

LiFE Multi Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Trustees' Report and Financial Statements
For the Year ended 31 August 2022

Company Registration Number:
07992438 (England and Wales)

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Members	Atika Kohli Ian Kinnis Colin Crane David Noble
Trustees	Christopher Parkinson, CEO and Accounting Officer Andrew Smith ¹ (Vice Chair) David Noble (resigned on 5 th September 2021) Liam McDonagh Hazel Cole ¹ Hatle Rajnikant Mehta (resigned on 16 th March 2022) Elizabeth Shears Darren Paul Bumby (resigned on 31st January 2022) Sue Dunford (appointed 6 th September 2021) Iain Duncan Kinnis ¹ (appointed 6 th September 2021 and resigned 31 st August 2022) Hannah Jean Cusworth ¹ (appointed 7 th March 2022) Anthony Nichols (appointed 10 th October 2022) ¹ Member of Finance, Audit and Infrastructure Committee
Company Registration Number	07992438
Company name	Life Multi-Academy Trust
Principal and registered office	Leicester Lane Desford Leicester Leicestershire LE9 9JL
Company secretary	Sarah Mayes ¹
Executive Headteacher	Christopher Parkinson
Senior leadership team	Christopher Parkinson, Executive Headteacher Simon Brown, Head of School (Bosworth Academy) Dave Bennett, Head of School (The Winstanley School) Gareth Williams, Chief Operating Officer Julie Olsen, Head of School (Kingsway Primary School) Sarah Mayes, Chief Financial Officer Amelia Smith, Head of School (Braunstone Frith) Catherine Aitcheson, Head of School (Countesthorpe Academy) Judith Mellor, Head of School (Ashby School) Nicola Koncarevic, Director of Education (National Forest Cluster) Alison Allford, Head of School (Ivanhoe) Sophie Williams, Head of School (Ibstock) Ben White, Director of Learning, Teaching and Assessment

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS CONTINUED

YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Independent auditors

Burrows Scarborough
Chartered Accountants
Sovereign House
12-14 Warwick Street
Earlsdon
Coventry
CV5 6ET

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc
7 High Street
Leicester
LE1 9FS

Solicitors

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
B2 2ES

Directory of Academies

Bosworth Academy
The Winstanley School
Kingsway School
Braunstone Frith Primary School
Countesthorpe Academy
Ashby School
Ibstock Community College
Ivanhoe College

Leicester Lane, Desford, Leicester, LE9 9JL
Kingsway North, Braunstone Town, Leicester, LE3 3BD
Kingsway North, Braunstone Town, Leicester, LE3 3BD
Cuffling Drive, Leicester, LE3 6NF
Winchester Road, Countesthorpe, Leicester, LE8 5PR
Nottingham Road, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, LE65 1DT
Central Avenue, Ibstock, Leicestershire, LE67 6NE
North Street, Ashby de la Zouch, Leicestershire, LE65 1HX

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The academy trust operates 8 schools consisting of 6 secondary schools and 2 primary Schools. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 8,645 and had a roll of 7,657 in the school census on October 2021. On the 01 September 2022, Desford Community Primary School and Dove Bank Primary School joined the trust.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of LIFE Multi- Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as LIFE Multi-Academy Trust.

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

Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10.00, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

Trustees Indemnities

Since the incorporation of the Charitable Company on 15 March 2012, the Trustees (directors) have been indemnified in respect of their legal liability for financial loss arising as a result of a negligent act, accidental error or omission in the course of their official duties. The limit of indemnity cover is £5 million in this respect.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The leadership and strategic leadership of the Multi Academy Trust (MAT) is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and/or co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

The Members may appoint all Trustees through such a process as they may determine.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

Induction for new Trustees is tailored according to their experience and background. New Trustees requiring guidance on their role have the opportunity to attend external training. Their development is supported through participation in school meetings and by discussion with staff and other Trustees.

