

Company Registration No. 07338707 (England and Wales)

**THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

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THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

E Amadi MVO
S Bowler
E Brown
M Gibbs CBE
J Godfrey

Trustees

E Amadi MVO (Vice Chair)
D Gallie (Resigned 31 December 2020)
S Russell
S Tucker
K Chhatwal (Resigned 30 March 2021)
J Godfrey (Co-Chair)
A King (Resigned 30 March 2021)
Mrs C A Buchanan (Accounting officer)
Ms C Maugham (Co-Chair)
Mr S C Potter (Resigned 30 March 2021)
Mr S Latham (Appointed 23 February 2021)
Ms K L Robinson (Appointed 23 February 2021)
Mr J Slater (Appointed 23 February 2021)

Senior management team

- CEO / Executive Headteacher	C Buchanan
- CFO	G Griffith
- Headteacher (Charter School East Dulwich)	A Crossman
- Headteacher (Charter School North Dulwich)	C Hicks
- Headteacher (Charles Dickens Primary School)	M Eggleton
- Headteacher (Dulwich Hamlet Junior School)*	C Purcell
- Headteacher (The Belham Primary School)*	E Cohen
- Co-headteacher (Lyndhurst Primary School)*	J Nowakowska
- Co-headteacher (Lyndhurst Primary School)*	N Hammill
- Head of Governance and Compliance	S Varcoe
- * Schools joined 1 April 2021	Note

Company secretary

Shalene Varcoe

Company registration number

07338707 (England and Wales)

Registered office

The Charter School East Dulwich
Jarvis Road
London
SE22 8RB

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Academies operated

The Charter School North Dulwich
The Charter School East Dulwich
Charles Dickens Primary School
Dulwich Hamlet Junior School
The Belham Primary School
Lyndhurst Primary School

Location

Southwark
Southwark
Southwark
Southwark
Southwark
Southwark

Head Teacher

C Hicks
A Crossman
C Buchanan
C Purcell
L Cohen
N Hammill & J Nowakowska

Independent auditor

Azets
Greytown House
221-227 High Street
Orpington
Kent
BR6 0NZ
United Kingdom

Bankers

Royal Bank of Scotland plc
Sheffield Attercliffe Branch
747 Attercliffe Road
Sheffield
South Yorkshire
S9 3RF
United Kingdom

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The multi academy trust operates two inclusive secondary schools for pupils aged 11-19, three primary schools, two with an attached nursery, and one junior school all predominantly serving communities in the London Borough of Southwark.

- The Charter School North Dulwich had a roll number of 1279 with a capacity of 1250 on 2020/21
- The Charter School East Dulwich had a roll number of 777 and a capacity of 780 in 2020/21.
- Charles Dickens Primary School has a roll number of 420 in the school and 56 full time equivalent places in the nursery and a capacity of 420 in the school and 56 in the nursery in 2020/21.
- The Belham Primary School has a roll number of 403 and a capacity of 420 in 2020/21
- Lyndhurst Primary School has a roll number of 396 in the school and 36 full time equivalent places in the nursery and a capacity of 420 in the school and 36 in the nursery in 2020/21.
- Dulwich Hamlet Junior School has a roll number of 360 and a capacity of 360 in 2020/21

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The charitable company is known as The Charter Schools Educational Trust. The Charter Schools Educational Trust is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital (registration no. 07338707) which was incorporated on 6 August 2010. The Trust is an exempt charity and is regulated by the Department for Education (DfE).

The Trust's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents. Members of the charitable company are nominated by their peers. The articles of association require the members of the company to appoint at least one Trustee to be responsible for the affairs of the charitable company.

The principal goal of The Charter Schools Educational Trust is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom by establishing and running schools that serve the needs of their local communities.

The charitable company receives funding under the terms of its Funding Agreement entered into with the Secretary of State for Education.

The trustees of The Charter Schools Educational Trust 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 on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

In line with the articles of association, the number of Trustees shall be not less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum. "Trustees" means the directors of the Trust (and "Trustee" means any one of those directors), subject to the definition of this term as set out in the articles.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

There is a rigorous process for recruitment with appropriate vetting. Skills are carefully considered. The training and induction provided for new Trustees depends on their existing experience. The Trust has adopted a common policy for the induction and training of both Trustees and governors who sit on the local governing bodies. Training is available by a mix of in house and by external agencies. Trustees and governors are signposted to policies, procedures, minutes and accounts that they will need to undertake their role. In addition, the Trust subscribes to several professional organisations which give Trustees and governors a wealth of up-to-date guidance and support. This includes membership of the National Governance Association (NGA) and the Confederation of School Trusts (CST).

All Trustees are aware of their role and duties as company directors and charity trustees. This is in line with the Companies Act 2006 and all have accessed information from the Charity Commission guidance CC3 "The essential trustee: what you need to know, what you need to do". Trustee training provided by the NGA and the local authority have also been made available. Trustees at The Charter Schools Educational Trust are fully compliant in all aspects.

Trustees and Governors

The Charter Schools Educational Trust is the body legally responsible for the operation of each school within the group. The Trustees are listed in this report. The memorandum of association, articles of association and funding agreements form the basis of how each school is governed.

The Trust's schools each have a local governing body (LGB), the remit of which is to help the Trustees to hold to account their senior leaders for the achievement, safeguarding and wellbeing of the individual school's pupils. The roles and responsibilities of the LGBs is defined within the Trust Scheme of Delegation. Trustees and Local Governors are appointed according to their skills, experience and the contribution they can make to ensuring the Trust's activities are effective. New Trustees and Local Governors are interviewed by experienced Members, Trustees or Local Governors, depending on the vacancy, supported by the Head of Trust Governance, given a formal introduction to the Trust and an opportunity to meet with the relevant Headteacher/CEO before their first full meeting. At least one member of any appointment panel must have received safer recruitment training.

During the year under review, the Trustees held four full Board meetings and three extraordinary board meetings. From March 2020 to July 2021 all Board meetings and local governing body meetings have been held using online meeting technology due to the ongoing pandemic. Trustees have visited each school in person during the periods when schools were reopened and COVID restrictions/public health guidance at the time permitted this.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Organisational structure

In accordance with the funding agreement with the Education Funding & Skills Agency (ESFA), an agency of the DfE, the Trustees have made governance arrangements as described above. The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that high standards of corporate governance are maintained.

Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the schools by use of their budget and strategic development plans and making major decisions about the direction of the schools, their capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. They exercise their powers and functions with a view to fulfilling a largely strategic leadership role in the running of the schools, addressing such matters as:

- Setting the Mission, Vision and Values for the Trust as a whole
- Assessing and managing risk
- Agreeing the Trust's Development Plan and KPIs
- Ensuring compliance with legal requirements under Company and Charity law
- Ensuring sound financial management and administration
- Establishing and maintaining effective internal controls
- The management of all resources including estates
- The monitoring of pupils' performance
- Ensuring compliance with the Trust's responsibilities in respect of Safeguarding
- Helping the schools to be responsive to the needs of parents, carers and our communities

The Trust Board had the following Trust Board committees during the year in question:

- Finance and Audit & Risk – Statutory committee which met 3 times
- Pay Committee – Statutory committee which met once
- Governance and Communication – Task and Finish committee initiated to work through the recommendations of the external governance review
- EDI Committee - Task and Finish Committee

The Board's committee structure is reviewed each year and each committee has agreed terms of reference.

The Trust also ensures that there is a Local Governing Body for each school which include elected parent governors and elected staff governors.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Trust has an appropriate policy and Terms of Reference in place. The pay of the Headteachers and the CEO of the Trust is determined by the Trust's Board in the Autumn Term. The Trust's Pay Committee make recommendations for ratification by the Trust Board.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There are no organisations that directly sponsor The Charter Schools Educational Trust. Individual schools within the Trust may have PTA organisations which are registered as charities and operated separately from the Trust.

Transactions with connected organisations during the year under review have been disclosed in note 24, related party transactions. This note to the financial statements provides disclosure of related party transactions that took place in the period of account in addition to certain trustee's remuneration and expenses as disclosed in note 11.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of The Charter School North Dulwich and of The Charter School East Dulwich to advance, for the public benefit, education for students of different abilities between the ages of 11 and 19.

The Trustees confirm they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Schools' aims and objectives.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trust's mission is to inspire and nurture children and young people in South London to excel, through education that transforms lives and strengthens our diverse communities.

The Trust's strategic aims are:

Schools that excel

- All our pupils achieve higher outcomes than national comparators and have the knowledge, skills and confidence to succeed at the next stage of their educational journey
- Greatest support for those pupils who need it most
- Commitment to continuous improvement
- Evidence-informed teaching within a powerful knowledge curriculum
- Deliberate and proactive teaching of positive behaviours
- Broad and rich opportunities for pupils to develop creativity through learning about and participation in the arts
- Promoting leadership and community service for all pupils
- Families valued as partners.

People that inspire

- A clear talent-management strategy for all roles
- Trust-wide career development programme
- An employer of choice in South London
- Developing leaders who reflect the diversity of our community
- A sector leader for staff wellbeing
- A successful Teaching School Hub and EEF Research School.

Partnerships that make a difference

- Mobilising evidence-informed knowledge of 'what works'
- Working together to improve outcomes for all our pupils
- Sharing strong practice and resources
- Promoting innovation in our schools
- Amplifying our learning to improve the sector

Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The year 2020/21 was a year of significant change for the Trust alongside the external challenges of the COVID 19 pandemic. The Trust grew in size to six schools with the addition of Lyndhurst Primary School and the joining of Dulwich Hamlet Educational Trust (Dulwich Hamlet Junior School and The Belham Primary School) in April 2021. This represents an additional 1200 pupils. They joined the Trust's existing three schools, two secondaries, The Charter School North Dulwich and The Charter School East Dulwich, and Charles Dickens Primary School which is also home to London South Teaching School Hub and the Charles Dickens EEF Research School. The last two organisations provide professional development and school improvement support to schools across London and the South East. This will be an area of potential organisational growth for the coming year.

The Trust remained focused on improving the education of children from the local community through its activities. Prior to the wider school closures, all the schools in The Trust were comfortably on track to meeting school improvement objectives for the year. The Charter School East Dulwich reviewed a monitoring visit in December 2020 to review its provision during COVID and no concerns were raised. No other schools were inspected during the year but Charles Dickens Primary School and North Dulwich continued to take part in Challenge Partners peer review programmes. Schools which joined the Trust in April 2021 will join the Challenge Partners school review programme in September 2021.

The Trust adapted very well to the wider school closures which took place in January 2021 and led to the re-positioning of the Trust Development plan and the individual school development plans to manage risk and reposition resources to managing online provision and family support. North Dulwich and East Dulwich further developed their online learning provision and expanded their provision of laptops to families to ensure all students could access learning. The primary schools focused on broadening their onsite provision to vulnerable families and key workers, each school offering onsite schooling to higher than national average numbers of pupils. Feedback from families continued to drive adaptations to provision and was overwhelmingly positive.

Schools transitioned smoothly to reopening in March 2021 and responded quickly to resettling pupils, identifying gaps in learning and offering pupils adapted and additional support to accelerate learning. During the summer term, schools offered a full curriculum with enrichment opportunities such as music, visits and sport.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Key performance indicators

In 2021, due to the COVID pandemic, statutory exams did not take place and were replaced by Teacher Assessed grades at Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5. Statutory testing at Key Stage 1 and 2 and statutory teacher assessment in Early Years were cancelled for all schools nationally.

The Charter School North Dulwich continued to perform very well in national measures with very strong teacher-assessed grades at both Key Stage 4 and Key Stage 5 and The Charter School East Dulwich had its first set of Key Stage 4 results. Both schools attained very well and attainment would be considered well above average based on previous national comparators. There was no national progress measure or calculation for 2021. Key Stage 4 outcomes are not comparable to previous years due to the unique nature of the assessment process. The outcomes are in line however with 2019 and 2020.

Key Stage 4 Outcomes

	The Charter School North Dulwich	The Charter School East Dulwich
Attainment 8	65.3	61.32
% students achieving grade 4 or above in English and Maths	90%	83%
% students achieving grade 5 or above in English and Maths	76%	70%
% students achieving 9 – 4+ in EBACC subjects	61%	56.8%

Key Stage 5 Outcomes

	The Charter School North Dulwich
% grades A* - B	86%
% grades A* -A	64%

At Key Stage 5, outcomes remain strong and relatively stable year on year but there has been a significant increase in the percentage of A* - A grades from 2019. As with GCSE, this can be partly explained by borderline students obtaining the higher of the borderline grades but also a reflection of the continued progress from the outstanding 2019 GCSE grades achieved at North Dulwich. The number of students being placed on university courses has also remained high with an increase in numbers of students taking places at Oxford and Cambridge University.

