



**BRIGSHAW
LEARNING PARTNERSHIP**

(A company limited by guarantee)

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL
STATEMENTS**

**for the thirteen month period ended
31 August 2017**

Company Registration No. 10301662

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

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The Brigshaw Learning Partnership

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Patricia Cochrane Martin Dove Kenneth Morton Donald Parker
Trustees	Rachael Bajulaiye (appointed 28 July 2016) Andrew Birch (appointed 28 July 2016) Neil Clephan OBE (appointed 28 July 2016) Philip Curtis (appointed 28 July 2016 and resigned 2 November 2017) Simon Hilton (appointed 28 July 2016) Emma Jackson (appointed 28 July 2016) Sarah Lawson (appointed 28 July 2016) Catherine Lennon (appointed 28 July 2016) Ann-Marie Spry (appointed 28 July 2016) Nicholas Mitchell (appointed 28 July 2016) Kenneth Morton (appointed 28 July 2016) Fiona Titterington (appointed 28 July 2016) Robert Stott (appointed 10 November 2017)
Company Secretary	Jo-Anna Barr
CEO and Accounting Officer	Catherine Lennon
Finance Director	Tiana Walker
Development Director	Peter Laurence
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 North Primary School Headteacher, Swillington Primary School	Richard Cairns Simon Riley Amanda Campbell Kirsty Moleele Barbara Husband Sallie Elliott
Registered Office	Brigshaw High School Brigshaw Lane Allerton Bywater WF10 2HR
Company Registration Number	10310662 (England and Wales)
Independent Auditor	Murray Harcourt Limited Elizabeth House 13-19 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 (The BLP) present their annual report together with the financial statements of the charitable company for the period 28 July 2016 to 31 August 2017. The trustees' report also serves the purpose of a directors' report under company law.

These are the first financial statements of The BLP.

The BLP is a multi-academy trust serving communities in outer East Leeds. There are five primary schools in the Trust – Allerton Bywater, Kippax Ash Tree, Kippax Greenfield, Kippax North and Swillington – and an 11-18 secondary, Brigshaw High School. The Trust was established in July 2016. There are approximately 2,600 pupils on roll in the January 2017 Census.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The BLP 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 BLP are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details.

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 BLP, under the rules contained within its 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.

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 BLP.

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 BLP. Trustees are invited to attend various training sessions on governance organised by the Governance Support Officer.

Organisational structure

There is a clear management structure to enable The BLP 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.

The BLP 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 about the direction of The BLP. The CEO has responsibility for the running of the multi-academy trust as an organisation. 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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

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, including most importantly the Director of Finance, which oversees trust-wide functions, for example finance, compliance and policies, governance, operations and growth strategy.

Chairs and Vice-Chairs of Governors of BLP schools meet every half term, to encourage networking, promoting good practice and to enable dialogue between themselves and The BLP Board.

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The BLP 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 based on the Leeds local authority agreed Pay Policy, and is kept under annual review. The pay and remuneration of the CEO is set 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.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Brigshaw Co-operative Trust

The 'predecessor' body and foundation of The BLP is The Brigshaw Co-operative Trust, which is in the process of dissolution as its functions have been subsumed by, and its foundation schools have joined, The BLP. The BLP Board has formally agreed to take on the assets and liabilities of The Brigshaw Co-operative Trust. Two other schools, Great Preston CoE (VC) Primary, and Lady Elizabeth Hastings CoE (VA) Primary, Ledston, were associate members of The Brigshaw Co-operative Trust, and they continue to work very closely with BLP schools, for example contributing to shared school improvement activities. The headteacher of Kippax Greenfield, a BLP school, acted as an interim headteacher at Great Preston from January to August 2017. Brigshaw High School is a member of The Red Kite Teaching School Alliance.

Three Trustees from The Brigshaw Co-operative Trust are 'foundation' Members in The BLP.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The objects of The BLP 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 BLP 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, boys 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 BLP 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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

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 BLP and Local Governing Bodies (LGB) level;
- ensuring that the quality of all governance is good and outstanding at BLP 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 BLP 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 support other local schools who share the same values to join The BLP and work together to achieve mutual gains for pupils, schools and communities;
- continuing to support the growth of a CE Primary MAT which will work alongside The BLP, strengthening shared school improvement and 'best value' strategies;
- encouraging and supporting engagement with at least one other secondary school 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.

5. Develop our workforce by:

- developing and delivering a BLP-wide programme of staff training and professional development aligned with individual school and wider trust school improvement priorities;
- reviewing and developing staff appraisal and performance management so that it is effective across all staff and BLP 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 BLP 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 BLP is the free provision of education to its learners.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievements and Performance

Improve outcomes for children and young people and expand opportunities for all in our school communities

In becoming a multi-academy trust, the schools embraced the concept of enhanced scrutiny and challenge concerning outcomes for their children. Headteachers and governors have been supported by BLP board members in reviewing strengths and key priorities.