Other training for Trustees is provided, as required through the Trustee training programme (purchased through Leicestershire County Council) and a specific programme of training provided by another provider, who is also a governor at one of our schools.

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Organisational structure

The LIFE Multi Academy Trust was formed on the 1st October 2016. The current membership of the Trust is:

- Ashby School
- Bosworth Academy
- Braunstone Frith Primary Academy
- Countesthorpe Academy
- Ibstock Community College
- Ivanhoe College
- Kingsway Primary School
- The Winstanley School
- Dovebank Primary School
- Desford Primary School

The Trustees are responsible for:

- Setting the vision, ethos and objectives for the Trust
- Approving strategic plans
- monitoring and evaluating the performance of the Trust against the plans and objectives
- Approving the annual budget and ensuring the solvency of the Trust
- Ensuring that appropriate arrangements are in place to enable the Trust to meet statutory responsibilities
- Providing support and challenge to the leadership team of the Trust

To discharge their responsibilities effectively, the Trustees have established specific roles and responsibilities for its Trustees:

- Chair of Trust Board
- Vice Chair
- Finance Trustee
- Audit Trustee
- Leisure Facilities and Nursery provision
- Safeguarding Trustee
- Curriculum Lead (Secondary focus)
- Curriculum Lead (Primary focus)
- Leicester Forest Hub - COG's
- National Forest Hub - COG's

A Chair of Trustees was appointed from the above list of Trustees for the period 1st September 2021 to 31st August 2022.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is responsible to the Trustees for the implementation and monitoring of plans and policies, student safeguarding and education. The CEO is also supported by the Central Leadership Team who consists of the Chief Operation Officer and Deputy CEO, Chief Finance Officer, Director of Education, Director of Teaching, Learning and Assessment and the Heads of School.

The Senior Leadership Teams from each school in the Trust are responsible to the CEO for the implementation and monitoring of plans and policies, student safeguarding, education and the day-to-day operation of their specific schools within the Trust. They also provide information to the CEO on a range of educational and business management functions.

The Trustees have approved a scheme of financial delegation that allows financial responsibilities to be delegated within appropriate limits, to facilitate the effective running of the Trust.

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The trust also operates a subsidiary company LIFE MAT Services Limited, Company number 08166524. This is a 100% wholly owned subsidiary company, responsible for the managing and development of the lettings function across the trust.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Board of Trustees performance manage the Pay Performance of the CEO of Life Multi Academy Trust and have delegated authority to the CEO to set pay and remuneration of key management personnel and bring to recommendations to Trustees for ratification.

Trade union facility time

Under the provisions of the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017, where an academy trust has more than 49 full time equivalent employees throughout any 7 months within the reporting period, it must include information included in Schedule 2 of the Regulations. The information to be published consists of four tables covering the period starting from 1 April each year and as follows:

Relevant Union Officials:

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period:	8
Full-time equivalent employee number:	7.6

Percentage of time spent on facility time:

Percentage of time	Number of Employees
0%	4
1% - 50%	4
51% - 99%	0
100%	0

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	£ 2,629
Provide the total pay bill	£ 35,600,508
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) × 100	0.0074%

Paid Trade Union Activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period ÷ total paid facility time hours) × 100	0.64%
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Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The trust operates a subsidiary company LIFE MAT Services Limited, Company number 08166524. This is a 100% wholly owned subsidiary company, responsible for the managing and development of the lettings function across the trust.

The trust operates a number of Special Behaviour Provisions. The South Leicester Inclusion Partnership Centre accepts Student from Lutterworth High School.

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The trust has a number of Service level Agreements (SLA) with Leicestershire County Council. These SLAs are to outsource some function on the trust such as Payroll, Insurance, grounds services and other related services.

The trust also works with a number of local Charitable Associations for the delivery the trusts alternative provision programme. The Trust is increasingly working alongside other business partners to provide careers opportunities and to bring added value to the educational offer.

