

Company registration number 07531756 (England and Wales)

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

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ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

L K R Holland
E Dorling
K Blencowe
L Boucher

Trustees

C Carlisle (Accounting officer)
J Combes (Resigned 1 September 2023)
E Gunn (Resigned 1 September 2023)
L M Hemmaway (Chair)
L K R Holland (Resigned 1 September 2023)
A Pattison (Resigned 1 September 2023)
S Wiles
T Claxton

Senior management team

- Headteacher and accounting officer	C Carlisle
- Acting Headteacher, Interim Headteacher from 01/09/2023	E Crane
- Assistant Headteacher	G Coupland
- Assistant Headteacher	S Holdsworth
- Assistant Headteacher	A Pattison
- Assistant Headteacher	E Vickers
- School Business Manager	J Sumner

Company secretary J Sumner

Company registration number 07531756 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office Drybread Road
Whittlesey
Peterborough
PE7 1XJ
United Kingdom

Independent auditor Azets Audit Services
Ruthlyn House
90 Lincoln Road
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire
PE1 2SP
United Kingdom

Bankers Lloyds Bank
Fenlands House
Manor Grove Centre
Vicarage Farm Road
Peterborough
PE1 5UH
United Kingdom

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 3 to 11 serving a catchment area in Whittlesey. It has a pupil capacity of 630 and had a roll of 629 in the autumn school census with an additional 46 nursery age children.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The Trustees are the trustees of Alderman Jacobs School and 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

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the Academy Trust's expense to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust, provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees in their capacity as Directors of the Academy Trust. The limit of this indemnity is £2m.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Members of the academy are nominated by the Secretary of State for Education or by the Alderman Jacobs School. The Articles of Association require the members of the company to appoint at least 3 Trustees to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs of the charitable company and the management of the academy, however the Trust aim for at least five Members.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

During the year under review the board of Trustees held a number of meetings and made visits to school linked to the Improvement plan and key areas of performance. When new Trustees are appointed they receive a process of training and induction and are provided with copies of policies and a glossary.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Organisational structure

The board of Trustees are responsible for the strategic direction of the academy. The headteacher, assisted by the senior leadership team, leads and manages the academy. The headteacher is responsible for the educational aims, personnel, finance and premises. The school's Finance and Operations Manager works closely with the headteacher.

The board of Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget monitoring the academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The directorate are the headteacher and the senior leadership team. These managers control the academy at an executive level, implementing the policies laid down by the board of Trustees and reporting back to them. As a group, the directorate are responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, though appointment boards for posts in the senior leadership team always contain a Trustee. Some spending control is devolved to members of the senior leadership team with limits above which a member of the directorate must countersign.

The senior leadership team includes the headteacher, a deputy headteacher, four assistant headteachers and a Finance and Operations Manager. These managers are responsible for the day to day operation of the academy, in particular organising the teaching staff, pupils, facilities and resources.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Alderman Jacobs Academy Trust follow the national Pay Review recommendations, which is endorsed annually by the Trustees with regards to the setting of key management personnel pay.

Following performance management meetings (comprising performance management Trustees and the School Improvement Advisor when appraising the performance of the headteacher) pay recommendations within the recommended wage band are sent to the Trustees.

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	-

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	2
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	-
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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Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The school works closely, but informally, with other schools in the Whitco cluster and is a strategic partner of the Discovery Teaching School and the Paragon Teaching School. The school also works with the PiXL not-for-profit organisation.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the company is the operation of Alderman Jacobs School to provide the education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 3 and 11.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives of the academy during the year ended 31 August 2023 are summarised below:

- To ensure that the quality of education is at least good with excellent practice developing across the school
- To ensure the leadership of the school motivates and inspires staff to continue to improve outcomes for all children
- To provide children with a rich range of pastoral and learning experiences
- To ensure consistent systems are embedded in school which promote positive behaviour and attitudes.
- To ensure early years children receive excellent pastoral and academic opportunities
- To develop the facilities, resources and ensure financial security

Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The academy is in its thirteenth year of operation and aims to set strategic goals related to achievement and progress. These goals are monitored closely by the Board of Trustees. The school has an increasing roll and is oversubscribed in many year groups. During the year the headteacher was seconded four days a week to a nearby multi-academy trust as their CEO and Accounting Officer. This arrangement was also an opportunity for Alderman Jacobs to work in partnership and ascertain what benefits would be achieved by joining another organisation to form one strong trust. This resulted in Alderman Jacobs merging with Soke Education Trust on 1 September 2023.

