



**BRIGSHAW
LEARNINGPARTNERSHIP**

(A company limited by guarantee)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended
31 August 2020**

Company Registration No. 10301662

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

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The Brigshaw Learning Partnership REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Martin Dove Kenneth Morton Keith Ivor Wakefield (appointed 11 December 2019) Kirsty Siobhan Malloch (appointed 11 December 2019) Peter Laurence (appointed 1 September 2020) Donald Parker (resigned 11 December 2019)
Trustees	Rachael Bajulaiye Neil Clephan OBE Simon Hilton (Appointed 1 August 2019, resigned 15 July 2020) Emma Jackson Anne Marie Lewis Nicholas Mitchell Kenneth Morton Stewart Ross Fiona Titterington (resigned 30 September 2019) Robert Stott
Company Secretary	Wendy Harrington
CEO and Accounting Officer	Cath Lennon
Finance Director	Tiana Walker
Senior Leadership Team: Headteacher, Allerton Bywater Primary School Headteacher, Brigshaw High School Headteacher, Kippax Ash Tree Primary School Headteacher, Kippax Greenfield Primary School Headteacher, Kippax Greenfield Primary School Headteacher, Kippax North Primary School Executive Headteacher, Swillington Primary School Head of School, Swillington Primary School Headteacher, Methley Primary School	Richard Cairns Maria Williams Amanda Campbell Claire Roberts Kirsty Moleele Barbara Husband Sallie Elliott Sarah Grant Sallie Elliott
Registered Office	Brigshaw High School Brigshaw Lane Allerton Bywater WF10 2HR
Company Registration Number	10301662 (England and Wales)
Independent Auditor	Murray Harcourt Limited 6 Queen Street Leeds LS1 2TW
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc 25 Gresham Street London EC2V 7HN
Solicitors	Ward Hadaway Sandgate House 102 Quayside Newcastle Upon Tyne NE1 3DX

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership is a multi-academy trust serving communities in outer East Leeds. The Trust was established in July 2016. There is one 11-18 secondary school in the trust, Brigshaw High School and six primary schools – Allerton Bywater, Kippax Ash Tree, Kippax Greenfield, Kippax North, Swillington and Methley. Methley Primary School joined The Brigshaw Learning Partnership as a sponsored academy in April 2018. There were 3,192 pupils on roll on the January 2020 Census.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as The Brigshaw Learning Partnership.

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

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

There are no qualifying third party indemnity provisions in respect of the Trustees, other than trustees' and officers' insurance arrangements, which are in place.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

Trustees are appointed by the Members of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership, under the rules contained within its Memorandum and Articles of Association. Potential new trustees are identified by the Board, ensuring that their skills and experience are complementary to those of existing Board members. Two trustees resigned during 2019-20.

The membership of the Board is in accordance with the structure contained within its Articles of Association. Trustees have a breadth of skills and experience which are beneficial to The Brigshaw Learning Partnership.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

All Trustees are provided with copies of procedures, minutes, accounts, budget plans and other documents required to undertake their roles as Trustees. All Trustees are aware of relevant information in The Academies Financial Handbook and updates. The Chair and CEO meet regularly with individual Trustees to discuss their roles and how they can make a positive contribution to the life and work of the Brigshaw Learning Partnership. Trustees are invited to attend various training sessions on governance organised by the Governance Support Officer. The Trustees continued with an external governance review, carried out by the NGA (National Governance Association) during 2018-19 and have formulated a development plan from the recommendations made.

Organisational structure

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board meets regularly to discuss strategic matters and significant operational developments. The Academy has three committees, which meet at least once per term to manage and oversee delegated matters. These committees have specific responsibility for Audit and Risk, Finance and Resources, and Progress and Standards. There is also a Pay Committee which meets once a year to ratify local governing body pay recommendations for school staff. In addition, accordance with the trust's Disaster Response and Recovery Plan, in March 2020, the Board established an Emergency Response Committee to manage additional emergency matters arising from the Covid-19 pandemic. This committee met regularly during the summer term and remains an extant committee should the need arise during the ongoing pandemic.

The Trustees are responsible for setting policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring key performance indicators, most importantly pupil progress and outcomes and financial information, and making major decisions about the direction of the Brigshaw Learning Partnership. The CEO has responsibility for the running of the multi-academy trust as an organisation, including the accounting officer role. She works closely with school leaders in

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

the headteacher leadership team, which meets fortnightly to decide how best to implement school improvement priorities in their schools and review progress. Headteachers, with their local governing bodies, are responsible for the day to day operational running and oversight of individual schools, on the principle of 'tiered autonomy'. The Scheme of Delegation allows for higher levels of support and intervention if a school is considered vulnerable. There is also a small 'executive team', supporting the CEO comprising of the Finance Director and Compliance Officer. The team oversees trust-wide functions and specifically finance, compliance and policies, governance and operations.

Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Local Governing Bodies of Brigshaw Learning Partnership schools meet every half term, to encourage networking, promoting good practice and to enable dialogue between themselves and The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has adopted a pay policy, which sets out the benchmarks, parameters and criteria for setting the pay of senior school leaders. This pay policy is aligned to the Leeds Local Authority Pay Policy and is negotiated with a locally convened Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) so it can be personalised to our specific context. The policy is kept under annual review. The pay and remuneration of the CEO is set and reviewed by the Pay Committee. The performance management of the CEO is guided by external advisers who provide advice and support on the performance management review.

Trade union facility time

Under the provisions of the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017, we are required to provide the following information:

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full time equivalent employee number
4 Brigshaw Learning Partnership employees and de-delegated Leeds time	4

Percentage of time spent on facility time	Number of employees
0%	1
1%-50%	3
51% - 99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	
Provide the total cost of facility time	£443,10
Provide the total pay bill	£12,504,386
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time + total pay bill) x 100	0.004%

Time spent on paid trade union facilities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period + total paid facility time hours) x 100	0%
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Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Brigshaw High School is a member of The Red Kite Teaching School Alliance which is co-ordinated by The Red Kite Learning Trust (RKLK). One Brigshaw Learning Partnership (BLP) trustee was a Member of the RKLK and another BLP trustee was a school improvement adviser for the RKLK during 2019-20.

Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the trust.

The trust is operated with a very clear mission statement of 'Success and Respect for All' and clear values of Equality, Integrity, Resilience and Tolerance. These are the guiding principles for all staff engaging with suppliers, customers or other business relationships. These values are worked into practice through the implementation of our financial procedures which are regularly reviewed, looking for key indicators such as the percentage of invoices paid within the specified term period. Ongoing contract management ensures continued engagement. Leeds City Council (LCC) is considered by the Trust to be a key strategic partner. The trust continues to align itself with LCC's key policies.

Covid-19: the trust adhered to government guidelines concerning honouring financial commitments and ensuring appropriate use of public funds.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The objects of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership set out in its Articles of Association are specifically restricted to the following: "to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom... by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum".

