

Registered number: 09341839

SHINE Academies

Trustees' Report and Financial Statements

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024



SHINE Academies
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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Reference and Administrative Details

Members	C Coultham G Hawkins C Nightingale E Richards R Young
Trustees	G Draycott, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer G Gentle, Chair C Nightingale, Vice Chair J Jackson R Lafford K Marshall S White A Wilkinson S Yardley-Patel
Company registered number	09341839
Company name	SHINE Academies
Principal and registered office	Collingwood Road Bushbury Wolverhampton West Midlands WV10 8DS
Company secretary	K Khandeparker
Senior management team	Gemma Draycott, Chief Executive Officer Katy Morgan, Chief Financial Officer Marie Price, Director of Primary Education Liza Small, Director of Operations Suki Baran, Director of Family Services Katy Khandeparker, Governance and Compliance Specialist Natalie Boys, Headteacher (Northwood Park Primary School) Lisa Rogers, Headteacher (Villiers Primary School) Nicola Bayliss, Headteacher (Busill Jones Primary School) R Craine, Headteacher (Lodge Farm Primary School) K Turner, Head of People
Independent auditors	Dains Audit Limited 2 Chamberlain Square, Paradise Circus Birmingham B3 3AX

SHINE Academies
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Trustees' Report
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

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

SHINE Academies (the "Trust") comprises of four primary schools across two Local Authorities. The total number of pupils on roll at Trust schools is 1,795 with some year groups oversubscribed. Lodge Farm Primary School, Villiers Primary Schools and Busill Jones Primary School, all offer nursery provision, with Lodge Farm offering a 2 year old setting. All schools offer wraparound care facilities and a wide range of free extra-curricular after school activities.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Multi Academy Trust ("MAT") is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the Multi Academy Trust. The Trustees of SHINE Academies are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as SHINE Academies.

The constituent schools are:

Northwood Primary School (Wolverhampton)
Lodge Farm Primary School (Walsall)
Villiers Primary School (Wolverhampton)
Busill Jones Primary School (Walsall)

Details of the Trustees who served during the , and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

b. 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.

c. Trustees' indemnities

The Academy Trust provides indemnities insurance to protect its members, directors, academy representatives and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy Trust business. This insurance does not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the trustees in reckless disregard or whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as trustees. The insurance provides £10 million cover in aggregate claims.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Structure, governance and management (continued)

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Multi Academy Trust is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co opted under the terms of the Memorandum of Association.

Each school has a Local Governing Body, consisting of Staff, Parents and Co-opted Governors. Parent elections take place when parent Governor vacancies are available. Governors are co-opted by the Board of Trustees where skills gaps are identified.

The Board of Trustees carry out an annual skills audit to identify any skills gaps and where there are vacancies, and work to target individuals with the skills required. Regular CPD and skills updates are available for all Trustees and Local Board Governors, funded by the Trust.

Members may appoint up to 9 Trustees by ordinary resolution.

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The Trust employs a Governance and Compliance Manager who acts as the Governance Professional to Members, the Trust Board and all Local Governing Boards. All Trustees and Governors receive details of the training available. New Trustees and Governors are invited to visit the schools and meet with any link staff relevant to their role on the Board. All Trustees and Governors have access to National College training packages and those provided by the National Governance Association and the Confederation of Schools Trusts.

Trustees are appointed by the Members and vacancies are filled following a skills audit to ensure a diverse range of expertise. All new Trustees meet with the CEO and Chair before appointment to understand the Trust context and their responsibilities as a Trustee.

f. Organisational structure

The Trustee and Members Boards consist of highly skilled professionals, who are responsible for establishing an overall framework for the governance of the academies. The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the use of the budget, making strategic decisions about the direction of the company and senior staff appointments. The Trust Board has remained stable during 2023-24.

Trustees met as a collective four times during the year. Trust Board meetings took place at each of the schools within the Trust during the 2023-24 academic year. The Finance and General Purpose, Audit and Risk, Performance and Standards and Pay Committees met at various intervals throughout the year and all constituents are Trustees with the Executive Central Team in attendance as required. There is a standing agenda item at every meeting of the Trust Board and Committee of the Trust Board to allow those in attendance to identify any items to be discussed by the Board or another Committee.

The Trust's Chief Executive Officer is the Accounting Officer and the Trustees are responsible for a performance management of this role.

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The Chief Executive Officer is responsible for the day to day operations of the Trust and is supported by the Executive Team and each school's Headteacher. A Head of People was appointed in March 2024 to establish the People Strategy of the Trust.

Each of the Schools' Local Governing Boards meet four times a year, monitoring the performance of that individual school. The structure of the Local Governing Boards has been updated to streamline reporting across all layers of governance. Local Governing Boards now have a clear focus on four key areas - safeguarding, SEND, standards and stakeholders. Link Governors are appointed as per statutory requirements and also to focus on key priority areas for each school.

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Board of Trustees adopts a Pay Policy which is reviewed on an annual basis. The Trustees are involved in the recruitment process for all Executive Leadership positions and the central team staffing structure and school staffing structures are reviewed periodically. Any changes to staffing structure must be agreed by the CEO and reported at the next appropriate meeting of the Trust Board or a Committee. A Pay Committee, made up of three independent Trustees, reviews pay for all staff on an annual basis.

SHINE Academies continues to adopt STPCD and NJC pay conditions.

An independent review of Executive Pay was completed in 2023/24.

h. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trust continued to engage with Unions in this academic year for both teaching and nonteaching staff to form a Joint Consultative and Negotiation Committee (JCNC). The purpose of this exercise is to provide the MAT with robust, purposeful and bespoke employee policies. The committee meets regularly in the year to consult on a range of staff policies.

Employees have been consulted on issues of concern to them by means of regular consultative committee and staff meetings and have been kept informed on specific matters directly by management.