The focus of the Trust this year was very much around exploring how to work together as a more accountable 'school improvement' partnership; this is the Trust's very highest priority, and has involved commissioning a

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

range of external partners to help develop staff skills and accuracy. Significant literacy and moderation support has been brokered from Leeds School Improvement team and the Trust has commissioned headteacher consultancy support to ensure schools are addressing key priorities such as diminishing differences for disadvantaged pupils. Headteachers have faced very significant pressures in their schools this year, such as budget challenges and absence of key staff. Their response is characteristic of the openness and co-operation espoused in the values of The BLP and involved significant mutual support for each other's schools by sharing staff and expertise.

The BLP has also ensured that the partnership work developed through The Brigshaw Co-operative Trust has been sustained, such as sports co-ordination, Virtual Middle School work and learning development hubs. A priority ahead is to develop some of the wider opportunities for curriculum enrichment, pupil leadership, staff network opportunities, as well as developing stronger links with a range of community and learning partners to promote higher aspirations, a culture of family learning and increased access to educational, training and employment opportunities.

A key focus of next year is to develop headteachers' roles and responsibilities as leaders to encompass BLP-wide responsibilities, developing a trust leadership team.

Establish The Brigshaw Learning Partnership as a well-governed and effective multi-academy trust

Ensuring good governance and clear accountability were very early priorities for The BLP. 'Members' both understood values and commitment to improving outcomes for children and young people across the communities served by The BLP. They were instrumental in appointing a group of Trustees who brought a wide range of relevant skills to the Board, enabling it to ensure committees had appropriate experience in more specialist areas of focus, and that Board discussions and decision-making have been strategic and focused on key issues.

The Governance Support Officer, Jo-Anna Barr, has supported the Board, and individual schools, to develop governance structures and policy development. All key policies will be in place by the end of 2017 - enabling the Trust to concentrate on implementation to have a greater impact on its effectiveness as a learning partnership.

The cycle of 'formal' governance (Board, Board committees and Local Governing Bodies) and 'internal' (Chairs of Governors, headteachers) meetings has generally worked well, and has enabled The BLP to carry out its business effectively, as was recognised by the FMGS 'audit' in February and 'Responsible Officer' internal audit process. The 'Board Self-Evaluation' will enable the Trust to identify how we can work even more effectively, and help to shape our training programme for the year ahead.

The BLP leadership arrangements are taking shape steadily, with the appointment of Tiana Walker as Finance Director in May, and the decision to make the Chief Executive Officer role a distinct role rather than combining it with the headship of a school. This will ensure that The BLP will have more strategic leadership capacity from September 2017. The finance team have been developing a planning approach during the year which has been effective in establishing the MAT in its early phase and the Trust intends to strengthen the central leadership capacity to ensure that key elements in strategic planning can be addressed more cohesively.

A further priority is to develop and refine management information systems both as tools to support heads and other leaders in their work, and also to help governors and The BLP Board in identifying strengths and areas where greater support may be needed.

Develop business and financial systems efficiently and transparently to ensure good stewardship of public funds and assets

The BLP was exceptionally fortunate in having the experience and skills of a 'core team' of Philip Matthews, Dawn O'Neill, and Steve Pierce, supported by the schools' finance officers and business managers, in implementing and embedding financial and accounting systems at 'central' level as well as across individual schools. Indeed, a key feature of the transition to academy financial practices has been the willingness of colleagues to help each other in resolving issues.

There were positive and reassuring outcomes from the FMGS audit, and the internal audit commissioned through the local authority finance team, and the small number of recommendations are either well in hand or relatively minor.

The appointment of Tiana Walker as Finance Director in May was a major step forward, and she has already made a significant impact in making further improvements to finance systems and processes, implemented procedures for procurement and tendering, begun building relationships with Heads and Business Managers and given the Trust a really clear strategic framework for budget planning at school and MAT level.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

The Trust 'estate' – buildings, land and assets, are, on balance, adequate for the needs of learners and staff, and in some schools at least, provide an outstanding learning environment. A contract with the Leeds Built Environment team has enabled the Trust to begin the 'audit' of schools in terms of suitability and sufficiency, and to begin the process of drawing up premises development plans. The team has also been helpful in resolving pressing issues in individual schools.

Annette Bradley (Leeds Health and Safety Manager, Schools) and her team have provided invaluable support for risk assessment development, and have carried out H&S audits across trust schools. These steps are helpful in establishing a 'baseline' picture across The BLP, but the Trust now needs more specialist support to enable it to draw up and implement an asset management strategy, and, equally importantly, work with it to raise capital funding through the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF).

A further challenge (as well as an opportunity) for The BLP is the 'estate and facilities' team structure across The BLP: understandably it is based on single school approaches, and it is intended to move towards a more coherent model where staff can develop more specialist responsibilities across more than one school, ensuring better value and quality, without jeopardising the loyalty and affinity they have with individual schools.

