



(A company limited by guarantee)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended
31 August 2019**

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

CONTENTS

Reference and Administrative Details	1
Trustees' Report	2
Governance Statement	11
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	15
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	16
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements	17
Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity	20
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account	22
Balance Sheet	23
Cash Flow Statement	24
Statement of Accounting Policies	25
Notes to the Financial Statements	30

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Martin Dove Kenneth Morton Donald Parker
Trustees	Rachael Bajulaiye Neil Clephan OBE Simon Hilton (resigned 29 September 2018 and re-appointed 1 August 2019) Emma Jackson Anne Marie Lewis Nicholas Mitchell Kenneth Morton Stewart Ross (appointed 22 February 2019) Fiona Titterington (resigned 30 September 2019) Robert Stott
Company Secretary	Jo-Anna Barr
CEO and Accounting Officer	Cath Lennon
Finance Director	Tiana Walker
Development Director	Peter Laurence (resigned 31 Dec 2018)
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 (acting from April 2019) 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 2018 to 31 August 2019. 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 3175 pupils on roll on the January 2019 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. One new trustee was appointed to the Board during 2018-19. One further trustee resigned and was subsequently re-appointed during 2018-19.

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

There is a clear management structure to enable The Brigshaw Learning Partnership to be effective. There are three levels: Members and Trustees; the executive team; and the schools themselves. The relationship and decision-making functions are outlined in The Scheme of Delegation, which is regularly reviewed, most recently in March 2019.

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.

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

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 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, Compliance Officer and, until December 2018, a Development Director. 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%	2
1%-50%	2
51% - 99%	
100%	

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	
Provide the total cost of facility time	£984.18
Provide the total pay bill	£12 090 156
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) x 100	0.008

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
---	---

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership is represented by a Trustee on The Leeds East Primary Partnership, a Co-operative Trust serving five primary schools in Seacroft, Leeds.

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

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 Brigshaw Learning Partnership and Local Governing Bodies (LGB) level;
 - ensuring that the quality of all governance is good and outstanding at 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 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 and 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 2018-19 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.

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 have implemented 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 engaging 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 has resulted in focused support and intervention in schools. Additional funding from ESFA from the Multi-academy Development and Improvement (MDIF) grant was used to enhance or school improvement provision through the development of the role of Primary School Improvement Lead. This had a significant impact on the capacity of our schools to ensure measurable improvements.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has also ensured that the partnership work such as sports co-ordination, Virtual Middle School work and learning development hubs has 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 2018-19 was on developing our teaching of reading and our curriculum provision for Science. School Improvement plans and CPD provision were aligned to these priorities across BLP schools. A major focus of the year was to secure successful Ofsted judgements in schools due to be inspected. Our schools were in the main part successful. All of our schools were judged as providing good standards of Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare, positive relationships between staff and pupils, for our inclusivity and for providing a great start in education through our Early Years Provision. There were many positives in all schools' reports. We were delighted that three of our schools maintained their good judgements. Our two schools whose previous Key Stage 2 results weighed heavily on the overall judgements were judged as good for many elements of the inspection. Both these schools have clear evidence of improvements as their 2019 KS2 results jumped up significantly. In order to support all schools in improving provision, the Trust further developed its school improvement team and its school improvement CPD offer.

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

The BLP reviewed its internal audit procedures and extended 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 TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

2018-19 was the first full year of the post of Compliance Officer. This role has given further capacity and assurance to the trust's work. 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 is responsible for the development and consistent application of the BLP statutory, mandatory and constitutional requirements and to monitor and communicate any changes to regulations to the schools and support the development and quality assurance of governance across the BLP. The role also encompasses the role of Data Protection Officer.

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. Areas of development have been the relationships between The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Board and LGBs, and making use of other Boards' experiences.

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.

A key area developed was effective integration of financial reporting at both trust and LGB level and ensuring that this information fed through to the management of risk. In addition, the trust undertook an Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning Review as requested by the Regional Schools Commissioner. The findings of this review have informed actions and planning of resource management across the trust.

As the trust has expanded, it has become eligible for School Condition Allocation. The trust has developed its estate management planning in order to ensure that use of these funds matches priorities.