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

Teacher recruitment continues to be a national problem and one the Trust works tirelessly to overcome. The Trust has earned a reputation as being a 'Go-to' group of schools, which has led to 7 out of 8 of our schools being fully staffed at the start of the autumn term 2022.

In 2019/20 the Trust formed a 'Gender Pay Gap' working group to develop strategies to identify and close any identified gaps. The findings of this group were shared with the Trust Headteachers in November 2020 and the working group continued to meet in the 21/22 Academic Year. Due to the continuing work of the group a decision was taken to change the name to 'The Gender Equality Group' and as such has undertaken work on the equalities act and ensure the trusts meets all its responsibilities required by the legislation.

Staff across the trust meet regularly through staff briefings, network groups, cross MAT development groups, senior leadership meetings, head teacher meetings and central operations meetings. The trust has developed a peer support structure from senior teaching staff from across the trust, all of whom are current teaching practitioners, to provide support across our primary and secondary schools.

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

The trust has developed a corporate social responsibility plan. The trust has identified 4 key areas to the plan and aim to develop these further. These areas are:

- | | | |
|------------------|---|---|
| 1. Environmental | - | Green Travel, Responsible Purchasing, Physical Resource Management and Energy Efficiency. |
| 2. Community | - | Volunteering, supporting Families, Apprenticeships and School Community Spaces. |
| 3. Philanthropic | - | Partnership Working, Sharing Good Practice, Time Donation and Charity Information. |
| 4. Workplace | - | Communication, Waste Management, Asset Sharing and Physical Environment. |

This has allowed LIFE Multi Academy Trust to commit to taking steps to ensure transparency, ethical behaviours, professional integrity and improved relationships in relation to its Suppliers, Customers and larger community stakeholders. The Trust also will commit to ensuring our suppliers meet our procurement principles to the benefit of the local and wider environment.

The trust recognises its responsibility to all stakeholders including parents, staff, pupils and the wider community and seeks to work in partnership with schools using a range of approaches depending on the individual nature of each community they serve. Parent and pupil feedback are sought in a wide variety of ways including forums and questionnaires and the results are then shared with senior leadership teams, the executive teams for education and operations, the Board and local governors. In this way the voice of stakeholder's influences decision making across the group.

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Objectives and Activities

Objectives and Aims

Vision

The LIFE Multi Academy has a compelling desire to provide high quality, personalised and rounded education for everyone, right in the heart of our local community. We believe that no school can be deemed successful unless all those around it are also successful, popular and flourishing. Hence, we believe that dynamic, mutually accountable collaboration and challenge between local schools as members of the LIFE MAT is the cornerstone of our future success.

Each school is seen as a leader of and vital to its local community; each school is regarded as fundamental to the identity of its surrounding community.

Values

- Ensuring that every student achieves positive, life changing outcomes
- Providing a whole education: academic excellence co-existing with an exceptional commitment to activity beyond
- The relentless pursuit of excellence by; expecting this of every person, every day; recognising and celebrating behaviours that lead to great progress and promoting and celebrating elite performance inside school and in the wider world
- Valuing the diversity and qualities of our staff and students
- Ensuring that all students and staff feel known, appreciated and supported
- Committing whole-heartedly to collaboration within, between and beyond our academies

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trust continues to be committed to educational improvement for our young people through the autonomy and diversity of our schools. Recent growth reinforces our commitment to this and to our ethos and our core values.

Our improvement objectives are set out in the Trust Steering Wheel, from which each of our schools develops their own Strategic Planning Wheel. Our Local Governing Bodies are encouraged to engage with the Strategic Wheel approach. Each Local Governing Body is requested to appoint a LINK Governor with responsibilities for monitoring progress of the “spokes” within each quadrant of the individual school Wheels. This approach reinforces our commitment to local autonomy.