The Trust has recruited a Facilities Manager post based at Swillington Primary School, whose remit will also be to add capacity to the wider trust team, particularly across the primary schools. The need for a more strategic approach is important if heads and other school leaders are to concentrate much more on teaching and learning than on problem-solving facilities issues, not least of which are the challenges of staff absence.

In a wider and related context, the Trust is exploring pooled funding approaches across a range of functions across The BLP, to help the budget go further and to ensure value for money across shared and central services, and enable individual school funding to focus on teaching, learning and supporting pupils and students. This involves more systematic planning for shared service contracts, and, where possible, negotiating single contracts for services which will apply to all or most schools within the partnership, bearing in mind that schools have different needs, for example Kippax Ash Tree as a 'PFI school'.

The BLP is developing a more active approach to seeking additional funding and resources, outside our General Annual Grant (GAG), to support our key aims and objectives. The Trust's current focus has been very much on setting up the academy partnership, but will need to look more widely at how it develops an ethical and entrepreneurial approach to fund-raising, investment and growth.

Develop a growth strategy to sustain and strengthen our partnership

The BLP was formally joined by Kippax Ash Tree on 1 April, following a long and protracted conversion process due to the complexities of the PFI arrangement. The Trust is keen to encourage and support other local schools who share the same values to join The BLP and work with it to achieve mutual gains for pupils, schools and communities. This will be a priority for The BLP in 2017-18.

At the end of August 2017, the CEO submitted a bid to become a sponsor academy which was successful, and the Trust is currently in the process of welcoming Methley Primary School into The BLP.

The Trust continues to support the creation of The Elmet CE Learning Partnership which will work alongside The BLP, strengthening shared school improvement and 'best value' strategies, but as a separate and distinct partnership underpinned by Christian values. Aberford CE Primary has joined with Great Preston and Lady Elizabeth Hastings in working together to develop the MAT, and they hope that other schools may wish to join them in doing so.

Brigshaw High School has a well-established Post-16 partnership with Temple Moor High School and from September 2017 will formally expand this to include Royds High School to ensure a sustainable breadth of offer for students. The Trust looks forward to strengthening this partnership in other ways too.

The BLP has much in common with other local and regional collaborations (e.g. the STAR Alliance involving Tadcaster Grammar, Sherburn High School and local primary schools, and with the cross-phase Royds Hall Trust in Huddersfield), and is engaged in discussions with school leaders to explore ways in which we might work together for mutual benefit and support.

Brigshaw's affiliation with The Red Kite Teaching School Alliance will bring more school improvement capacity at secondary level, and the Trust needs to consider which teaching school alliance(s) could benefit primary schools too.

The Trust has reviewed the use of Vicars' Court as a collective resource for The BLP and partners. The Trust believes there is potential for The BLP to work alongside the Allerton Bywater Community Partnership in developing a sustainability model, which could include locating additional functions and staff at Vicars' Court,

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

sharing facilities with other partners, and strengthening its purpose as a leadership and professional development centre.

Develop our workforce

This area of work is key to the success and strategic approach of The BLP during the year ahead. The Trust intends to develop and deliver a BLP-wide programme of staff training and professional development aligned with individual school and wider trust school improvement priorities. In addition, the Trust will further develop staff appraisal and performance management so that it is effective across all staff and BLP schools, evaluating current appraisal and performance management processes for staff and developing best practice approaches based on equity and impact.

At a time of national challenge around teacher shortages and low morale in the education profession, it is important for The BLP to develop and deliver a recruitment, talent management, leadership development and succession planning strategy which enables it to grow capacity and recruit and retain high quality staff across the schools. Strategies such as agreeing effective shared approaches to Initial Teacher Training, as well as providing structured opportunities for leadership development – bursaries, training (including apprenticeships), work-shadowing, secondments, acting-up opportunities within and beyond BLP.

The establishment of The BLP as a single employer is an important opportunity to secure a wider range of benefits for all staff, including tackling workload and promoting health and well-being. The Trust has appointed Avec Partnership as its new HR provider from September 2017, who have extensive experience in working with multi-academy trusts in developing a holistic approach to workforce strategy.

Key Performance Indicators – Outcomes for Learners

Improving pupil outcomes across The BLP 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 will need to focus on tackling to secure and sustain even better progress, achievement and attainment.

Three of our five primary schools showed year-on-year improvement from 2016 to 2017 at the end of Early Years Foundation Stage in terms of the percentage of pupils achieving a Good Level of Development (GLD), and the two others sustained their recent improvements. 77.6% of pupils achieved GLD in 2017, compared with 73.4% in 2016.

There was a significant increase at KS1 across the Trust primary schools in terms of the numbers of pupils achieving the expected standards of Reading (72% in 2016, 78% in 2017) Writing (61% in 2016, 68% in 2017), and Maths (70% to 80%). Pupil progress measures also improved in all three subjects.