The Multi Academy Trust has implemented a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of personnel matters including:

- Long Service Award
- Assault on School Staff
- Dignity at Work

During this accounting period, the Trust has entered into the TUPE process with a school in Shropshire who are due to transfer into the Trust. The transfer has been delayed pending resolution of a land issue.

In November 2024, the TUPE consultation process will commence with a sixth school who have named SHINE Academies as the Trust they would like to join.

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Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons) (continued)

In accordance with the Multi Academy Trust's equal opportunities policy, the Multi Academy Trust has long established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff. The Recruitment and Selection Policy was rewritten in 2023.

SHINE's first Trust Day was planned and executed successfully on 1 September 2024 which saw staff and those involved in governance from throughout the Trust invited to meet with staff from the two prospective schools and other external partners.

The Head of People has carried out a staff survey in September 2024 with feedback being fed into the SHINE People Strategy.

Equity, Diversity and Inclusion is a high priority for the MAT.

Full details of these policies are available from the Multi Academy Trust's offices.

i. Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Multi Academy Trust

Relationships with stakeholders is extremely important to SHINE Academies. Our vision is for all stakeholders to feel welcome and part of our journey.

Regular feedback is sought from all stakeholders, including staff and parents/carers. We welcome all feedback and it is valuable in shaping the strategic direction of the MAT.

With the focus being on MAT growth, engagement with suppliers is an increased focus in terms of achieving value for money and economies of scale across the MAT.

Ordering is completed locally with monthly BACS payments. Suppliers interact directly with each school where queries arise to foster good working relationships and effective resolution.

The number of sales customers is limited to student placements or some school-to-school support outside the MAT. Any payment issues are controlled and monitored centrally.

Other transactions include the collection of income for school meals, trips, residential visits and extended school provisions. Many of the transactions are handled via the MAT's cashless payment software. Where cash payments are received for charitable donations or non-uniform days, they are handled locally at each school by office staff.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

SHINE Academies updated their values which were relaunched as part of the Trust Day in September 2024. The new values being Collaborative, Compassionate, Courageous. Our mission at SHINE Academies is to create a child centred community, no matter the challenge, working collaboratively with courage and compassion.

The MAT vision and values was reviewed in the accounting period in full consultation with stakeholders.

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

SHINE Academies offers excellent facilities and opportunities for its pupils, many of whom come from very challenging backgrounds. The Trust takes pride in offering its students the best possible support during their time in the Trust and in helping them to become Secondary ready. The Trust offers many varied and unique facilities for its students to help them to achieve their full potential in the future.

SHINE Academies recognises that it must constantly evolve to deliver the best possible provision in our communities. We are an outward, forward thinking organisation and must always be ready to innovate. In the same way, the Trust wants others to recognise the brand 'SHINE Academies' as a provider of excellent services.

SHINE Academies works hard to engender a sense of belonging. Whether a pupil, employee or someone involved in the governance of our schools, we want all of you to feel part of our family of schools. Like all families, we want the best but we are also there to support each other when things get tough. We have proved time and again that this works to all our advantages.

Each school has its own identity and each one makes its own valuable contribution to the organisation as a whole.

c. Public benefit

In setting objectives and planning for activities, the Trustees have given due consideration to general guidance published by the Charity Commission relating to public benefit, including the guidance 'Public benefit: running a charity (PB2)'.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

SHINE Academies is a growing, successful Multi Academy Trust based in the West Midlands. Northwood Park Primary School became a Single Academy Trust in January 2015. The Academy converted to a Multi Academy Trust (MAT) Northwood Park Educational Trust when it successfully became an approved sponsor school in April 2015.

Lodge Farm joined the MAT as a sponsored academy in April 2016. This was a school that was seriously under performing and became part of the Trust to benefit from the shared expertise, vision, resources and partnership that the Trust offers.

In April 2018, Villiers Primary School joined the Trust as a 'Good' school, thus increasing the Trust's capacity to support future schools. Villiers was regraded as Good in July 2022.

Following their significant school improvement journey when they joined the Trust, Lodge Farm received a further 'Good' rating from OfSTED during a monitoring visit in February 2024.

Busill Jones Primary School joined the Trust in December 2019. Their first OfSTED inspection following conversion into the Trust took place in March 2024, where they were rated as 'Good; in four out of the five areas inspected, with an overall rating of 'Requires Improvement'.

In 2023-24 SHINE Academies received an Academy Order for a sixth school in Shropshire. The conversion process is ongoing. It is anticipated that a sixth school in Shropshire will also join the Trust in 2024/25.

SHINE Academies is responsible for the education of over 1,795 pupils in the West Midlands and is in a good position to expand. All four schools are performing well and on an upwards trajectory in terms of outcomes. Capacity is already in place to support schools coming in to the Trust, with a significant amount of school improvement support already being deployed to Crowmoor Primary School who will convert into SHINE in due course.

In the coming years, we hope more schools will join the SHINE Academies family so that collectively we can grow in strength and ensure that even more children receive the same quality education. The Trust is well placed to support schools in the process of becoming academies by joining our Trust. Our experience of the academy sector means that we can make the transition to academy status as smooth as possible and offer support every step of the way.

The Trust Head Office is based at Northwood Park Primary School, in the North of the city of Wolverhampton, just 5 minutes away from the M54 thus meaning that it can travel to 6 other local authorities within 30 mins – Telford & Wrekin, Shropshire, Staffordshire, Walsall, Sandwell and Dudley.

Key performance indicators used to analyse the performance of the schools are:

- Monitoring of standards of attainment
- ASP data
- Number of pupils on roll
- Attendance

The Trust continues to strengthen its offer to all pupils, with our belief in Equity forming our evolving direction. Curriculum design and delivery continue to be developed to meet the ever-changing needs of our pupils and their communities; ensuring that pupils are both challenged and supported effectively.