Assessment occurs at the end of each Key Stage. In 2023, Statutory assessments were carried out once again this year and teacher summative assessments were completed for all year groups. At the end of the year teacher assessments and progress against individual targets were communicated to parents in an annual report. Parents also received communication about their child's progress and attainment at virtual Parent Consultation Evenings in October and February.

The Academy uses its three year plan to create an Annual Strategic Plan which it uses to drive school improvements. It operates a programme of rigorous monitoring and self-evaluation and make judgements of teaching over time based on evidence of lesson observations, book scrutiny, discussions with pupils, analysis of data and staff evaluation of performance. Visits by the Board of Trustees throughout the year are linked to the Strategic Plan and form part of the self-evaluation of school effectiveness. The most recent Ofsted judgement in March, recognised the impact of the changes and confirmed that the school continued to be 'good' in all areas with many examples of excellence. The objectives set as part of the Strategic Plan for 2022/23 continue to reflect this judgement and the good practice in evidence across the school. The school appoints an independent Associate Advisor, who has been used to provide advice, support evaluations and to implement further CPD.

Key performance indicators

During the year, the school has used its internal assessment procedures to assess children's progress and attainment and identify gaps in children's learning caused by prolonged periods away from school.

The school has ensured that teaching strategies and assessment support children post covid and have used school led tutoring to close gaps in learning.

Statutory attainment and progress results for Phonics, Key Stage 1 and 2, demonstrate good progress from starting points and in most areas children achieve in line with other children nationally. Where there are differences, these are identified as objectives in the School Improvement Plan.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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. However, the trustees made the decision to transfer the school to Soke Education Trust with effect from 1 September 2023 and therefore this company will become dormant and the trustees will consider applying to Companies House to have the company closed down. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

Most of the academy's income is obtained from ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. 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.

Reserves policy

It is the policy of the academy that unrestricted funds which have not been designated for a specific use are held at approximately 10% of one year's revenue income. This is designed to ensure the stability of the Academy's operations, to smooth the impact of changes in financial circumstances, such as large unbudgeted expenditure and cyclical maintenance and to fund working capital requirements. The current reserves sit above the stated amount and the Trustees are reviewing their current policy.

The Academy is confident that it will meet the required pension contributions from its projected income without significantly impacting on its planned level of charitable activity. It continues to calculate its 'free' or general unrestricted reserves without setting aside designated reserves to cover the pension liability.

Investment policy

The Academy holds cash balances in interest bearing accounts to maximise interest potential without risking the capital or losing ready access to the funds.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees, through the audit committee, have assessed the major risks to which the academy is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the academy and its finances. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the academy faces. This includes operational areas such as the quality of teaching and the impact of staff changes, health and safety, safeguarding and school trips. Risk related to the control of finance and systems are closely monitored. If a significant risk should remain trustees ensure they have adequate insurance cover. The academy has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the governance statement.

The Trustees of Alderman Jacobs consider all risks including those related to Estate Management. In mitigating any potential risks the Academy has contracted an Estates Management Consultant to complete a site condition survey and an estate management plan. This plan includes a rolling estate maintenance programme which ensures the site is monitored, well maintained and complies with regulatory standards. During the year additional RAAC survey was commissioned to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff, visitors and pupils. The survey did not find any part of the building construction made from RAAC. The Trust has further ensured the safety of the site by making use of the opportunity to apply for Capital Improvement Funding and by ensuring it contracts a Competent Person to provide advise and third party audits of the estate.

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

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

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Fundraising

The Academy is compliant with the recognised standards of fundraising set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice. Alderman Jacobs School does not use professional fundraisers and there have been no complaints received by the Academy about fund raising activities carried out by the Academy in the year.

Plans for future periods

Alderman Jacobs School will continue to strive to improve the levels of progress and attainment of all pupils. This will be achieved through a Strategic Plan which, focus on school improvement, provide rigorous self-evaluation and consistent monitoring to ensure excellence in all that we do.