At KS2 there was a similar pattern of improvement. The percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading rose from 60% to 70% from 2016 to 2017, in Writing from 63% to 74%, and in Maths from 69% to 73%. Pupil progress measures improved in Reading and Writing, but showed a small (2%) drop in Maths.

KS4 results at Brigshaw High School saw an improvement from 2016 to 2017 against three key measures ('Attainment 8' - the average score obtained by students in their best 8 GCSEs – which rose from 4.2 to 4.4; the percentage of students achieving Grade 4+ in English and Maths – which rose from 58% to 61%; and the 'Progress 8' measure, which rose from +0.03 to 0.22.) For the second successive year, the percentage of pupils achieving the 'EBacc' performance measure of core 'academic' subjects was above both the local authority and national average. KS5 results were more mixed, but included a student achieving 4 A* grades, and another going on to read Medicine at Cambridge University.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The BLP has had a successful financial period. Net incoming resources were £44,084,000. Net current assets as at 31 August 2017 were £1,235,000.

Net funds transferred to The BLP on conversion were £44,225,000, comprised of school fixed assets of £47,694,000, cash reserves of £1,253,000 and pension liabilities of £3,722,000. Additions in year include:

£100,000 – conversion of superintendent property to bespoke science teaching area at Kippax North.

£32,000 – conversion of superintendent property to office space at Brigshaw High School.

As at 31 August 2017 The BLP had cash reserves of £1,521,000.

The BLP'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 2017 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The BLP 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 BLP came into operation in September 2016 and the Board of Directors has worked to develop and implement a full set of required financial policies and procedures in the first year of operation. The following financial management policies were adopted:

- Investment policy;
- Fixed assets policy;
- Anti-Fraud, Corruption and Bribery policy;
- Employee expenses policy;
- Payment of director and governor expenses policy;
- Gifts and hospitality policy; and
- Accounting policies.

Reserves policy

The BLP 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 £1,235,000 are freely available for general purposes. The reserve includes the surplus of four schools on conversion from Leeds City Council and the small deficits of two. Where the two schools had small deficits, this position has changed in year and both schools now hold surpluses at 31 August 2017. Unrestricted funds are allocated in line with the strategic objectives of The BLP.

The restricted fixed asset reserve of £47,004,000 includes the transfer of fixed assets from Leeds City Council for the six convertor schools.

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

As at 31 August 2017 the Academy Trust held the following reserves:

	2017 £'000
Restricted General Fund	(3,244)
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	47,004
Unrestricted Fund	1,235
Total	44,995

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. Over the next financial year, the Finance and Resources Committee will review the Reserves Policy to identify a target level of reserves for each school. This may equate to a % of funding or a reserve relative to a number of monthly salary payments.

Investment policy

The BLP has an investment 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 BLP 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 BLP 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 BLP Board in relation to strategy and market conditions.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties facing The BLP 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:

- finance and funding – robust financial controls, more efficient procurement approaches across all schools in The BLP, our growth strategy, and additional bids for funding through a range of DfE grants;
- pupil outcomes – focused school improvement strategies and interventions;
- buildings – submission of CIF (Capital Improvement Fund) bids for two schools; and
- post-16 provision – continuing to develop more shared post-16 provision with other schools, and considering a joint bid for a free school.

The Trust is also developing a risk management strategy which will involve developing individual school approaches to risk as well as at trust-wide level.

Plans for future periods

Improve outcomes for children and young people and expanding opportunities for all in BLP school communities

- increase capacity for internal and external school-to-school support and school improvement, including contributions to teaching and school alliances;
- develop BLP-wide strategic leadership roles;
- implement BLP-wide improvement strategies;
- implement BLP-wide student leadership opportunities; and
- expand literacy development to numeracy and science focus.

Establish The Brigshaw Learning Partnership as a well-governed and effective multi-academy trust

- support for strategic planning processes and governance development at LGB level, including policy development and compliance;
- develop a BLP-wide communications strategy, focusing on internal communications and meetings structures within The BLP schools, and website and external communication beyond the Trust; and
- develop strong and sustainable management systems, including IT, across The BLP, including preparation for General Data Protection Regulations in May 2018.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)

Develop business and financial systems efficiently and transparently to ensure good stewardship of public funds and assets

- consolidate and sustain financial processes and procedures with appropriate technical support until the Trust develops more 'in-house' capacity; complete fixed asset register and asset inventory, develop asset management strategy;
- coherent estates strategy and support for successful CIF bid 2017-18; carry out and implement Health and Safety recommendations from 2017 audits; and
- shared service and procurement development plan.

Develop a growth strategy to sustain and strengthen our partnership

- become an effective academy sponsor;
- partnership development with local and regional schools and collaboratives, including support for academy conversion and exploring post-16 opportunities; and
- develop Vicars' Court as BLP and partnership resource for leadership and professional development.

Develop our workforce

- high quality HR support to develop BLP HR strategy, to address recruitment and retention, staff professional development at all levels, including leadership and talent management, and support for tackling workload; and
- develop an apprenticeship strategy.