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership are to:

- 1. Improve outcomes for children and young people and expand opportunities for all in school communities by:**
 - improving levels of progress, attainment and achievement for all pupils and students, with particular focus on the more able, and disadvantaged pupils;
 - developing an effective 'school improvement' function and capacity to accelerate and sustain better outcomes for all children and young people and ensure all schools are good and outstanding;
 - developing and sustaining Brigshaw Learning Partnership approaches to removing barriers to learning linked to behaviour, attendance, additional needs;
 - continuing to develop guidance and support capacity to work with vulnerable children and their families;
 - working more effectively with further education, training and employment sectors in the Leeds area and wider city region to enable young people to access and contribute to a thriving and dynamic regional economy;
 - accessing a richer variety of experiences locally, regionally, nationally and internationally, particularly with regard to sport, creativity and the arts;
 - promoting pupil and student leadership, participation and community engagement; and
 - creating stronger and more purposeful links with a range of learning partners (from early years to higher education) to promote higher aspirations, a culture of family learning, and increased access to educational opportunities.

- 2. Establish The Brigshaw Learning Partnership as a well-governed and effective multi-academy trust by:**
 - ensuring compliance with all statutory and relevant policies at The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and Local Governing Bodies (LGB) level;
 - ensuring that the quality of all governance is good and outstanding at The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and LGB level;
 - developing sustainable executive leadership capacity; and
 - developing robust and effective management systems to inform quality assurance and decision-making.

- 3. Develop business and financial systems efficiently and transparently to ensure good stewardship of public funds and assets by:**
 - ensuring the effectiveness of all financial, accounting and audit systems and processes at The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and school level;
 - ensuring buildings, land and assets are fit for purpose to provide an outstanding learning and working environment for pupils, students and staff;
 - exploring robust and effective approaches to better value, business continuity and sustainability to ensure we are a viable and thriving learning community; and
 - developing and sustaining an ethical and entrepreneurial approach in seeking additional funding and resources to support our key aims and objectives.

- 4. Develop a growth strategy to sustain and strengthen the partnership by:**
 - encouraging and supporting engagement with other secondary schools within the wider locality to share school improvement approaches; and
 - developing an alliance of partners to deliver distinctive shared and viable post-16 provision for young people across the wider locality.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

5. Develop our workforce by:

- developing and delivering a Brigshaw Learning Partnership-wide programme of staff training and professional development aligned with individual school and wider trust school improvement priorities with due regard to developing an apprenticeship strategy;
- reviewing and developing staff appraisal and performance management so that it is effective across all staff and Brigshaw Learning Partnership schools;
- developing and delivering a recruitment, talent management, leadership development and succession planning strategy which enables the trust to grow capacity and recruit and retain high quality staff across our schools; and
- developing a range of cross-trust staff networks and activities to promote to a wider range of benefits for all staff in trust schools, including tackling workload and promoting health and well-being.

Public benefit

In exercising its powers and duties The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has complied with its duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The main public benefit delivered by The Brigshaw Learning Partnership is the free provision of education to its learners.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Our key priorities for 2019-20 were to improve outcomes at all key stages, further develop our school improvement offer to achieve more impact and to support schools in ensuring successful Ofsted inspections during the year. We also focused on accessing further financial efficiencies in order to maximise resources which have an impact on children's outcomes and lives. From March 2020, like all MATs and schools, our focus changed due to Covid-19. Each summary section includes a Covid-19 summary where appropriate.

Achievements and Performance

1. Improve outcomes for children and young people and expanding opportunities for all in our school communities

As a multi-academy trust we implement a rigorous programme of self-review, scrutiny and challenge. LGBs are supported in self-evaluation and monitoring, reporting key outcomes across a range of areas to the board. Schools and LGBs are supported in this through engagement with Teaching School Alliances and commissioning external partners as well as our own independent audits of provision, strategic developments and their impact on outcomes. Open and honest review of key risks results in focused support and intervention in schools. Following the successful impact of additional funding from the ESFA, from the Multi-academy Development and Improvement (MDIF) grant in 2018-19, we developed a sustainable model of school improvement using the role of Primary School Improvement Lead. This continues to have a significant impact on the capacity of our schools to ensure sustainable improvements.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has also ensured that the partnership work such as sports co-ordination, transitional learning work and learning development hubs continued to develop and have impact. Specialist networks such as the Learning Mentor hub and the SEND hub ensure that our most vulnerable children have access to the same high quality support across our schools.

Our focus for 2019-20 continued to be on developing our teaching of reading and on developing our curriculum offer for all our schools, focusing on all schools creating a coherent curriculum with clear intent reflecting the trust's vision and values. School improvement plans and CPD provision were aligned to these priorities across BLP schools. A major focus of our work was to respond to areas for development in the previous year's Ofsted judgements and to prepare remaining schools for impending Ofsted inspections. The Trust's school improvement team implemented a comprehensive and rigorous CPD programme focusing on areas for improvement. External and internal scrutiny evidenced substantial improvements in securing better outcomes for pupils at all key stages.

Covid-19: From March 2020, this objective shifted emphasis. External examinations at GCSE and A Level were replaced by Centre Assessed Grades (CAGs). The Trust ensured that all CAGs complied with Ofqual and DFE requirements to be moderated and to be in line with national and school standards from previous years. Whilst the rigorous application of this limited projected outcomes for some subjects, results did evidence the school improvement strategies adopted during the year were having a positive impact. In particular, outcomes for disadvantaged students evidenced the Trust's drive to narrow the achievement and opportunity gaps for our most vulnerable students. Post-16 outcomes enabled all students to pursue their chosen pathways, both in higher education and in higher level apprenticeships.

Overall, the Trust's focus was to support schools in developing high quality remote learning opportunities for pupils, and ensuring the most vulnerable pupils were supported. High quality communication with parents and children

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

enabled our schools to refine and amend their provision and all schools received positive feedback on their remote learning provision. Extensive support was provided by the Cluster Support team who managed an increasingly heavy caseload of vulnerable families. Schools re-opened to identified year groups as directed by DFE. The trust is very proud of the contribution our schools and our staff made to supporting our community amidst these unprecedented challenges.

2. Further develop The Brigshaw Learning Partnership as a well-governed and effective multi-academy trust

The BLP has benefitted considerably from the decision to review internal audit procedures and extend the remit in order to ensure wider aspects of the Trust's work were scrutinised and evaluated. Both external and internal audit reports indicated that governance arrangements were robust and effective, and the Board implemented the development action plan which arose from the National Governance Association governance review.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership continues to invest in governance through the post of Compliance Officer. This post ensures that LGBs are aligned to trust priorities and enables LGBs to be fully informed and equipped with the skills and knowledge to provide challenge and accountability at a school level. The Compliance Officer ensures the development and consistent application of the BLP statutory, mandatory and constitutional requirements and monitors and communicates any changes to regulations to the schools. The post supports the development and quality assurance of governance across the BLP. The post encompasses the role of Data Protection Officer, Clerk and Company Secretary.

There continues to be confidence in the process of recruitment of directors and governors, and a recognition of the effective clerking and chairing arrangements, and particularly the emergence of stronger approaches to developing individual directors involvement.

