These arrangements can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Review of effectiveness

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

- the results of the internal control reviews
- the work of the external auditor
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process
- the work of the managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the completion of checks carried out as part of the regularity checks undertaken

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on13.12.21..... and signed on its behalf by:


Mr J Shanley
Chair of Trustees


Ms G Seaton
Headteacher and Accounting Officer

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

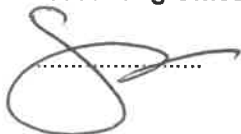
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

As accounting officer of Forest Way School, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's 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 2020.

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.

Ms G Seaton
Accounting Officer



13.12.21

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of Forest Way School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the trustees are required to:

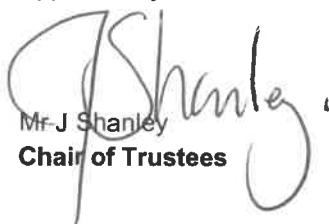
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 13.12.21 and signed on its behalf by:


Mr J Shanley
Chair of Trustees

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOREST WAY SCHOOL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Forest Way School for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, 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), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

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 accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts 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 accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts 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 accounts 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.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOREST WAY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated 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 academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated 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 accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts 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 accounts.

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

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOREST WAY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the sector, control environment and academy performance
- results of our enquiries of governors about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
 - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
 - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the academy for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in relation to income recognition. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the academy operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Academies Financial Handbook, Companies Act and Charities Act.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the academy's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty.

Audit response to risks identified

As a result of performing the above, we identified income recognition as a key audit matter related to the potential risk of fraud.

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring of governors concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reviewing any regulatory correspondence
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF FOREST WAY SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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.



**Mr Darren Ferguson (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Accapita LLP**

15.12.21
.....

**Chartered Certified Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

Christopher House
94b London Road
Leicester
Leicestershire
United Kingdom
LE2 0QS

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FOREST WAY SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 July 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Forest Way School during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Forest Way School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Forest Way School and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Forest Way School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Forest Way School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Forest Way School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 March 2012 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. 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 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- a review of activities undertaken by the academy to confirm that they conform with the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- a review of expenditure confirming items are authorised within the academy trust's delegated authorities and are within the academy trust's framework of authorities.
- an evaluation of the general control environment of the academy trust for the purposes of regularity.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FOREST WAY SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Accapita

Reporting Accountant
Accapita LLP

Dated:*15.12.21*.....

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	2,119	12,767	185,467	200,353	715,443
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	31,589	4,652,571	-	4,684,160	4,222,071
- Funding for teaching school	26	-	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
Other trading activities	5	423,060	-	-	423,060	419,703
Investments	6	63	163	-	226	1,572
Total		456,831	4,705,501	185,467	5,347,799	5,398,789
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	1,211	-	-	1,211	50
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	-	5,328,356	277,658	5,606,014	5,084,837
- Teaching school		465,895	-	-	465,895	445,637
Total	7	467,106	5,328,356	277,658	6,073,120	5,530,524
Net expenditure		(10,275)	(622,855)	(92,191)	(725,321)	(131,735)
Transfers between funds	16	40,000	(20,030)	(19,970)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(1,502,000)	-	(1,502,000)	32,000
Net movement in funds		29,725	(2,144,885)	(112,161)	(2,227,321)	(99,735)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		420,471	(3,880,211)	10,175,415	6,715,675	6,815,409
Total funds carried forward		450,196	(6,025,096)	10,063,254	4,488,354	6,715,674

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2020	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	6,885	3,694	704,864	715,443
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	33,939	4,188,132	-	4,222,071
- Funding for teaching school	26	-	40,000	-	40,000
Other trading activities	5	419,703	-	-	419,703
Investments	6	209	1,363	-	1,572
Total		<u>460,736</u>	<u>4,233,189</u>	<u>704,864</u>	<u>5,398,789</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	50	-	-	50
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	-	4,785,769	299,068	5,084,837
- Teaching school		445,637	-	-	445,637
Total	7	<u>445,687</u>	<u>4,785,769</u>	<u>299,068</u>	<u>5,530,524</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		15,049	(552,580)	405,796	(131,735)
Transfers between funds	16	40,000	281,742	(321,742)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	32,000	-	32,000
Net movement in funds		55,049	(238,838)	84,054	(99,735)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>365,421</u>	<u>(3,641,373)</u>	<u>10,091,361</u>	<u>6,815,409</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>420,470</u>	<u>(3,880,211)</u>	<u>10,175,415</u>	<u>6,715,674</u>