In the following academic year the Governing Body will focus on:

- Delivery of the Schools' Strategic Plan to ensure that the school has a consistent approach to all aspects of teaching & learning and works towards the Good or better criteria set out in the Ofsted Handbook.
- Ensure succession within the leadership staffing structure
- Strengthen, broaden and diversify Trustee membership
- Investigate ways to work in close partnership with other local and regional schools

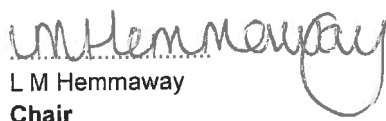
As noted above the school will merge with Soke Education Trust.

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 4.12.2023 and signed on its behalf by:


L M Hemmaway
Chair

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Alderman Jacobs 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 headteacher, 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 Alderman Jacobs School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
C Carlisle (Accounting officer)	5	6
J Combes (Resigned 1 September 2023)	4	6
E Gunn (Resigned 1 September 2023)	5	6
L M Hemmaway (Chair)	4	6
L K R Holland (Resigned 1 September 2023)	6	6
A Pattison (Resigned 1 September 2023)	5	6
S Wiles	4	6
T Claxton	4	6

The school actively manage potential conflicts of interest by completing annual trustee declaration forms and raising it at the start of every trustees meeting. The requirements set out by the ESFA on business and other interests are followed to ensure transparency.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Review of value for money

As accounting officer the head teacher has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available.

The governing body is accountable for the way in which the school's resources are allocated to meet the objectives set out in the school's development plans. Trustees need to secure the best possible outcome for pupils, in the most efficient and effective way, at a reasonable cost. This will lead to continuous improvement in the school's achievements and services.

To ensure value for money, the Trust ensures that it implements a rolling maintenance programme based on the estates plan created with experts. The implementation of the estate management plan ensures that the site is well maintained and any issues are promptly acted upon and rectified ensuring they do not develop into more complex and costly problems for the Trust. Best value is further ensured by contracting an external Competent Person who can offer expert advice, as it is needed. The use of additional funding sources including CIF has ensured that the estate achieves and exceeds its regulatory requirements and is safe and well-maintained.

What Is Best Value?

Trustees will apply the four principles of best value:

- Challenge - Is the school's performance high enough? Why and how is a service provided? Do we still need it? Can it be delivered differently? What do parents want?
- Compare - How does the school's pupil performance and financial performance compare with all schools? How does it compare with LA schools? How does it compare with similar schools?
- Consult - How does the school seek the views of stakeholders about the services the school provides?
- Compete - How does the school secure efficient and effective services? Are services of appropriate quality, economic?

The Trustees' Approach

The Trustees and school managers will apply the principles of best value when making decisions about:

- The allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school.
- The targeting of resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision.
- The use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all pupils.

Trustees, and the school managers, will:

- Make comparisons with other/similar schools using data provided by the LA and the Government, e.g. ASP, FFT, quality of teaching & learning, levels of expenditure
- Challenge proposals, examine them for effectiveness, efficiency, and cost, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets,
- Require suppliers to compete on grounds of cost, and quality/suitability of services/products/backup, e.g. provision of computer suite, redecoration
- Consult individuals and organisations on quality/suitability of service we provide to parents and pupils, and services we receive from providers, e.g. Sex and Relationships Education, pupil reports, assigned inspector, Ofsted, maintenance consultant,

This will apply in particular to:

- Staffing
- Use of premises
- Quality of teaching
- Use of resources
- Quality of learning
- Pupils' welfare
- Purchasing
- Health and safety

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Trustees and school managers:

- Will not waste time and resources on investigating minor areas where few improvements can be achieved
- Will not waste time and resources to make minor savings in costs
- Will not waste time and resources by seeking tenders for minor supplies and services

The pursuit of minor improvements or savings is not cost effective if the administration involves substantial time or costs. Time wasted on minor improvements or savings can also distract management from more important or valuable areas.

Staffing

Trustees and school managers will deploy staff to provide best value in terms of quality of teaching, quality of learning, adult-pupil ratio, and curriculum management.

Use of Premises

Trustees and school managers will consider the allocation and use of teaching areas, support areas and communal areas, to provide the best environment for teaching & learning, for support services, and for communal access to central resources, e.g. the library.

Use of Resources

Trustees and school managers will deploy equipment, materials and services to provide pupils and staff with resources which support quality of teaching and quality of learning.