Develop partnerships to sustain and strengthen the Brigshaw Learning Partnership

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 to include Royds School. Senior leaders and directors within The Brigshaw Learning Partnership were also 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 a 0.2 FTE secondment to Leeds Children's Services during 2018-19 to support the LA in securing appropriate networks across all secondary schools and to support effective communication between LA officers and the academy sector.

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, for example with regard to the Single Central Register held in schools. Extensive support has also been provided for further policy development.

Opportunities for staff development were identified and pursued at all levels across the trust. Some of these arose due to extended periods of absence of key staff, where we were able to swiftly deploy willing and comparable expertise to ensure continuity. 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 Brigshaw Learning Partnership-wide training and development programmes.

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.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

All of our schools matched or exceeded national standards at the end of Early Years Foundation Stage in terms of the percentage of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD).

There was a significant increase at KS1 across the trust primary schools in terms of the numbers of pupils achieving the expected standards. In Reading, three schools maintained and three schools raised their attainment levels. In Maths and in Writing, five schools improved their outcomes.

At KS2 the percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading rose significantly across the trust following disappointing reading outcomes in 2018. Nevertheless, progress scores confirm that reading remains a significant focus for the trust. Writing maintained its levels in all of our schools. Maths outcomes were significantly improved this year as the full impact of our Mastery Strategy has worked through our schools. Combined scores increased in most of our primaries although two schools where there was a drop in Reading saw a resulting dip in combined scores.

KS4 results at Brigshaw High School remained in line with the national picture, both in terms of attainment and progress with overall performance matching the national average. Individual pupils enjoyed some outstanding successes, with a higher proportion of grade 9s. The percentage of pupils achieving the 'EBacc' performance measure of core 'academic' subjects at least matched the local authority and national average at grade 4. The challenge is to ensure more pupils achieve the higher grade 5 benchmark. English outcomes were significantly improved.

KS5 results showed some volatility, with some subjects showing a decrease in value added scores from the previous year. This will be a priority for 2019-20. All students were able to access their chosen next steps, either higher education, apprenticeships or employment.

As outlined above, while there is much to celebrate in terms of improved performance, and the hard work of pupils, students, and staff, there are also areas for development. A key challenge for us is the progress and performance of 'disadvantaged' children – typically those who attract Pupil Premium funding – and how we can ensure that they make at least as good progress as the great majority of our learners, and learners nationally.

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.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership has had a successful financial year. The net deficit was £1,186,000 (2018: £4,703,000 surplus), after depreciation of £1,211,000. Net current assets as at 31 August 2019 were £1,950,000 (2018: £1,426,000).

As at 31 August 2019 The Brigshaw Learning Partnership had cash reserves of £2,001,000 (2018: £1,434,000).

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 2019 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 2015), 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;

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

- Gifts and hospitality policy;
- Accounting policies;
- Debtors policy;
- Charging and Remissions policy; and
- Procurement and Tendering policy.
- Pooled Funding and Appeals Policy
- Risk Management 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 £1,444,000 (2018: £1,299,000) are freely available for general purposes. The reserve includes the surplus from Methley Primary School. Unrestricted funds are allocated in line with the strategic objectives of The Brigshaw Learning Partnership.

The restricted fixed asset reserve of £52,232,000 (2018: £52,705,000) includes the transfer of fixed assets from Leeds City Council for the six convertor schools in the prior year, and the current year transfer.

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 2019 and 31 August 2018 the Academy Trust held the following reserves:

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Restricted General Fund	(7,495)	(3,097)
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	52,232	52,705
Unrestricted Fund	1,444	1,299
Total	46,181	50,907

The Restricted General Fund relates to the pension liability which is described in more detail in note 24 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, Kippax Greenfield, was not in line with the expected reserves (5% of General Annual Grant). Kippax Greenfield 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, the condition of buildings and facilities in particular schools, and the viability of post-16 provision.

The Trust is mitigating these risks in the following ways:

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

- finance and funding – robust financial controls, more efficient procurement approaches across all schools in The Brigshaw Learning Partnership, and improved reporting procedures.
- pupil outcomes – focused school improvement strategies and interventions ensuring effective use of the MDIF additional funding to secure better outcomes and create sustainable school improvement capacity.
- buildings – in order to maximise the opportunities that eligibility for School Condition Allowance offers, further development of an estates strategy and application of the findings of the Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning in relation to buildings and resource management.
- post-16 provision – continuing to develop more shared post-16 provision with other schools, and ensure that the current Post-16 offer is of the highest quality in order to maximise recruitment
- 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.