The Wheels and supporting progress monitoring reports are key documents for setting and measuring our achievements and progress against our strategic improvement objectives. An excellent monitoring review and assessment reporting arrangement has been developed through which each Local Governing Body is able to measure progress through the “five E stages” – Exploring, Embedding, Emerging, Evolving and Excelling.

While many of the challenges of educating in a pandemic are beginning to recede, their impact remains very real. Lost learning, changing routines and some pupils still having not returned to education continue to impact on behaviours for learning and on attainment.

Age Range Change is of course a key priority and a challenge for our Ashby, Ibstock and Ivanhoe schools. The first new cohorts for these schools started in September 2022. Age-range change in the National Forest Hub will take several years to roll out and will continue to need a strong focus.

Behaviours for learning, along with heightened expectations of the range of SEMH needs mainstream schools are expected to meet, are now both our short- and long-term focus. This includes now the reinforcement of “what good looks like” in our Trust, along with plans for future shared specialist SEMH provision to be accessed by all Trust schools.

Attendance is beginning to recover but continues to need significant efforts by schools to stabilise

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Our ambitions in relation to embedding the Real-Life Curriculum across our schools remain undiminished. Trustees and the Executive Team remain fully committed to these and other elements of our vision.

Long Term objectives/Goals (5 Years +)

These will be measured on an on-going basis through the external/objective assessment processes and through subjective stakeholder and community responses e.g. by usage and by canvassing opinion.

- Outcomes equal to the best nationally and internationally for every school and every child
- Every child receives a truly rounded education resulting in a strong moral compass, a globally competitive skill set and a confident sense of self
- Every school is a hub for community activities, a centre for extended services and a source of immense pride for students, their families and other local stakeholders
- Providing high quality buildings, engaging classrooms and excellent sporting facilities
- Delivering innovative learning resources and materials
- Ensuring a well-disciplined and caring environment
- Exploiting cutting edge technologies to expand the opportunities for students, staff and our community to benefit from learning in a digital age.

Medium Term Objectives

- Each school is confident and thriving in its development; schools are beyond challenge from OFSTED in achieving the aims and values of the LIFE MAT
- Trust growth in line with the agreed balance between capitalising on the financial benefit of growth and the capacity for delivery
- To develop strategies to address the Gender Pay Gap across the Trust with the support of a staff working party
- Embed the findings of the Race Equity Group, Gender Equity Group and LGBTQ+ Equity Group
- Embed and develop further strategies to support staff wellbeing, through the Mindful Employer Charter. The Trust signed this charter in June 2019.

Short Term Objectives

- Expand community use of Trust facilities (expansion for the period was restricted due to the Covid-19 pandemic)
- To strengthen governance communication
- To review whether further back-office standardisation is possible
- Provide MAT to MAT support to other Trusts.
- To embed the 'Real LiFE Curriculum' across the Trust
- Centralisation of other key back office functions i.e. catering, premises and ICT support
- Stabilise the schools and students after Covid-19 in particular the increase in SEMH needs
- Tracking of pathways beyond each of the schools KS4 – 5 and KS5 and beyond
- To further develop the Corporate Social Responsibility plan for the Trust
- To look at improving the teaching facilities at Ibstock Community School utilising Section 106.

Public Benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Articles of Association and Funding Agreement provide details of the structure for the day-

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to-day operation of the MAT in accordance with these guidelines. We have also advanced the education for public benefit by:

- Providing a programme of extracurricular activities for students
- Hosting a wide range of child and adult sporting activities across all secondary schools including a large Learn to Swim programme
- Providing pre-school education at Bosworth Academy (Bosworth Day Nursery), Countesthorpe Academy (Teddies Day Nursery), Ibstock Community College (Ibstock Day Nursery) and providing facilities for a pre-school group at Kingsway Primary School
- Working with the local communities that serve Trust schools to improve the local environment
- Providing ICT support to several local primary schools.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

The 21/22 academic year was the first year to reintroduce pupil assessment following on from the move to Teacher Assessed Grades in the 19/20 & 20/21 academic years, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Trust has summarised the pupil assessment data below:

Primary Schools

Primary Schools use the following standards compared with the national average.