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		10,063,254		10,095,704
Current assets					
Debtors	13	195,086		387,063	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,423,954		1,043,896	
		1,619,040		1,430,959	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(684,940)		(398,989)	
Net current assets			934,100		1,031,970
Net assets excluding pension liability			10,997,354		11,127,674
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	18		(6,509,000)		(4,412,000)
Total net assets			4,488,354		6,715,674
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds			10,063,254		10,175,415
- Restricted income funds			483,904		531,789
- Pension reserve			(6,509,000)		(4,412,000)
Total restricted funds			4,038,158		6,295,204
Unrestricted income funds	16		450,196		420,470
Total funds			4,488,354		6,715,674

The accounts on pages 29 to 52 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 13.12.21 and are signed on their behalf by:

.....
Mr J Shanley
Chair of Trustees

Company Number 07931627

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	19	444,438		49,634	
Corporation tax paid		(4,865)		(3,964)	
		<u>439,573</u>		<u>45,670</u>	
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		226		1,572	
Capital grants from DfE Group		165,767		354,864	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		19,700		350,000	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(245,208)		(288,096)	
		<u>(59,515)</u>		<u>418,340</u>	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities			(59,515)		418,340
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			380,058		464,010
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			1,043,896		579,886
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			<u>1,423,954</u>		<u>1,043,896</u>
Relating to:					
Bank and cash balances			1,120,758		740,860
Short term deposits			303,196		303,036

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

Forest Way School Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England. The address of the registered office is given in the Reference and Administrative Details given in these financial statements. The nature of the academy trust's operations and principal activities are set out in the Trustee's Report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts 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 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable 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 accounts 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 accounts.

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Sponsorship income

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

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

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.

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

Donated fixed assets are measured at fair value unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor is used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

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.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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.

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 that require 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 of each asset on a straight-line/reducing balance basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Freehold land and buildings	2% on cost
Long leasehold land and buildings	straight line over the period of the lease
Computer equipment	33% on reducing balance
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10% on reducing balance
Motor vehicles	25% on reducing balance

One of the school buildings has been leased to the academy trust on a 125 year lease at a peppercorn rent. It has been ascertained that the risks and rewards of the property lie substantially with the academy and a reasonable estimate of the gross value is included within fixed assets. Their valuation is at an estimation of depreciated replacement cost on the basis that the assets represent specialised property and an open market value for existing use is not readily available.

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight-line basis over the lease term.

1.8 Financial instruments

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

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.9 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.

1.10 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 and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

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

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

1.12 Agency arrangements

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 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 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. 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.]

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Capital grants	-	185,467	185,467	704,864
Other donations	2,119	12,767	14,886	10,579
	<u>2,119</u>	<u>198,234</u>	<u>200,353</u>	<u>715,443</u>

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	2,400,000	2,400,000	2,301,578
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
Pupil premium	-	107,061	107,061	89,992
DfE teaching grants	-	40,000	40,000	40,000
Others	-	278,687	278,687	194,056
	-	2,825,748	2,825,748	2,625,626
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	1,866,823	1,866,823	1,602,506
Other incoming resources	31,589	-	31,589	33,939
Total funding	31,589	4,692,571	4,724,160	4,262,071

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Teaching school income	423,060	-	423,060	419,703

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Short term deposits	63	163	226	1,572

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs	Non-pay expenditure		Total	Total
	£	Premises	Other	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	1,211	1,211	50
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	3,082,880	-	80,704	3,163,584	2,904,869
- Allocated support costs	1,247,749	828,614	366,067	2,442,430	2,179,968
Teaching school					
- Direct costs	109,902	-	271,084	380,986	348,153
- Allocated support costs	65,179	5,200	14,530	84,909	97,484
	<u>4,505,710</u>	<u>833,814</u>	<u>733,596</u>	<u>6,073,120</u>	<u>5,530,524</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	9,641	9,692
- Other services	5,235	5,381
Operating lease rentals	38,708	37,474
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	277,658	299,068
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	79,000	79,000
	<u>79,000</u>	<u>79,000</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	2021	2020
	£	£	£	£
Direct costs				
Educational operations	-	3,163,584	3,163,584	2,904,869
Teaching school	380,986	-	380,986	348,153
Support costs				
Educational operations	-	2,442,430	2,442,430	2,179,968
Teaching school	84,909	-	84,909	97,484
	<u>465,895</u>	<u>5,606,014</u>	<u>6,071,909</u>	<u>5,530,474</u>