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Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Achievements and performance (continued)

Although there have been a number of significant changes in the leadership of some of our schools this year, succession planning, and targeted recruitment has meant that schools have remained stable and able to continue their school improvement journey.

The development of strong leaders from within the Trust continues to be an area of focus, with plans to significantly develop this moving forward.

As a trust we have extremely high expectations of all stakeholders and do not accept any ceilings for pupils or staff members. Personal development has been a focus in all schools, and we have worked tirelessly to provide opportunities, experiences and skills that enrich pupil & staff growth.

Safeguarding in all schools remains robust. The Family Support Teams continue to evolve and offer support to pupils and families whilst working closely with external services. We have supported in the training of student social workers in each school. A Family Services Manager was appointed within this accounting period who commenced in post on 1 September 2024 to also increase capacity and strategic growth to the Team.

We have continued to increase staff who have been recognised externally including having LA end of KS1, KS2 & EYFS moderators and Science & English SLEs.

	<u>Trust Average</u>	<u>National Averages 2024</u>
<u>KS2 Expected</u>		
Reading	64%	74%
Writing	62%	72%
Maths	62%	73%
GPS	62%	72%
Combined	47%	61%
<u>KS2 Exceeding</u>		
Reading	18%	18%
Writing	10%	10%
Maths	19%	19%
GPS	23%	23%
Combined	5%	5%

b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Multi 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.

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Trustees' Report (continued)

For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Promoting the success of the company

Under section 172(1)(a) to (f) of the Companies Act 2006, directors of a company must act in a way he considers, in good faith, most likely to promote the success of the company (i.e. to achieve its educational purpose), and in doing so must have regard to:

- The likely consequences of any decision in the long term;
- The interests of the company's employees
- The need to foster business relationships with suppliers, customers and others
- The impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment;
- The desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct; and
- The need to act fairly

In order to carry out their obligations, Trustees are provided with appropriate data, documents and verbal reports which can then be challenged and scrutinised. In addition to Trustees, each school has a Local Governing Body, and governors have link responsibilities to ensure specific aspects are scrutinised more closely, such as Safeguarding, SEND, and core curriculum. The systems in place allow Trustees to ensure that the MAT achieves its educational purpose.

Trustees use the Nolan Principles to ensure they act fairly and with consideration to the public role that they hold. All Trustees have high standards and high aspirations for the communities they serve.

Financial review

a. Reserves policy

Trustees approved a Reserves Policy in June 2024 which outlines the Trust's approach for holding reserves.

The minimum level of reserves to be maintained by each school within the Trust is to be 5% of the school's total income. The maximum level to be maintained is 10% of the school's total income.

Most of the Multi Academy Trust's income is obtained from the DfE via the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The Multi Academy Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE and these are shown in the Statement of financial activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the useful life of the assets concerned, as defined in the Trust's accounting policies.

As at 31 August 2024, the Multi Academy Trust held total reserves of £17,827,599, comprising £17,429,050 in restricted funds and £398,549 in unrestricted funds.

The restricted funds of £17,429,050 include £16,678,649 within the restricted fixed asset fund, a pension reserve deficit of £1,147,000, and revenue reserves totalling £1,897,401.

The unrestricted reserves of £398,549 include £191,935 designated for Trust Building Projects, leaving free reserves of £206,614.

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Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

At 31 August 2024, the net book value of fixed assets was £16,723,606 (2023 - £16,438,178) 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 pupils of the academy.

The Trustees recognise that the defined benefit scheme deficit (Local Government Pension Scheme) which is set out in Note 26 to the financial statements, represents a significant potential liability. However, as the Trustees consider that the Multi Academy Trust is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, the risk from this liability is minimised.

Key financial policies adopted or reviewed during the period include the Investment Policy which lays out the framework for investment of income/funding.

b. Principal risks and uncertainties

Trustees consider the principal risks facing SHINE Academies in the near future are as follows:

Strategic and Operational

- Changes in / turnover staffing or governance, high numbers of new and inexperienced staff and governors impacting school improvement.
- Lack of digital infrastructure to prevent cyber attacks or issues with systems

Financial

- Failure to produce balanced budgets impacting on teaching and learning.

Compliance

- Schools needing to follow safer recruitment guidelines more robustly.

Fundraising

The Trustees ensure that the school complies with the charity legislation and regulation in this area, and it is expected that any fundraising activities are carried out in adherence to this legislation. Fundraising will be legal, respectful, honest and properly administered. Where possible all costs of fundraising events will be covered by the participants to ensure that as much of the fundraising income received will go directly to cover the charitable aims.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

The Multi Academy Trust's greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are as follows:

	2024	2023
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	336,000	329,000
Energy consumption breakdown (kWh):		
Gas	247,795	238,159
Electricity	87,737	90,841
Scope 1 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Gas consumption	247.80	238.16
Total scope 1	<u>247.80</u>	<u>238.16</u>
Scope 2 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Purchased electricity	87.74	90.84
Total gross emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	<u>335.54</u>	<u>329.00</u>
Intensity ratio:		
Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil	<u>0.19</u>	<u>0.19</u>

The Multi Academy Trust has followed and used the following quantification and reporting methodologies:

- the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines;
- the GHG Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard; and
- the 2023 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

The chosen intensity ratio is total gross emissions in tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector

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Trustees' Report (continued)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Plans for future periods

SHINE Academies recognises the need to grow and does so at a sensible pace. The MAT has been recognised for transforming failing schools and having significant capacity for school improvement, family support, safeguarding and business functions. The MAT is in a good position for growth but most importantly, has ambitions to support a strong school to school system, whether formally or informally. SHINE Academies' stakeholders continue to recognise the importance of individuality and context within the school system.

Headteachers have full accountability for their schools, following amendments to the scheme of delegation, but with the full support of experienced and qualified specialists from the MAT central team.