Most Trust schools continue to be oversubscribed from 2020. North Dulwich, East Dulwich and Charles Dickens Primary were heavily over-subscribed. The new Sixth Form at East Dulwich also reached its full intake of students. There is a fall in numbers of school-aged children in Southwark and whilst all the primary schools had a full intake for reception-aged pupils and year three aged pupils (Dulwich Hamlet Junior School), there was a fall in the number of applications overall and this reflects the London-wide picture. It will be an area the Trust continues to monitor closely for financial risk.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Financial review

The Trust has the following financial objectives:

- To generate sufficient levels of income to support the operations and asset base of the Trust schools;
- To ensure the charitable company sets a budget that provides sufficient and targeted resources to achieve the highest possible standards of educational attainment in the schools;
- To achieve an annual operating surplus at the Trust level;
- To use the pupil premium effectively to raise standards for all pupils in this category and to address any gaps in the achievement of these pupils when compared to that of their peers'
- To ensure there is sufficient capital expenditure to develop the charitable company's sites and environments to meet the challenges of teaching and learning in the 21st century; and
- To allocate carried forward funds for continued capital investment in order to improve achievement as its schools.

Sound financial control is ensured by the structure of governance including the Scheme of Delegation and committee terms of reference.

In the year ended 31 August 2021 the trust incurred the following surpluses / (deficits) before transfers on its key funds :-

Unrestricted Funds		Restricted General Funds		Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	
2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
£1,805k	£370k	(£3,495k)	(£1,992k)	£26,003k	£9,595k

After transactions between funds and recognised gains / (losses) on the defined benefit pension scheme the Trust held the following funds as at 31 August 2021:-

Unrestricted Funds		Restricted General Funds (including pension liability)		Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	
2021	2020	2021	2020	2021	2020
£1,456k	£742k	(£8.2m)	(£5.1m)	£52.5m	£26.5m

The majority of the charitable company's income for the year ended 31 August 2021 was obtained from the ESFA in the form of a general annual grant (GAG) and other grants. This income totalled £21.0m (2020: £13.8m) and represents 84% (2020: 89%) of the total income received in the year if assets and liabilities donated on conversion are excluded from total income.

During the year ended 31 August 2021, total expenditure of £26.6m (2020: £17.0m) was not fully covered by recurrent grant funding from the ESFA together with income from other sources, however there was donations income on conversion of Lyndhurst Primary School of £10.3m, revaluation of Charles Dickens Primary School land and buildings £5.9m and donations income on the transfer in of Belham Primary School and Dulwich Hamlet Junior School of £9.8m.

The total charge relating to the pension liability of £1,194k (2020: £670k) and expenditure on the fixed asset fund of £832k (2020: £657k) relating largely to the annual depreciation charge contributed to a surplus of £24,313k (2020: surplus £7,973k). The excess of expenditure over income for the year (excluding restricted fixed asset fund and before transfers between funds) was £1.7m (2020: £1.6m)

At 31 August 2021 the net book value of fixed assets was £52.4m (2020: £26.5m) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 14 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the Trust.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Reserves policy

The Trustees have agreed to maintain a target of 2% of the total income of the Trust to mitigate the risk of future income reduction and increased expenditure, and to provide funds to support the growth and development of the Trust.

The key financial risks for The Charter Schools Educational Trust are a reduction to future income due to Government funding changes and/or falling pupil roll, or delays in receipt of grant funding, and an increase in expenditure caused by increases in public sector pay and pension costs.

The Trustees and the executive management team are acutely aware of the need to balance financial prudence with maintaining the top-quality education The Charter Schools Educational Trust prides itself on.

During the accounting period the Trustees have reviewed the reserves of the Trust. This review encompassed the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them with commitments and the nature of the reserves. The Trustees are satisfied that its reserves are sufficient for its current purposes. The level of reserves will be kept under review by the Trustees.

The reserves as at 31 August 2021 amounted to £45.7m (2020: £22.2m) which comprised primarily of restricted fixed asset reserves. The unrestricted reserves amounted to £1,456k (2020: £742k).

The charitable company has a pension scheme liability of £8.2m (2020: £5.1m) as at 31 August 2021 which is included in the restricted reserves. The disclosure does not mean that the liability is already committed and is no longer available to the Trustees to further the charitable company's objectives. Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013. In the short term, the cash flow impact of having a pension scheme liability may be that employer contributions may increase in order to reduce the liability. The Trust will always pay the employer contribution rates set by the pension scheme administrators.

Sustainability

The charitable company is committed to sustainable development throughout all aspects of its operations. The charitable company will continue to strive to meet or exceed the Sustainable Development in Government targets.

Investment policy

The Trust has procedures in place to regularly monitor cash flow and current account balances to ensure immediate financial commitments can be met (payroll and payments runs) and that the current account has adequate balances to meet forthcoming commitments. In practice, a working balance of one month's payroll costs will be maintained.

The Trust will normally seek to avoid its current account going overdrawn and will identify funds surplus to immediate cash requirements. The surplus funds are transferred to the charitable company's deposit account (for the time being) which bears a higher interest rate. The investment policy restricts future long-term deposits to not exceed £500k with an individual banking institution.

The Trust's current policy is to only invest funds in immediately accessible deposit accounts. Rates of return on investments are reviewed and alternative strategies considered at least annually.

The Trust Board will review annually any change in policy.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have identified and assessed the major risks to which the charitable company is exposed. Formal risk management processes have been designed and implemented to mitigate those risks, including the provision of appropriate insurances, suitable financial procedures and other policies and procedures.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Trustees have considered the risks and uncertainties faced by the Trust. These include: the risks posed by reductions in government funding and increasing costs; any and all risks to the reputation of the schools operated by the Trust; and the operational risks associated with the delayed delivery of the second phase of The Charter School East Dulwich site. There is also the additional financial risk linked to the operation of a Teaching School Hub and EEF Research School where the income is primarily grant driven and revenue from participants on its training programmes. The Trust has to be mindful during this year and subsequent years of the additional costs incurred by the schools due to COVID-19, especially where additional funding has not been provided by the ESFA.

The steps taken by the Trust to mitigate these risks include:

- Strong governance during transition with adherence to Academies Financial Handbook and guidance therein from the ESFA and supported by a planned programme of meetings.
- To ensure stability of financial plans comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems take place with an annual budget and periodic financial performance against forecast and of major purchase plans. Capital work and expenditure programmes are also closely monitored
- The identification and management of risks with established risk registers at each school and a Trust-wide risk register being implemented.
- The appointment of Southwark Council's Regeneration – Capital Works department as delivery partner in respect of managing the building of The Charter School East Dulwich's permanent buildings.
- The addition of the Accounting Officer to the steering groups related to the building of the The Charter School East Dulwich
- The establishment of a Trust committee to have oversight the work of the Teaching School Hub and EEF Research School
- The centralisation of the finance operations to a Trust team based at the Trust registered offices

Fundraising

Plans for future periods

The Trust plans further to enhance the performance of all the schools in the Trust, and to drive forward with the successful growth of The Charter School East Dulwich as it opens its new 6th form provision in 2021. The Trust is also actively engaged in discussions with other schools from all phases to explore further growth by joining the MAT and building on our current strengths by partnering with schools who offer unique provisions such as children's centres, alternative or additional provisions and technical qualifications.