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

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 12 December 2017 and signed on the board's behalf by:



Kenneth Morton
Chair of Trustees

Date: 12th Dec 2017

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that The BLP 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 BLP 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 seven 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	6	7
Andrew Birch	4	7
Neil Clephan	6	7
Philip Curtis	5	7
Simon Hilton	6	7
Emma Jackson	7	7
Sarah Lawson	6	7
Catherine Lennon	7	7
Nicholas Mitchell	5	7
Kenneth Morton	7	7
Ann-Marie Spry	5	7
Fiona Titterington	5	7

Governance review

The Academy Trust Board undertook a Governance review in June 2017 to assess the effectiveness of the Academy's governance processes, systems, culture and behaviours and recommend improvements.

Key strengths identified were around The BLP vision, strategic planning, board effectiveness and financial systems. Areas for development included ensuring that local governing bodies understood how earned autonomy applied to individual schools, and how to develop clear performance data to help Trustees know that pupils in all of the schools are making the best progress they can.

The next Governance review will take place in June 2018.

Audit and Risk Committee

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

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Philip Curtis (Chair)	3	3
Rachael Bajulaiye	3	3
Neil Clephan	2	3

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Finance and Resources Committee

The Finance and Resources Committee is a sub-committee of The BLP 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 BLP 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
Andrew Birch (Chair)	3	3
Sarah Lawson	2	3
Kenneth 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
Ann-Marie Spry (Chair)	3	3
Simon Hilton	3	3
Emma Jackson	3	3
Nicholas Mitchell	2	3
Fiona Titterington	2	3

The CEO has attended all Trust Board and Committee meetings.

Review of Value for Money

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

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

- undertaking a review of the Academy's insurance arrangements to ensure best value for money;
- re-tendering contracts such as energy and external audit to maximise cost efficiency; and
- continuing to review staffing needs and identifying 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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

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 BLP for the period from 26 July 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 from 26 July 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by The BLP 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 Leeds City Council's Financial Services to Schools to provide an internal audit/Responsible Officer function to carry out a programme of internal checks.

Leeds City Council's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

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

The outcomes and recommendations in the Responsible Officer's report 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

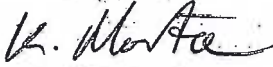
As Accounting Officer, the CEO has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the Academy has been informed by:

- the work of Leeds City Council Children's Services Finance **Team** to provide an Internal Audit/Responsible Officer function;
- the work of the external auditor, Murray Harcourt;
- the Financial Management and Governance Self-Assessment (FMGS) Validation visit by the DfE; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

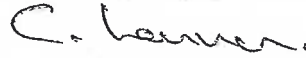
The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

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 12 December 2017 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 2016.

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 2016.

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.

C. Lennon

Catherine Lennon
Accounting Officer

Date: 12.12.17

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 2016 to 2017;
- 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 12 Dec 2011 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 period ended 31 August 2017, 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 2016 to 2017 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 2017, 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 2016 to 2017 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.

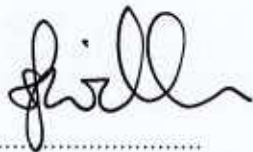
INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE BRIGSHAW LEARNING PARTNERSHIP (continued)

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

Elizabeth House
13-19 Queen Street
Leeds
LS1 2TW

Date: 19/12/2017

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 2016 to 2017, 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 26 July 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 2016, 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 2016 to 2017. 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 26 July 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 2016 to 2017 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 2016;
- 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 period from 26 July 2016 to 31 August 2017 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Murray Harcourt Limited

**Reporting Accountant
Murray Harcourt Limited**

Date: 19/12/2017

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
 Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account
for the period ended 31 August 2017

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM:					
Donations and capital grants	1	51	14	190	255
Transfer from local authority on conversion	26	1,253	(3,722)	47,694	45,225
Incoming resources from charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	2	693	11,547	-	12,240
Other trading activities	3	35	-	-	35
Investment income	4	1	-	-	1
Total		2,033	7,839	47,884	57,756
EXPENDITURE ON:					
Charitable activities:					
Academy Trust's educational operations	6	737	11,949	986	13,672
Total	5	737	11,949	986	13,672
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)					
		1,296	(4,110)	46,898	44,084
Gross transfers between funds	14	(61)	(45)	106	-
OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension scheme	24	-	911	-	911
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS					
		1,235	(3,244)	47,004	44,995
TOTAL FUNDS ON INCORPORATION					
		-	-	-	-
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD at 31 August 2017					
	14	1,235	(3,244)	47,004	44,995

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
BALANCE SHEET
As at 31 August 2017