SHINE Academies continues to prioritise high quality and accredited professional development for staff at all levels. It is the ambition of the MAT to equip the educators and school leaders of the future, and has responsibility for training the next generation of leaders and 'training people so they can leave, but treating people so they don't want to'. The quality of education continues to improve each academic year and the MAT's legacy should continue to be the ambitious and aspirational opportunities our stakeholders receive. Staff retention remains high.

The MAT has a detailed Trust Development Plan which is the foundation of the strategic growth plan. Each school has an individual School Development Plan which is regularly annotated and forms the basis of much of the full Local Governing Board meetings

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

The Multi Academy Trust does not hold any funds as custodian.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that 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 auditors are aware of that information.

Auditors

In 2021-2022, SHINE Academies undertook a tendering exercise in order to appoint auditors following Dains LLP's original appointment in 2015. Five companies tendered and following a comprehensive benchmarking and evaluation exercise, Dains LLP were reappointed for a 3-year contract, with a possible 2-year extension.

The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing Dains Audit Limited at a meeting of the Trustees.

The Trustees' Report was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 16 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



G Gentle
Chair of Trustees

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Governance Statement

Scope of responsibility

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

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

As Trustees, we pay due regard to the Academy Trust Governance Code October 2023.

The Board of Trustees 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 SHINE Academies and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 times during the year with the Audit and Risk, Finance and General Purposes and Performance and Standards Committees meeting a total of 10 times throughout the year. Appropriate financial oversight is maintained through these meetings and the meetings of the sub committees, as detailed below.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G Draycott	4	4
G Gentle, reappointed as Chair 24 September 2024	4	4
C Nightingale, reappointed as Vice Chair 24 September 2024	2	4
J Jackson	3	4
R Lafford	1	4
K Marshall	3	4
S White	3	3
A Wilkinson	3	4
S Yardley-Patel	3	4

The Finance and General Purposes, Audit and Risk and Performance and Standards Committees comprise exclusively of Trustees.

Conflicts of interests are disclosed by Trustees immediately in the event of a change, and annually as a minimum, There is an agenda item to capture conflicts at the start of each meeting, and this is recorded in the minutes.

Effectiveness of Governance is continuously reviewed by the Governance and Compliance Manager.

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Governance Statement (continued)

Governance (continued)

The Finance and General Purposes Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to be responsible for financial scrutiny and oversight, including budget monitoring.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G Draycott	4	4
J Jackson	4	4
K Marshall, Chair	4	4
R Lafford	3	4

The Audit and Risk Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to provide assurance to the Board over the suitability of, and compliance with, financial systems and operational controls, and to ensure that risks are being adequately identified and managed.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G Gentle	3	3
A Wilkinson, Chair	3	3
S Yardley-Patel	3	3

The Performance and Standards committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. The committee meet once per term and its purpose is to monitor the progress and attainment of pupils across the Trust, as well as make lines of enquiry regarding trends across the Trust in areas such as safeguarding, SEND, behaviour and attendance. An agenda item is ringfenced to allow Trustees a more in depth focus on a school or particular area of strength/concern of their choosing at each meeting. Headteachers are invited to attend and present as and when Trustees feel this is appropriate.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G Gentle	3	3
A Wilkinson	2	3
S White	2	3
C Nightingale	2	3
M Price	3	3
G Draycott	2	3

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Governance Statement (continued)

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Multi Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- During the last financial year, SHINE Academies has continued to take steps to ensure that children receive the best education whilst achieving best value with the funding available.
- Using the Trust and School Development Plans, the Trust has ensured that there is a continued focus on key areas which has included ensuring the academies successfully identify key areas for development allocating the adequate resources to raise standards.
- A review of the organisational structure is conducted annually, and reviewed throughout the year to ensure that our resources are used effectively. A full budget review is conducted every half term.
- Income is generated from parents for school trips, school meals, breakfast club and music exams, all schools use ParentPay, ensuring that the schools are cashless and processes are robust.
- Refurbishment work has been undertaken in all schools and an independent party managed the entire tendering and project management process to ensure value for money was achieved.
- In terms of estates management, where health and safety risks are identified these are duly addressed. As an example, during this year a risk was identified which necessitated some tree removal works at Busill Jones Primary School. The situation was risk assessed and quotes sourced and approved by the Finance and General Purposes Committee to carry out remedial works, as per the Trust's Financial Procedures.
- SHINE Academies has robust financial procedures in place and staff are fully trained and competent in the processes, which are duplicated in all academies.
- The Trust has produced a detailed financial analysis of how pupil premium funding was spent and the Impact of the funding for individual pupils which is available on the Trust's website.
- The Trust has internal controls in place to ensure strict financial procedures are followed. A programme of internal scrutiny work is completed. The management receives regular budget reports which are analysed to identify areas of overspend and underspend. Regular monitoring ensures the best use of resources and prevents waste. Bank balances are carefully monitored. The last internal audit for each academy deemed processes to be good.
- The Trust purchases a commercial insurance package to ensure it has adequate cover to manage risks. A Trust Risk Register is regularly reviewed and updated.
- The Trust regularly applies for suitable additional funding.
- There is a constant desire within the Trust to improve through better systems that lead to better outcomes for pupils and achieving best value is key to our success.

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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 Multi Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in SHINE Academies for the year 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 Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Multi Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Multi Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. The Risk Register is included at the Audit and Risk Committee as an agenda item for discussion, as a standing agenda item for consideration at Trust Board to address anything which may need to be amended following discussion at Trust Board. Risk strategy will also be reviewed on an annual basis moving forward.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance and General Purposes Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from School Business Services, Elite Safety in Education, Anchored Schools, English Hubs, B11 and Services 4 Schools.

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

- Safeguarding
- Health and Safety
- Payroll
- Fixed Assets and Asset Management

Following each internal audit, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees through the Finance and General Purposes Committee, then subsequently the Audit and Risk Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.

SHINE Academies

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Governance Statement (continued)

The risk and control framework (continued)

The internal auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned.