The work of the Teaching School Hub and associated activities continues to generate income which can support the expansion of this teacher development work which in turn can lead to income generate through external school-to-school support by employees of the Trust.

Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- 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.

A resolution proposing that Azets be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 07 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

J Godfrey
Co-Chair

Ms C Maugham
Co-Chair

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, C Buchanan, 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 Charter Schools Educational Trust 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 Trust's main board has met 7 times during the year. The Trust's Finance and Audit & Risk committee met three times in the year. The Trust and its six local governing bodies (LGBs) have a calendar of meetings agreed in advance and met at least four times during the accounting period. The Finance and Audit & Risk committee, the LGB's, and any other committees report back to the Trust Board. The responsibilities of the Trust and its committees are clearly set out in the Terms of Reference and the Trust's Scheme of Delegation.

The board of trustees has formally met four times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
E Amadi MVO (Vice Chair)	6	7
D Gallie (Resigned 31 December 2020)	1	2
S Russell	7	7
S Tucker	6	7
K Chhatwal (Resigned 30 March 2021)	4	5
J Godfrey (Co-Chair)	7	7
A King (Resigned 30 March 2021)	5	5
Mrs C A Buchanan (Accounting officer)	7	7
Ms C Maugham (Co-Chair)	6	7
Mr S C Potter (Resigned 30 March 2021)	5	5
Mr S Latham (Appointed 23 February 2021)	2	3
Ms K L Robinson (Appointed 23 February 2021)	3	3
Mr J Slater (Appointed 23 February 2021)	3	3

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The key change in board composition over the last year was:

- Kate Chhatwal resigned as a Trustee
- Amanda King resigned as a Trustee
- Stephen Potter resigned as a Trustee
- David Gaillie's term of office as a Trustee ended and was not renewed
- Karen Robinson was appointed as a Trustee
- Simon Latham was appointed as a Trustee
- Jonathan Slater was appointed as a Trustee

The Trust Board has seen significant changes this year as new schools joined the MAT and following an external review of governance of the Trust in the Autumn of 2020. The aim was to ensure that the governance structure of the Trust is suitable for a growing MAT, which followed the preference of the DfE to have clear lines separation between the various governance layers, and which ensured best practice for governance of the Trust. The actions taken following the review included the adoption of revised Articles of Association, a revised Trust Scheme of Delegation and revised roles and responsibilities for Members, Trustees and Local Governors.

Due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, all Trust Board meetings continued to be held online for the duration of the year 2020/21, in line with up-to-date guidance from the National Governance Association and to ensure compliance with national Government health guidance and COVID measures.

The Trust continues to employ a Head of Trust Governance, supported by an additional Governance Professional. Their main objectives are to:

- Providing advice to the Trust board and its committees, including Local Governing Bodies, on governance, constitutional and procedural matters.
- Providing effective administrative support to TCSET Members, Trust Board, Local Governing Bodies and their committees.
- Ensuring the Trust Board and all committees are properly constituted.
- Managing information effectively in accordance with legal requirements under charity law and company law.
- Coordinating Trust policies.
- Acting as Company Secretary.

Trustees and Local Governors have continued to attend regular training updates on key areas of governance throughout the year as provided by the in-House team, Southwark Governor Services (paid for service) and the National Governance Association Learning Link (e-learning portal). All training was delivered online this year. The Head of Trust Governance has completed ISCA Academy Governance Level 4 course.

The Trust board would normally meet four times per year but has met more frequently during this year to monitor risk assessments and plans around the COVID-19 lockdown and reopening of schools, as well as managing the joining of three new schools into the Trust.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

As part of its governance structure, a Finance and Audit & Risk (previously known as the Budget and Audit Committee) meets three times per year, who have the delegated responsibility for the oversight of the Trust's funds and Risk Management, including non-financial risks.

The Finance, Audit and Risk committee is a joint committee of the main board of trustees. The Finance and the Audit & Risk Committees are run as one committee as the Trusts annual turnover is less than £50m but this is kept under review as the Trust grows. Its purpose is to:

Financial policy and planning

- To review, adopt and monitor a Finance Policy which includes the local scheme of delegation for spending and budgetary adjustments (virements) for the committee, Trust executive team, headteacher and other nominated staff.
- To review, adopt and monitor all additional financial policies, including a charging and remissions policy.
- To establish and maintain a three-year financial plan, taking into account priorities of the Trust Development Plan, roll projection and signals from central government and (if applicable) the LA regarding future years' budgets, within the constraints of available information.
- To draft and propose to the Trust Board for adoption an annual school budget considering the priorities of the Trust and School Development Plans.
- To ensure that sufficient funds are set aside for pay increments as set out in the Pay Policy and as recommended by the Headteachers and approved by the local governing bodies.

Financial monitoring

- To monitor the income and expenditure throughout the year of all delegated and devolved funds against the annual budget plan.
- To receive at least termly budget monitoring reports from the headteachers.
- To report back to each meeting of Trust Board and to alert them of potential problems or significant anomalies at an early date.
- To prepare the Trustees Report to form part of the Statutory Accounts of the Trust Board and for filing in accordance with Companies Act requirements.
- To receive auditors' reports and to recommend the Trust Board action as appropriate in response to audit findings.
- To recommend to the Trust Board and the Members the appointment or reappointment of the auditors

Audit and Risk

- Reviews the auditor's findings and actions taken by the Trust Executive Team in response to those findings.
- Produces an annual report of the committee's conclusions to advise the Trust Board and members.
- Has delegated responsibility on behalf of the Trust Board for examining and reviewing all systems and methods of control both financial and otherwise including risk analysis and risk management; and for ensuring the Trust is complying with the overall requirements for internal scrutiny, as specified in the Academies Trust Handbook (previously known as the Academies Financial handbook).
- Conducts a regular review of the risk register
- Agrees an annual programme of internal scrutiny / audit, which is objective and independent, covering systems, controls, transactions, and risks.
- Advise the Trust Board on the adequacy and effectiveness of the trust's systems of internal control, governance, and risk management processes,
- Considers the appropriateness of executive action following internal audit/internal scrutiny reviews and to advise the board on any additional or alternative steps to be taken.
- Oversees the annual review of the Trust's risk register.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
D Gallie (Resigned 31 December 2020)	1	1
S Russell	3	3
S Tucker	2	2
Mrs C A Buchanan (Accounting officer)	3	3

Review of value for money

As accounting officer during the year, C Buchanan has responsibility for ensuring that the 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 available. The accounting officer for the Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Improving the resilience of internal controls through the adoption of internal audit procedures;
- Reviewing the Trust procurement policy; and
- Consolidating major contracts including for HR, compliance training, Data protection, governor services, school external evaluations, finance systems
- Centralisation of the financial operations of the Trust
- Providing in-house marketing, branding and design work
- Restructuring the central team
- Retendering of the Management Information Systems contract

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 Charter Schools Educational Trust for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The risk and control framework

The 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 the Finance and Audit & Risk committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Trustees are aware of the need for a specific internal audit function, which is separate from the external audit function in line with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, and appointed TSO Education as internal auditor for 2020/21. The reports are received by the Finance and Audit & Risk Committee and reported as appropriate to the Trust.