Registration number: 10301662

	Notes	2017 £'000	2017 £'000
FIXED ASSETS			
Tangible assets	11		47,004
CURRENT ASSETS			
Debtors	12	524	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,521</u>	
		2,045	
CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(810)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			1,235
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>48,239</u>
NET ASSETS EXCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY			<u>48,239</u>
Pension scheme liability	24		<u>(3,244)</u>
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY			<u>44,995</u>
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST:			
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
Fixed asset fund	14		47,004
General fund	14		-
Pension reserve	14		<u>(3,244)</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS			<u>43,760</u>
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS			
General funds			<u>1,235</u>
TOTAL UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS	14		<u>1,235</u>
TOTAL FUNDS			<u>44,995</u>

The financial statements on pages 22 to 41 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on.....12th Dec 2017 and are signed on their behalf by:



Kenneth Morton
Chair of Trustees

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
CASH FLOW STATEMENT
for the period ended 31 August 2017

	Notes	2017 £'000
CASH FLOWS FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
Net cash used in operating activities	17	402
CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES	18	1
CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES	19	(135)
CASH TRANSFERRED ON CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST		1,253
INCREASE IN CASH IN THE YEAR		<hr/> 1,521
CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS AT 31 AUGUST 2017	20	<hr/> <hr/> 1,521

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued) for the period ended 31 August 2017

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 2016 to 2017 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.

Conversion to an Academy Trust

On 1 September 2016 Allerton Bywater, Kippax Greenfield, Kippax North, Swillington and Brigshaw High School joined The Brigshaw Learning Partnership Multi-Academy Trust, followed by Kippax Ash Tree which joined on 1 April 2017.

The conversion from state maintained schools to a Multi-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 schools 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. Further details of the transaction are set out in note 26.

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.

The General Annual Grant from DfE, which is intended to meet recurrent costs, is recognised on a receivable basis and is credited directly to the Statement of Financial Activities to the extent of the entitlement of the funds, any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and is recognised as a liability.

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

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.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the period ended 31 August 2017

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.

Interest receivable

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

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.

Resources expended

All expenditure is recognised in the period in which a liability is incurred and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to each activity cost category on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

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 £1,000 or more are capitalised at cost and are carried at cost net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic lives. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the period ended 31 August 2017

Tangible fixed assets (continued)

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
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10% per annum
Computer equipment	33% per annum
Motor vehicles	20% 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.

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.

A building in respect of one 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 the school. 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.

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.

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.

Leased assets

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)
for the period ended 31 August 2017

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 10% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received and paid, and any balances held are disclosed in note 27.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

Local Government Pension Scheme liability

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of different assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 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 2017. 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 2017

1 DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2017 Total £'000
Capital grants	-	161	161
Capital donations	-	29	29
Other donations	51	14	65
	<u>51</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>255</u>

2 FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2017 Total £'000
DfE/ESFA GRANTS			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	9,886	9,886
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	773	773
	<u>-</u>	<u>10,659</u>	<u>10,659</u>
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS			
SEN from Local Authority	-	256	256
Other Local Authority grants	-	534	534
	<u>-</u>	<u>790</u>	<u>790</u>
OTHER INCOME			
Catering income	399	-	399
Academy trips	35	77	112
Music tuition	7	-	7
Supply and training	22	-	22
Other income	230	21	251
	<u>693</u>	<u>98</u>	<u>791</u>
Total	<u>693</u>	<u>11,547</u>	<u>12,240</u>

3 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2017 Total £'000
Income from lettings	24	-	24
Other income	11	-	11
	<u>35</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>35</u>

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

4 INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2017 Total £'000
Short term deposits	1	-	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>

5 EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs £'000	Non Pay Expenditure		2017 Total £'000
		Premises £'000	Other £'000	
Academy's educational operations:				
Direct costs	7,936	-	873	8,809
Allocated support costs	1,906	1,746	1,211	4,863
	<u>9,842</u>	<u>1,746</u>	<u>2,084</u>	<u>13,672</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:	2017
	£'000
Operating leases	12
Depreciation	986
Fees payable to auditor for:	
Audit	<u>13</u>

6 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

	2017
	£'000
Direct costs – educational operations	8,809
Support costs – educational operations	<u>4,863</u>
	<u>13,672</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operation £'000	2017 Total £'000
Staff costs	1,906	1,906
Depreciation	986	986
Premises costs	835	835
Governance costs	124	124
Other support costs	<u>1,012</u>	<u>1,012</u>
Total support costs	<u>4,863</u>	<u>4,863</u>

Expenditure on the Academy Trust's educational operations amounted to £13,672,000 of which £737,000 was attributable to unrestricted and £12,935,000 was attributable to restricted funds.

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

7 STAFF COSTS

2017
 £'000

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the period were:

Wages and salaries	7,562
Social security costs	679
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	1,590
Apprenticeship levy	11
	<u>9,842</u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2017 No.
Charitable activities	
Teachers	154
Administration and support	246
	<u>400</u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2017 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	3
£70,001 - £80,000	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1

The above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Pension contributions for these staff amounted to £61,038.

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £590,322.

8 CENTRAL SERVICES

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

- Human resources;
- Educational support services;
- Financial services; and
- Governance.

