Company Registration Number: 11474011 (England & Wales)

#### PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Governors' report	3 - 12
Governance statement	13 - 16
Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance	17
Statement of governors' responsibilities	18
Independent auditors' report on the financial statements	19 - 22
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	23 - 24
Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account	25
Balance sheet	26
Statement of cash flows	27
Notes to the financial statements	28 - 60

#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

#### Members

P Carey

C Herron

H Herron

C Wheatley

#### Governors

K Steven, Chair

A McCulloch, Vice Chair & Chair of Finance and Audit Committee

M Colley, Chair of Trust Improvement Committee

J Armstrong, Chief Executive and Accounting Officer

J Irvine

W Khan (appointed 29 January 2024)

J Kirkbride

P Leadbitter (appointed 1 May 2024)

P Newson

#### Company registered number

11474011

#### Company name

Prince Regent Street Trust

#### Principal and registered office

Hartburn Primary School Adelaide Grove Stockton-On-Tees TS18 5BS

#### Company secretary

R Powner

#### Senior management team

J Armstrong, Chief Executive Officer & Accounting Officer

R Powner, Chief Finance & Operations Officer

K Morrison, Director of School Improvement

C Park, Head Teacher, Hartburn Primary School

R Birtwhistle, Head Teacher, Village Primary School (left 31st October 2023)

S Hawes, Head Teacher, Wolviston Primary School

C Taylor, Head Teacher, Barley Fields Primary

S Davies, Head Teacher, Village Primary School (started 1st November 2023)

A Mitchinson, Head Teacher, Kader Academy (joined the trust on 1st May 2024)

#### PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Independent auditors

Clive Owen LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
140 Coniscliffe Road
Darlington
County Durham
DL3 7QP

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank Plc 83/85 Linthorpe Road Middlesbrough TS1 5BU

#### Solicitors

Stone King LLP Upper Borough Court Bath BA1 1RG

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Governors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Governors' report and a directors' report under company law.

The Academy Trust operates academies for pupils aged 2 to 11 serving catchment areas in Stockton and Middlesbrough. It has a pupil capacity of 1,890 and had a roll of 1,839 in the school census on October 2024.

#### 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 Governors of Prince Regent Street Trust are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Prince Regent Street Trust.

Details of the Governors who served during the, 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

The Academy Trust has purchased insurance RPA to protect Directors from claims arising against negligent acts, error or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. Further details are provided in note 13.

#### Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

The original members of the Academy Trust, as named in the incorporation documents are the signatories to the funding agreement between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State. The Members appoint a minimum of 9 Trustees including the CEO. The Secretary of State may, in special circumstances appoint such additional Trustees as they feel fit. To date there have been no such additions. Future Trustees shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these articles, the total number of Trustees who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee may be re-appointed or re-elected.

#### Policies and Procedures adopted for the Induction and Training of Governors

We recognise the positive contribution that Governors can make to our organization when they have the commitment, training and are given opportunity to do so. We therefore aim to attract and retain Governors who have the experience, skills and desire to make a difference to their local community. The induction and training of new Governors will be managed by the Chair of the Board of Governors. Training will be purchased from Governor services at Stockton Borough Council, membership of the National Governors Association. Bespoke in-house training will also be delivered by the Director of School Improvement as well as external providers.

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

#### Organisational structure

On 1 October 2018, on conversion to MAT status, the Board of Governors was established. It was decided that each school will also have a Local Governing Body (LGB). A LGB has been established at Hartburn Primary School, Village Primary School, Wolviston Primary School, Barley Fields Primary School and Kader Primary School.

In addition to these LGBs, the Governors can form separate sub committees and challenge groups to consider academic progress, resources, health and safety, audit, finance and resources, discipline and appeals. The committee terms of reference are set out in our Governance Handbook, and scheme of delegation and reviewed annually. The annual budget is submitted to the Board of Governors for approval, prior to submission to the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), and the Board of Governors also receives regular reports on Academy Trust spend via the Finance and Resources Committee.

Day to day responsibility for operating the Academy Trust has been delegated to the CEO who manages the Academy Trust and implements policies approved by the Governors. The CEO fulfils the role of Accounting Officer and their responsibilities, together with other additional delegated authorities including:

#### Staffing

Chair of the Executive Head Teacher Board

#### Finance

- Responsible for the line management of all central services including the management of the Chief Finance and Operations Officer.
- ° Ensure compliance with the requirements of the Master Funding Agreement and Supplement Funding

#### · Agreements of the academy trust.

- As the Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust, be personally responsible for the propriety and regularity of the public finances within the Academy Trust.
- Ensure compliance with the Academy Trust Scheme of Delegation.

#### Risk Management

- Risk management has been incorporated into the agenda for the Finance and Audit committee.
- Executive Head Teacher (EHT) meetings are timetabled to update and identify the risk / potential risk against a probability scale and identify preventative and resilience measures. Risks to the Academy Trust have been identified in the Trust risk register with appropriate actions identified to limit impact to the organisation.

#### Engagement with other stakeholders

- To promote the ethos and vision of the Prince Regent Street Trust and to present it to a wide range of audiences.
- Be the main point of contact for the Local Authority, ESFA and other key bodies in respect of all aspects of the Academy Trust.

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

The pay and remuneration of the CEO/Executive team is decided by the Board of Governors. The Academy Trust has delegated responsibility to Local Governing Bodies for other teachers and non-teaching staff having regard to the national framework and School Teacher's Pay and Conditions Document, taking into account the extent to which they have achieved their appraisal targets and objectives.

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

#### Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

All Members and Governors are required to declare any business interests that may impact on the Academy Trust. Details of transactions with Related Parties during the reporting period are in note 28 to the Financial Statements.

Member C Wheatley is CEO of Flying High Trust in Nottingham and does provide termly coaching sessions to the CEO and central team. This has been declared to the ESFA. Annual amount is below the £2,500 threshold.

#### Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

Lifts, ramps and disabled toilets are installed and door widths are adequate to enable wheelchair access to all main areas of the Academy Trust. The policy of the Academy Trust is to support recruitment and retention of students and employees with disabilities. The Academy Trust does this by adapting the physical environment by making support resources available and through training and career development.

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

The Prince Regent Street Trust is fundamentally one of sustainable school improvement. All schools are good and outstanding, yet are very different in so many ways. We feel that having such a variety of different sizes and school make ups will enhance our capacity to support and develop other schools joining the Academy Trust. We have a very successful primary ethos, which enables all children to maximise their potential. We strongly believe that every child has the right to the highest quality education. Successful schools and their leaders hold the responsibility to work alongside other schools to support improvement. Leaders have a collective responsibility for improving the whole system for mutual benefit. The Prince Regent Street Trust is committed to highly effective working partnerships with school leaders, colleagues, parents and all other stakeholders.