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

- Testing of control systems
- Testing of control account/ bank reconciliation
- Review of policies and procedures and adherence thereon
- Review of governance and training of Governors

The Academy Trust can confirm the internal auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned and no material control issues were raised.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and Audit & Risk Committee and will ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 07 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

J Godfrey
Co-Chair

Mrs C A Buchanan
Accounting officer

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021*

As accounting officer of The Charter Schools Educational Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the 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 2020.

I confirm that I and the Trust's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of trustees and ESFA.

Mrs C A Buchanan
Accounting Officer

07 December 2021

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Charter Schools Educational Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 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 accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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 that 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 accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 07 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

J Godfrey
Co-Chair

Ms C Maugham
Co-Chair

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 18 September 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Charter Schools Educational Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Charter Schools Educational Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the The Charter Schools Educational Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Charter Schools Educational Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Charter Schools Educational Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Charter Schools Educational Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 September 2010 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. 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 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including high level financial control areas and areas assessed of presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity, where such controls, policies and procedures apply to classes of transactions. This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements to the extent evidence from the conduct of that audit supports the regularity conclusion as well as additional testing based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Azets
Greytown House
221-227 High Street
Orpington
Kent
BR6 0NZ
United Kingdom

Dated: 15 December 2021

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of The Charter Schools Educational Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

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 accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts 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

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts 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 accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts 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 accounts 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.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts 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 accounts.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the accounts is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charitable company'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 charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Michelle Wilkes FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Azets

15 December 2021

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Greytown House
221-227 High Street
Orpington
Kent
United Kingdom
BR6 0NZ

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General Fixed asset £'000 £'000		Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	118	70	416	604	267
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	28	108	181	15,895	16,184	9,535
Donations - transfer of existing academy into the trust	28	370	(1,128)	10,524	9,766	-
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	22,568	-	22,568	14,694
- Funding for teaching school	27	-	312	-	312	-
Other trading activities	5	1,442	-	-	1,442	519
Investments	6	1	-	-	1	2
Total		<u>2,039</u>	<u>22,003</u>	<u>26,835</u>	<u>50,877</u>	<u>25,017</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	234	25,119	832	26,185	17,044
- Teaching school		-	379	-	379	-
Total	7	<u>234</u>	<u>25,498</u>	<u>832</u>	<u>26,564</u>	<u>17,044</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		1,805	(3,495)	26,003	24,313	7,973
Transfers between funds	18	(1,091)	1,162	(71)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	(797)	-	(797)	(891)
Net movement in funds		<u>714</u>	<u>(3,130)</u>	<u>25,932</u>	<u>23,516</u>	<u>7,082</u>
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		742	(5,051)	26,520	22,211	15,129
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,456</u>	<u>(8,181)</u>	<u>52,452</u>	<u>45,727</u>	<u>22,211</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2020	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		funds £'000	General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	2020 £'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	15	-	252	267
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	28	124	(589)	10,000	9,535
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	14,694	-	14,694
Other trading activities	5	519	-	-	519
Investments	6	2	-	-	2
Total		<u>660</u>	<u>14,105</u>	<u>10,252</u>	<u>25,017</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	290	16,097	657	17,044
Total	7	<u>290</u>	<u>16,097</u>	<u>657</u>	<u>17,044</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		370	(1,992)	9,595	7,973
Transfers between funds	18	(519)	733	(214)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	(891)	-	(891)
Net movement in funds		<u>(149)</u>	<u>(2,150)</u>	<u>9,381</u>	<u>7,082</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		891	(2,901)	17,139	15,129
Total funds carried forward		<u>742</u>	<u>(5,051)</u>	<u>26,520</u>	<u>22,211</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		52,382		26,520
Current assets					
Debtors	15	1,859		1,174	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,291		637	
		<u>3,150</u>		<u>1,811</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(1,624)		(1,069)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			1,526		742
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			53,908		27,262
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		(8,181)		(5,051)
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total net assets			45,727		22,211
			<u><u></u></u>		<u><u></u></u>
Funds of the Trust:					
Restricted funds	18				
- Fixed asset funds			52,452		26,520
- Pension reserve			(8,181)		(5,051)
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total restricted funds			44,271		21,469
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Unrestricted income funds	18		1,456		742
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total funds			45,727		22,211
			<u><u></u></u>		<u><u></u></u>

The accounts on pages 24 to 53 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 07 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

J Godfrey
Co-Chair

Ms C Maugham
Co-Chair

Company Number 07338707

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £'000	£'000	2020 £'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	21		50		(613)
Cash funds transferred on conversion			478		124
			<u>528</u>		<u>(489)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		1		2	
Capital grants from DfE Group		416		138	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		-		114	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(275)		(38)	
		<u></u>	142	<u></u>	216
Cash flows from financing activities					
Finance costs		(16)		(7)	
		<u></u>	(16)	<u></u>	(7)
Net increase/(decrease) in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period					
			654		(280)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			637		917
			<u>1,291</u>		<u>637</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year					
			<u><u>1,291</u></u>		<u><u>637</u></u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

The Charter Schools Educational Trust is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the 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 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable 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 accounts and have concluded that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Conversion to an academy trust

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school 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 Lyndhurst Primary School to the academy trust have been valued at their fair value. No adjustments were required to be made to fair value of assets and liabilities on conversion. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Donations – 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. Fixed assets have been valued on conversion by the directors on the basis of comparison to schools in the local area. Defined benefit pension liabilities have been included on conversion on the basis of an actuarial valuation under FRS102. Further details of the transaction are set out in note 26.

1.4 Income

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

Grants

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

Donated fixed assets are measured at fair value unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor is used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Trust's accounting policies.

Transfer of assets from existing academies

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the Trust, the transferred net assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Trust. Income equal to the net assets transferred is recognised within donations and capital grant income.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

This includes all expenditure incurred by the 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 Trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Trust apportioned to charitable activities.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the Trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management, trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £5k or groups of assets costing £30k or more containing items over £1k are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

The Charter School North Dulwich buildings are included on the basis of a desktop depreciated insurance valuation prepared by ESFA on conversion in 2010. The land on which the school is sited is leased on a 125 year lease from Dulwich Estates at a peppercorn rent. The Charter School East Dulwich buildings are included at cost. Charles Dickens Primary School buildings were included on the basis of a valuation by the directors where comparison was made to schools in the local area. This has now been updated to reflect an external DfE valuation. Lyndhurst Primary School buildings were included on the basis of a valuation by the directors where comparison was made to schools in the local area.