The Trust did not charge for these services during the period ended 31 August 2017.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

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: £100,001 - £110,000
 Employer’s pensions contributions: £10,001 - £20,000

During the period ended 31 August 2017, travel and subsistence expenses amounting to £1,400 were reimbursed or paid directly to three Trustees and 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 period ended 31 August 2017 was £4,000.

11 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Land and buildings £’000	Fixtures and equipment £’000	Computer equipment £’000	Total £’000
Cost				
Transfer on conversion	47,520	121	53	47,694
Additions	212	31	53	296
At 31 August 2017	47,732	152	106	47,990
Depreciation				
Charged in year	955	12	19	986
At 31 August 2017	955	12	19	986
Net book values				
At 31 August 2017	46,777	140	87	47,004

Further details regarding assets transferred on conversion are provided at note 26.

12 DEBTORS

	2017
	£’000
Other debtors	214
VAT recoverable	163
Prepayments and accrued income	147
	524

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

13 CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £'000
Trade creditors	375
Other creditors	17
Accruals and deferred income	418
	<u>810</u>

Deferred income

	2017 £'000
Resources deferred in the year:	
- UIFSM income	104
- School fund	20
- Rates	36
- Other	18
	<u>178</u>
Deferred income at 31 August	178

14 FUNDS

	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains, losses & transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2017 £'000
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	9,886	(9,841)	(45)	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	773	(773)	-	-
LEA and other grants	790	(790)	-	-
Other restricted	112	(112)	-	-
	<u>11,561</u>	<u>(11,516)</u>	<u>(45)</u>	<u>-</u>
Pension reserve	(3,722)	(433)	911	(3,244)
	<u>7,839</u>	<u>(11,949)</u>	<u>866</u>	<u>(3,244)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds				
DfE/ESFA capital grants	161	-	-	161
Donations	29	-	-	29
Transferred on conversion	47,694	-	-	47,694
Capital expenditure from GAG	-	(986)	106	(880)
	<u>47,884</u>	<u>(986)</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>47,004</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>55,723</u>	<u>(12,935)</u>	<u>972</u>	<u>43,760</u>
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted funds	<u>2,033</u>	<u>(737)</u>	<u>(61)</u>	<u>1,235</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>2,033</u>	<u>(737)</u>	<u>(61)</u>	<u>1,235</u>
Total funds	<u>57,756</u>	<u>(13,672)</u>	<u>911</u>	<u>44,995</u>

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

14 FUNDS (continued)

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 2017.
- (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).

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows:

	Total
	£'000
Brigshaw High School	747
Allerton Bywater Primary School	97
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	157
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	30
Kippax North Primary School	79
Swillington Primary School	69
Central MAT	56
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	<u>1,235</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	47,004
Pension reserve	<u>(3,244)</u>
Total	<u>44,995</u>

Analysis of academies by cost

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)	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Brigshaw High School	4,577	1,061	324	1,158	7,120
Allerton Bywater Primary School	982	207	54	245	1,488
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	518	37	29	192	776
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	465	133	31	151	780
Kippax North Primary School	629	222	60	197	1,108
Swillington Primary School	608	158	60	169	995
Central services	157	88	63	111	419
Academy Trust	<u>7,936</u>	<u>1,906</u>	<u>621</u>	<u>2,223</u>	<u>12,686</u>

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

15 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted general funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total funds £'000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	47,004	47,004
Current assets	1,273	559	213	2,045
Current liabilities	(38)	(559)	(213)	(810)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,244)	-	(3,244)
Total net assets	1,235	(3,244)	47,004	44,995

16 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS

OPERATING LEASES

At 31 August 2017 the total of the Academy Trusts' future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was as follows:

	2017 £'000
Other	
Expiring within one year	30
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	58
	<u>88</u>

In respect of one of the Academy Trust's school buildings, which was 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 2017, the Academy paid £84,000 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

	2017 £'000
Net expenditure for the reporting period	44,084
Depreciation (note 11)	986
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(161)
Interest receivable (note 4)	(1)
Donations – transfer from local authority on conversion	(45,225)
Pension cost less contributions payable (note 24)	369
Pension finance income (note 24)	64
Increase in debtors	(524)
Increase in creditors	810
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	402

18 RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING OF FINANCE

	2017 £'000
Interest received	1
Net cash inflow from returns on investment and servicing of finance	1

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

19	CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT	2017
		£'000
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(296)
	Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	161
	Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment	(135)

20	ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	2017
		£'000
	Cash in hand and at bank	1,521
		1,521

21	ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS			
		Cash transferred on conversion	Cash flows	At 31 August 2017
		£'000	£'000	£'000
	Cash at bank and in hand	1,253	268	1,521
	Net funds	1,253	268	1,521

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.

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.