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Charitable activities

	Teaching school	Educational operations	Total 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£
Analysis of support costs				
Support staff costs	65,179	1,247,749	1,312,928	1,233,589
Depreciation	-	277,658	277,658	299,068
Technology costs	-	62,468	62,468	76,943
Premises costs	5,200	550,956	556,156	356,860
Legal costs	-	44,526	44,526	38,314
Other support costs	12,299	245,588	257,887	257,605
Governance costs	2,231	13,485	15,716	15,073
	<u>84,909</u>	<u>2,442,430</u>	<u>2,527,339</u>	<u>2,277,452</u>

9 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	3,084,928	2,863,335
Social security costs	242,527	218,055
Pension costs	1,165,755	1,066,099
Staff costs - employees	<u>4,493,210</u>	<u>4,147,489</u>
Staff restructuring costs	12,500	6,302
Staff development and other staff costs	<u>4,505,710</u>	<u>4,153,791</u>
	8,984	13,262
Total staff expenditure	<u>4,514,694</u>	<u>4,167,053</u>
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	<u>12,500</u>	<u>6,302</u>

Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £12,500 (2020: £nil). Individually, the payments were: £12,500.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

9 Staff

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	31	29
Administration and support	123	117
Management	1	1
	<u>155</u>	<u>147</u>

The number of persons employed, expressed as a full time equivalent, was as follows:

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	28	26
Administration and support	101	94
Management	1	1
	<u>130</u>	<u>121</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£60,000 - £65,000	2	-
£85,000 - £90,000	-	1
£90,000 - £95,000	1	-
	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £565,017 (2020: £604,857).

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

G Seaton (principal and staff governor)

Remuneration	£90,000 - £95,000 (2020 : £85,000 - £90,000)
Employer's pension contributions	£20,000 - £25,000 (2020 : £20,000 - £25,000)

R Hayes (staff trustee)

Remuneration	£5,000 - £10,000 (2020 : £20,000 - £35,000)
Employer's pension contributions	£0 - £5,000 (2020 : £0 - £5,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2021 travel and subsistence expenses totalling £nil (2020 : £nil) were reimbursed to trustees.

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 £3,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £198 (2020: £198). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings	Long leasehold land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	1,205,551	10,482,423	185,911	222,457	97,280	12,193,622
Additions	136,286	-	24,404	84,518	-	245,208
At 31 August 2021	1,341,837	10,482,423	210,315	306,975	97,280	12,438,830
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	92,529	1,717,713	104,544	102,674	80,458	2,097,918
Charge for the year	23,471	203,791	32,603	13,586	4,207	277,658
At 31 August 2021	116,000	1,921,504	137,147	116,260	84,665	2,375,576
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	1,225,837	8,560,919	73,168	190,715	12,615	10,063,254
At 31 August 2020	1,113,022	8,764,710	81,367	119,783	16,822	10,095,704

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	3,180	15,897
VAT recoverable	15,675	27,150
Prepayments and accrued income	176,231	344,016
	<u>195,086</u>	<u>387,063</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade creditors	23,295	327,500
Corporation tax	-	4,865
Other taxation and social security	50,197	-
Other creditors	71,711	-
Accruals and deferred income	539,737	66,624
	<u>684,940</u>	<u>398,989</u>