The land and buildings at The Belham Primary School are occupied under the terms of a short-term arrangement. It is expected that a long term lease of 125 years will be put into place when snagging issues are resolved, and long term lease negotiations with the Local Authority are concluded. When that has been achieved a valuation for the Belham Primary School leasehold interest will be included as a fixed asset.

The land and buildings at Dulwich Hamlet Junior School are included on the basis of an external valuation of building reinstatement costs for insurance purposes, which was carried out in 2011.

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:

Land and buildings	Buildings over the remaining useful economic life of the building, Land is not depreciated
Computer equipment	33% on cost
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% on cost
Motor vehicles	25% on cost

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the statement of financial activities.

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

1.8 Leased assets

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

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.9 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. 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. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.10 Taxation

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

1.11 Pensions benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the 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 Trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the 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 based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the 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 net income or expenditure 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.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.12 Fund accounting

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

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

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

1.13 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 academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 26.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 20, 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 2013 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgement

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 13 for the carrying amount of the property plant and equipment, and note 1.5 for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

Bad debts

Debtors are regularly reviewed for recoverability, any debts which in the opinion of management are not recoverable are provided for as a specific bad debt.

There are no key assumptions concerning the future and other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Capital grants	-	416	416	252
Other donations	118	70	188	15
	<u>118</u>	<u>486</u>	<u>604</u>	<u>267</u>

4 Funding for the Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	18,754	18,754	12,741
Other DfE / ESFA grants:				
Pupil premium	-	747	747	437
Start up grants	-	25	25	25
DfE teaching grants	-	312	312	-
UIFSM	-	109	109	(30)
Teachers pension grants	-	634	634	446
Teachers pay grants	-	208	208	153
PE and sports premium	-	44	44	-
Rates	-	166	166	22
Others	-	36	36	22
	<u>-</u>	<u>21,035</u>	<u>21,035</u>	<u>13,816</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	1,422	1,422	796
Special educational projects	-	88	88	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>1,510</u>	<u>796</u>
Exceptional government funding				
Coronavirus job retention scheme grant	-	6	6	-
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	46	46	82
Other Coronavirus funding	-	283	283	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>335</u>	<u>82</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>22,880</u>	<u>22,880</u>	<u>14,694</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Funding for the Trust's educational operations

(Continued)

Exceptional government funding includes Coronavirus Job Retention Scheme grants of £6k, and £46k Covid exceptional support.

In the prior period there was £82k Covid claims income, for exceptional costs incurred by the academy trust since March 2020, including Free School Meals, cleaning, premises and other costs.

Other Coronavirus funding includes Covid catch up premium £207k, funding for mass testing £74k, and Covid workforce funding £2k.

Covid catch up premium was spent on tutoring, staff costs, online lessons for students, and books for students.

The Covid catch up premium and all other Covid claims income have been fully spent so that there is no amount carried forward at 31 August 2021.

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Hire of facilities	105	-	105	77
Catering income	154	-	154	-
Music services	167	-	167	108
Nursery, club fees and school fund	392	-	392	-
Trip income	110	-	110	248
Staff consultancy income	223	-	223	47
Other income	291	-	291	39
	<u>1,442</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,442</u>	<u>519</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Short term deposits	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
		Premises £'000	Other £'000		
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	15,415	675	1,631	17,721	12,109
- Allocated support costs	4,292	2,228	1,944	8,464	4,935
Teaching school					
- Direct costs	152	-	43	195	-
- Allocated support costs	47	-	137	184	-
	<u>19,906</u>	<u>2,903</u>	<u>3,755</u>	<u>26,564</u>	<u>17,044</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	22	19
- Other services	4	2
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	832	657
Bank and loan interest	17	7
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	91	55
	<u>966</u>	<u>1330</u>

8 Central services

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

- human resources;
- financial services;
- contract procurement and management;
- premises management;
- educational support services;
- capital fundraising;
- conversion and joining support.

The Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

- 3.15% of GAG School Budget Share

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Central services

(Continued)

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
The Charter School North Dulwich	196	-
The Charter School East Dulwich	179	-
Charles Dickens Primary School	72	-
Dulwich Hamlet Junior School	23	-
The Belham Primary School	26	-
Lyndhurst Primary School	29	-
.	-	-
	<u>525</u>	<u>-</u>

9 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Direct costs				
Educational operations	144	17,577	17,721	12,109
Teaching school	-	195	195	-
Support costs				
Educational operations	90	8,374	8,464	4,935
Teaching school	-	184	184	-
	<u>234</u>	<u>26,330</u>	<u>26,564</u>	<u>17,044</u>
	<u><u>234</u></u>	<u><u>26,330</u></u>	<u><u>26,564</u></u>	<u><u>17,044</u></u>
	Teaching school £'000	Educational operations £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Analysis of support costs				
Support staff costs	47	4,292	4,339	2,319
Depreciation	-	157	157	93
Technology costs	-	417	417	234
Premises costs	-	2,071	2,071	1,611
Other support costs	137	1,501	1,638	657
Governance costs	-	26	26	21
	<u>184</u>	<u>8,464</u>	<u>8,648</u>	<u>4,935</u>
	<u><u>184</u></u>	<u><u>8,464</u></u>	<u><u>8,648</u></u>	<u><u>4,935</u></u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Governance costs

All from restricted funds:	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Amounts included in support costs		
Auditor's remuneration		
- Audit of financial statements	22	19
- Other audit costs	4	2
	<u>26</u>	<u>21</u>

11 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Wages and salaries	13,857	9,030
Social security costs	1,362	850
Pension costs	3,832	2,328
	<u>19,051</u>	<u>12,208</u>
Staff costs - employees	19,051	12,208
Agency staff costs	855	582
	<u>19,906</u>	<u>12,790</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	82	89
	<u>19,988</u>	<u>12,879</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	179	127
Administration and support	188	97
Management	26	16
	<u>393</u>	<u>240</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

11 Staff

(Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£60,000 - £70,000	12	10
£70,001 - £80,000	5	3
£80,001 - £90,000	4	2
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-
£120,001 - £130,000	2	1
	=====	=====

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1.

The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £822k (2020: £508k), relating to 10 members of the key management team (2020: 6).

12 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Trust. The Head Teacher and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Head Teacher and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

C Buchanan (CEO):

- Remuneration £115,000 - £120,000 (2020: £30,000 - £35,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £25,000 - £30,000 (2020: £5,000 - £10,000)

In the period from April to June 2020, before Charles Dickens Primary School joined the MAT, C Buchanan was remunerated through a consultancy agreement. The disclosure of remuneration and pension contributions for 2021 includes C Buchanan's remuneration from Head teacher and CEO roles within the trust.