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of Prince Regent Street Trust is to provide education for students of primary school age.

In accordance with the articles of association the charitable company has adopted a 'Scheme of Government' approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Government specified, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the academy trust, the catchment area from which the students are drawn, and that the curriculums should comply with the substance of the national curriculum.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

The Academy Trust's main objectives are encompassed in its improvement strategy and commitment which is outlined below including the end objectives and the strategies used to achieve them.

At the heart of our school improvement strategy is a commitment to working in partnership with all our schools, and to support all schools in being self-improving, and to achieve a school-led system in order to promote and secure:

We have a proven track record of sustained school improvement.

- At least good levels of achievement for all children with many children achieving outstanding outcomes.
- High quality teaching.
- Effective leadership and governance in all schools.
- Access to high quality professional development for staff enabling sustained and continual improvement
  and developing a workforce in line with future succession planning needs and talent management policies.
- Opportunities for the identification and dissemination of effective practice and engagement in research and development including teacher inquiry.
- · Safe schools with fair access.

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Objectives and Activities (continued)

Affordability and value for money

#### **Objectives and Aims**

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of Prince Regent Street Trust to provide education for students of different abilities between the ages of 2 and 11.

In accordance with the articles of association the charitable company has adopted a `Scheme of Government' approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Government specified, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the Academy Trust, the catchment area from which the students are drawn, and that the curriculums should comply with the substance of the national curriculum.

The main objectives of the Academy Trust during the year ended 31 August 2024 are as summarised below:

#### 1. Progress and Attainment

- To regularly scrutinise all school data of all core subjects especially for those from disadvantaged backgrounds in order that clear improvements across all subjects are being made (L. Pollard also feeds back to Board of Governors as Trust Data Analyst).
- To analyse Academy Trust level data and share with the Board of Governors at Trust Improvement committee.
- To continue to review all Safeguarding standards in line with any changes to policy in order that they are exemplary across all schools.

#### 2. Collaboration

- To expand the remit of the Academy Trust working parties feeding back to the Head Teacher Board and Governors regularly.
- To continuously look for development opportunities for Trust wide CPD.
- 3.. Financial stability and operational strength through:
  - To Comply with the Master Funding Agreement and Financial Handbook.
  - To mitigate any areas of risk and update risk register.

#### 4. Leadership and Governance

- To further embed the roles and responsibilities of Governors through board meeting discussions/decisions.
- With a focus on Academy Trust accountability and a review of the Strategic Business plan.
- To offer further CPD for Board Members in line with NGA guidance/ courses.

#### 5. MAT stability and future growth

- To update Academy Trust Growth plan.
- To continue with established CEO networks both locally and nationally.
- To continue the development of relationships with both local and national Multi Academy Trusts.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities

The Academy Trust's main objectives are encompassed in its core ethos, vision and values. To this end the objectives and the strategies used to achieve them include the following extracted from School Development plans

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Objectives and Activities (continued)**

Barley Fields	Hartburn	Kader	Village	Wolviston
Priority 1: Quality First Teaching	Priority 1: Staffing changes	Priority 1: Writing	Priority 1: Writing Development	Priority 1: Teaching & Learning
To further develop teaching &	Strive to ensure that the quality	To improve the grammatical	Further development of the writing	Improve and maintain high standards
learning including focus on	of provision is highly effective	accuracy of pupils' writing	curriculum following the implementation	of teaching and learning across the
developing adaptive teaching	and that standards across the	(particularly B1 & E2 pupils)	of a phased teaching & learning process.	school with a focus on inclusive &
strategies, ensuring staff have good	school are maintained.		Facilitating greater opportunities for	adaptive teaching strategies, retrieval
subject & pedagogical		Priority 2: SEND	teacher ownership of the curriculum and	of prior learning, embedding AFL
understanding.	Priority 2: Inclusion	To develop the Kader	children's choice. Introduction of a	opportunities.
	To develop & strengthen	inclusion model for all	revised spelling scheme to promote	
Priority 2: Development of the	provision for every child to	children, maximizing life-	increased outcomes and independence.	Priority 2: Writing
wider curriculum	reach their full potential.	long success for all pupils.		Continue to raise standards in writing
To continually refine & strengthen the	l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l l	lang social in popul	Priority 2: Phonics	by enhancing teaching strategies with
bespoke curriculum to ensure a	Priority 3: Oracy	Priority 3: Curriculum	Review of Early Reading & Phonics	a focus on implementing aspects of
progressive, rigorous & cohesive	To develop effective	Development: PE	curriculum is a priority for EYFS & KS1.	Talk for Writing in KS1 & EY. Greater
offer which supports children's	communication skills for the	To deliver a bespoke PE		
learning. Particular focus on	DA COMMISSION CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR OF TH	Tel all to We water	Update of the use of 'Floppy Phonics'	consistency in implementing Alan
	here and now and in readiness	curriculum that is ambitious	programme. Review and monitor	Peat's sentence level work in KS2.
Science, PE , RE & embed	for later life.	and meaningful. It is	teaching of phonics and further develop	Enhancing the quality of handwriting
assessment systems for foundation		sequenced and progressive	staff expertise in the programme.	in upper KS2.
subjects.	Priority 4: Wraparound	to allow every child to make	Targeted intervention for children who do	Incom-matrix No. 1000 - 1000 - 1000
	Childcare	progress, providing a	not meet end points. Effective monitoring	Priority 3: Strengthen the
Priority 3: Quality of Education:	To respond to stakeholder	gateway into the world of	by SLT to ensure improved outcomes for	curriculum; focusing on Science,
Reading Continued aim to ensure	feedback to extend the school	sport and physical activity.	children.	RE & PE
rigor, progression & consistency in	offer to support working	1		PE: to continue to upskill staff in the
the teaching of reading across the	families.	Priority 4: Staff	Priority 3: Behaviour	delivery of the PE curriculum.
school. To ensure our children enjoy		Development & working	As a consequence of a changing school	Support children's physical
reading. To review assessment	Priority 5: Writing	relationships	dynamic and staff experience, the aim is	development in EY and across the
practices in reading.	To continue to raise and	To build strong relationships	to revise and embed behaviour	school.
	maintain high standards in	across the trust, upskilling	management strategies and procedures.	RE: implement the NATRE RE
Priority 4: Quality of Education:	writing, incorporating a culture	and inspiring staff whilst	To upskill staff in managing behaviour	curriculum.
Writing	of choice to develop	formulating a new strategic	effectively, to promote an atmosphere of	Science: Enhance the curriculum by
Continued aim to ensure rigor,	independent writers.	vision as a four-member	positivity.	creating partnerships with local
progression & consistency in the		senior leadership team.		industry.
teaching of writing across the school.	Priority 6: Embedding the		Priority 4: Support & inclusion for	
Focus on the effective	curriculum		children with SEND	Priority 4: Enhance the current
implementation of our revised writing	Continue to develop quality first		Increasing numbers of SEND children in	wraparound care provision
composition scheme, providing	teaching & subject leadership		school, many with multiple & complex	Enhance the wraparound care
children with a range of genres,	to ensure a culture of choice:		needs including behaviour. To upskill	provision by extending hours,
giving children opportunities to write	teachers facilitate opportunities		staff to meet SEND needs effectively	upgrading facilities and enriching
in a range of genres. Teachers to	to provide challenge and		within the mainstream classroom.	resources to better support children
embed writing assessment skills with	develop greater depth across		Enhance relationships with Parents of	and families.
effective support to engage in joint	school.		Children with SEND needs.	
moderation.				Priority 5: Mathematics & Reading
			Priority 5: Teaching & Learning in	Maths: maintain high quality teaching
Priority 5: Quality of Education:			KS1:	& learning and enhance the
Mathematics			To review the pedagogical approaches to	curriculum offer by providing
Continued priority to ensure rigor,			teaching & learning in KS1.	additional learning experiences for
progression & consistency in the			Amendments to the organization of the	specific year groups.
teaching of Mathematics across the			environment and the structured	Reading: support children's post-
school. Focus on small step teaching			introduction of continuous provision. To	phonics reading journey through
approach which has been adopted.			improve outcomes and learning	additional books that support the
Embedding of quality first teaching			behaviours and narrow gaps in	transition from phonics to the school's
strategies to ensure children continue			attainment.	reading scheme.
to make excellent progress as they				
move through the school.				