Covid-19: The Board is very proud to be able to confirm that governance requirements have continued since March 2020. Virtual meetings were established for Board meetings, LGBs and sub committees. Support and training was provided for all governors and, in particular, for chairs to support the effective management of the meetings process and to ensure sufficient scrutiny was still applied. As identified above, an additional committee – the Emergency Response Committee, was convened in accordance with the trust's Disaster Response and Recovery Plan. This committee met regularly, focusing primarily on Health and Safety issues, including Risk assessment approval, and on the well-being of children, families and staff.

3. Continue to develop business and financial systems efficiently and transparently to ensure good stewardship of public funds and assets

The regularity, quality and depth of finance and budget information to the Board and Finance and Resources Committee continues to be a significant strength of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership, as is the tireless and rigorous work of the team in ensuring that schools manage their finances prudently and carefully at a time of dwindling resources in real terms. As requested by the ESFA, the Board undertook a review with a Schools Resource Management Adviser (SRMA). This review confirmed the efficient operations within the Trust and evidenced the pursuit of value for money in all areas. The findings of this review have informed actions and planning of resource management across the Trust.

The Trust is eligible for School Condition Allowance. The Trust has developed its estate management planning in order to ensure that use of these funds matches priorities.

Covid-19: The Board is proud of a successful record of business continuity during the pandemic. Swift action was taken to ensure all financial systems remained compliant, efficient and effective. The Board applied all government recommendations concerning financial commitments to businesses and employees.

Effective planning and liaison with estates contractors ensured that significant capital projects were fully compliant in procurement, and were delivered within a timeframe and within new Health and safety considerations.

4. Develop partnerships to sustain and strengthen the Brigshaw Learning Partnership

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership schools continued to work closely with other local primary schools in our cluster, Great Preston CE and Lady Elizabeth Hastings throughout the year. Other relevant developments included the continuation of Brigshaw High School's long-standing post-16 partnership with Temple Moor High School. Senior Leaders and Directors within The Brigshaw Learning Partnership continued to be involved in a collaboration with counterparts in other large Multi Academy Trusts and college federations, to reviewing potential collaborative approaches to professional development, alternative provision, estates and procurement. The CEO undertook commissioned support for a local high school in challenging circumstances funded through the ESFA's Strategic School Improvement Fund.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Covid-19: Limitations on movement and the requirement for virtual learning presented considerable challenges for partnership working. The Board is proud of the creative and effective ways used to continue these partnerships. The Trust provided high quality leadership support across partner schools, ensuring access to advice and support. Post-16 partnership collaboration was maintained enabling schools to effectively re-establish partnership classes from September 2020.

5. Develop our workforce

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has continued to make improvements in schools' HR procedures and processes, greater consistency and adherence to statutory requirements. Extensive support has also been provided for further policy development.

Opportunities for staff development were identified and pursued at all levels across the Trust. Heads and other Senior Leaders also had opportunities to benefit from secondments to other senior posts in other trust schools. Many staff were involved in The Brigshaw Learning Partnership-wide training and development programmes.

The Board offered apprenticeship training opportunities to support staff in priority skill development areas, such as ICT, HR and estates management.

Covid-19: The Trust's objective to 'develop our workforce' became more a focus on 'protecting our workforce'. A key priority for the Board was to ensure all BLP colleagues were supported and protected during the pandemic. The Board ensured full compliance with DfE requirements, ensuring response actions remained in line with Local Authority guidelines as our Health and safety partners. Staff were consulted on changes to practice arising from Covid measures and also on their own well-being.

Key Performance Indicators – Outcomes for Learners

Improving pupil outcomes across The Brigshaw Learning Partnership is vitally important for the Trust as a school partnership and more so for our children and young people as learners, in supporting their aspirations and helping them achieve their potential.

As outlined above, up until March 2020 and the closure of schools to all pupils except children of key workers and disadvantaged pupils, there were a number of very encouraging performance indicators across all schools at every key stage and phase of learning, as well as ones which confirmed headteachers' judgements that the Trust needs to continue its focus on securing and sustaining even better progress, achievement and attainment.

Covid-19: There is much to celebrate in terms of the hard work of pupils, students and staff both before Covid and during the pandemic. The resilience of all stakeholders was evident and their positive response to support was shown by high levels of engagement with remote learning, high attendance for eligible pupils and positive feedback. There are also areas for development. A key challenge for us is ensuring the progress and performance of 'disadvantaged' children in the current circumstances.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Promoting the success of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

The Board takes its responsibility to 'promote the success of the company' as outlined in Companies Act 2006, to ensure all Directors act in a way most likely to ensure success of the company, very seriously. The Board's actions are reviewed through the lens of our charitable aims and our vision and values. All Directors adhere to these values in their contributions to the Trust. As outlined throughout this report, careful compliance with all requirements and a long term strategy underpinned by clear rationale, vision and values, ensures Directors act accordingly.

The consequences of all decisions and activities of the BLP are assessed by how they drive us towards achieving our long-term purpose, including by reference to the BLP's strategy, vision and values. As an educational charity, we are accountable not only to our funders and direct beneficiaries (our pupils) but also our parents and wider community. These stakeholders support us, engage with us, and challenge us. They ensure that the decisions we make as a charity, from the ground level through to the Board, are for their benefit. We are a values driven organisation and our values mean that we are informed, shaped and powered by our determination to uphold our vision and values. Well-established involvement and consultation mechanisms, both direct (through parent and staff surveys) and indirect (through the involvement of parents and local people on our Local Governing Bodies and Trust Board) ensure that decisions made by the Directors are informed by the needs of the organisation's stakeholders.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has had a successful financial year. The net deficit was £1,699,000 (2019: £1,186,000), after depreciation of £1,457,000 (2019: £1,211,000). Net current assets as at 31 August 2020 were £1,815,000 (2019: £1,950,000).

As at 31 August 2020 The Brigshaw Learning Partnership had cash reserves of £2,086,000 (2019: £2,001,000).

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership's income is derived in the main from the Department for Education (DfE) and the Local Authority (LA) in the form of recurrent and capital grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE and LA during the year ended 31 August 2020 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership also received grants for the acquisition of fixed assets from the DfE. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2019), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed assets fund is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

Statement of principal financial management policies adopted

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership implements and regularly reviews a full set of required financial policies and procedures. The following financial management policies were adopted:

- Management of Funds policy;
- Fixed assets policy;
- Anti-Fraud, Corruption and Bribery policy;
- Employee expenses policy;
- Payment of expenses to Directors and Local Governors policy;
- Gifts and hospitality policy;
- Accounting policies;
- Debtors policy;
- Charging and Remissions policy;
- Procurement and Tendering policy;
- Pooled Funding and Appeals Policy;
- Risk Management Policy; and
- Reserves Policy

Reserves policy

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has three categories of reserves:

- Restricted funds, which is the General Annual Grant, used to carry out the principal objectives of the organisation;
- Fixed asset reserve used to finance fixed assets; and
- Unrestricted reserves which are used under the discretion of the Board of Trustees and are delegated to Local Governing Bodies.