Review of effectiveness

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


- discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial decisions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress;
- the work of the Internal auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the Multi Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and General Purposes Committee, then subsequently the Audit and Risk Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees 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 Trustees on 16 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



G Gentle
Chair of Trustees



G Draycott
Accounting Officer

SHINE Academies

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of SHINE Academies, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Multi Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the Multi 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 Multi Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Multi Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Multi 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 Trustees and ESFA.



G Draycott

Accounting Officer

Date: 16 December 2024

SHINE Academies

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**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the 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 Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 16 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



G. Gentle
Chair of Trustees

SHINE Academies
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of SHINE Academies

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of SHINE Academies (the 'Multi 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 Multi 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 Multi 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 Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

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

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

SHINE Academies

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Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of SHINE Academies (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 Trustees 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 Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report has 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 Multi Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report.

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

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

Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of SHINE Academies (continued)

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Multi 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 Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

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:

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, was as follows:

- the senior statutory auditor ensured that the engagement team collectively had the appropriate competence, capabilities and skills to identify or recognise non-compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- we identified the laws and regulations applicable to the company through discussions with directors and other management, and from our commercial knowledge and experience of the Academy sector;
- we focused on specific laws and regulations which we considered may have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company, including the financial reporting legislation, Companies Act 2006, taxation legislation, anti-bribery, employment, and environmental and health and safety legislation;
- we assessed the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations identified above through making enquiries of management and inspecting legal correspondence; and
- identified laws and regulations were communicated within the audit team regularly and the team remained alert to instances of non-compliance throughout the audit.

We assessed the susceptibility of the company's financial statements to material misstatement, including obtaining an understanding of how fraud might occur, by:

- making enquiries of management as to where they considered there was susceptibility to fraud, their knowledge of actual, suspected and alleged fraud; and
- considering the internal controls in place to mitigate risks of fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations.

SHINE Academies
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Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of SHINE Academies (continued)

To address the risk of fraud through management bias and override of controls, we:

- performed analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships;
- tested journal entries to identify unusual transactions;
- assessed whether judgements and assumptions made in determining the accounting estimates set out in Note 2 were indicative of potential bias; and
- investigated the rationale behind significant or unusual transactions.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we designed procedures which included, but were not limited to:

- agreeing financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation;
- reading the minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- enquiring of management as to actual and potential litigation and claims; and
- reviewing correspondence with HMRC, relevant regulators and the company's legal advisors.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable Multi 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 charitable Multi 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 charitable Multi Academy Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Dains Audit Ltd

Julian Townsend FCA FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

16 December 2024

SHINE Academies

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 31 October 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 SHINE Academies 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 SHINE Academies and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to SHINE Academies 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 SHINE Academies and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of SHINE Academies's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of SHINE Academies's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 March 2016 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 Multi Academy Trust's Income and expenditure.

SHINE Academies

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

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.

Dains Audit Ltd

Dains Audit Limited

Statutory Auditor

Chartered Accountants

Date: 16 December 2024

SHINE Academies
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account)
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	58,635	-	263,841	322,476	263,607
Other trading activities	8	80,892	-	-	80,892	65,711
Investments	6	314	-	-	314	280
Charitable activities:	4					
Multi Academy Trust educational operations		269,900	12,348,973	-	12,618,873	11,356,108
Total income		409,741	12,348,973	263,841	13,022,555	11,685,706
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	2,168	-	-	2,168	4,734
Charitable activities	7,8	311,027	10,996,353	1,132,342	12,439,722	11,720,286
Total expenditure		313,195	10,996,353	1,132,342	12,441,890	11,725,020
Net income/(expenditure)		96,546	1,352,620	(868,501)	580,665	(39,314)
Transfers between funds	18	(127,881)	(1,024,438)	1,152,319	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(31,335)	328,182	283,818	580,665	(39,314)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	172,000	-	172,000	2,632,000
Net movement in funds		(31,335)	500,182	283,818	752,665	2,592,686
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		429,884	250,219	16,394,831	17,074,934	14,482,248
Net movement in funds		(31,335)	500,182	283,818	752,665	2,592,686
Total funds carried forward		398,549	750,401	16,678,649	17,827,599	17,074,934

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year

The notes on pages 30 to 61 form part of these financial statements.

SHINE Academies

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Registered number: 09341839

Balance Sheet


As at 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	16,723,606	16,438,178
Current assets			
Debtors	15	953,006	907,578
Cash at bank and in hand		2,883,869	2,378,120
		<u>3,836,875</u>	<u>3,285,698</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(1,548,953)	(1,118,772)
Net current assets		<u>2,287,922</u>	<u>2,166,926</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>19,011,528</u>	<u>18,605,104</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(36,929)	(45,170)
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>18,974,599</u>	<u>18,559,934</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	26	(1,147,000)	(1,485,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>17,827,599</u></u>	<u><u>17,074,934</u></u>
Funds of the Multi Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	18	16,678,649	16,394,831
Restricted income funds	18	1,897,401	1,735,219
		<u>18,576,050</u>	<u>18,130,050</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	18	18,576,050	18,130,050
Pension reserve	18	(1,147,000)	(1,485,000)
		<u>17,429,050</u>	<u>16,645,050</u>
Total restricted funds	18	17,429,050	16,645,050
Unrestricted income funds	18	398,549	429,884
		<u>17,827,599</u>	<u>17,074,934</u>
Total funds		<u><u>17,827,599</u></u>	<u><u>17,074,934</u></u>

SHINE Academies
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Registered number: 09341839

Balance Sheet (continued)
As at 31 August 2024

The financial statements on pages 26 to 61 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 16 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf, by:



G Gentle
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 30 to 61 form part of these financial statements.