The activities undertaken to achieve these objectives are all intended to provide the highest quality of education in the public sector for students.

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Objectives and Activities (continued)**

#### **Public Benefit**

The Academy Trust's aims and achievements are set out within this report and have been undertaken to further its charitable purposes for the public benefit. The Trustees have complied with the duty under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charity Commission for England and Wales and the Trustees have considered this guidance in deciding what activities the academy trust should undertake.

#### Strategic Report

#### Achievements and performance

Foundation Stage	Hartburn	Village	Wolviston	Barley Fields	Kader	National
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
%GLD	79%	73%	67%	72%	64%	67%
Phonics	Hartburn	Village	Wolviston	Barley Fields	Kader	National
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
% Y1 Pass	88%	33%	100%	88%	90%	79%
KS1	Hartburn	Village	Wolviston	Barley Fields	Kader	National
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
% Reading EXP+	88%	76%	87%	84%	78%	68%
% Reading GD	41%	32%	27%	30%	20%	19%
% Writing EXP+	83%	60%	80%	79%	63%	60%
%Writing GD	30%	20%	20%	21%	12%	8%
% Maths EXP+	84%	76%	80%	89%	65%	70%
%Maths GD	46%	28%	20%	29%	13%	16%
Combined RWM EXP+	78%	60%	66%	73%	52%	53%
Science EX+	91%	92%	100%	90%	85%	79%
Y4 Multiplication Che	Hartburn	Village	Wolviston	Barley Fields	Kader	National
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
% 25/25	69%	90%	50%	72%	48%	29%
Average Score	24.3	24.8	23.4	24.0	22.5	20.5
KS2	Hartburn	Village	Wolviston	Barley Fields	Kader	National
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
% Reading EXP+	87%	82%	92%	85%	85%	74% (2024)
% Reading GD	30%	44%	33%	35%	35%	29%
% TA Writing EXP+	92%	70%	92%	93%	85%	72% (2024)
% TA Writing GD	29%	4%	17%	28%	30%	13%
% Maths EXP+	87%	74%	92%	86%	87%	73% (2024)
% Maths GD	35%	26%	25%	28%	48%	24%
%SPaG EXP+	92%	70%	67%	91%	73%	72% (2024)
% SPaG GD	40%	37%	50%	46%	45%	30%
Combined RWM EXP+	79%	56%	92%	76%	78%	61% (2024)
Combined RWM GD	17%	4%	17%	11%	15%	8%
Science EXP+	91%	82%	92%	93%	90%	81% (2024)

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Strategic Report (continued)

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

This year there are no progress measures due to there being no KS1 data for this year's Y6. We have included KS1 data for Y2s as good practice even though it is no longer statutory.

#### **Key Performance Indicators**

**Key Performance Indicators** 

	2023/24 Actual	2024/25 Budget	2025/26 Budget	2026/27 Budget
Staff Costs as a Proportion of Revenue Expenditure	77%	76%	77%	78%
Staff Costs as a Proportion of Revenue Income	77%	74%	75%	77%
Average Annual FTE Teaching	79.5	91.3	89.8	92.8
Average Annual FTE Non-Teaching	74.5	85.5	86.5	86.2
Average Annual FTE	154.0	176.8	176.3	179.0
Funded Pupil Numbers	1919	1858	1850	1902
Pupil Teacher Ratio	23.37	20.27	21.18	20.84
Pupil Adult Ratio	12.06	10.46	10.79	10.80
Average Teacher Cost (£)	65,115	69,940	73,008	75,305
Teaching Costs as Proportion of DfF Revenue Grants	62%	62%	65%	67%
Teaching Costs as Proportion of Revenue Income	49%	49%	49%	51%
Leadership Costs as Proportion of DfF Revenue Grants	8%	8%	8%	8%
Leadership Costs as Proportion of Revenue Income	6%	6%	6%	6%
Surplus / (Deficit) as Proportion of Total Income	-1%	2%	2%	1%
Cumulative Reserves as a Proportion of Total Income	1%	4%	6%	6%

#### **Going Concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Governors has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies. During the year the, the academy trust incurred an overall deficit on unrestricted funds of £128,000, resulting in the academy trust having cumulative unrestrictive funds of £78,000. The budget for 31 August 2025 shows that the trust can meet its liabilities as they fall. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Strategic Report (continued)

#### Financial review

Most of the Academy Trust's income is obtained from the Department of Education (DfE) via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE/ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy Trust also received grants for fixed assets from the DfE/ESFA. In accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS102), such grants are shown under 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.

During the year ended 31 August 2024 total recurrent grant funding from the DfE/ESFA together with other incoming resources exceeded total expenditure by £1,678,000. The excess of expenditure over income for the year (before transfers, LGPS adjustments, and excluding restricted fixed asset funds) was £128,000.