As part of the transaction described in note 26 the employees of the schools detailed in that note were transferred to the Academy Trust on 1 September 2016 and 1 April 2017 respectively. The LGPS obligation of £3,722k transferred on conversion relates to the employees of these acquired entities and represents their cumulative service at the predecessor schools up to 1 September 2016 or 1 April 2017 as appropriate.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

24 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

There were no contributions outstanding payable to either scheme as at 31 August 2017.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pensions Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, 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 2012 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
- 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 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 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £762,000.

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.

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 2017 was £594,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £454,000 and employees' contribution totalled £140,000. The agreed rates for future years are 14.8% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

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

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

24 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31 August 2017
Rate of increase in salaries	3.25%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.00%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.50%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.00%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	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 2017
<i>Retiring today</i>	
Males	22.1
Females	25.2
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>	
Males	23.0
Females	27.0

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 2017 £'000
Discount rate +0.1%	(806)
Discount rate -0.1%	850
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	(799)
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	850

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2017 £'000
Equities	5,613
Government bonds	699
Other bonds	284
Property	328
Cash/liquidity	109
Other	247
Total market value of assets	7,280
Present value of scheme liabilities	
- Funded	(10,524)
Deficit in the scheme	(3,244)

The Brighshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

24 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

The actual return on scheme assets was £760k.

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities	2017 £'000
Current service cost	823
Pension finance cost	<u>64</u>
Total operating charge	<u>887</u>

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 £911,000 loss.

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:	2017 £'000
Balance acquired on conversion	8,101
Current service cost	823
Interest cost	176
Employee contributions	140
Actuarial gain	(263)
Benefits paid	(18)
Net increase in liabilities from transfers in	<u>1,565</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,524</u>

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

On conversion	4,882
Interest income	112
Actuarial gain	648
Employer contributions	454
Employee contributions	140
Benefits paid	(18)
Net increase in assets from transfers in	<u>1,062</u>
At 31 August	<u>7,280</u>

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2018 is £828,000.

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 at arm's length and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures and the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook.

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

26 ASSETS TRANSFERRED ON CONVERSION

On 1 September 2016, Allerton Bywater Primary School, Brigshaw High School, Kippax North Primary School, Kippax Greenfield Primary School and Swillington Primary School, followed by Kippax Ash Tree Primary School on 1 April 2017, converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Brigshaw Learning Partnership from the Leeds Local Authority for £Nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as Donations: Transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following tables set out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred, per school, and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Brigshaw High School	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
- Other fixed assets	-	-	114	114
- Land and freehold buildings	-	-	28,600	28,600
	-	-	28,714	28,714
Pension deficit	-	(2,234)	-	(2,234)
Other identifiable assets	829	-	-	829
	829	(2,234)	28,714	27,309
Allerton Bywater Primary School				
	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
- Other fixed assets	-	-	18	18
- Land and freehold buildings	-	-	4,620	4,620
	-	-	4,638	4,637
Pension deficit	-	(316)	-	(316)
Other identifiable assets	138	-	-	138
	138	(316)	4,638	4,460
Kippax Greenfield Primary School				
	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
- Other fixed assets	-	-	8	8
- Land and freehold buildings	-	-	2,010	2,010
	-	-	2,018	2,018
Pension deficit	-	(187)	-	(187)
Other identifiable assets	34	-	-	34
	34	(187)	2,018	1,865

The Brigshaw Learning Partnership
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)
for the year ended 31 August 2017

26 ASSETS TRANSFERRED ON CONVERSION (continued)

Kippax North Primary School	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
- Other fixed assets	-	-	12	12
- Land and freehold buildings	-	-	2,960	2,960
	-	-	2,972	2,972
Pension deficit	-	(250)	-	(250)
Other identifiable assets	91	-	-	91
	91	(250)	2,972	2,813

Swillington Primary School	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
- Other fixed assets	-	-	16	16
- Land and freehold buildings	-	-	4,070	4,070
	-	-	4,086	4,086
Pension deficit	-	(232)	-	(232)
Other identifiable assets	25	-	-	25
	25	(232)	4,086	3,879

Kippax Ash Tree Primary School (1 April 2017)	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Tangible fixed assets				
- Other fixed assets	-	-	6	6
- Land and freehold buildings	-	-	5,260	5,260
	-	-	5,266	5,266
Pension deficit	-	(503)	-	(503)
Other identifiable assets	136	-	-	136
	136	(503)	5,266	4,899

Summary of funds transferred on conversion

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total 2017 £'000
Brigshaw High School	829	(2,234)	28,714	27,309
Allerton Bywater Primary School	138	(316)	4,638	4,460
Kippax Greenfield Primary School	34	(187)	2,018	1,865
Kippax North Primary School	91	(250)	2,972	2,813
Swillington Primary School	25	(232)	4,086	3,879
Kippax Ash Tree Primary School	136	(503)	5,266	4,899
	1,253	(3,722)	47,694	45,225

27 AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2017 the Trust received £5,552 and disbursed £2,252 from the fund. An amount of £3,300 is included in accruals and deferred income relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.