SHINE Academies
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Statement of Cash Flows
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	20	1,707,177	388,467
Cash flows used in investing activities			
	22	(1,153,615)	(819,063)
Cash flows (used in)/from financing activities			
	21	(47,813)	(47,813)
		<u>505,749</u>	<u>(478,409)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		2,378,120	2,856,529
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<u>2,378,120</u>	<u>2,856,529</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	23, 24	<u>2,883,869</u>	<u>2,378,120</u>

The notes on pages 30 to 61 form part of these financial statements

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

1.3 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the Multi 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.

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 Multi Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

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.

• **Expenditure on raising funds**

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

• **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Multi Academy Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.6 Taxation

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

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 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 bases:

Long-term leasehold buildings	- 2% straight line
Long-term leasehold land	- over 125 year lease term
Leasehold improvements	- 10% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 20% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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.

1.8 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.

1.9 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. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 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 Multi Academy Trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.11 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Multi 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.

1.12 Financial instruments

The Multi Academy Trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Multi 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.

1.13 Operating leases

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.14 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Multi 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 Multi 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 Multi 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.

1.15 Fund accounting

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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.

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, 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.

Critical areas of judgement:

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Trustees to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results in the future could differ from those estimates. In this regard, the Trustees believe that the critical accounting policies where judgements or estimating are necessarily applied are summarised below:

Depreciation and residual values

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives, taking into account residual values where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual values consider such things as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values, and plans to dispose of an asset before the previously expected date.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational visits	46,639	-	46,639	47,474
Donations	11,996	-	11,996	11,159
Capital Grants	-	263,841	263,841	204,974
	<u>58,635</u>	<u>263,841</u>	<u>322,476</u>	<u>263,607</u>
Total 2023	<u>58,633</u>	<u>204,974</u>	<u>263,607</u>	

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

4. Funding for the Multi Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	9,179,641	9,179,641	8,544,993
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Teachers Pay and Pension Grants	-	255,173	255,173	12,592
Pupil Premium	-	1,156,063	1,156,063	1,060,562
Universal Infant Free School Meals grant	-	186,565	186,565	195,095
PE and Sports grant	-	80,180	80,180	79,770
Rates relief	-	27,026	27,026	13,530
Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	-	312,982	312,982	-
Supplementary grant	-	-	-	249,906
Recovery Premium	-	114,079	114,079	106,394
Others	-	76,659	76,659	188,562
	-	11,388,368	11,388,368	10,451,404
Other Government grants				
Special needs income	-	453,197	453,197	344,148
Early Years funding	-	339,339	339,339	339,969
Other funding	-	66,304	66,304	39,194
	-	858,840	858,840	723,311
Other income from the Multi Academy Trust's educational operations	269,900	101,765	371,665	181,393
	269,900	12,348,973	12,618,873	11,356,108
Total 2023	95,829	11,260,279	11,356,108	

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Lettings income	3,450	3,450	3,178
General sales income	60,704	60,704	48,556
Fundraising activities	15,771	15,771	12,697
Music income	967	967	1,280
	<u>80,892</u>	<u>80,892</u>	<u>65,711</u>
Total 2023	<u>65,711</u>	<u>65,711</u>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Bank interest received	<u>314</u>	<u>314</u>	<u>280</u>
Total 2023	<u>280</u>	<u>280</u>	

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Direct costs	-	-	2,168	2,168	4,734
Multi Academy Trust's Educational Operations:					
Direct costs	7,425,345	1,132,342	749,612	9,307,299	8,549,557
Support costs	1,458,417	513,028	1,160,978	3,132,423	3,170,729
	<u>8,883,762</u>	<u>1,645,370</u>	<u>1,912,758</u>	<u>12,441,890</u>	<u>11,725,020</u>
Total 2023	<u>8,542,349</u>	<u>1,268,015</u>	<u>1,914,656</u>	<u>11,725,020</u>	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational Operations	<u>9,307,299</u>	<u>3,132,423</u>	<u>12,439,722</u>	<u>11,720,286</u>
Total 2023	<u>8,549,557</u>	<u>3,170,729</u>	<u>11,720,286</u>	

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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 £	Total funds 2023 £
LGPS Pension finance costs	71,000	167,000
Staff costs	7,425,345	6,824,268
Depreciation	1,132,342	955,401
Educational supplies	217,487	221,876
Staff development and other staff costs	57,879	48,459
Technology costs	62,436	55,228
Educational consultancy	91,888	86,989
School trip costs	126,294	70,213
Insurance	90,631	94,636
Recruitment and other staff expenses	13,888	9,388
Apprenticeship Levy expenditure / Interest	18,109	16,099
	<u>9,307,299</u>	<u>8,549,557</u>

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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 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	1,458,417	1,718,081
Educational suppliers / Catering	542,735	495,983
Technology costs	119,060	97,529
Consultancy	148,585	173,092
Other costs	204,771	130,404
Maintenance of premises and special facilities	47,638	36,763
Cleaning and caretaking	21,458	19,980
Operating lease rentals	2,760	5,170
Rates	29,144	21,727
Security	16,273	14,593
Energy	222,732	177,032
Legal and professional	48,887	71,592
Transport	42,963	33,224
Other premises costs	197,241	122,471
Governance costs	29,759	53,088
	<u>3,132,423</u>	<u>3,170,729</u>

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024 £	2023 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	1,132,342	955,401
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	16,300	15,750
- other services	4,200	8,098
	<u>16,300</u>	<u>15,750</u>
	<u>4,200</u>	<u>8,098</u>

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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	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	6,589,522	6,202,979
Social security costs	622,139	581,182
Pension costs	1,443,807	1,526,687
	<u>8,655,468</u>	<u>8,310,848</u>
Agency staff costs	226,345	231,501
Staff restructuring costs	1,949	-
	<u>8,883,762</u>	<u>8,542,349</u>
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Other restructuring costs	<u>1,949</u>	<u>-</u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Teachers	74	76
Administration and support	167	175
Management	20	18
	<u>261</u>	<u>269</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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10. Staff (continued)

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	8	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	2	3
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	2	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	-
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 Multi Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,032,646 (2023 - £889,878).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from an employment with the Multi Academy Trust. The Chief Executive Officer only receives remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the role of Chief Executive Officer under their contract of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2024	2023
		£000	£000
G Draycott	Remuneration	125 - 130	115 - 120
	Pension contributions paid	30 - 35	25 - 30

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses totalling £559 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2023 - £270).