All of the expenditure shown in the statement of financial activities is in furtherance of the Academy Trust's objectives.

At 31 August 2024 the net book value of fixed assets was £19,811,000 and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 14 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the Academy Trust.

The Academy Trust held fund balances as at 31 August 2024 of £19,704,000 comprising of £Nil restricted general funds, £19,626,000 of restricted fixed asset funds, a pension deficit of £Nil and £78,000 of unrestricted funds.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Academy Trust holds restricted and unrestricted funds (the attached financial statements detail these funds). The level of reserves is reviewed by the Governors regularly throughout the year. The minimum level of reserves for the ongoing needs of the academy trust is reviewed by the Governors on an annual basis. The Governors consider it prudent to hold unrestricted reserves in the general fund in the form of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) of a minimum of 5% of the Trust's general annual grant (GAG) and a maximum limit of 20% of the Trust's total income.

The Academy Trust's level of free reserves (unrestricted and restricted funds excluding pension reserve and restricted fixed assets) as at 31 August 2024 is not sufficient to meet the Reserves Policy and Governors continue to monitor the situation.

As the academy trust continues to grow the reserves policy will continue to be monitored and reviewed.

#### **Investment Policy**

The Academy Trust invests surplus funds through money market accounts. Interest rates are reviewed prior to each investment. This policy maximises investment return whilst minimising risks to the principal sum.

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The principal risks and uncertainties are centered on changes in the level of funding from DfE/ESFA. In addition, the Academy Trust is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which results in the recognition of a significant deficit on the Academy Trust Balance Sheet.

The Governors have assessed the major risks, to which the Academy Trust is exposed, in particular those relating specifically to teaching provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy Trust, and its finances. The Governors have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the school faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school visits) and in relation to the control of finance. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Academy Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement.

The Academy Trust manages it's estate closely to ensure that it is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations. There is a rolling five-year maintenance plan which is reviewed regularly by the executive team and reported to Governors. The Academy Trust applies annually for Condition Improvement Fund to address significant areas of need.

The Academy Trust has fully implemented the requirements of the Safe Recruitment procedures and all staff have received training in this area in addition to training on Child Protection.

The Academy Trust is subject to a number of risks and uncertainties in common with other academies. The Academy trust has in place procedures to identify and mitigate financial risks.

The Academy Trust and each school within it have in place a risk register with the main items of risk being reviewed at LGB and trust board meeting.

The Academy Trust has in place a risk management strategy and risk register. The CEO and Financial Director have lead responsibility for the risk management processes and Risk Register. The Risk Register is formally reviewed each term by the CEO and FD. The principal risks are as follows:

#### Section 1: Sustainability

- Lack of funding results in unsustainable Academy operation (national funding, numbers on roll, pension deficit, pupil numbers, inflation etc.)
- Critical Incidents
- Overall performance results

#### Section 2: Governance

- Reputational
- Succession Planning
- Finance
- Fraud & Data Security
- Employment laws risk; including pensions
- · Health & Safety risk
- Facilities and adequacy of investment
- Governance structure and skills of Board/LGB

#### Section 3: New Academies

- Reputational
- Distance
- Resource: Team & Finance

#### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

· Contractual exposures

Resource: IT

Resource: Contracts - Catering, cleaning, grounds, facilities etc.

The principal risks and uncertainties are centered on changes in the level of funding from DfE & ESFA. In addition, the Academy Trust is a member of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), which results in the recognition of a significant deficit on the Academy Trust balance sheet.

#### **Fundraising**

All schools within the Academy Trust undertake both fundraising on behalf of other charitable organisations and for school specific purposes. Schools take part in many national charity events including, Red Nose Day and Children in Need and some schools also fundraise throughout the year for nominated charities. All income generated from these days are transferred direct to the individual charities.

As well as fundraising for external charities, most schools have active PTA organisations or "Friends of" organisations who actively fundraise through school based events. Money received for these events is managed by the individual organisations and schools apply to the independent organisations for contributions to specific school equipment or events to enhance the curriculum or children's learning experience in schools.

The Academy Trust is particularly aware of the need to protect vulnerable individuals in any fundraising we undertake. During the course of this accounting period, we received no complaints relating to our fundraising activities.

#### **Plans for Future Periods**

The priority for the Academy Trust in 2024/2025 is to continue to expand the Academy Trust, adding at least one new school and starting procedures to add at least one other additional School.

We also remain committed to our core values and purposes which are:

- to continue to improve levels of achievement for all students in line with our vision.
- that all children reach their full potential (specific KPI's exist in the strategic plan)
- Ongoing commitment to effective and sustainable school improvement to provide a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To prioritise the development of English and Mathematics skills in order to give our children the best chance
  of succeeding in life.

#### Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company directors, on 11 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

K Stever Chair Kay Steven

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### Scope of responsibility

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

As Governors, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, 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 Prince Regent Street Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Governors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' report and in the Statement of governors' responsibilities. The Board of Governors has formally met 4 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Governors was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
K Steven, Chair	4	4
J Armstrong, CEO and Accounting Officer	4	4
J Irvine, Vice Chair	3	4
J Kirkbride	3	4
M Colley, Chair of Trust Improvement Committee	2	4
A McCulloch, Chair of Finance and Audit Committee	2	4
P Newson	2	4
P Leadbitter (appointed 1 May 2024)	1	2
W Khan (appointed 29 January 2024)	0	3

Prince Regent Street Trust manages conflicts of interest by requesting declarations of interest from all Governors and SLT personnel at the beginning of the Academic year. Declaration of interests is also a standing agenda item at each governance meeting and all Members are fully aware of the requirement to be transparent and open about any possible conflicts. Prince Regent Street Trust does not have ownership or control of any subsidiaries, joint ventures or associates.

#### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### Governance (continued)

The Finance and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors.

During the year P Leadbitter joined the committee. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

The Finance and Audit Committee:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A McCulloch (Chair)	3	3
J Armstrong (CEO & Accounting Officer)	3	3
P Newson	3	3
K Steven (Trust Chair)	1	1
J Irvine (Trust Vice Chair)	1	3
P Leadbitter	1	1

The Trust Improvement Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Colley (Chair of Improvement Committee)	3	3
K Steven (Trust Chair)	3	3
J Armstrong (CEO & Accounting Officer)	3	3
J Irvine (Trust Vice Chair)	1	3
A McCulloch (Chair of Finance & Audit	1	1
Committee)		
P Leadbitter	1	1
J Kirkbride	0	1

#### Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, 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 Governors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Procured via tender new Internal Assurance services, looking at a broad range of financial and operational areas within the Trust
- Invested in an outdoor provision within the EYFS area of one of the Schools enhancing their curriculum offer
- Utilised TCAF funding to implement a universal payment management and parental communications platform across the Trust
- Added capacity to the central team by adding a Finance Manager into the structure from a joining SAT

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an 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. Also to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Prince Regent Street Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board of Governors 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 Governors is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks which has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Governors.