- Expected Standard (EXS+) - Percentage of students who are working at the recommended level at end of Year 6.
- Greater Depth (GDS) - Percentage of students who are consistently working above age related data.

		National Average	Braunstone Frith	Kingsway Primary
Number of Pupils (Year 6)			72	49
Combined Schools Information <i>(Reading, Writing and Maths)</i>	EXS+	59%	54%	57%
	GDS	7%	6%	10%
Reading	EXS+	74%	67%	76%
	GDS	28%	21%	31%
Writing <i>(Teacher Assessment)</i>	EXS+	69%	78%	69%
	GDS	13%	11%	14%
Maths	EXS+	71%	64%	67%
	GDS	22%	15%	29%
English, Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	EXS+	72%	67%	65%
	GDS	N/a	19%	35%

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Secondary School

Secondary schools use the following standards:

- Progress 8 - Students attainment score compared to average KS2 data.
- 5+ Grade 9-4 Eng/Math - Percentage of students with 5 or more Grade 9-4 Including English and Maths
- Grade 4+ Eng/Maths - Percentage of Students with Grade 4 or better in English and Maths
- 5+ Pass - Percentage of Students with 5 or more passing grades
- 1+ Qualification - Percentage of Students with At least one qualification
- Attainment 8 - Average academic performance of a secondary school using highest scores across 8 Government approved subjects.
- EBACC Entered - Percentage of Students entered in subjects counted towards EBACC Measurement*
- EBACC Achieved - Percentage of Students achieving EBACC Measurement
- % to Higher Ed - Percentage of Students going onto higher education

** To count towards the EBacc measure, qualifications must be included in the approved list of the qualifications.*

	Ashby School	Bosworth Academy	Countesthorpe	The Winstanley School
Progress 8	-0.14	-0.01	-0.52	-0.87
5+ Grade 9-4 Eng/Math	48%	65%	52%	41%
Grade 4+ Eng/Maths	73%	76%	65%	44.3%
5+ Pass	74%	81%	50%	22.5%
1+ Qualification	99%	98%	97%	93%
Attainment 8	48.9	48.2	42.4	35.07
EBACC Entered	42%	80%	18%	47%
EBACC Achieved	37%	37%	10%	8%
% to Higher Ed	74%	83%	79%	52%

Going Concern

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

Promoting the success of the company

Under section 172 (1)(a) to (f) of the Companies Act 2006, trustees must act in a way most likely to promote the success of the company, and in doing so must have regard to:

- The likely consequences of any decision in the long term - by ensuring that the trust has robust long-term financial projections and that these are considered when setting the future direction
- The interests of the company's employees - through employee engagement across our schools ensuring that our employees feel valued and cared for
- The need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others - by developing and valuing relationships with our stakeholders
- The impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment - through the development work the trust is undertaking regarding Corporate Social Responsibility

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- The desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct - by ensuring that staff receive an appropriate level of support and training at all levels to enable to perform their duties to the highest degree
- The need to act fairly as between members of the company - by ensuring that the trust acts with integrity, fairness and equitably

Financial Review

The trustees review the reserve levels of the Trust annually. The review includes nature of income and expenditure with the need to match income with commitments. The trustees have determined an appropriate level of reserves to cover capital expenditure and unexpected emergencies.

The Educational Skills and Funding Agency (ESFA) provides the majority of the trusts revenue income in the form of a General Annual Grant (GAG) and other smaller revenue grants. During the year ended 31st August 2022, total income received in relation to Restricted General Funds was £47,383,189.

The ESFA also provides the school with capital grants in the form of the School Condition Allowance (SCA). Such grants are shown in the statement of financial activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund.