The unrestricted reserves of £1,456,000 (2019: £1,444,000) are freely available for general purposes. Unrestricted funds are allocated in line with the strategic objectives of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership.

The restricted fixed asset reserve of £51,519,000 (2019: £52,232,000) includes the transfer of fixed assets from Leeds City Council for the seven schools' conversions in previous years.

Trustees review the level of reserves on an annual basis. The review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. Reserves are held to ensure the academy has sufficient resources to continue to advance the education of learners, including the necessary capital expenditure.

As at 31 August 2020 and 31 August 2019 the Academy Trust held the following reserves:

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Restricted General Fund	(10,702)	(7,495)
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	51,519	52,232
General funds	5	-
Unrestricted Fund	1,456	1,444
Total	42,278	46,181

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

The Restricted General Fund relates to the pension liability which is described in more detail in note 25 to the financial statements. The Trustees will continue to monitor the position of this liability closely.

The Board has reviewed the level of reserves and considered them to be adequate. The Finance and Resources Committee have reviewed the Reserves Policy and identified a target level of reserves for each school. This equates to a % of funding. The balance at one school, Allerton Bywater, was not in line with the expected reserves (5% of General Annual Grant). Allerton Bywater has an agreed action plan in place, this is monitored by the CEO and CFO and reflected in the Risk Register.

Investment policy

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has an investment policy (Management of Funds Policy) based on treasury management as defined by the Chartered Institute of Public Finance and Accountancy's (CIPFA's) Code of Practice. The objectives of treasury management are: to provide a means by which The Brigshaw Learning Partnership can meet its commitments; to ensure that sufficient sums are available at short notice or no notice to meet foreseeable requirements; to earn an acceptable rate of return on surplus funds without undue risk; to spread risk between differing types of investment and institutions.

The Chief Education Officer and The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board have responsibility for the overall security and management of funds. The day to day management of the treasury function is controlled by the Finance Director. The Finance Director will liaise with the CEO and The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board in relation to strategy and market conditions.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties identified by The Brigshaw Learning Partnership concern finance and funding, pupil outcomes and the condition of buildings and facilities in particular schools and cyber security – as highlighted by the ESFA.

The Trust is mitigating these risks in the following ways:

- Finance and funding – robust financial controls, efficient procurement approaches across all schools in The Brigshaw Learning Partnership, and improved reporting procedures.
- Pupil outcomes – focused school improvement strategies and interventions to secure better outcomes and create sustainable school improvement capacity.
- Buildings – maximise impact of the School Condition Allowance, and further develop an estates strategy and application of the findings of the School Resource Management Adviser review in relation to buildings and resource management. The Trust has also deployed additional estates capacity to applying the DFE's Good Estates Management for Schools (GEMS) guidance across the Trust.
- The Trust has a robust risk management strategy at individual school level which is reviewed termly with the trust board and which informs the overall trust wide position and the trust strategy decisions on risk management.
- Cyber security – comprehensive staff training, managed network access, internal audit and breach reporting procedures keep systems secure. Potential breaches modelled and responses planned for in our Disaster response and Recovery Plan and covered by additional cyber insurance.

Covid-19: The pandemic has, as acknowledged in the Academies Accounts Direction Supplementary bulletin July 2020, affected the principal risks of the Trust. The main areas of uncertainty are the impact of the pandemic on pupil outcomes and finances. The impact on costs from adherence to control measures in keeping schools safe and adequately staffed remains an ongoing uncertainty. However, the Trust is in a strong position to mitigate these risks through:

- Covid-focused impact reviews;
- Shared leadership expertise to ensure continuity;
- Ongoing reserves policy;
- Best value procurement of supply staff and review of staff absence insurance;
- School improvement development of triple track approach to curriculum and learning provision – school based, remote and blended; and
- Shared strategies for teaching and learning under control measures.

Fundraising

The Academy Trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

UK Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Energy Use Data for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020	2019/20
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kwh)	3,194,528
Energy consumption breakdown	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gas • Electricity • Transport Fuel 	1,912,362 1,274,399 7,767
Scope 1 – Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	
Gas consumption	351.63
Owned Transport – Mini Buses	1.16
Total Scope 1	352.79
Scope 2 – Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	
Purchased Electricity	297.11
Scope 3 – Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	0.68
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	650.58
Intensity Ratio Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.21

Quantification and Reporting Methodology:

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2020 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity Measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

We invested in new boilers at Brigshaw High School in August 2019. We have also invested in a new roof and windows at Allerton Bywater Primary School. Both of these measures should have an impact on the energy efficiency of the Trust. Energy usage was reduced due to closure of the schools from March 2020 due to Covid-19. More staff have been working at home, which has reduced mileage costs as more remote meetings have taken place. As an organisation we will look to continue to reduce mileage in this way by holding meetings virtually where appropriate.

Plans for future periods

In 2019-20 the Board undertook a stakeholder review of its vision, values and aims. This has led to a revised strategic plan which takes into account our long term vision and aims and ensures that crisis management of the pandemic is only a part of what we strategically plan for and implement.

The overarching aim of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership is to develop schools which inspire and motivate children, staff and families and deliver our core mission of '**Success and Respect for All**' underpinned by our core values of **Equality, Integrity, Tolerance and Resilience**. The strategic plan 2020-2023 outlines the key strategic objectives of the BLP over the next three years, sharing and defining our vision, explaining the key goals and performance measures that will demonstrate the success of our schools in delivering this.

This overarching strategic plan informs and is informed by the individual school self-evaluations, pupil outcomes and resulting school development plans. Our expectation is that all actions resulting from these plans will be rooted in equality of access and opportunity with a commitment to safeguarding at its heart.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

It should be noted that a key priority for 2020-21 will be our response to the challenges of Covid-19. Our plans will have to be responsive to changes brought about to accommodate the changing landscape. Nevertheless, it is vital that we keep our overall aims clearly in mind so we know what we are losing or modifying.

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

The plan for 2020-21, encompassing Covid responses is at the end of the 2020-23 plan.