#### 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 Governors
- regular reviews by the Finance and Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Governors has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Veritau.

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

- Website reviews
- Review of Register of Pecuniary Interests
- · Contracts register
- Budgetary control
- Risk register
- Governance

On a termly basis, the auditor reports to the Board of Governors through the Finance and Audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Governors financial responsibilities. On an annual basis the auditor prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### **Review of effectiveness**

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

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

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

#### Conclusion

Based on the advice of the Finance and Audit Committee and the Accounting Officer, the board of Governors is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Governors on 11 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

K Steven Kan Steven

J Armstrong Accounting Officer

aarmstons.

#### STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Prince Regent Street Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Governors and the Education & 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 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Governors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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 Governors and ESFA.

J Armstrong Accounting Officer Date: 11 December 2024

Allemstong.

#### STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently:
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Governors on 11 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

K Steven Chair

Kan Steven

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Prince Regent Street Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

#### Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

#### PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Governors are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Governors' report including the Strategic report.

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

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

#### Responsibilities of Governors

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Governors 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 Governors either intend to liquidate the Academy Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST (CONTINUED)

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

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

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

We undertake the following procedures to identify and respond to these risks of non-compliance:

- Understanding the key legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Trust. We communicated
  identified laws and regulations throughout the audit team and remained alert to any indications of
  noncompliance throughout the audit. We determined the most significant of these to be the regulations set
  out by the DfE/ESFA. Our audit focuses on financial matters as set out in our regularity opinion. Other key
  laws and regulations included safeguarding, Health & Safety, GDPR and employment law
- Enquiry of trustees and management as to policies and procedures to ensure compliance and any known instances of non-compliance
- Review of board minutes and correspondence with regulators
- Enquiry of trustees and management as to areas of the financial statements susceptible to fraud and how these risks are managed
- Challenging management on key estimates, assumptions and judgements made in the preparation of the financial statements. These key areas of uncertainty are disclosed in the accounting policies
- Identifying and testing unusual journal entries, with a particular focus on manual journal entries.

Through these procedures, we did not become aware of actual or suspected non-compliance.

We planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards but owing to the inherent limitations of procedures required in these areas, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected a material misstatement in the accounts. The further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve concealment, collusion, forgery, misrepresentations, or override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <a href="https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities">www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities</a>. This description forms part of our Auditors' report.

### INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST (CONTINUED)

#### Use of our report

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

Kevin Shotton BA BFP FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of Clive Owen LLP Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors

Chie Oun U.

140 Coniscliffe Road Darlington County Durham DL3 7QP

Date: 11/12/24

#### PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 September 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Prince Regent Street Trust during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 Prince Regent Street Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Prince Regent Street Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Prince Regent Street Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

### Respective responsibilities of Prince Regent Street Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Prince Regent Street Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 26 September 2018 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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.

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of Board of Trustees and committee minutes:
- Review of termly Internal Assurance reports;
- Completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer;
- Review documentation provided to Trustees and Accounting Officer setting out responsibilities;
- Obtain formal letters of representation detailing the responsibilities of Directors;
- Review of payroll, purchases and expenses claims on a sample basis;
- Confirmation that the lines of delegation and limits set have been adhered to;
- Evaluation of internal control procedures and reporting lines;
- Review cash payments for unusual transactions;
- Review of credit card transactions;
- Review of registers of interests;
- Review related party transactions;
- · Review of borrowing agreements;
- · Review of land and building transactions;
- · Review of potential and actual bad debts:
- Review an instance of gifts/hospitality to ensure in line with policy;
- · Review whistleblowing procedures;
- · Review pay policy and factors determining executive pay;
- Review of staff expenses;
- Review other income to ensure is in line with funding agreement;
- · Review governance structure and number of meetings held; and
- Review whether there is a risk register in place.

#### Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Clive Owen LLP

Reporting Accountant

Che Oven (1)

140 Coniscliffe Road Darlington County Durham DL3 7QP

Date: 11/12/24

# STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £000	Restricted funds 2024 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
In a sure of the man	14010	2000	2000	2000	2000	2000
Income from:  Donations and capital grants:  Transfer from	3					
existing academy  Donations and		123	-	2,372	2,495	8,096
capital grants		10	-	30	40	91
Other trading activities		150	_	-	150	99
Investments	6	8	29	-	37	-
Charitable activities		381	9,567	-	9,948	6,680
Total income		672	9,596	2,402	12,670	14,966
Expenditure on:			0.544			
Charitable activities		800	9,514	805	11,119	8,011
Total expenditure		800	9,514	805	11,119	8,011
Net income/ (expenditure)		(128)	82	1,597	1,551	6,955
Transfers between funds	18	-	(63)	63	-	-
Net movement in funds before other						
recognised gains/(losses)		(128)	19	1,660	1,551	6,955
Other recognised gains/(losses): Actuarial gains on						
defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	390		390	1,096
Asset ceiling restriction		-	(409)	-	(409)	(524)
Net movement in funds		(128)		1,660	1,532	7,527
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		206	-	17,966	18,172	10,645
Net movement in funds		(128)	-1.1	1,660	1,532	7,527
Total funds carried forward		78	-	19,626	19,704	18,172

# PRINCE REGENT STREET TRUST (A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 11474011

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023
Note		£000		£000
14		19,811	.,	18,086
	_	19,811	_	18,086
15	502		744	
	800		419	
	1,302	1	1,163	
16	(1,245)		(896)	
_		57		267
	<del>-</del>	19,868	_	18,353
17		(164)		(181)
	_	19,704		18,172
	_	19,704	_	18,172
18		19,626		17,966
18		78		206
	_	19,704	_	18,172
	14 15 — 16 — 17	14  15  502  800  1,302  16  (1,245)  17	Note £000  14	Note £000  14

The financial statements on pages 25 to 60 were approved by the Governors, and authorised for issue on 11 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf, by:

K Steven Chair KaynSteven

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £000	2023 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	20	2,881	8,304
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(2,500)	(8,681)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		381	(377)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		419	796
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22, 23	800	419

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic 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 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

#### 1.2 Going concern

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

During the year the, the academy trust incurred an overall deficit on unrestricted funds of £128,000, resulting in the academy trust having cumulative unrestrictive funds of £78,000. The budget for 31 August 2025 shows that the trust can meet its liabilities as they fall due.