12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Multi Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2024 was included in the total insurance cost of £42,918 (2023 - £39,084).

13. Central services

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

- Financial services (including HR and payroll)
- Risk management and compliance
- School improvement
- Governance
- Central GDPR
- Family liaison services
- Data management

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

The trust charges for these services on a flat percentage of income. The current rate is 6%.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Northwood Park Primary School	170,654	162,590
Lodge Farm Primary School	111,325	96,694
Villiers Primary School	181,129	169,660
Busill Jones Primary School	87,671	83,755
Total	550,779	512,699

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Leasehold improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2023	11,742,967	7,315,552	439,939	544,577	20,043,035
Additions	-	1,238,268	87,317	92,185	1,417,770
At 31 August 2024	11,742,967	8,553,820	527,256	636,762	21,460,805
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	1,035,262	1,927,361	277,828	364,406	3,604,857
Charge for the year	162,553	824,869	67,920	77,000	1,132,342
At 31 August 2024	1,197,815	2,752,230	345,748	441,406	4,737,199
Net book value					
At 31 August 2024	10,545,152	5,801,590	181,508	195,356	16,723,606
At 31 August 2023	10,707,705	5,388,191	162,111	180,171	16,438,178

15. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors	10,140	2,022
Prepayments and accrued income	452,085	496,314
VAT recoverable	490,080	409,192
Other debtors	701	50
	953,006	907,578

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	8,241	47,813
Trade creditors	240,886	226,874
Other taxation and social security	236	236
Other creditors	841	1,496
Accruals and deferred income	1,298,749	842,353
	<u>1,548,953</u>	<u>1,118,772</u>
	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	283,712	135,818
Resources deferred during the year	210,779	283,712
Amounts released from previous periods	(283,712)	(135,818)
	<u>210,779</u>	<u>283,712</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2023		

At the balance sheet date the Multi-Academy Trust was holding Universal Infant Free School Meals funding, unspent national tutoring grant and core grant funding, and pupil dinner monies and school trip monies received in advance for Autumn 2024.

Other loans are detailed in note 17.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
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17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	<u>36,929</u>	<u>45,170</u>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Between one and two years		
Other loans	<u>8,601</u>	<u>8,601</u>
Between two and five years		
Other loans	<u>24,859</u>	<u>25,803</u>
Over five years		
Other loans	<u>3,469</u>	<u>10,766</u>

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts falling due after more than five years		
Payable or repayable by instalments	<u>3,469</u>	<u>10,766</u>

Other loans is made up of three interest free Salix loans from the ESFA repayable in annual instalments of £5,756 up to 2030, £1,303 up to 2028 and £1,542 up to 2030.

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Notes to the Financial Statements
For the Year Ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Trust building projects	289,731	-	-	(97,796)	-	191,935
General funds						
General funds	140,153	409,741	(313,195)	(30,085)	-	206,614
Total Unrestricted funds	429,884	409,741	(313,195)	(127,881)	-	398,549
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	1,735,219	9,179,641	(7,993,021)	(1,024,438)	-	1,897,401
Teachers Pay and Pension Grants	-	255,173	(255,173)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,156,063	(1,156,063)	-	-	-
Universal infant free school meals	-	186,565	(186,565)	-	-	-
PE and Sports grant	-	80,180	(80,180)	-	-	-
Rates relief	-	27,026	(27,026)	-	-	-
Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	-	312,982	(312,982)	-	-	-
Recovery premium	-	114,079	(114,079)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	76,659	(76,659)	-	-	-
Special needs income	-	453,197	(453,197)	-	-	-
Early Years funding	-	339,339	(339,339)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	66,304	(66,304)	-	-	-
Other funding	-	101,765	(101,765)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,485,000)	-	166,000	-	172,000	(1,147,000)
	250,219	12,348,973	(10,996,353)	(1,024,438)	172,000	750,401

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Capital surplus transferred on conversion	62,997	-	-	-	-	62,997
Assets transferred on conversion	10,273,368	-	(157,192)	-	-	10,116,176
DfE / ESFA capital grants	1,557,863	263,841	(388,475)	-	-	1,433,229
Assets purchased from GAG/unrestricted income	4,426,071	-	(585,447)	1,152,319	-	4,992,943
Other capital income	74,532	-	(1,228)	-	-	73,304
	<u>16,394,831</u>	<u>263,841</u>	<u>(1,132,342)</u>	<u>1,152,319</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>16,678,649</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>16,645,050</u>	<u>12,612,814</u>	<u>(12,128,695)</u>	<u>127,881</u>	<u>172,000</u>	<u>17,429,050</u>
Total funds	<u><u>17,074,934</u></u>	<u><u>13,022,555</u></u>	<u><u>(12,441,890)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>172,000</u></u>	<u><u>17,827,599</u></u>

18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Trust building projects fund

This fund relates to amounts committed for expected future Large Trust building projects.

Restricted general funds

This fund represents grants and other income received for the Multi-Academy Trust's operational activities and development.

Pension reserve

The pension reserve included within restricted general funds represents the Multi-Academy Trust's share of the pension liability arising on the LGPS fund.

Restricted fixed asset funds

This fund represents grants received from the DfE and ESFA to carry out works of a capital nature.

Transfers between funds

Transfers between funds relate to fixed assets purchased from GAG and unrestricted funds.