Our key objectives are:

Improve outcomes for our children and young people:

- School improvement strategy leads to improved outcomes at key transition points and for key groups
- Effective leadership and governance leads to accurate self-evaluation and improvement planning
- Effective leadership enables all schools to provide at least good teaching and learning

Ensure excellent behaviour and attitudes:

- Ensuring school environments enable children to be safe, happy and engaged
- Developing our children as resilient and determined learners

Ensure excellent personal development:

- Ensuring pupils make a positive contribution to the school and wider community
- Provide opportunities for all children to succeed across the whole curriculum, in particular, arts, sports and citizenship
- Ensure a broad, enriched curriculum which takes advantage of partnership and collaboration to provide memorable, inspirational experiences which nurture talents and interests

Provide excellent leadership and management

- Effective leadership enables all schools to provide high quality teaching and learning in a rich, broad, balanced and inclusive curriculum
- All levels of leadership and governance can demonstrate skilled identification and management of risks faced
- Effective leadership and governance leads to accurate self evaluation and improvement planning

Excellent service and care

- Relentless culture of safeguarding is secure
- Access to high quality support and guidance for students and their families
- School communities understand and appreciate the impact of the work of the trust
- Schools provide an ambitious culture of learning

Value and develop our workforce

- Attract and retain high quality staff
- CPD opportunities are sustained and promote equality of opportunity
- Develop MAT wide HR strategy which addresses workload challenges and wellbeing

Ensure our partnerships have positive impact on our key priorities

- Sustain and further develop high value partnerships

Covid-19 response:

- Recovery and response planning
- Teaching and learning recovery plan
- Protect budgets from Covid pressures
- Continue school improvement support to ensure all schools judged at least good
- Ensure all schools still engage with BLP wide global initiatives – Climate challenge, International Arts Festival and Black Lives Matter

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Employee involvement

Each academy encourages the involvement of its employees in its leadership and management through various activities including for example; weekly meetings of the SLT, at least half-termly meetings of middle leaders and at least half-termly meeting of department teams. This ensures the sharing of vision and policy and discussion of key issues including the receiving of views of the staff. In addition, in 2019-20, the Board undertook a wide ranging review of its mission statement, vision and values with all stakeholders. The CEO and Chair of the Board communicate regularly with all BLP employees, outlining current successes and challenges and inviting further communication. The trust formed a Joint Consultative Committee with all staff trade unions. The JCC meets at least termly. Trade union representatives are consulted on policies which affect staff, and are encouraged to further communicate with their members across the trust. The JCC is also a communication channel for any work-related concerned emerging. Most recently, this has been a forum to review application of control measures during the pandemic.

Disabled applicants and employees

Each academy will employ disabled persons when they appear to be suitable for a particular vacancy and every effort is made to ensure that they are given full and fair consideration when such vacancies arise. Through the support and guidance of Occupational Health employees who have been injured or disabled in the course of their employment can, where possible, continue in employment with the academy trust.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating the strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 9.12.2020 and signed on the board's behalf by:


Robert Stott
Chair of Trustees

Date: 9.12.2020

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the Funding Agreement between The Brigshaw Learning Partnership 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. 5 meetings were scheduled, but 1 meeting scheduled for 24 March 2020 was cancelled due to the Covid-19 lockdown announcement on 23 March 2020. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rachael Bajulaiye	3	4
Neil Clephan	4	4
Simon Hilton (resigned 15 th July 2020)	1	3
Emma Jackson	4	4
Nicholas Mitchell	3	4
Ken Morton	4	4
Ann-Marie Spry	3	4
Robert Stott (Chair)	4	4
Stewart Ross	3	4

Governance review

The Multi-Academy Trust Board had undertaken a Governance Review to assess the effectiveness of the Academy's governance processes, systems, culture and behaviours and recommend improvements. In 2018-19 the Trust Board developed an action plan in response to the findings and in 2019-20 the board implemented the key recommendations.

Whilst the board met for less than six times during the financial year, effective oversight of funds was maintained due to the work and reports of the Finance and Resources Committee and Audit and Risk Committee. All Trustees have access to monthly management accounts and Trustees attend other meetings with the Senior Leadership Teams of the Trust and constituent academies.

Audit and Risk Committee

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board. Its purpose is: to monitor and assess the internal controls of the Trust to ensure that The Brigshaw Learning Partnership as a whole is operating at appropriate levels of risk and in compliance with audit requirements; to take responsibility for external and internal audit matters, oversee the work programme and performance quality of the internal and external audit services; to support the board in ensuring that a framework is established and maintained for the identification and management of risk; to support the board in providing an added level of scrutiny in the monitoring of internal and external audit matters, risk management, fraud prevention and detection, and internal controls and health and safety; and to keep the board regularly informed of the committee's activities and key decisions. The committee also has responsibility for reviewing reports from the external auditors. Trustees work in conjunction with the CEO and Finance Director.

Attendance by Trustees at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rachael Bajulaiye (Chair)	2	3
Neil Clephan	2	3
Emma Jackson	2	3
Stewart Ross	2	3

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee is a sub-committee of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board. Its principal duties are to: develop a financial strategy for the Trust and consider policies, procedures or plans required to realise such strategy; to consider the Trust's indicative funding, once notified by the ESFA, and to assess its implications, in consultation with the CEO and the Finance Director, in advance of the financial year, drawing any matters of significance or concern to the attention of the Trust Board; to consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the Trust's budget to the Trust Board; to monitor any variances from the budget and ensure the ESFA is notified as required; to receive and make recommendations on the broad budget headings and areas of expenditure to be adopted each year, including the level and use of any contingency fund or balances, ensuring the compatibility of all such proposals with the development priorities set out in the Trust development plan; to monitor and review income and expenditure on a regular basis and ensure compliance with the overall financial plan for the trust, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board; and to monitor and review procedures for ensuring the effective implementation and operation of financial procedures, on a regular basis, including the implementation of bank account arrangements and, where appropriate to make recommendations for improvement. Trustees work in conjunction with the CEO and Finance Director.

Attendance by trustees at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Robert Stott (Chair)	3	3
Ken Morton	3	3

Progress and Standards Committee

The Progress and Standards Committee is a sub-committee of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board. Its principal duties are: to ensure that the highest possible standards are set and maintained across the Trust; to receive a termly report from the CEO regarding standards and performance of the Trust against key performance indicators; to identify any areas of concern in respect of standards, performance and external scrutiny and to implement an action plan with the CEO; to ensure that the Trust's curriculum is balanced and meets the needs of all children and young people; to scrutinise and review relevant Trust policies for recommendation to the Trust Board; to ensure that effective processes are in place for the quality assurance of teaching and learning, the curriculum, inclusion and the sharing of good practice across the Trust; to support the CEO in the creation, implementation and monitoring of the Trust's development plan and any post-Ofsted action plan; to advise the Trust Board with respect to targets for pupil/student achievement across the Trust; to ensure that effective arrangements are in place across the Trust for pupil/student support and representation, for monitoring attendance and for behaviour management. Trustees work in conjunction with the CEO.

Attendance by trustees at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Simon Hilton	0	1
Emma Jackson (Acting Chair)	2	2
Nick Mitchell	1	2
Ann-Marie Spry	2	2

The CEO has attended all Trust Board and Committee meetings.

Review of Value for Money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- arranging for the regular review of contracts and service level agreements to improve efficiency and value for money;
- continuing to review staffing needs and identify areas where staffing costs can be reduced whilst avoiding a negative impact on educational provision.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Brigshaw Learning Partnership for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 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 on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has appointed Moorlands Learning Trust to provide an internal audit/Responsible Officer function to carry out a programme of internal checks, evaluating the suitability of and level of compliance with financial and other controls, with the aim of providing independent assurance to the board that its financial and other controls, and risk management procedures, are operating effectively.