#### 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 year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year 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.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.3 Income (continued)

#### Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

#### . Transfer of existing academies into the Academy Trust

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the Academy Trust, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Academy Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the Academy Trust within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets acquired.

#### Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy Trust)

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

#### 1.4 Expenditure

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

#### · Charitable activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets

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. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities and carried forward in the Balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold property - 3% on cost
Long-term leasehold property - 2% on cost
Furniture and equipment - 14% on cost
Computer equipment - 33% on cost

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 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

#### 1.7 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

#### 1.8 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.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.9 Provisions

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

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

#### 1.10 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 16 and 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

#### 1.11 Operating leases

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.12 Pensions

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

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

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

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

#### 1.13 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 Governors.

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

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

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy Trust 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 25, 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. 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.

The original Local Government Pension scheme valuation showed an asset of £1,060,000. That asset valuation is highly dependent on a number of assumptions and does not represent the future value of benefits to the trust. As a result, the Trustees have considered the potential benefits to the trust. On the basis that the future value of employer contributions in respect of future service cost (£385,000) are not expected to materially exceed the employer future service costs (£336,000) combined with the fact that the last Local Government Scheme actuarial review set the contribution rates from 1 April 2024 and that these will not be revised until April 2026 the Trustees have decided to include the pension asset at £Nil.

#### Goodwin

The case related to male spouse or civil partner of a female member is treated in the same way as a same-sex spouse or civil partner. Survivor benefits will be calculated using service from 1 April 1972, or 6 April 1978 if the marriage or civil partnership took place after the last day of pensionable service. This change will apply for deaths in respect of female members which occurred from 5 December 2005, which is the date that same-sex civil partnerships were introduced. This case was brought against the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Actuaries have estimated that the impact of Goodwin indexation to be less than 0.1% of total liabilities. Based on this estimate it would increase liabilities by £7,000 which has been assessed to be immaterial to the financial statements.

Depreciation - Depreciation is calculated so as to write off the cost of an asset, less its residual value, over the economic life of that asset. An estimate of the useful life of assets is detailed in the depreciation accounting policy. The value of depreciation charge during the year was £805,000.

#### Critical areas of judgement:

Land – Land is held under a 125 year lease from Stockton Borough Council and Middlesbrough Borough Council. These assets are included on the balance sheet of the academy due to the significant risks and rewards of ownership belonging to the academy, the lease term being the major part of the economic life of the assets and the assets being of such a specialised nature that only the academy could use them without major modification.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £000	Restricted funds 2024 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
Transfer from existing academy	123	-	2,372	2,495	8,096
Subtotal detailed disclosure	123	-	2,372	2,495	8,096
Donations	10	-	-	10	8
Capital Grants	-	-	30	30	83
Subtotal	10		30	40	91
	133	-	2,402	2,535	8,187
Total 2023	442	(248)	7,993	8,187	

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 4. Funding for the Academy Trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £000	Restricted funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
Academy's educational operations	2000	2000	2000	2000
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	7,226	7,226	5,038
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Pupil Premium	-	365	365	251
PE and Sport Premium	-	83	83	64
UIFSM	-	271	271	163
Rates	-	28	28	15
Teachers' pay grant	-	119	119	3
Teachers' pension grant	-	71	71	10
Other DfE Group grants	-	74	74	35
Supplementary grant	-	-	-	134
Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	-	229	229	87
	-	8,466	8,466	5,800
Other Government grants				
SEN	-	251	251	96
Early Years Funding	-	766	766	480
Local Authority grants	-	16	16	17
Other Government grants	-	1	1	-
	-	1,034	1,034	593
Other income from the Academy Trust's academy's educational operations	381	34	415	263
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	33	33	24
	-	33	33	24
	381	9,567	9,948	6,680
	381	9,567	9,948	6,680
			0.000	
Total 2023	254	6,426	6,680	

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 5. Income from other trading activities

6.

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
Income from facilities and services		51	51	32
Non student catering income		1	1	-
Supply teacher insurance claims		25	25	18
RPA claims		26	26	-
Other income		47	47	49
		150	150	99
Total 2023		99	99	
Investment income				
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2024 £000	2024 £000	2024 £000	2023 £000
	2000	2000	2000	2000
Bank interest	8	-	8	-
Net interest on pension scheme	-	29	29	-
	8	29	37	-

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2024 £000	Premises 2024 £000	Other 2024 £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	6,426	-	698	7,124	5,596
Allocated support costs	1,649	1,176	1,170	3,995	2,415
	8,075	1,176	1,868	11,119	8,011
Total 2023	5,752	923	1,336	8,011	

In 2024 of the total expenditure, £800,000 (2023 : £837,000) was to unrestricted funds and £10,319,000 (2023 : £7,174,000) was to restricted funds.

There were no individual transaction exceeding £5,000 for:

- Compensation payments
- Gifts made by the trust
- · Fixed assets losses
- Stock losses
- Cash losses
- Unrecoverable debts

### 8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £000	Support costs 2024 £000	Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
Academy's educational operations	7,124	3,995	11,119	8,011

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

## Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
Staff costs	6,426	5,027
Educational supplies	279	253
Staff development	22	22
Technology costs	61	50
Educational consultancy	180	160
Staff expenses	5	4
Supply insurance	101	46
Transport	25	11
Other costs	25	23
	7,124	5,596

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

### Analysis of support costs

		Total funds 2024 £000	Total funds 2023 £000
	Net interest on pension scheme	-	15
	Staff costs	1,649	725
	Depreciation	805	616
	Staff development	7	17
	Technology costs	182	87
	Staff expenses	6	7
	Maintenance of premises	87	73
	Cleaning	52	34
	Other premises costs	78	65
	Energy	179	126
	Rent and rates	28	15
	Insurance	41	27
	Operating lease rentals	9	8
	Catering	565	355
	Legal costs - conversion	1	-
	Security	6	3
	Other costs	272	217
	Governance costs	28	25
	Total 2024	3,995	2,415
9.	Net (expenditure)/income		
	Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:		
		2024	2023
		£000	£000
	Operating lease rentals	9	8
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	805	616
	Fees paid to auditors for:		
	- audit	17	13
	- other services	2	2

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 10. Staff

### a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

2024 £000	2023 £000
5,915	4,172
570	391
1,332	1,039
7,817	5,602
258	150
8,075	5,752
	£000 5,915 570 1,332 7,817 258

Included in operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes is a charge of £10,000 (2023 - £171,000) relating to the pension deficit actuarial adjustment.