15 Deferred income

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	<u>521,135</u>	<u>26,314</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	26,314	8,684
Released from previous years	(26,314)	(8,684)
Resources deferred in the year	<u>521,135</u>	<u>26,314</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u>521,135</u>	<u>26,314</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for free school meals and grant income received in advance.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	86,370	2,400,000	(2,059,239)	(129,556)	297,575
Pupil premium	-	107,061	(107,061)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	333,865	278,687	(700,233)	150,073	62,392
Other government grants	-	1,866,823	(1,866,823)	-	-
Teaching school	-	40,000	-	(40,000)	-
Other restricted funds	111,554	12,930	-	(547)	123,937
Pension reserve	(4,412,000)	-	(595,000)	(1,502,000)	(6,509,000)
	<u>(3,880,211)</u>	<u>4,705,501</u>	<u>(5,328,356)</u>	<u>(1,522,030)</u>	<u>(6,025,096)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	8,763,470	-	(204,947)	-	8,558,523
DfE group capital grants	56,328	185,467	(4,795)	(182,189)	54,811
Capital expenditure from GAG	815,090	-	(52,710)	140,206	902,586
Other grants	540,527	-	(15,206)	22,013	547,334
	<u>10,175,415</u>	<u>185,467</u>	<u>(277,658)</u>	<u>(19,970)</u>	<u>10,063,254</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>6,295,204</u>	<u>4,890,968</u>	<u>(5,606,014)</u>	<u>(1,542,000)</u>	<u>4,038,158</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	322,343	33,771	(1,211)	(1,684)	353,219
Teaching school	98,128	423,060	(465,895)	41,684	96,977
	<u>420,471</u>	<u>456,831</u>	<u>(467,106)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>450,196</u>
Total funds	<u>6,715,675</u>	<u>5,347,799</u>	<u>(6,073,120)</u>	<u>(1,502,000)</u>	<u>4,488,354</u>

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

Restricted General Funds represent unspent General Annual Grant (GAG) which must be used for the normal recurring costs of the academy. The academy was not subject to a limit on GAG carry-forward in the academic year. An amount of £62,392 is held in restricted funds representing the balance of a condition improvement grant to be spent in the following academic year.

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds represent resources which have been applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the funder together with cash resources still to be expended. During the year a transfer of £131,414 was made from restricted general funds to represent capital expenditure met from GAG income.

Restricted Pension Reserve Funds represent the academy's share of the assets and liabilities of the Local Government Pension Scheme.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Funds

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	140,839	2,301,578	(2,334,351)	(21,697)	86,369
Pupil premium	-	89,992	(89,992)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	194,056	(243,629)	343,439	293,866
Other government grants	-	1,602,506	(1,562,506)	-	40,000
Teaching school	-	40,000	-	(40,000)	-
Other restricted funds	108,788	5,057	(2,291)	-	111,554
Pension reserve	(3,891,000)	-	(553,000)	32,000	(4,412,000)
	<u>(3,641,373)</u>	<u>4,233,189</u>	<u>(4,785,769)</u>	<u>313,742</u>	<u>(3,880,211)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	8,992,069	-	(228,599)	-	8,763,470
DfE group capital grants	45,832	704,864	(929)	(693,439)	56,328
Capital expenditure from GAG	855,020	-	(61,627)	21,697	815,090
Voluntary income	13,824	-	(3,977)	-	9,847
Other grants	184,616	-	(3,936)	350,000	530,680
	<u>10,091,361</u>	<u>704,864</u>	<u>(299,068)</u>	<u>(321,742)</u>	<u>10,175,415</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>6,449,988</u>	<u>4,938,053</u>	<u>(5,084,837)</u>	<u>(8,000)</u>	<u>6,295,204</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	309,695	41,033	(50)	(28,336)	322,342
Teaching school	55,726	419,703	(445,637)	68,336	98,128
	<u>365,421</u>	<u>460,736</u>	<u>(445,687)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>420,470</u>
Total funds	<u>6,815,409</u>	<u>5,398,789</u>	<u>(5,530,524)</u>	<u>32,000</u>	<u>6,715,674</u>

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,063,254	-	10,063,254
Current assets	458,106	1,160,934	-	-	1,619,040
Creditors falling due within one year	(7,910)	(677,030)	-	-	(684,940)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(6,509,000)	-	-	(6,509,000)
Total net assets	450,196	(6,025,096)	10,063,254	-	4,488,354

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Endowment Funds £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:					
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,095,704	-	10,095,704
Current assets	453,604	813,566	163,789	-	1,430,959
Creditors falling due within one year	(33,134)	(281,777)	(84,078)	-	(398,989)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(4,412,000)	-	-	(4,412,000)
Total net assets	420,470	(3,880,211)	10,175,415	-	6,715,674