Teaching

Trustees and school managers will review the quality of curriculum provision and quality of teaching, to provide parents and pupils with:

- A curriculum which meets the requirements of the National Curriculum, the LA Agreed RE Syllabus, and the needs of pupils
- Teaching which builds on previous learning and has high expectations of children's achievement

Learning

Trustees and school managers will review the quality of children's learning, by cohort, class and group, to provide teaching which enables children to achieve nationally expected progress, e.g. setting of annual pupil achievement targets.

Purchasing

Trustees and school managers will develop procedures for assessing need, and obtaining goods and services which provide "best value" in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. Measures already in place include:

- Competitive tendering procedures (e.g. for goods and services above £20,000)
- Procedures for accepting "best value" quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest (e.g. suitability for purpose and quality of workmanship)
- Procedures which minimise office time by the purchase of goods or services under £5,000 direct from known, reliable suppliers (e.g. stationery, small equipment)

Pupils' Welfare

Trustees and school managers will review the quality of the school environment and the school ethos, in order to provide a supportive environment conducive to learning and recreation.

Health & Safety

Trustees and school managers will review the quality of the school environment and equipment, carrying out risk assessments where appropriate, in order to provide a safe working environment for pupils, staff and visitors, this is done in conjunction with externally appointed partners.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Monitoring

These areas will be monitored for best value by:

- In-house monitoring by the Headteacher and curriculum managers, e.g. classroom practice, work sampling
- Target setting meetings between the Headteacher and curriculum leaders
- Annual Performance Management
- Annual Budget Planning
- Headteacher's monthly financial review
- Termly visits by the Associate Advisor
- Analysis of school pupil performance data, e.g. SATs results, ASP, FFT
- Analysis of financial data, e.g. bench mark data for all schools,
- Ofsted Inspection reports
- Trustees' termly monitoring visits
- Trustees' termly committee meetings
- Trustees' full termly meetings
- Trustees' Annual Finance Review
- Trustees' Annual Development Plan Meeting
- Trustees' Annual Report to Parents

In the next three years the Governing Body will

- Hold an annual development plan meeting.
- Discuss "Best Value" at each Autumn Term meeting of the Finance Committee.
- Annually review their "Best Value" statement
- Consider best value when arranging internal and external redecoration contracts.
- Review its operational, financial and administrative structures.
- Investigate the viability of a pre-school and tender for any site improvements.

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 Alderman Jacobs School for the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees have considered the need for a specific internal audit function:

- The Trustees have appointed MacIntyre Hudson to perform additional checks during this year as Responsible Officer.

The audit committee have directed the RO's role to perform a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- purchases and payroll
- income and accounting systems
- school fund testing
- school meal testing
- 'musts and shoulds' checklist review

On a regular basis the RO reports to the board of trustees through the finance committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of trustees.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the responsible officer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance committee.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 4/12/23 and signed on its behalf by:



C Carlisle
Accounting officer



L M Hemmaway
Chair

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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



C Carlisle
Accounting Officer

4/12/2023.....

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The trustees (who are also the directors of Alderman Jacobs School for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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 2022 to 2023;
- 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 4/12/23 and signed on its behalf by:


L M Hemmaway
Chair

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Alderman Jacobs School for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including 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 2022 to 2023 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 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 2022 to 2023.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the 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

We draw attention to note 1.2 in the financial statements, which indicates that the school was transferred to Soke Education Trust on 1 September 2023 and this company therefore ceased its activity.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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

Use of our report

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



Mr Mark Jackson FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services

14.12.2023

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Ruthlyn House
90 Lincoln Road
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire
United Kingdom
PE1 2SP

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 14 September 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Alderman Jacobs School during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Alderman Jacobs School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Alderman Jacobs 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 Alderman Jacobs School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Alderman Jacobs School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Alderman Jacobs School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 March 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- a review of the activities of the academy, by reference to sources of income and other information available to us;
- sample testing of expenditure, including payroll;
- a review of minutes of Governors' meetings.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Reporting Accountant

Azets Audit Services
Ruthlyn House
90 Lincoln Road
Peterborough
Cambridgeshire
PE1 2SP
United Kingdom

Dated: ~~14.12.2023~~.....