The Multi Academy Trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

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18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Trust building projects	433,401	-	-	(143,670)	-	289,731
General funds						
General funds	181,236	220,453	(184,289)	(77,247)	-	140,153
Total Unrestricted funds	614,637	220,453	(184,289)	(220,917)	-	429,884
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	1,573,149	8,544,993	(7,687,044)	(695,879)	-	1,735,219
Pupil Premium	-	1,060,562	(1,060,562)	-	-	-
PE and Sports grant	-	79,770	(79,770)	-	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	3,291	(3,291)	-	-	-
Teachers pension grants	-	9,301	(9,301)	-	-	-
Universal infant free school meals	-	195,095	(195,095)	-	-	-
Covid-19 catch up premium	-	106,394	(106,394)	-	-	-
Natonal tutoring grant	-	29,322	(29,322)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	422,676	(422,676)	-	-	-
SEN funding	-	344,148	(344,148)	-	-	-
Early years funding	-	339,969	(339,969)	-	-	-
Other government grants	-	39,194	(39,194)	-	-	-
Other funding	-	85,564	(85,564)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,934,000)	-	(183,000)	-	2,632,000	(1,485,000)
	(2,360,851)	11,260,279	(10,585,330)	(695,879)	2,632,000	250,219

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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 £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Northwood Pak Primary School	2,103,940	465,481	241,496	526,878	3,337,795	3,691,787
Lodge Farm Primary School	1,354,949	285,935	148,435	264,126	2,053,445	2,060,477
Villiers Primary School	2,520,391	418,726	228,802	435,540	3,603,459	3,274,424
Busill Jones Primary School	1,032,139	211,751	136,837	292,568	1,673,295	1,739,126
Central Services	484,926	76,524	4,652	75,452	641,554	3,805
Multi Academy Trust	7,496,345	1,458,417	760,222	1,594,564	11,309,548	10,769,619

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	16,723,606	16,723,606
Current assets	398,549	2,473,069	965,257	3,836,875
Creditors due within one year	-	(575,668)	(973,285)	(1,548,953)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(36,929)	(36,929)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(1,147,000)	-	(1,147,000)
Total	398,549	750,401	16,678,649	17,827,599

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19. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	16,438,178	16,438,178
Current assets	429,934	2,806,128	49,636	3,285,698
Creditors due within one year	(50)	(1,070,909)	(47,813)	(1,118,772)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(45,170)	(45,170)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(1,485,000)	-	(1,485,000)
Total	429,884	250,219	16,394,831	17,074,934

20. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	580,665	(39,314)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	1,132,342	955,401
Capital grants from DfE Group and other capital income	(263,841)	(204,974)
Interest receivable	(314)	(280)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(237,000)	16,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	71,000	167,000
Increase in debtors	(45,428)	(177,275)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	469,753	(328,091)
Net cash provided by operating activities	1,707,177	388,467

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21. Cash flows from financing activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Repayments of borrowing	<u>(47,813)</u>	<u>(47,813)</u>

22. Cash flows from investing activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Interest received	314	280
Purchase of tangible assets	(1,417,770)	(1,024,317)
Capital grants from DfE Group	263,841	204,974
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(1,153,615)</u>	<u>(819,063)</u>

23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>2,883,869</u>	<u>2,378,120</u>

24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023	Cash flows	Other non- cash changes	At 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	2,378,120	505,749	-	2,883,869
Debt due within 1 year	(47,813)	47,813	(8,241)	(8,241)
Debt due after 1 year	(45,170)	-	8,241	(36,929)
	<u>2,285,137</u>	<u>553,562</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,838,699</u>

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25. Capital commitments

	2024	2023
	£	£
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	<u>334,648</u>	<u>53,978</u>

26. Pension commitments

The Multi 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 West Midlands Pension Fund. 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 £Nil were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023 - £Nil) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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 result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.

26. Pension commitments (continued)

- 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 result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. 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 £956,000 (2023 - £828,000).

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 Multi 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 has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above, the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £845,000 (2023 - £800,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £685,000 (2023 - £644,000) and employees' contributions totalled £160,000 (2023 - £156,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 26.6 per cent for employers and 5.5% - 12.5% per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Multi Academy Trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Multi Academy Trust at the balance sheet date.

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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.65	3.95
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.0	5.20

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26. Pension commitments (continued)

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 - none	20.5	N/A
Females	23.7	23.7
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	20.4	20.6
Females	24.2	24.2

Sensitivity analysis

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(184)	(167)
Discount rate -0.1%	184	167
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	298	264
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(298)	(264)
CPI rate +0.1%	180	153
CPI rate -0.1%	(180)	(153)

Share of scheme assets

The Multi Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023 £
Equities	3,277,000	3,470,000
Bonds	2,206,000	1,072,000
Property	378,000	357,000
Cash and other liquid assets	441,000	204,000
Total market value of assets	6,302,000	5,103,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £470,000 (2023 - £58,000).

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26. Pension commitments (continued)

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Current service cost	(448,000)	(660,000)
Interest income	284,000	212,000
Interest cost	(355,000)	(379,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(519,000)	(827,000)

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

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 September	5,201,014	8,588,000
Current service cost	(448,000)	(726,986)
Interest cost	355,000	379,000
Employee contributions	160,000	156,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	14,000	(3,074,000)
Benefits paid	(116,000)	(121,000)
At 31 August	5,166,014	5,201,014

Changes in the fair value of the Multi Academy Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 September	5,103,000	4,654,000
Interest income	284,000	212,000
Actuarial gains/(losses)	186,000	(442,000)
Employer contributions	685,000	644,000
Employee contributions	160,000	156,000
Benefits paid	(116,000)	(121,000)
At 31 August	6,302,000	5,103,000

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27. Operating lease commitments

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	9,450	14,782
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	3,510	8,371
	<hr/> 12,960 <hr/>	<hr/> 23,153 <hr/>

28. 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

29. Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.