### b. Staff numbers

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	88	62
Administration and support	171	105
Management	21	7
	280	174

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 10. Staff (continued)

### c. Higher paid staff

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	3	4
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	4	-
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	-	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	1	-

### d. 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 and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £906,000 (2023: £655,000). During the year the academy trust has restructured central services resulting in an increase in the Senior Leadership Team.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 11. Central services

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

- Head Teacher / Trust Leader CPD
- CEO School Improvement Support to Head and School Leaders
- Annual School Improvement external review
- Chief Financial & Operations Officer
- Trust Data & Assessment Analyst
- HR services
- Payroll services
- Governance services
- RPA & Zurich insurance services
- Health & Safety SLA
- Data Protection Officer & GDPR SLA
- Budget & finance system
- Parent Pay income management system
- Audit services (internal, external & Teachers Pension)
- Attendance & Education Welfare SLA
- Website hosting & design services
- EVERY Compliance system
- National Education Group Safeguarding & CPD subscriptions
- Perspective SIP & PM subscription
- Target Tracker Data & assessment manager
- School North East MAT partner

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

Staff time or pupil numbers.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Hartburn Primary School	431	300
Village Primary School	67	77
Wolviston Primary School	14	10
Barley Fields Primary School	246	131
Kader Academy	80	-
Total	838	518

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 12. Governors' remuneration and expenses

One or more Governors has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Governors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Governors' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2024	2023
		£000	£000
J Armstrong, Chief Executive	Remuneration	125 - 130	115 - 120
	Pension contributions paid	30 - 35	25 - 30

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed or paid directly to Governors (2023 - £Nil)

#### 13. Governors' and Officers' insurance

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

#### 14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £000	Long-term leasehold property £000	Furniture and equipment £000	Computer equipment £000	Total £000
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2023	147	17,222	2,544	136	20,049
Additions	-	-	128	30	158
Acquisitions		2,215	61	96	2,372
At 31 August 2024	147	19,437	2,733	262	22,579
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	6	1,040	833	84	1,963
Charge for the year	4	358	382	61	805
At 31 August 2024	10	1,398	1,215	145	2,768
Net book value					
At 31 August 2024	137	18,039	1,518	117	19,811
At 31 August 2023	141	16,182	1,711	52	18,086

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 15. Debtors

		2024 £000	2023 £000
	Due within one year		
	Trade debtors	16	12
	VAT recoverable	57	112
	Prepayments and accrued income	429	620
		502	744
16.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
		2024 £000	2023 £000
	Other loans	17	-
	Trade creditors	260	319
	Other taxation and social security	159	115
	Other creditors	192	127
	Accruals and deferred income	617	335
		1,245	896
		2024 £000	2023 £000
	Deferred income at 1 September 2023	180	104
	Resources deferred during the year	354	180
	Amounts released from previous periods	(180)	(104)
		354	180

At the Balance Sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance relating to UIFSM, Rates, WACC programme and school trip income relating to 2024/25 academic year.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Other loans	164	181

Included in other creditors falling due after more than one year is a CIF loan. This will be repaid from deductions under GAG.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £000
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted Fund	206	672	(800)	-	<u> </u>	78
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)		7,226	(7,163)	(63)	_	
Pupil Premium	-	365	(365)	-	-	_
Other DfE Group grants		876	(876)	_	_	
SEN		251	(251)	-	-	_
Other Government grants		783	(783)			
COVID-19		700	(700)			
funding	-	33	(33)	-	-	-
Other income	-	33	(33)	=	-	-
Pension		20	(10)		(10)	
reserve	-	29	(10)	-	(19)	-
	-	9,596	(9,514)	(63)	(19)	-

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £000
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Legacy assets	16,648	2,372	(621)	-	-	18,399
Devolved Formula Capital	110	37	(39)	1	-	109
Capital expenditure from GAG	240		(23)	39		256
Donations	15	-		39	-	11
	15	-	(4)	-	-	11
ESFA donated assets	5	-	(4)	-	-	1
LA capital grants	36		(6)			30
CIF	873	(7)	(108)	23	-	781
Capital funds	070	(,,	(100)	20		701
on conversion	39	-	-	-	-	39
	17,966	2,402	(805)	63	-	19,626
Total			·			
Restricted funds	17,966	11,998	(10,319)	-	(19)	19,626
Total funds	18,172	12,670	(11,119)		(19)	19,704

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) must be used for the normal running of the academy including salaries and related costs, overheads, repairs and maintenance, and insurance.

Pupil Premium is additional funding to be spent as the school sees fit to support deprived students.

Teachers' pay and Teachers' pension grants received to fund increase in salaries and employers pension contribution.

Universal Infant Free School Meals funding to be spent on catering costs for eligible pupils.

PE Sports grant to be used for the delivery of PE curriculum provision.

Other DfE group grants includes Supplementary Grant and MSAG which is used for the normal running of the academy.

SEN funding is used to provide addition support for additional needs pupils.

Other Government grants include Early Years funding for the provision of nursery services.

The pension reserves is the liability due to the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme. Further details are shown in note 25.

The restricted fixed asset funds represent monies received to purchase fixed assets. Depreciation is charged against each fund over the useful economic life of the associated assets.

Unrestricted funds include the income from uniform sales, school trips and catering with the relevant costs allocated accordingly.

A transfer of £63,000 has been made to capital expenditure from GAG to reflect those items included within fixed assets which have been purchased using GAG monies.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted Fund	248	795	(837)			206
Restricted general funds						
General Annual						
Grant (GAG)	-	5,038	(4,972)	(66)	-	-
Pupil Premium Other DfE	-	251	(251)		-	-
Group grants	-	535	(535)	-	-	-
SEN	-	96	(96)	-	-	-
Other Government						
grants	-	497	(497)		-	-
Other income	-	9	(9)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(138)	(248)	(186)	-	572	
	(138)	6,178	(6,546)	(66)	572	

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Legacy assets	9,234	7,859	(445)	-	-	16,648
Devolved Formula Capital	53	82	(25)	-	-	110
Capital expenditure	400		(40)			0.40
from GAG	193	-	(19)	66	-	240
Donations	19	·-	(4)	-	-	15
ESFA donated assets	12	-	(7)	-	-	5
LA capital grants	42	_	(6)	_	-	36
CIF	982	1	(110)	_	-	873
Capital funds on conversion	-	51	(12)	-	-	39
	10,535	7,993	(628)	66	-	17,966
Total Restricted			Y			
funds	10,397	14,171	(7,174)	-	572	17,966
Total funds	10,645	14,966	(8,011)		572	18,172