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	7,253	-	436,668	443,921	545,888
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	250,083	3,605,890	-	3,855,973	3,518,366
Other trading activities	5	45,084	-	-	45,084	12,705
Investments	6	1,636	-	-	1,636	704
Total		304,056	3,605,890	436,668	4,346,614	4,077,663
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	13	-	-	13	85
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	145,140	3,550,545	734,186	4,429,871	4,139,298
Total	7	145,153	3,550,545	734,186	4,429,884	4,139,383
Net income/(expenditure)		158,903	55,345	(297,518)	(83,270)	(61,720)
Transfers between funds	17	-	(189,529)	189,529	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	212,000	-	212,000	1,807,000
Net movement in funds		158,903	77,816	(107,989)	128,730	1,745,280
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		316,891	151,309	2,869,894	3,338,094	1,592,814
Total funds carried forward		475,794	229,125	2,761,905	3,466,824	3,338,094

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
Year ended 31 August 2022		funds	General	Fixed asset	2022
	Notes	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	3,714	-	542,174	545,888
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	147,016	3,371,350	-	3,518,366
Other trading activities	5	12,705	-	-	12,705
Investments	6	704	-	-	704
Total		164,139	3,371,350	542,174	4,077,663
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	85	-	-	85
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	138,125	3,513,004	488,169	4,139,298
Total	7	138,210	3,513,004	488,169	4,139,383
Net income/(expenditure)					
		25,929	(141,654)	54,005	(61,720)
Transfers between funds	17	-	(158,803)	158,803	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	1,807,000	-	1,807,000
Net movement in funds					
		25,929	1,506,543	212,808	1,745,280
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		290,962	(1,355,234)	2,657,086	1,592,814
Total funds carried forward		316,891	151,309	2,869,894	3,338,094

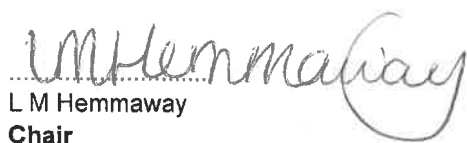
ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		2,655,697		2,561,354
Current assets					
Debtors	14	111,788		203,978	
Cash at bank and in hand		875,412		921,279	
		987,200		1,125,257	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(301,073)		(348,517)	
Net current assets			686,127		776,740
Net assets excluding pension asset			3,341,824		3,338,094
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	19		125,000		-
Total net assets			3,466,824		3,338,094
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	17				
- Fixed asset funds			2,761,905		2,869,894
- Restricted income funds			104,125		151,309
- Pension reserve			125,000		-
Total restricted funds			2,991,030		3,021,203
Unrestricted income funds	17		475,794		316,891
Total funds			3,466,824		3,338,094

The accounts on pages 19 to 42 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 4/12/2023 and are signed on their behalf by:


L M Hemmaway
Chair

Company registration number 07531756 (England and Wales)

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Notes	2023 £	£	2022 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash used in operating activities	20		(308,624)		(91,632)
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		1,636		704	
Capital grants from DfE Group		436,668		542,174	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(175,547)		(91,825)	
Net cash provided by investing activities			262,757		451,053
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(45,867)		359,421
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			921,279		561,858
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			875,412		921,279

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

Alderman Jacobs School is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' 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 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going concern

As described in the Trustees' Report, the school was transferred to Soke Education Trust on 1 September 2023 and this company therefore ceased its activity. Following the end of the period the trustees will consider applying to Companies House to have the company struck off the Register.

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.

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.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management, trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the academy trust's depreciation policy. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Furniture and equipment transferred into the academy from the previous Local Authority School has not been valued and introduced into these accounts.

Leasehold property has been professionally valued as at 31 August 2012 on a depreciated replacement cost value basis and brought into the prior year's accounts at that valuation.

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 reducing balance basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Buildings	2% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% reducing balance

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.

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.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

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

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.12 Redundancy and termination payments

Payments for redundancy and termination are recognised in the period in which the final date of employment falls.

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 19, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Capital grants	-	436,668	436,668	542,174
Other donations	7,253	-	7,253	3,714
	<u>7,253</u>	<u>436,668</u>	<u>443,921</u>	<u>545,888</u>

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	2,699,883	2,699,883	2,655,054
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- UIFSM	-	69,830	69,830	59,645
- Pupil premium	-	245,103	245,103	223,193
- PE and Sports grant	-	21,450	21,450	21,420
- Teacher's pension grant	-	4,030	4,030	6,909
- Teacher's pay grant	-	1,426	1,426	2,445
- Others	-	243,321	243,321	81,305
	-	3,285,043	3,285,043	3,049,971
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	155,422	155,422	112,826
Special educational projects	-	159,365	159,365	192,179
	-	314,787	314,787	305,005
Other incoming resources	250,083	6,060	256,143	163,390
Total funding	250,083	3,605,890	3,855,973	3,518,366