The Trust identifies on a risk-basis (with reference to the BLP risk register) the areas it will review each year, modifying the checks accordingly. Moorlands Learning Trust's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- register of business and pecuniary interests;
- scheme of delegation and submission of annual budget;
- financial reporting;
- monthly payroll reports and payroll arrangements;
- purchasing systems and procurement;
- bank reconciliations; and
- cash collection.

In addition, focused audits were undertaken. The audits covered premises, lettings and Covid-19 key controls.

On a termly basis, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees, through the Audit and Risk Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities. The outcomes and recommendations in the Responsible Officer's reports were presented to the Academy Trust Board, through the Audit and Risk Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. The review will be carried out in future years on an annual basis.

**The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of Moorlands Trust audit team to provide an Internal Audit/Responsible Officer function;
- the work of the external auditor, Murray Harcourt; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on.....9/12/2020.....and signed on its behalf by:


Robert Stott
Chair of Trustees

Catherine Lennon
Accounting Officer

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with the ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

I confirm the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and I are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2019.

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 the ESFA.

Catherine Lennon
Accounting Officer

Date: 9.12.2020

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

The Trustees (who act as Governors of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and 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 Annual 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 year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the 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 in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020;
- make judgments 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; and
- 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 the ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on... 9.12.2020and signed on its behalf by:

Robert Stott
Chair of Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIGSHAW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2020, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement, the Statement of Accounting Policies and the notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and 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 2019 to 2020 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2020, and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the period 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 2019 to 2020 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 Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIGSHAW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (continued)

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Financial Statements, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Directors' 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 directors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 18, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the 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 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 Academy Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIGSHAW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (continued)

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/Description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

.....
Steven Williams FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Murray Harcourt Limited, Statutory Auditor

6 Queen Street
Leeds
LS1 2TW

Date:

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE BRIGSHAW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 12 September 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Brigshaw Learning Partnership during the period from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 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 The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Brigshaw Learning Partnership and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 April 2016 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, 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 2019 to 2020. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed, and income received during the period from 1 September 2019 to 31 August 2020 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Documenting the framework of authorities which govern the activities of the Academy Trust;
- Reviewing the evidence supporting the representations included in the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance with the framework of authorities;
- Undertaking a risk assessment based on our understanding of the general control environment and any weaknesses in internal control identified by our audit of the financial statements;
- Reviewing the output from a self-assessment questionnaire completed by the Academy Trust;
- Testing compliance with delegated authorities for a sample of material transactions;
- Testing transactions with connected parties to determine whether the Academy Trust has complied with the 'at cost' requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2019;
- Confirming through enquiry and sample testing that the Academy Trust has complied with its procurement policies and that these policies comply with the delegated authorities; and
- Reviewing any evidence of impropriety resulting from our work and determining whether it was significant enough to be referred to in our regularity report.

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON
REGULARITY TO THE BRIGSHAW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP AND THE EDUCATION
AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (continued)**

Conclusion

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

**Reporting Accountant
Murray Harcourt Limited**

Date:

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
 Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account
 for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total 2020 £'000	Total 2019 £'000
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and capital grants	1	-	-	511	511	559
Incoming resources from charitable activities:						
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	2	464	16,431	-	16,895	16,283
Other trading activities	3	126	-	-	126	320
Investment income	4	3	-	-	3	5
Total		593	16,431	511	17,535	17,167
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities:						
Academy Trust's educational operations	6	581	17,196	1,457	19,234	18,353
Total	5	581	17,196	1,457	19,234	18,353
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		12	(765)	(946)	(1,699)	(1,186)
Gross transfers between funds	14	-	(233)	233	-	-
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension scheme	25	-	(2,204)	-	(2,204)	(3,540)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		12	(3,202)	(713)	(3,903)	(4,726)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		1,444	(7,495)	52,232	46,181	50,907
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	1,456	(10,697)	51,519	42,278	46,181

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 August 2020

Registration number: 10301662

	Notes	2020 £'000	2020 £'000	2019 £'000	2019 £'000
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11		51,165		51,726
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	738		720	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>2,086</u>		<u>2,001</u>	
		2,824		2,721	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(1,009)</u>		<u>(771)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			1,815		1,950
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>52,980</u>		<u>53,676</u>
NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY			<u>52,980</u>		<u>53,676</u>
Pension scheme liability	25		<u>(10,702)</u>		<u>(7,495)</u>
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY			<u>42,278</u>		<u>46,181</u>
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST:					
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Fixed asset fund	14		51,519		52,232
General funds	14		5		-
Pension reserve	14		<u>(10,702)</u>		<u>(7,495)</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS			<u>40,822</u>		<u>44,737</u>
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds			<u>1,456</u>		<u>1,444</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS	14		<u>1,456</u>		<u>1,444</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>42,278</u>		<u>46,181</u>

The financial statements on pages 24 to 45 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 31.12.20, and are signed on their behalf by:

Robert Stott
Chair of Trustees

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 August 2020

	Notes	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash used in operating activities	18	467	362
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	19	3	5
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	20	(385)	200
		<hr/>	<hr/>
INCREASE IN CASH IN THE YEAR		85	567
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2019	21	<hr/> 2,001	<hr/> 1,434
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 AUGUST 2020	21	<hr/> 2,086	<hr/> 2,001

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

for the year ended 31 August 2020

Statement of accounting policies

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2019 to 2020 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going Concern

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

Income

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

Grant receivable

Grant income is 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Other grants from government agencies and other bodies are recognised in the period in which they are receivable to the extent the conditions of funding have been met. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued.

Sponsorship Income

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

Interest receivable

Interest receivable is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis, and is stated inclusive of related tax credits.

Transfer of schools into the Trust

The current schools within the Trust joined between 2016 and 2018.

The conversion from state maintained school to an Academy Trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the schools for £nil consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from the school to the Academy Trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Voluntary income – transfer from local authority on conversion in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds.

Donated services and gifts in kind

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the Academy Trust are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the Academy Trust can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy Trust's policies.

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

Expenditure

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

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Fund accounting

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

Restricted General funds are resources subject to specific restrictions imposed by funders or donors, and include grants from the ESFA and DfE.

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by ESFA, DfE and other funders, where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2020

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets costing £2,000 or more are capitalised at cost 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 lives. 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 to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

Freehold buildings	Over the remaining useful life 25-50 years
Leasehold buildings	Over the remaining useful life 25-50 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% per annum
Computer equipment	33% per annum

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

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.

Buildings in respect of two of the schools operated by the Academy Trust were originally procured by the Local Authority through the Private Finance Initiative ("PFI"). Freehold title to one building was transferred to the Academy Trust at the time that the Academy Trust took over operating one of the schools. The other school building is leasehold. The Academy Trust is required to make revenue contributions towards the Local Authority's unitary charge payment to the PFI contractor. The Governors consider that the property passes the control tests of FRS 102 in transferring substantially all the risks and rewards to the Academy Trust and accordingly the property has been capitalised as a tangible fixed asset at the date of transfer with a corresponding entry to income, using an estimate of fair value at the transfer date. The level of future contributions to the Local Authority's unitary charge both (a) inherently reflects some element of revenue expenditure in relation to facilities management and (b) is not known with certainty and accordingly no liability has been recorded for future payment contributions. Accordingly, the payments are expensed as incurred.

Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by 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.

Debtors

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

Liabilities

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

Provisions

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

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

Financial instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 12. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. Taxation and social security creditors are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

Leased assets

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

Pensions benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 25, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received and paid, and any balances held are disclosed in note 27.

**The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020**

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

Local Government Pension Scheme liability

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 different assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2020. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
for the year ended 31 August 2020

1 DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
Capital grants	-	501	501	559
Capital donations	-	10	10	-
	-	511	511	559

2 FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
DfE/ESFA GRANTS				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	12,883	12,883	12,701
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,755	1,755	1,242
	-	14,638	14,638	13,943
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS				
SEN from Local Authority	-	529	529	321
Other Local Authority grants	-	1,049	1,049	967
	-	1,578	1,578	1,288
OTHER INCOME				
Catering income	341	3	344	497
Academy trips	-	82	82	203
Music tuition	8	-	8	12
Supply and training	18	-	18	19
Other income	97	130	227	321
	464	215	679	1,052
Total	464	16,431	16,895	16,283

3 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
Extended school	95	-	95	248
Income from lettings	25	-	25	43
Other income	6	-	6	29
	126	-	126	320

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

4 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
Short term deposits	3	-	3	5
	3	-	3	5

5 EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs £'000	Non Pay Expenditure		2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
		Premises £'000	Other costs £'000		
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	11,096	73	929	12,098	11,323
Allocated support costs	2,928	1,640	2,568	7,136	7,030
	14,024	1,713	3,497	19,234	18,353

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:		
Operating leases	27	14
Depreciation	1,457	1,211
Fees payable to auditor for:		
Audit	12	12
Other services	4	14

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Direct costs – educational operations	12,098	11,323
Support costs – educational operations	7,136	7,030
	19,234	18,353

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operation £'000	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
Staff costs	2,928	2,928	2,962
Depreciation	1,384	1,384	1,150
Premises costs	1,640	1,640	1,609
Governance costs	38	38	43
Other support costs	1,146	1,146	1,266
Total support costs	7,136	7,136	7,030

Expenditure on the Academy Trust's educational operations amounted to £19,234,000 (2019: £18,353,000) of which £581,000 (2019: £949,000) was attributable to unrestricted and £18,653,000 (2019: £17,404,000) was attributable to restricted funds.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

7 STAFF COSTS

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
a. Staff costs		
Staff costs during the period were:		
Wages and salaries	9,974	9,625
Social security costs	885	845
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	2,955	2,346
Apprenticeship levy	35	33
	13,849	12,849
Supply staff costs	170	330
Staff restructuring costs	5	22
	14,024	13,201
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	5	22
	5	22

b. Non-statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £5,496 (2019: £3,167). Individually, the payments were £3,544 and £1,952.

c. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the Academy Trust during the period expressed as full-time equivalents was as follows:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
Charitable activities		
Teachers	161	161
Administration and support	251	250
Management	11	11
	423	422

d. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 was:

	2020 No.	2019 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	3	4
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	1	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-

The above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Pension contributions for these staff amounted to £112,097 (2019: £75,346).

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees, the CEO, Finance Director and Development Director and the Senior Management Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £894,830 (2019: £888,000).

**The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020**

8 CENTRAL SERVICES

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

- School Improvement Support;
- BLP Salaries including: CEO, Financial Director, Development Director, School Improvement Partner, Compliance Officer and Finance Officer;
- Financial services (Audit and accountancy);
- Human Resources and Payroll services;
- Estate Management and Development strategic support;
- Legal services and Compliance; and
- Insurance.

The charge for this service in the year was £554,814 (2019: £580,000). The basis for recharging costs is on a 4.5% (2019: 4.0%) top slice on the General Annual Grant (GAG).

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2020	2019
	£'000	£'000
Brigshaw High School	278	296
Allerton Bywater Primary School	60	61
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	54	63
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	31	25
Kippax North Primary School	35	32
Swillington Primary School	34	37
Methley Primary School	63	66
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	555	580
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS – Trustees' remuneration and expenses

No Trustees have been remunerated or have received other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust (2019: £nil).

During the year ended 31 August 2020, travel and subsistence expenses amounting to £nil (2019: £nil) was reimbursed or paid directly to a Member.

10 TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £'000	Fixtures and equipment £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Assets under construction £'000	2020 Total £'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2019	54,427	259	284	35	55,005
Additions	-	41	93	762	896
Transfers	35	-	-	(35)	-
At 31 August 2020	54,462	300	377	762	55,901
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2019	3,112	44	123	-	3,279
Charged in year	1,339	29	89	-	1,457
At 31 August 2020	4,451	73	212	-	4,736
Net book values					
At 31 August 2020	50,011	227	165	762	51,165
At 31 August 2019	51,315	215	161	35	51,726

12 DEBTORS

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Trade debtors	5	37
Other debtors	15	8
VAT recoverable	226	220
Prepayments and accrued income	492	455
	<u>738</u>	<u>720</u>

13 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Trade creditors	139	254
Other creditors	40	12
Accruals and deferred income	830	505
	<u>1,009</u>	<u>771</u>
Deferred income		
	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Resources deferred in the year:		
- UIFSM income	137	129
- School fund	16	10
- Rates	46	41
- Other	51	47
Deferred income at 31 August	<u>250</u>	<u>227</u>

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

14 FUNDS

	Balance at 31 August 2019 £'000	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains, losses & transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	12,883	(12,645)	(233)	5
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,755	(1,755)	-	-
LEA and other grants	-	1,578	(1,578)	-	-
Other restricted	-	215	(215)	-	-
	-	16,431	(16,193)	(233)	5
Pension reserve	(7,495)	-	(1,003)	(2,204)	(10,702)
	(7,495)	16,431	(17,196)	(2,437)	(10,697)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA capital grants	1,105	501	(7)	-	1,599
Donations	35	10	(40)	-	5
Capital expenditure from other funds	266	-	(86)	233	413
Transferred on conversion	50,826	-	(1,324)	-	49,502
	52,232	511	(1,457)	233	51,519
Total restricted funds	44,737	16,942	(18,653)	(2,204)	40,822
Total unrestricted funds	1,444	593	(581)	-	1,456
Total funds	46,181	17,535	(19,234)	(2,204)	42,278

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

- (i) Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2020.
- (ii) Local Authority funding was received in the current year. This is restricted for provision of SEN and early years.
- (iii) The pension reserve relates to the pension deficit for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS).