An additional emerging risk as highlighted by the ESFA is the risk to an organisation from threats to cyber security. This has been mitigated by the Brigshaw Learning Partnership through our Disaster response and Recovery Plan and additional cyber insurance.

Plans for future periods

Our priorities for 2019 onwards 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

Develop our workforce

- High quality HR support will develop a MAT-wide strategy to address recruitment and retention, staff CPD and support for tackling workload

Ensure our partnership arrangements impact on our key priorities

- Sustain and develop high value partnerships which add demonstrable value and contribute to our long-term sustainability and growth strategy

Ensure Brigshaw Learning Partnership Governance is effective

- Continue to implement the recommendations from the National Governance Association Review

Continue to ensure business and financial systems are efficient and transparent and demonstrate that we are good stewards of public funds and assets

- Continue to focus on financial sustainability, procurement and shared services, asset management and estates strategy
- Respond to the opportunities provided by new accounting system, school resource management advisers, to maximise school engagement and accountability in resource management

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.

During employment the academy seeks to work with employees, taking into account their personal circumstances, to ensure appropriate training, development and advancement opportunities are available to enable them to reach their full potential.

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.

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 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Kenneth Morton
Chair of Trustees

Date:

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rachael Bajulaiye	3	5
Neil Clephan	4	5
Simon Hilton	2	2
Emma Jackson	4	5
Nicholas Mitchell	3	5
Ken Morton (Chair)	5	5
Ann-Marie Spry	4	5
Robert Stott	5	5
Fiona Titterington	3	5
Stewart Ross	2	2

Governance review

One trustee resigned in order to support one of our schools in a school improvement capacity. At the end of this process, this trustee was reappointed. One further trustee was appointed during the year. He has had significant experience in estates management and risk management in Higher Education.

The Academy Trust Board had undertaken a Governance review in June 2018 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.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Rachael Bajulaiye (Chair)	3	3
Neil Clephan	3	3
Emma Jackson	3	3
Stewart Ross	1	1

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	1	1
Emma Jackson	3	3
Nick Mitchell	2	3
Ann-Marie Spry	2	3
Fiona Titterington	1	3
Neil Clephan (interim Chair)	2	2

The CEO has attended all Trust Board and Committee meetings.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

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 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 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2019 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 1st September 2018 to 31st August 2019 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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- cash collection.

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.

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;
- 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.....and signed on its behalf by:

Kenneth Morton
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 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 2018.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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:

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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019;
- 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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

Kenneth Morton
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 2019, 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 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 2019, 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 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 16, 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 2018 to 2019, 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 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 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 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 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 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. 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 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 2019 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 2018;
- 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 2019 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 2019

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total 2019 £'000	Total 2018 £'000
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:						
Donations and capital grants	1	-	-	559	559	482
Transfer from local authority on conversion		-	-	-	-	5,896
Incoming resources from charitable activities:						
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	2	953	15,330	-	16,283	14,532
Other trading activities	3	320	-	-	320	329
Investment income	4	5	-	-	5	3
Total		1,278	15,330	559	17,167	21,242
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities:						
Academy Trust's educational operations	6	949	16,193	1,211	18,353	16,539
Total	5	949	16,193	1,211	18,353	16,539
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		329	(863)	(652)	(1,186)	4,703
Gross transfers between funds	14	(184)	5	179	-	-
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension scheme	24	-	(3,540)	-	(3,540)	1,209
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		145	(4,398)	(473)	(4,726)	5,912
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS						
Total funds brought forward		1,299	(3,097)	52,705	50,907	44,995
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	14	1,444	(7,495)	52,232	46,181	50,907

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 2019

Registration number: 10301662

	Notes	2019 £'000	2019 £'000	2018 £'000	2018 £'000
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	11		51,726		52,578
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	12	720		969	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>2,001</u>		<u>1,434</u>	
		2,721		2,403	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(771)</u>		<u>(977)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			1,950		1,426
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>53,676</u>		<u>54,004</u>
NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY			<u>53,676</u>		<u>54,004</u>
Pension scheme liability	24		<u>(7,495)</u>		<u>(3,097)</u>
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY			<u>46,181</u>		<u>50,907</u>
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST:					
RESTRICTED FUNDS					
Fixed asset fund	14		52,232		52,705
Pension reserve	14		<u>(7,495)</u>		<u>(3,097)</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS			<u>44,737</u>		<u>49,608</u>
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General funds			<u>1,444</u>		<u>1,299</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS	14		<u>1,444</u>		<u>1,299</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>46,181</u>		<u>50,907</u>