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Lettings	12,161	-	12,161	12,360
Catering income	32,923	-	32,923	-
Other income	-	-	-	345
	45,084	-	45,084	12,705

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Short term deposits	1,636	-	1,636	704

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	13	13	85
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	1,924,190	-	197,280	2,121,470	2,041,185
- Allocated support costs	1,132,201	926,675	249,525	2,308,401	2,098,113
	<u>3,056,391</u>	<u>926,675</u>	<u>446,818</u>	<u>4,429,884</u>	<u>4,139,383</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	81,204	84,523
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	10,796
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	8,600	7,800
- Other services	1,086	802
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(8,000)	26,000

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Direct costs				
Educational operations	70,845	2,050,625	2,121,470	2,041,185
Support costs				
Educational operations	74,295	2,234,106	2,308,401	2,098,113
	<u>145,140</u>	<u>4,284,731</u>	<u>4,429,871</u>	<u>4,139,298</u>

Analysis of costs

	2023 £	2022 £
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	1,924,302	1,821,598
Staff development	8,284	6,924
Technology costs	6,451	6,825
Educational supplies and services	113,740	136,485
Other direct costs	68,693	69,353
	<u>2,121,470</u>	<u>2,041,185</u>

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8	Charitable activities	(Continued)	
	Support costs		
	Support staff costs	1,146,978	1,199,980
	Depreciation and loss on disposal of assets	81,204	95,319
	Technology costs	71,428	61,101
	Maintenance of premises and equipment	733,446	492,929
	Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	112,025	76,169
	Catering	128,739	106,456
	Finance costs	(8,000)	26,000
	Other support costs	26,055	28,114
	Governance costs	16,526	12,045
		<u>2,308,401</u>	<u>2,098,113</u>
9	Governance costs		
		Total	Total
		2023	2022
	All from restricted funds:	£	£
	Amounts included in support costs		
	Legal costs	6,740	3,417
	Auditor's remuneration		
	- Audit of financial statements	9,686	7,800
	- Other audit costs	-	802
	Trustees' reimbursed expenses	100	-
	Other governance costs	-	26
		<u>16,526</u>	<u>12,045</u>
10	Staff		
	Staff costs		
	Staff costs during the year were:		
		2023	2022
		£	£
	Wages and salaries	2,259,040	2,045,163
	Social security costs	206,525	183,517
	Pension costs	585,872	778,920
		<u>3,051,437</u>	<u>3,007,600</u>
	Staff costs - employees	4,954	6,268
	Agency staff costs		
		<u>3,056,391</u>	<u>3,013,868</u>
	Staff development and other staff costs	23,173	14,634
		<u>3,079,564</u>	<u>3,028,502</u>

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10 Staff

(Continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
Teachers	34	33
Administration and support	54	53
Management	7	7
	<u>95</u>	<u>93</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2023 Number	2022 Number
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-
£60,001 - £70,000	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £538,016 (2022 - £473,748).

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The head teacher and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of head teacher and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees.

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

C Carlisle (head teacher and governor)

Remuneration £105,000 - £110,000 (2022 - £85,000 - £90,000)

Employer's pension contributions £25,000 - £30,000 (2022 - £20,000 - £25,000)

A Pattison (staff governor)

Remuneration £55,000 - £60,000 (2022 - £50,000 - £55,000)

Employer's pension contributions £10,000 - £15,000 (2022 - £10,000 - £15,000)

L Hatfield (staff governor) - resigned as a governor on 8 March 2022

Remuneration £Nil (2022 - £15,000 - £20,000)

Employer's pension contributions £Nil (2022 - £0 - £5,000)

Other related party transactions are set out in note 24.