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

### Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Trust	(282)	(133)
Hartburn Primary School	65	50
Village Primary School	5	-
Wolviston Primary School	40	40
Barley Fields Primary	200	249
Kader Academy	50	
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	78	206
Restricted fixed asset fund	19,626	17,966
Total	19,704	18,172

The following academy is carrying a net deficit on its portion of the funds as follows:

Deficit £000 (282)

Trust

The Trust has undergone an SRMA evaluation and working with Schools have been able to find a number of efficiencies within both the staffing and non staffing budgets across all Schools. The Trust has submitted a three year forward plan which will see the central function return to a surplus position within that period.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

### Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £000	Other support staff costs £000	Educational supplies £000	Other costs excluding depreciation £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Trust	293	229	20	547	1,089	938
Hartburn Primary School	2,083	193	68	349	2,693	2,641
Village Primary School	1,012	166	40	270	1,488	1,471
Wolviston Primary School	538	102	14	124	778	758
Barley Fields Primary School	2,509	247	96	510	3,362	1,587
Kader Academy	622	54	21	207	904	-
Academy Trust	7,057	991	259	2,007	10,314	7,395

## 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

### Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

			Restricted	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	fixed asset	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	19,811	19,811
Current assets	78	1,228	(4)	1,302
Creditors due within one year	-	(1,228)	(17)	(1,245)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(164)	(164)
Total	78	-	19,626	19,704

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### 19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

## Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Tangible fixed assets Current assets Creditors due within one year Creditors due in more than one year	Unrestricted funds 2023 £000 - 202 4 - 206	Restricted funds 2023 £000 - 900 (900) -	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £000 18,086 61 - (181) 17,966	Total funds 2023 £000 18,086 1,163 (896) (181)
	Total				
20.	Reconciliation of net income to net cash flo	ow from operatii	ng activities		
				2024 £000	2023 £000
	Net income for the period (as per Statement or	f financial activitie	es)	1,551	6,955
	Adjustments for:				
	Depreciation			805	616
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital incor	me		(30)	(83)
	Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inh	erited		-	248
	Defined benefit pension scheme cost less con	tributions payable	9	(29)	171
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost			10	15
	Decrease/(Increase) in debtors			242	(155)
	Increase in creditors			332	537
	Net cash provided by operating activities			2,881	8,304
21.	Cash flows from investing activities				
				2024 £000	2023 £000
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets			(158)	(1,457)
	Acquisitions from transfer on conversion			(2,372)	(7,859)
	Capital grants from DfE Group			30	635
	Net cash used in investing activities			(2,500)	(8,681)

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

2024 £000	2023 £000
800	419
800	419
	800

#### 23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £000	Cash flows £000	At 31 August 2024 £000
Cash at bank and in hand	419	381	800
Debt due within 1 year	-	(17)	(17)
	419	364	783

#### 24. Capital commitments

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	-	31

#### 25. Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £181,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023 - £122,000) and are included within creditors.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 25. Pension commitments (continued)

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control.
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £982,000 (2023 - £618,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and 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.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 25. Pension commitments (continued)

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £455,000 (2023 - £333,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £342,000 (2023 - £250,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 113,000 (2023 - £83,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.5% for employers and 5.5% - 12.5% for employees.

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

The original Local Government Pension scheme valuation showed an asset of £1,060,000. That asset valuation is highly dependent on a number of assumptions and does not represent the future value of benefits to the trust. As a result, the Trustees have considered the potential benefits to the trust. On the basis that the future value of employer contributions in respect of future service cost £385,000 are not expected to materially exceed the employer future service costs £336,000 combined with the fact that the last Local Government Scheme actuarial review set the contribution rates from 1 April 2023 and that these will not be revised until April 2026 the Trustees have decided to include the pension asset at £Nil.

#### Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024 %	2023 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.65	4.00
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65	3.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.65	3.00
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	80.00	80.00
- Commission of Posterior to the Posterior		-

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
Males	20.4	20.5
Females	23.4	23.5
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.2	21.3
Females	24.9	25.0

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 25. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensit	ivity	anal	vsis
0011011		ullu	,, ,,,

Sensitivity analysis		
	2024 £000	2023 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(145)	(105)
Discount rate -0.1%	145	105
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	(269)	(188)
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	269	188
CPI rate +0.1%	136	93
CPI rate -0.1%	(136)	(93)
Share of scheme assets		
The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:		
	At 31 August 2024 £000	At 31 August 2023 £000
Equities	5,522	3,822
Property	2,022	1,204
Cash and other liquid assets	233	210
Total market value of assets	7,777	5,236
The actual return on scheme assets was £643,000 (2023 - £423,000).		
The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows	::	
	2024 £000	2023 £000
Current service cost	(352)	(421)
Interest income	308	171
Interest cost	(279)	(186)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(323)	(436)

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 25. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2024 £000	2023 £000
At 1 September	5,236	3,383
Conversion of academy trusts	1,391	1,556
Current service cost	352	421
Interest cost	279	186
Employee contributions	113	83
Actuarial gains	(55)	(844)
Benefits paid	(75)	(73)
Asset ceiling restriction	536	524
At 31 August	7,777	5,236
Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets we	re as follows:	
	2024 £000	2023 £000
At 1 September	5,236	3,245
Conversion of academy trusts	1,518	1,308
Interest income	308	171
Actuarial gains	335	252
Employer contributions	342	250
Employee contributions	113	83
Benefits paid	(75)	(73)
At 31 August	7,777	5,236

### 26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Not later than 1 year	4	4
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	4	8
	8	12

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### 27. Members' liability

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

#### 28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the governors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

#### Expenditure related party transactions

Wheatley Executive Services - a company in which C Wheatley (a Member) is a Director.

- The academy trust made purchases totalling £1,400 (2023: £1,950) during the period. There were no amounts outstanding at 31 August 2024 (2023: £nil).
- In entering into the transaction, the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.
- The total purchases were below the de minimis of £2,500, therefore the at cost requirement does not apply.

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

## 29. Transfer of existing academies into the academy trust

On 1 May 2024 Kader Academy Trust transferred into the academy trust. The values on transfer were as follows:

## Kader academy trust

	Value reported by transferring trust	Transfer in recognised
	£000	£000
Intangible assets		
Tangible fixed assets		
Long-term leasehold property	2,215	2,215
Furniture and equipment	61	61
Computer equipment	96	96
Current assets		
Debtors due within one year	170	170
Cash at bank and in hand	183	183
Liabilities		
Creditors due within one year	(230)	(230)
Pensions		
Net assets	2,495	2,495