The financial statements on pages 22 to 43 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on....., and are signed on their behalf by:

Kenneth Morton
Chair of Trustees

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the year ended 31 August 2019

	Notes	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES			
Net cash used in operating activities	17	362	(293)
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	18	5	3
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	19	200	(33)
CASH TRANSFERRED ON CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST		-	236
		<hr/>	<hr/>
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH IN THE YEAR		567	(87)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 1 SEPTEMBER 2018	20	1,434	1,521
		<hr/>	<hr/>
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 AUGUST 2019	20	2,001	1,434
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTING POLICIES

for the year ended 31 August 2019

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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Brigshaw 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 2019

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.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2019

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 was originally procured by the Local Authority through the Private Finance Initiative ("PFI"). Freehold title to the 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.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued) for the year ended 31 August 2019

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 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 24, 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 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 26.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

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 24, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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 2019

1 DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total £'000	2018 Total £'000
Capital grants	-	559	559	413
Capital donations	-	-	-	8
Other donations	-	-	-	61
	-	559	559	482

2 FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total £'000	2018 Total £'000
DfE/ESFA GRANTS				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	12,701	12,701	11,556
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,242	1,242	1,094
	-	13,943	13,943	12,650
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS				
SEN from Local Authority	-	321	321	307
Other Local Authority grants	-	967	967	830
Other grants	-	-	-	8
	-	1,288	1,288	1,145
OTHER INCOME				
Catering income	488	9	497	427
Academy trips	159	44	203	126
Music tuition	12	-	12	11
Supply and training	19	-	19	26
Other income	275	46	321	147
	953	99	1,052	737
Total	953	15,330	16,283	14,532

3 OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total £'000	2018 Total £'000
Extended school	248	-	248	270
Income from lettings	43	-	43	48
Other income	29	-	29	11
	320	-	320	329

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

4 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2019 Total £'000	2018 Total £'000
Short term deposits	5	-	5	3
	<u>5</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>3</u>

5 EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs £'000	Non Pay Expenditure		2019 Total £'000	2018 Total £'000
		Premises £'000	Other costs £'000		
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	10,239	61	1,023	11,323	10,326
Allocated support costs	2,962	1,609	2,459	7,030	6,213
	<u>13,201</u>	<u>1,670</u>	<u>3,482</u>	<u>18,353</u>	<u>16,539</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Operating leases	14	16
Depreciation	1,211	1,082
Fees payable to auditor for:		
Audit	<u>26</u>	<u>13</u>

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Direct costs – educational operations	11,323	10,326
Support costs – educational operations	<u>7,030</u>	<u>6,213</u>
	18,353	16,539

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operation £'000	2019 Total £'000	2018 Total £'000
Staff costs	2,962	2,962	2,536
Depreciation	1,150	1,150	1,082
Premises costs	1,609	1,609	1,378
Governance costs	43	43	72
Other support costs	1,266	1,266	1,145
Total support costs	<u>7,030</u>	<u>7,030</u>	<u>6,213</u>

Expenditure on the Academy Trust's educational operations amounted to £18,353,000 (2018: £16,539,000) of which £949,000 (2018: £901,000) was attributable to unrestricted and £17,404,000 (2018: £15,638,000) was attributable to restricted funds.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

7 STAFF COSTS

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
a. Staff costs		
Staff costs during the period were:		
Wages and salaries	9,625	8,860
Social security costs	845	795
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	2,346	2,168
Apprenticeship levy	33	30
	<u>12,849</u>	<u>11,853</u>
Supply staff costs	330	39
Staff restructuring costs	22	8
	<u>13,201</u>	<u>11,900</u>
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	22	8
	<u>22</u>	<u>8</u>

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

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £3,167 (2018: £770). Individually, the payment was: £3,167 made in April 2019.

c. Staff numbers

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

	2019	2018
	No.	No.
Charitable activities		
Teachers	161	166
Administration and support	250	264
Management	11	11
	<u>422</u>	<u>441</u>

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2019	2018
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	4	4
£80,001 - £90,000	1	2
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-

The above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Pension contributions for these staff amounted to £75,346 (2018: £69,998).