12 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 £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 is included within the total insurance cost in the statement of financial activities.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Buildings	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£
Cost			
At 1 September 2022	2,995,608	281,291	3,276,899
Additions	139,121	36,426	175,547
At 31 August 2023	3,134,729	317,717	3,452,446
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2022	530,347	185,198	715,545
Charge for the year	50,423	30,781	81,204
At 31 August 2023	580,770	215,979	796,749
Net book value			
At 31 August 2023	2,553,959	101,738	2,655,697
At 31 August 2022	2,465,261	96,093	2,561,354

14 Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade debtors	200	40
VAT recoverable	17,773	23,494
Prepayments and accrued income	93,815	180,444
	111,788	203,978

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023 £	2022 £
Trade creditors	69,376	131,780
Other taxation and social security	43,126	43,246
Other creditors	53,474	53,207
Accruals and deferred income	135,097	120,284
	301,073	348,517

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16 Deferred income

	2023 £	2022 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	77,280	74,413
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	74,413	57,837
Released from previous years	(74,413)	(57,837)
Resources deferred in the year	77,280	74,413
Deferred income at 31 August 2023	77,280	74,413

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for UIFSM of £42,763 (2022 - £35,393), for school trips of £2,550 (2022 - £5,930), for rates relief of £Nil (2022 - £5,316) and other funding received in advance of £31,967 (2022 - £27,774).

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	151,309	2,699,883	(2,557,538)	(189,529)	104,125
UIFSM	-	69,830	(69,830)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	245,103	(245,103)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	270,227	(270,227)	-	-
Other government grants	-	314,787	(314,787)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	6,060	(6,060)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	(87,000)	212,000	125,000
	151,309	3,605,890	(3,550,545)	22,471	229,125
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	308,540	436,668	(652,982)	13,982	106,208
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,561,354	-	(81,204)	175,547	2,655,697
	2,869,894	436,668	(734,186)	189,529	2,761,905
Total restricted funds	3,021,203	4,042,558	(4,284,731)	212,000	2,991,030
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	306,386	239,184	(87,379)	-	458,191
School fund	10,505	64,872	(57,774)	-	17,603
	316,891	304,056	(145,153)	-	475,794
Total funds	3,338,094	4,346,614	(4,429,884)	212,000	3,466,824

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17 Funds

(Continued)

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

Restricted fixed asset fund

The devolved capital formula grant has to be spent on capital expenditure within three years of allocation. The capital maintenance grant is for a specific capital projects.

The capital funding donation from the Local Authority School is to be spent on capital projects with no time restrictions.

The expenditure capitalised as fixed assets represents the net book value of fixed assets expended.

The leasehold property represents the net book value of the leasehold property and improvements to the property.

Restricted general fund

The restricted grant income in the period all relates to the provision of education for the children attending the academy.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward.

The pension provision equates to the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme FRS102 valuation.

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.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

17 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	93,766	2,645,940	(2,429,594)	(158,803)	151,309
UIFSM	-	59,645	(59,645)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	223,193	(223,193)	-	-
Teachers pension grants	-	6,909	(6,909)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	2,445	(2,445)	-	-
PE and sports premium	-	21,420	(21,420)	-	-
Rates	-	9,114	(9,114)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	81,305	(81,305)	-	-
Other government grants	-	305,005	(305,005)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	16,374	(16,374)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,449,000)	-	(358,000)	1,807,000	-
	<u>(1,355,234)</u>	<u>3,371,350</u>	<u>(3,513,004)</u>	<u>1,648,197</u>	<u>151,309</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	92,238	542,174	(392,850)	66,978	308,540
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,564,848	-	(95,319)	91,825	2,561,354
	<u>2,657,086</u>	<u>542,174</u>	<u>(488,169)</u>	<u>158,803</u>	<u>2,869,894</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,301,852</u>	<u>3,913,524</u>	<u>(4,001,173)</u>	<u>1,807,000</u>	<u>3,021,203</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	277,970	107,528	(79,112)	-	306,386
School fund	12,992	56,611	(59,098)	-	10,505
	<u>290,962</u>	<u>164,139</u>	<u>(138,210)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>316,891</u>
Total funds	<u>1,592,814</u>	<u>4,077,663</u>	<u>(4,139,383)</u>	<u>1,807,000</u>	<u>3,338,094</u>

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,655,697	2,655,697
Current assets	475,794	405,198	106,208	987,200
Current liabilities	-	(301,073)	-	(301,073)
Pension scheme asset	-	125,000	-	125,000
Total net assets	475,794	229,125	2,761,905	3,466,824
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,561,354	2,561,354
Current assets	320,908	495,809	308,540	1,125,257
Current liabilities	(4,017)	(344,500)	-	(348,517)
Total net assets	316,891	151,309	2,869,894	3,338,094

19 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 Cambridgeshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. 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 £53,474 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022: £52,843) and are included within creditors.