During the year ended 31 August 2021, there were no travel and subsistence expenses reimbursed to trustees.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in the related parties note.

13 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Trust has insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10m (2020: £10m) on any one claim.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Leasehold improvements	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	31,932	-	266	765	81	33,044
Transfer on conversion	19,266	1,206	36	16	-	20,524
Additions	-	-	51	224	-	275
Revaluation	5,895	-	-	-	-	5,895
At 31 August 2021	57,093	1,206	353	1,005	81	59,738
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	5,592	-	242	630	60	6,524
Charge for the year	597	78	40	104	13	832
At 31 August 2021	6,189	78	282	734	73	7,356
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	50,904	1,128	71	271	8	52,382
At 31 August 2020	26,340	-	24	135	21	26,520

The buildings transferred into the Trust on conversion in the year have been valued by the directors on the basis of comparison to schools in the local area.

The net book value of land and buildings includes the value of land £12,065k, which is not depreciated.

15 Debtors

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	343	134
VAT recoverable	583	310
Other debtors	331	130
Prepayments and accrued income	602	600
	1,859	1,174

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Trade creditors	296	213
Other taxation and social security	428	282
Other creditors	3	8
Accruals and deferred income	897	566
	<u>1,624</u>	<u>1,069</u>
	<u><u>1,624</u></u>	<u><u>1,069</u></u>

17 Deferred income

	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	119	55
	<u>119</u>	<u>55</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	55	52
Released from previous years	(55)	(52)
Resources deferred in the year	119	55
	<u>119</u>	<u>55</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u><u>119</u></u>	<u><u>55</u></u>

At the balance sheet date the trust was holding funds for schools trips and also Universal Infant Free School Meals income relating to the next financial year.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	18,754	(20,041)	1,287	-
Start up grants	-	25	(25)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	853	(853)	-	-
Other government grants	-	1,510	(1,510)	-	-
Teaching school	-	312	(379)	67	-
UIFSM	-	109	(109)	-	-
Teachers pension grants	-	634	(634)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	208	(208)	-	-
PE and Sports Premium	-	44	(44)	-	-
Rates	-	166	(166)	-	-
Coronavirus job retention scheme grant	-	6	(6)	-	-
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	46	(46)	-	-
Other Coronavirus funding	-	283	(283)	-	-
Teaching school on conversion	-	192	-	(192)	-
Pension reserve	(5,051)	(1,139)	(1,194)	(797)	(8,181)
	<u>(5,051)</u>	<u>22,003</u>	<u>(25,498)</u>	<u>365</u>	<u>(8,181)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	-	15,895	-	(15,895)	-
DfE group capital grants	-	416	-	(346)	70
Transfer in of fixed assets	-	10,524	-	(10,524)	-
General fixed assets	26,520	-	(832)	26,694	52,382
	<u>26,520</u>	<u>26,835</u>	<u>(832)</u>	<u>(71)</u>	<u>52,452</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>21,469</u>	<u>48,838</u>	<u>(26,330)</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>44,271</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	742	2,039	(234)	(1,091)	1,456
	<u>742</u>	<u>2,039</u>	<u>(234)</u>	<u>(1,091)</u>	<u>1,456</u>
Total funds	<u>22,211</u>	<u>50,877</u>	<u>(26,564)</u>	<u>(797)</u>	<u>45,727</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

General Annual Grant: Income received from the ESFA to cover the normal running costs of the schools.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

Other DfE/ESFA grants: This includes the pupil premium, rates relief, universal free school meals, Coronavirus catch up premium, MAT funding, teachers pay, pensions and sports funding grant.

Other government grants: This includes SEN funding, pupil premium High Needs and additional bulge class funding, Coronavirus support.

DfE / ESFA capital grants: This relates to DFC and CIF.

The transfer of funds relates to the purchase of fixed assets during the period, and the overspend on GAG.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	12,741	(13,474)	733	-
Start up grants	-	25	(25)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	459	(459)	-	-
Other government grants	-	796	(796)	-	-
UIFSM	-	(30)	30	-	-
Teachers pension grants	-	446	(446)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	153	(153)	-	-
Rates	-	22	(22)	-	-
Coronavirus job retention scheme grant	-	82	(82)	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,901)	(589)	(670)	(891)	(5,051)
	<u>(2,901)</u>	<u>14,105</u>	<u>(16,097)</u>	<u>(158)</u>	<u>(5,051)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	-	10,000	-	(10,000)	-
DfE group capital grants	-	252	-	(252)	-
General fixed assets	17,139	-	(657)	10,038	26,520
	<u>17,139</u>	<u>10,252</u>	<u>(657)</u>	<u>(214)</u>	<u>26,520</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>14,238</u>	<u>24,357</u>	<u>(16,754)</u>	<u>(372)</u>	<u>21,469</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	891	660	(290)	(519)	742
	<u>891</u>	<u>660</u>	<u>(290)</u>	<u>(519)</u>	<u>742</u>
Total funds	<u>15,129</u>	<u>25,017</u>	<u>(17,044)</u>	<u>(891)</u>	<u>22,211</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Funds

(Continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:		
The Charter School North Dulwich	1	1
The Charter School East Dulwich	1	1
Charles Dickens Primary School	1	1
Dulwich Hamlet Junior School	1	-
The Belham Primary School	1	-
Lyndhurst Primary School	1	-
.	-	-
Central services	1,450	739
	<u>1,456</u>	<u>742</u>
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	1,456	742
Restricted fixed asset fund	52,452	26,520
Pension reserve	(8,181)	(5,051)
	<u>45,727</u>	<u>22,211</u>
Total funds	<u><u>45,727</u></u>	<u><u>22,211</u></u>

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff £'000	Other support staff costs £'000	Educational supplies £'000	Other costs excluding depreciation £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
The Charter School North Dulwich	6,613	1,105	298	1,656	9,672	9,456
The Charter School East Dulwich	4,186	904	326	1,266	6,682	5,367
Charles Dickens Primary School	2,373	830	193	770	4,166	502
Dulwich Hamlet Junior School	608	199	13	189	1,009	-
The Belham Primary School	524	244	50	173	991	-
Lyndhurst Primary School	654	266	35	248	1,203	-
.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Central services	112	184	34	1,679	2,009	425
	<u>15,070</u>	<u>3,732</u>	<u>949</u>	<u>5,981</u>	<u>25,732</u>	<u>15,750</u>
	<u><u>15,070</u></u>	<u><u>3,732</u></u>	<u><u>949</u></u>	<u><u>5,981</u></u>	<u><u>25,732</u></u>	<u><u>15,750</u></u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	52,382	52,382
Current assets	1,584	1,496	70	3,150
Creditors falling due within one year	(128)	(1,496)	-	(1,624)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(8,181)	-	(8,181)
Total net assets	1,456	(8,181)	52,452	45,727

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	26,520	26,520
Current assets	742	1,069	-	1,811
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(1,069)	-	(1,069)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(5,051)	-	(5,051)
Total net assets	742	(5,051)	26,520	22,211

20 Pension and similar obligations

The 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 the London Borough of Southwark. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £Nil (2020: £39k) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 16.48%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.48%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £2,030k (2020: £1,443k).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The 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 contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 13.5% for employers and 5.5% to 12.4% for employees.