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 £888,000 (2018: £754,000).

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

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 £580,000 (2018: £536,000). The basis for recharging costs is on a 4% top slice on the General Annual Grant (GAG).

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2019	2018
	£'000	£'000
Brigshaw High School	296	291
Allerton Bywater Primary School	61	53
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	63	56
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	25	32
Kippax North Primary School	32	37
Swillington Primary School	37	39
Methley Primary School	66	28
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	580	536
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS – Trustees’ remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as Trustees. The value of Trustees’ remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

C Lennon (CEO and Accounting Officer):

Remuneration: £105,001 - £110,000 (2018: £85,001-£90,000)

Employer’s pensions contributions: £15,001 - £20,000 (2018: £10,001-£15,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2019, travel and subsistence expenses amounting to £nil (2018: £42) were reimbursed or paid directly to a Member.

10 TRUSTEES’ AND OFFICERS’ INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy has purchased insurance to protect the Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provided cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2019 was £5,300 (2018: £4,500).

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £'000	Fixtures and equipment £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Assets under construction £'000	2019 Total £'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2018	54,029	160	168	289	54,646
Transfer on conversion	-	-	-	-	-
Additions	109	99	116	35	359
Transfers	289	-	-	(289)	-
At 31 August 2019	54,427	259	284	35	55,005
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2018	1,982	28	58	-	2,068
Charged in year	1,130	16	65	-	1,211
At 31 August 2019	3,112	44	123	-	3,279
Net book values					
At 31 August 2019	51,315	215	161	35	51,726
At 31 August 2018	52,047	132	110	289	52,578

12 DEBTORS

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Trade debtors	37	69
Other debtors	8	483
VAT recoverable	220	204
Prepayments and accrued income	455	213
	720	969

13 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Trade creditors	254	252
Other creditors	12	10
Accruals and deferred income	505	715
	771	977

Deferred income

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Resources deferred in the year:		
- UIFSM income	129	144
- School fund	10	7
- Rates	41	47
- Lettings income	-	15
- Local authority cluster funding	-	20
- Other	47	25
Deferred income at 31 August	227	258

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

14 FUNDS

	Balance at 31 August 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
Capital expenditure from GAG	-	-	-	-	-
	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 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 2019.
- (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 2019

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £'000	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains, losses & transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2018 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	11,556	(11,643)	87	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	1,102	(1,102)	-	-
LEA and other grants	-	1,145	(1,145)	-	-
Other restricted	-	154	(154)	-	-
	-	13,957	(14,044)	87	-
Pension reserve	(3,244)	(550)	(512)	1,209	(3,097)
	(3,244)	13,407	(14,556)	1,296	(3,097)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA capital grants	161	413	(3)	-	571
Donations	29	8	(1)	-	36
Capital expenditure from unrestricted funds	-	-	(27)	152	125
Transferred on conversion	46,814	6,210	(1,051)	-	51,973
	47,004	6,631	(1,082)	152	52,705
Total restricted funds	43,760	20,038	(15,638)	1,448	49,608
Total unrestricted funds	1,235	1,204	(901)	(239)	1,299
Total funds	44,995	21,242	(16,539)	1,209	50,907

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

14 FUNDS (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2019 were allocated as follows:

	2019	2018
	Total	Total
	£'000	£'000
Brigshaw High School	758	607
Allerton Bywater Primary School	63	66
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	223	180
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	11	15
Kippax North Primary School	89	79
Swillington Primary School	36	68
Methley Primary School	189	227
Central MAT	75	57
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	1,444	1,299
Restricted fixed asset fund	52,232	52,705
Pension reserve	(7,495)	(3,097)
Total	46,181	50,907

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	Other Support Staff Costs	Educational Supplies	Other Costs (excluding Dep'n)	2019 Total	2018 Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Brigshaw High School	4,527	1,290	287	1,036	7,140	7,025
Allerton Bywater Primary School	1,176	296	94	242	1,808	1,644
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	1,186	155	59	503	1,903	1,839
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	526	147	30	128	831	831
Kippax North Primary School	674	272	65	178	1,189	1,073
Swillington Primary School	675	174	60	132	1,041	1,018
Methley Primary School	1,218	164	82	536	2,000	794
Central services	257	542	40	391	1,230	1,233
Academy Trust	10,239	3,040	717	3,146	17,142	15,457