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 academy trusts. 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.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 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 latest actuarial TPS valuation results, as at 31 March 2020, were released in October 2023. The revised employer contribution rate, arising from this valuation, is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £323,448 (2022 - £306,142).

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 20% for employers and 5.5% to 9.9% for employees.

The estimated value of employer contributions for the forthcoming year is £163,000.

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 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Total contributions made	2023 £	2022 £
Employer's contributions	173,000	146,000
Employees' contributions	54,000	45,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	227,000	191,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2023 %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.50	3.55
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.00	3.05
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20	4.25

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	22.3	22.0
- Females	24.1	24.2
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	20.7	22.9
- Females	25.3	26.0

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

	2023 £	2022 £
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	275,000	315,000
0.5% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	10,000	15,000
0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	270,000	305,000

Defined benefit pension scheme net asset

	2023 £	2022 £
Scheme assets	2,747,000	2,780,000
Scheme obligations	(2,622,000)	(2,780,000)
Net asset	125,000	-

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

	2023 Fair value £	2022 Fair value £
Equities	2,034,560	2,105,600
Bonds	635,800	391,040
Property	476,850	481,280
Other assets	31,790	30,080
Asset ceiling adjustment	(432,000)	(228,000)
Total market value of assets	2,747,000	2,780,000

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The actual return on scheme assets was £(30,000) (2022: £(255,000)).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2023 £	2022 £
Current service cost	268,000	478,000
Interest income	(132,000)	(49,000)
Interest cost	124,000	75,000
Total operating charge	260,000	504,000

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September 2022	2,780,000	4,327,000
Current service cost	268,000	478,000
Interest cost	124,000	75,000
Employee contributions	54,000	45,000
Actuarial gain	(578,000)	(2,111,000)
Benefits paid	(26,000)	(34,000)
At 31 August 2023	2,622,000	2,780,000

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2023 £	2022 £
At 1 September 2022	2,780,000	2,878,000
Interest income	132,000	49,000
Actuarial loss	(162,000)	(304,000)
Employer contributions	173,000	146,000
Employee contributions	54,000	45,000
Benefits paid	(26,000)	(34,000)
At 31 August 2023	2,951,000	2,780,000

The actuarial valuation prepared under FRS102 in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme indicated that the Trust's share of the scheme was in surplus as at the year end to the value of £557,000 (2022 - £228,000). The actuaries have undertaken an asset ceiling calculation which, on the basis that a minimum funding requirement does exist, indicates that only £125,000 of that surplus is likely to result in either a refund of contributions or a reduction in future contributions in the future. Therefore an asset of £125,000 (2022 - £nil) has been recognised in these accounts.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

	Notes	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(83,270)	(61,720)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(436,668)	(542,174)
Investment income receivable	6	(1,636)	(704)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	19	95,000	332,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance (income)/cost	19	(8,000)	26,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		81,204	84,523
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	10,796
Decrease in debtors		92,190	351,557
(Decrease) in creditors		(47,444)	(291,910)
Net cash used in operating activities		(308,624)	(91,632)

21 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2023 £
Cash	921,279	(45,867)	875,412

22 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

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

	2023 £	2022 £
Amounts due within one year	8,221	5,425
Amounts due in two and five years	26,242	23,458
Amounts due after five years	26,912	32,676
	61,375	61,559

23 Capital commitments

	2023 £	2022 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	7,856	702,131

At the balance sheet date the Academy was committed to spend the above amount on a capital project.

ALDERMAN JACOBS SCHOOL

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

24 Related party transactions

Some of the governors have children who are pupils at the academy, consequently there will be transactions between those governors and the academy in respect of their children's education. These are on the same basis as other pupils at the academy.

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

During the year, landscaping work was carried out by Your Garden Matters, a business connected to C Carlisle, the Headteacher. This work was charged to the Academy at a cost price basis, totalling £9,948 (2022 - £250).

The following governors have family members who were employees at the academy during the year:

Governor	Relationship	Name	Job title
Mr J Combes	Wife	Mrs S Combes	Teacher

These contracts are on the same basis as other comparable employees at the academy.

25 Post balance sheet events

As described in the Trustees' Report, the school was transferred to Soke Education Trust on 1 September 2023 and this company therefore ceased its activity. Following the end of the period the trustees will consider applying to Companies House to have the company struck off the Register.

26 Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he 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.