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

14 FUNDS (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £'000	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains, losses & transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2019 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	12,701	(12,706)	5	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,242	(1,242)	-	-
LEA and other grants	-	1,288	(1,288)	-	-
Other restricted	-	99	(99)	-	-
	-	15,330	(15,335)	5	-
Pension reserve	(3,097)	-	(858)	(3,540)	(7,495)
	(3,097)	15,330	(16,193)	(3,535)	(7,495)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA capital grants	571	559	(25)	-	1,105
Donations	36	-	(1)	-	35
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds	125	-	(38)	179	266
Transferred on conversion	51,973	-	(1,147)	-	50,826
	52,705	559	(1,211)	179	52,232
Total restricted funds	49,608	15,889	(17,404)	(3,356)	44,737
Total unrestricted funds	1,299	1,278	(949)	(184)	1,444
Total funds	50,907	17,167	(18,353)	(3,540)	46,181

**The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020**

14 FUNDS (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 were allocated as follows:

	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
Brigshaw High School	696	758
Allerton Bywater Primary School	16	63
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	229	223
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	36	11
Kippax North Primary School	105	89
Swillington Primary School	63	36
Methley Primary School	164	189
Central MAT	152	75
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	1,461	1,444
Restricted fixed asset fund	51,519	52,232
Pension reserve	(10,702)	(7,495)
Total	42,278	46,181

Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year (or part thereof) was as follows:

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £'000	Other Support Staff Costs £'000	Educational Supplies £'000	Other Costs (excluding Dep'n) £'000	2020 Total £'000	2019 Total £'000
Brigshaw High School	4,937	1,210	234	932	7,313	7,140
Allerton Bywater Primary School	1,396	313	94	228	2,031	1,808
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	1,266	757	58	94	2,175	1,903
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	559	143	34	99	835	831
Kippax North Primary School	726	204	54	187	1,171	1,189
Swillington Primary School	684	165	42	111	1,002	1,041
Methley Primary School	1,261	744	72	108	2,185	2,000
Central services	268	456	39	302	1,065	1,230
Academy Trust	11,097	3,992	627	2,061	17,777	17,142

15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total funds 2020 £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	51,165	51,165
Current assets	1,482	715	627	2,824
Current liabilities	(27)	(709)	(273)	(1,009)
Pension scheme liability	-	(10,702)	-	(10,702)
Total net assets	1,455	(10,696)	51,519	42,278

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

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

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total funds 2019 £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	51,726	51,726
Current assets	1,496	597	628	2,721
Current liabilities	(52)	(597)	(122)	(771)
Pension scheme liability	-	(7,495)	-	(7,495)
Total net assets	1,444	(7,495)	52,232	46,181

16 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	<u>26</u>	<u>-</u>

17 COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

OPERATING LEASES

At 31 August 2020 the total of the Academy Trusts' future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was as follows:

	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Other		
Expiring within one year	24	11
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	<u>36</u>	<u>10</u>
	60	21

In respect of two of the Academy Trust's school buildings, which were originally funded through the Private Finance Initiative ("PFI") prior to conversion, the Academy Trust is required to make revenue contributions towards the Local Authority's unitary charge payment to the PFI contractor. In the period to 31 August 2020, the Academy paid £373,947 (2019: £299,470) in respect of this arrangement (net of affordability gap contributions received). Further annual payments will be required over the period of the PFI arrangement which ends in July 2031.

18 RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(1,699)	(1,186)
Depreciation (note 11)	1,457	1,211
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(511)	(559)
Interest receivable (note 4)	(3)	(5)
Pension cost less contributions payable (note 25)	866	780
Pension finance income (note 25)	137	78
Increase in debtors	(18)	249
Increase in creditors	<u>238</u>	<u>(206)</u>
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	467	362

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

19	CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	2020	2019
		£'000	£'000
	Interest received	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>
	Net cash inflow from returns on investment and servicing of finance	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

20	CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	2020	2019
		£'000	£'000
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(896)	(359)
	Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	<u>511</u>	<u>559</u>
	Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment	<u>(385)</u>	<u>200</u>

21	ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2020	2019
		£'000	£'000
	Cash in hand and at bank	<u>2,086</u>	<u>2,001</u>
		<u>2,086</u>	<u>2,001</u>

22	ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS			
		At 1	Cash	At 31
		September	flows	August
		2019	2020	2020
		£'000	£'000	£'000
	Cash at bank and in hand	<u>2,001</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>2,086</u>
	Net funds	<u>2,001</u>	<u>85</u>	<u>2,086</u>

23 CONTINGENT LIABILITIES

During the period of the Funding Agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a Government capital grant was received, the Trust is required to re-invest the proceeds or repay the ESFA the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or the disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

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

- a) the value at that time of the Trust's assets held for the purpose of the Trust; and
- b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement.

24 MEMBERS' LIABILITY

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

25 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the year ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

There were no contributions outstanding payable to either scheme as at 31 August 2020.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pensions Scheme

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

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,465,000 (2019: £958,000).

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

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

**The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020**

25 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2020 was £820,000 (2019: £799,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £624,000 (2019: £608,000) and employees' contributions totalled £196,000 (2019: £191,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.7% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55%	3.35%
Rate of increase for pensions	2.30%	2.10%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.70%	1.90%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.30%	2.10%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	75.00%	75.00%

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

	At 31 August 2020	At 31 August 2019
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	22.5	23.2
Females	25.7	27.2
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	21.8	22.2
Females	24.6	25.4

Sensitivity analysis

The approximate impact of changing key assumptions on the present value of the funded defined benefit pension obligation is detailed below. In each case, only the assumption listed is altered; all other assumptions remain unchanged. A positive value represents an increase in the defined benefit pension obligation:

	At 31 August 2020 £'000	At 31 August 2019 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(560)	(411)
Discount rate -0.1%	550	420
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	(793)	(614)
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	815	621
CPI rate +0.1%	440	256
CPI rate -0.1%	(110)	(252)

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020

25 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2020 £'000	Fair value at 31 August 2019 £'000
Equities	8,802	8,641
Government bonds	1,098	1,169
Other bonds	487	501
Property	566	490
Cash/liquidity	192	212
Other	170	122
Total market value of assets	11,315	11,135
Present value of scheme liabilities		
- Funded	(22,017)	(18,630)
Deficit in the scheme	(10,702)	(7,495)

The actual loss on scheme assets was £490,000 (2019: gain of £1,096,000).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Current service cost	1,490	1,019
Past service cost	-	369
Pension finance cost	137	78
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	1,627	1,466

The actuarial gains and losses for the current year are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities is a loss of £2,204,000 (2019: £3,540,000).

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:	2020 £'000	2019 £'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	18,630	12,411
Current service cost	1,490	1,019
Interest cost	355	349
Employee contributions	196	191
Actuarial loss	1,496	4,365
Benefits paid	(150)	(74)
Past service cost	-	369
At 31 August	22,017	18,630

Changes in the fair value of Academy Trust's share of scheme assets

Brought forward	11,135	9,314
Interest income	218	271
Actuarial gain	(708)	825
Employer contributions	624	608
Employee contributions	196	191
Benefits paid	(150)	(74)
At 31 August	11,315	11,135

**The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2020**

25 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2020 is £1,846,000.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding local government pension scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education.

26 RELATED PARTIES

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

27 AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting year ended 31 August 2020 the Trust received £13,135 and disbursed £8,042 from the fund. An amount of £22,283 is included in accruals and deferred income relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.