To ensure that the trust achieves value for money for the public funds it receives, it regularly undertakes internal and external benchmarking. All schools are also expected to complete an annual Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning exercise, to ensure that our curriculum expectations and school finances are aligned.

The Trust operates a risk-based approach to budgeting and finance. The trust maintains a risk register at both Trust and Local Level. Below are some of the most relevant risks for the forthcoming period:

- **Market Risk** - Risk of losses in positions arising from movements in market variables like prices and volatility:
 - **Energy Price Rises** – The UK has a high dependency on gas for electricity generation and heating requirements which has made the country vulnerable to international gas price increases, which have been exacerbated by the ongoing conflict in Ukraine. The trust has budgeted for an increase on renewed contracts. If prices rise further this will increase trust expenditure.
 - **Cost of Living** – Due to higher levels of national Inflation and increase in cost of living. Food and basic amenities are increasing in prices for the Catering facilities along with general departmental spending.
 - **Teacher Pay Award** – Due to the ongoing increased cost of living, the teacher pay award may be more than budgeted for. The trust has budgeted for an increase of 5%, however the actual increase may be more than the budgeted figure. This increase is currently unfunded by the ESFA causing higher expenditure for the trust.
 - **Support Staff Pay Award** – Due to the ongoing increased cost of living, the support staff pay award may be more than budgeted for. The trust has budgeted for an increase of 8%, however the actual increase may be more than the budgeted figure. This increase is currently unfunded by the ESFA causing higher expenditure for the trust.
- **Operational Risk** - The risks of losses caused by flawed or failed processes, policies, systems or events that disrupt business operations:
 - **Risk of Rolling Blackout** – The UK government has warned of potential evening blackouts this winter. This may affect the trusts lettings function, leading to decrease revenue from trading activities.

The trust operates a wholly owned subsidiary company, LIFE MAT Services LTD. The role of this subsidiary is the effective management and development of the lettings function across the trust. These activities include but are not limited to:

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- Sports facility lettings
- Community Swimming lessons
- Private Room and Theatre lettings
- Nursery provision
- External ICT support for schools outside of the Trust

Life MAT Services contributes an annual surplus to the Trust via a gift aid contribution scheme. The gift aid contributions outlined below were received in year but the income was generated from activities during the 20/21 academic year:

School	21/22 Gift Aid contribution (£)
Ashby School	21,863
Bosworth Academy	22,028
Braunstone Firth Primary School	1,045
Countesthorpe Academy	16,649
Ibstock Community College	70,387
Ivanhoe College	4,383
Kingsway Primary	5,180
The Winstanley School	46,412

Reserves Policy

The Finance, Audit and Infrastructure Committee reviews academy reserve levels on a regular basis. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

The Trust will always try to match income with expenditure in the current year (set and manage a balanced budget), and will only carry forward reserves that it considers necessary and will have a clear plan for how these funds will be allocated to benefit students across the Trust.

School	Reserves (£)
Ashby School	1,677,476
Bosworth Academy	977,030
Braunstone Firth Primary School	99,605
Countesthorpe Academy	1,340,111
Ibstock Community College	129,873
Ivanhoe College	188,538
Kingsway Primary	89,666
The Winstanley School	7,503

Investment Policy

The aim of the Trust's investment policy is to ensure that funds which the Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested in such a way as to maximise income and minimise risk. Our aim is to spend the public monies with which we are entrusted for the direct educational benefit of students as soon as is prudent. The Trust does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather it is the result of good practice as and when circumstances allow.

The Trust currently operates an investment account. The balance held in this account as of the 31st August 2022 is £2,000,114.

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Principle Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the operations and finances of the Trust and are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate our exposure to the major risks. A risk register is monitored through trustee meetings. A risk register is also routinely discussed at governor committee level, with updates added to the register as deemed necessary and escalated to trustee level as necessary.