15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	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

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

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

	Unrestric- ted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	52,578	52,578
Current assets	1,375	653	375	2,403
Current liabilities	(76)	(653)	(248)	(977)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,097)	-	(3,097)
Total net assets	1,299	(3,097)	52,705	50,907

16 COMMITMENTS UNDER OPERATING LEASES

OPERATING LEASES

At 31 August 2019 the total of the Academy Trusts' future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was as follows:

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Other		
Expiring within one year	11	27
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	10	39
	21	66

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 2019, the Academy paid £299,470 (2018: £231,350) 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.

17 RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(1,186)	4,703
Depreciation (note 11)	1,211	1,082
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(559)	(413)
Interest receivable (note 4)	(5)	(3)
Donations – transfer from local authority on conversion	-	(5,896)
Pension cost less contributions payable (note 24)	780	432
Pension finance income (note 24)	78	80
Increase in debtors	249	(445)
Increase in creditors	(206)	167
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	362	(293)

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

18	CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	2019	2018
		£'000	£'000
	Interest received	5	3
	Net cash inflow from returns on investment and servicing of finance	5	3

19	CASH FLOW FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	2019	2018
		£'000	£'000
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(359)	(446)
	Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	559	413
	Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment	200	(33)

20	ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2019	2018
		£'000	£'000
	Cash in hand and at bank	2,001	1,434
		2,001	1,434

21	ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS			
		At 1	Cash	At 31
		September	flows	August
		2018	£'000	2019
		£'000	£'000	£'000
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,434	567	2,001
	Net funds	1,434	567	2,001

22 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.

23 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 2019

24 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 2016.

There were no contributions outstanding payable to either scheme as at 31 August 2019.

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 full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers 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. 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 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 September 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £958,000 (2018: £897,000).

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 a multi-employer pension scheme. The Trust has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The 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 2019

24 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate Trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2019 was £799,000 (2018: £691,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £608,000 (2018: £526,000) and employees' contribution totalled £191,000 (2018: £165,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.5% for employers and 5.5% to 8.5% 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 2019	At 31 August 2018
Rate of increase in salaries	3.35%	3.25%
Rate of increase for pensions	2.10%	3.10%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.90%	2.80%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.10%	2.00%
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 2019	At 31 August 2018
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	23.2	23.1
Females	27.2	27.1
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.2	22.1
Females	25.4	25.3

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 2019 £'000	At 31 August 2018 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(411)	(274)
Discount rate -0.1%	420	280
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	(614)	(359)
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	621	361
CPI rate +0.1%	256	170
CPI rate -0.1%	(252)	(168)

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2019 £'000	Fair value at 31 August 2018 £'000
Equities	8,641	6,948
Government bonds	1,169	1,006
Other bonds	501	326
Property	490	391
Cash/liquidity	212	205
Other	122	438
Total market value of assets	11,135	9,314
Present value of scheme liabilities		
- Funded	(18,630)	(12,411)
Deficit in the scheme	(7,495)	(3,097)

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,096,000 (2018: £474,000).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Current service cost	1,019	432
Past service cost	369	-
Pension finance cost	78	80
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	1,466	512

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 £3,540,000 loss (2018: gain of £1,209,000).

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:	2019 £'000	2018 £'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	12,411	10,524
Current service cost	1,019	958
Interest cost	349	280
Employee contributions	191	165
Actuarial loss/(gain)	4,365	(935)
Benefits paid	(74)	(63)
Past service cost	369	-
Net increase in liabilities from transfers in	-	1,482
At 31 August	18,630	12,411

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

Brought forward	9,314	7,280
Interest income	271	200
Actuarial gain	825	274
Employer contributions	608	526
Employee contributions	191	165
Benefits paid	(74)	(63)
Net increase in assets from transfers in	-	932
At 31 August	11,135	9,314

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2019

24 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2020 is £1,614,000.

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.

25 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.

26 AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting year ended 31 August 2019 the Trust received £5,302 and disbursed £4,685 from the fund. An amount of £7,790 is included in accruals and deferred income relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.