As described in note 28 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Trust, being the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who joined the scheme in the period. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Trust at the balance sheet date.

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

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Total contributions made	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Employer's contributions	540	271
Employees' contributions	222	130
	<u>762</u>	<u>401</u>

Principal actuarial assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.1	3.7
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.6	2.2
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.6	2.2
	<u>2.6</u>	<u>2.2</u>

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.9	20.8
- Females	22.8	22.7
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	23.7	23.6
- Females	25.6	25.5
	<u>25.6</u>	<u>25.5</u>

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	-549	-323
Discount rate - 0.1%	568	334
Mortality assumption + 1 year	701	390
Mortality assumption - 1 year	-701	-401
CPI rate + 0.1%	76	45
CPI rate - 0.1%	-76	-45
	<u>-76</u>	<u>-45</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Pension and similar obligations	(Continued)	
Defined benefit pension scheme net liability	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Scheme assets	10,754	6,086
Scheme obligations	(18,935)	(11,137)
Net liability	<u>(8,181)</u>	<u>(5,051)</u>
The Trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2021	2020
	Fair value	Fair value
	£'000	£'000
Equities	6,807	3,621
Bonds	1,925	1,223
Cash	172	140
Property	1,420	840
Other assets	430	262
Total market value of assets	<u>10,754</u>	<u>6,086</u>
The actual return on scheme assets was £1,446,000 (2020: £242,000).		
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	1,643	886
Interest income	(127)	(95)
Interest cost	218	150
Total operating charge	<u>1,734</u>	<u>941</u>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
At 1 September 2020	11,137	7,511
Obligations acquired on conversion	3,904	1,250
Current service cost	1,643	886
Interest cost	218	150
Employee contributions	222	130
Actuarial loss	1,948	1,038
Benefits paid	(137)	172
At 31 August 2021	<u>18,935</u>	<u>11,137</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20	Pension and similar obligations	(Continued)		
	Changes in the fair value of the Trust's share of scheme assets	2021	2020	
		£'000	£'000	
	At 1 September 2020	6,086	4,610	
	Assets acquired on conversion	2,597	661	
	Interest income	127	95	
	Actuarial gain	1,319	147	
	Employer contributions	540	271	
	Employee contributions	222	130	
	Benefits paid	(137)	172	
		<u>10,754</u>	<u>6,086</u>	
	At 31 August 2021	<u>10,754</u>	<u>6,086</u>	
21	Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities	2021	2020	
		£'000	£'000	
	Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	24,313	7,973	
	Adjusted for:			
	Net surplus on conversion to academy	(16,184)	(9,535)	
	Net surplus on transfer of academy in the trust	(9,375)	-	
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(177)	(252)	
	Investment income receivable	(1)	(2)	
	Finance costs payable	17	7	
	Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	1,103	615	
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	91	55	
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	832	657	
	(Increase) in debtors	(685)	(556)	
	Increase in creditors	77	425	
	Stocks, debtors and creditors transferred on conversion	39	-	
		<u>50</u>	<u>(613)</u>	
	Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	<u>50</u>	<u>(613)</u>	
22	Analysis of changes in net funds	1 September	Cash flows	31 August
		2020		2021
		£'000	£'000	£'000
	Cash	637	654	1,291
		<u>637</u>	<u>654</u>	<u>1,291</u>

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

23 Capital commitments

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	1,471	-

There are capital commitments at 31 August 2021 for contracts agreed in relation to works for heating replacement and replacement of primary plant at Charles Dickens Primary School and Charter School North Dulwich.

24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Trust 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 the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, including notifying ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Expenditure related party transactions

S Amadi is employed by the academy trust. S Amadi's father is the trustee Mr E Amadi.

Mrs L Godfrey is employed by the academy trust. Mrs L Godfrey is married to the trustee Mr J Godfrey.

The appointments were made in open competition. The connected party trustee was not involved in the decision making process regarding appointment. They are paid within the normal pay scale for their roles and receive no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee.

25 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 or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.

26 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the academy trust received £26k and disbursed £28k from the fund. An amount of £6k is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA. Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2020 are £35k received, £35k disbursed and £8k included in other creditors.

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

27 Teaching school trading account

	2021		2020	
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Direct income				
Government grants		312		-
Direct costs				
Direct staff costs	152		-	
Other direct costs	1		-	
Educational consultancy	42		-	
	<u>195</u>		<u>-</u>	
Other costs				
Support staff costs	47		-	
Other support costs	137		-	
	<u>184</u>		<u>-</u>	
Total expenditure		(379)		-
Transfers between funds excluding depreciation		67		-
Surplus from all sources		-		-
Teaching school balances at 1 September 2020		-		-
Teaching school balances at 31 August 2021		-		-

28 Conversion to an academy

On 1 April 2021 the Lyndhurst Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Charter Schools Educational Trust from the Southwark 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 values 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 table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

Academy	Location	Date of conversion
Lyndhurst Primary School	Southwark	1 April 2021

THE CHARTER SCHOOLS EDUCATIONAL TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

28 Conversion to an academy (Continued)

Funds surplus/(deficit) transferred:	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	funds	General	Fixed asset	2021
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets funds	-	-	15,895	15,895
LA budget funds	108	-	-	108
LGPS pension funds	-	(11)	-	(11)
Other funds	-	192	-	192
	108	181	15,895	16,184
	108	181	15,895	16,184

29 Transfer of existing academies into the Trust

On 1 April 2021 Belham Primary School and Dulwich Hamlet Junior School which were part of Dulwich Hamlet Educational Trust joined The Charter Schools Educational Trust and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Charter Schools Educational Trust 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 values and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net loss in the statement of financial activities as a transfer to The Charter Schools Educational Trust.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

Net assets acquired	Transfer in recognised £'000
Leasehold land and buildings	10,472
Other tangible fixed assets	52
Cash and cash equivalents	370
Pension scheme	(1,128)
Total net assets	9,766
	9,766

There were no fair value adjustments required to the values reported by the transferring trust.