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

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

Contributions amounting to £71,711 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020: nil) and are included within creditors.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% 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 SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. The assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £260,861 (2020: £227,501).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.2% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

Total contributions made	2021 £	2020 £
Employer's contributions	392,000	367,000
Employees' contributions	111,000	101,000
Total contributions	<u>503,000</u>	<u>468,000</u>

Principal actuarial assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.40	2.70
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	2.20
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1.70
Inflation assumption (CPI)	<u>2.90</u>	<u>2.20</u>

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.7	21.5
- Females	24.2	23.8
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.6	22.2
- Females	<u>25.9</u>	<u>25.2</u>

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

	2021	2020
Discount rate + 0.1%	(381,000)	(289,000)
Discount rate - 0.1%	381,000	289,000
Mortality assumption + 1 year	521,000	374,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year	(521,000)	(374,000)
CPI rate + 0.1%	335,000	249,000
CPI rate - 0.1%	<u>(335,000)</u>	<u>(249,000)</u>

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2021 Fair value £	2020 Fair value £
Equities	3,774,000	2,909,000
Bonds	1,887,000	1,430,000
Cash	391,000	198,000
Property	455,000	394,000
Total market value of assets	<u>6,507,000</u>	<u>4,931,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,130,000 (2020: £(25,000)).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	516,000	474,000
Interest income	79,000	79,000
Total operating charge	<u>595,000</u>	<u>553,000</u>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021 £
At 1 September 2020	9,343,000
Current service cost	908,000
Interest cost	167,000
Employee contributions	111,000
Actuarial loss/(gain)	2,544,000
Benefits paid	(57,000)
At 31 August 2021	<u>13,016,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2021 £
At 1 September 2020	4,931,000
Interest income	88,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	1,042,000
Employer contributions	392,000
Employee contributions	111,000
Benefits paid	(57,000)
At 31 August 2021	<u>6,507,000</u>

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

19 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities	2021 £	2020 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(725,321)	(131,735)
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(185,467)	(704,864)
Investment income receivable	(226)	(1,572)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	516,000	474,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	79,000	79,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	277,658	299,068
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	191,977	(309,395)
Increase in creditors	290,817	345,132
Net cash provided by operating activities	444,438	49,634

20 Analysis of changes in net funds	1 September 2020 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2021 £
Cash	740,860	379,898	1,120,758
Cash equivalents	303,036	160	303,196
	<u>1,043,896</u>	<u>380,058</u>	<u>1,423,954</u>

21 Contingent liabilities

During the period of the Funding Agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means, of any assets for which a Government grant was received, the Academy is required, either to reinvest the proceeds or to repay to the Secretary of State for Education the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original costs met by the Secretary of State

Upon termination of the Funding Agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State of the Academy serving notice, the Academy shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to

(a) the value at that time of the Academy site and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Academy, and

(b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

22 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	22,259	37,474
Amounts due in two and five years	63,037	10,800
	<u>85,296</u>	<u>48,274</u>

23 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.

24 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 or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.

25 Agency arrangements

The academy distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting year ending 31 August 2021 the trust received £7,938 (2020 - £11,384) and disbursed £7,609 (2020 - £10,313) from the fund.

An amount of £329 (2020 - £nil) is included in creditors relating to undistributed funds.

FOREST WAY SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

26 Teaching school trading account	2021		2020	
	£	£	£	£
Direct income				
Government grants		40,000		40,000
Other income				
Fundraising and other trading activities		423,060		419,703
Total income		463,060		459,703
Direct costs				
Direct staff costs	109,902		79,450	
Other direct costs	271,084		268,703	
	<u>380,986</u>		<u>348,153</u>	
Other costs				
Support staff costs	65,179		62,184	
Maintenance of premises and equipment	2,040		2,040	
Cleaning	1,000		1,000	
Energy costs	2,160		2,160	
Other support costs	12,299		27,497	
Share of governance costs	2,231		2,603	
	<u>84,909</u>		<u>97,484</u>	
Total expenditure		(465,895)		(445,637)
Transfers between funds excluding depreciation		1,684		28,336
(Deficit)/surplus from all sources		(1,151)		42,402
Teaching school balances at 1 September 2020		98,128		55,726
Teaching school balances at 31 August 2021		<u>96,977</u>		<u>98,128</u>