The principle risk facing the Trust is insufficient demand for the Trust's services leaving it unsustainable. This would lead to a decrease in the grant funding received and the necessity to reorganise the Trust to ensure it could remain with a balanced budget or a plan to recover from a deficit. Pupil numbers are monitored, and a 3-year plan drawn up to ensure the situation is considered fully by Trustees.

The Trust regularly monitors pupil projections, in conjunction with the local authorities, across all age ranges to ensure that they are fully aware of changing trends.

Fundraising

The vast majority of Trust funds are obtained through government funding and grants. However, the Trust is also active in seeking to raise funds through other channels in order to support specific activities which would otherwise be unaffordable.

The Trust has successfully raised funds for the new 3G Pitch at Bosworth Academy. A large proportion of the funding for this project was awarded by the Football Foundation. Desford Football Club are affiliated to the academy and were a key fundraising partner along with the parish council, Friends of Bosworth Academy and other donors. The pitch opened in October 2021.

Ivanhoe College has also secured external funding of £100,000 towards the construction of a new Sports Hall, the remaining funding will come from Section 106 funds and is due to open in January 2023.

The trust has raised funds to support the education of Ukrainian refugees. These funds were used to support the purchasing of resources and Uniform.

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Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022		1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021	
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	14,298,506	kWh	9,195,272	kWh
Energy consumption break down (kWh) (optional)				
• Gas	11,130,444	kWh	6,530,591	kWh
• Electricity	3,076,343	kWh	2,664,681	kWh
• transport fuel	91,719	kWh	-	kWh
<u>Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>				
Gas consumption	2,032.77	tCO ²	1196.14	tCO ²
Owned transport	12.72	tCO ²	1.79	tCO ²
Total scope 1	2,044.47	tCO²	1.197.93	tCO²
<u>Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>				
Purchased electricity				
Total Scope 2	508.65	tCO²	565.79	tCO²
<u>Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>				
Business travel in employee-owned vehicles				
Total Scope 3	6.07	tCO²	6.45	tCO²
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	2,559.20	tCO2e	1770.17	tCO2e
Intensity ratio - Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.33	tCO2e	0.23	tCO2e

Quantification and Reporting Methodology: -

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2022 UK Government’s Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity measurement

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

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

In 21-22 the trust has been awarded 2 decarbonisation grants in order to replace older, inefficient heating system with energy efficient air-sourced heat pump. This trust is looking at submitting applications for a further 3 grants.

Alongside external capital funding the trust is reviewing ways to increase our energy efficiency. These actions include:

- Ongoing programme of replacing existing lights and fittings to energy efficient LED lighting.
- Review of heat settings across the trust.
- Improving energy reporting across the trust, in order for stakeholder to make informed decisions.

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TRUSTEES REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Plans for the Future

Overall Strategic Plans – These are Trust wide plans:

- Investigating the possibility of creating a trust wide alternative education provision.

Leicester Forest Hub – Strategic Plans:

- Installation of Boilers and heating infrastructure at Kingsway and Winstanley.
- Installation of fencing on the Winstanley/Kingsway site.
- Refurbishment of tennis courts at Bosworth.
- Development of E-Sport arena at Countesthorpe.

National Forest Hub – Strategic Plans:

- Completion of the Sports Hall at Ivanhoe.
- Feasibility survey in reference to a new sports hall at Ashby school.

On 1st September 2022, LIFE Multi academy incorporated an additional 2 primaries schools in the trust. These are Dove Bank Primary and Desford Community Primary.

The Trusts policy on growth remains that, whilst the Board does not actively pursue growth, we will consider opportunities where these present themselves and/or where schools seek our support. The trust has also registered an interest with the Regional Schools Commissioner and the County Council in the two proposed new Secondary Schools for Lubbersthorpe, although currently, there are no time scales available for these.

Funds Held as Custodian

LIFE MAT Services (previously BA Services) are custodians for the School Games Programme funding and expenditure. The services company facilitates the use of its bank account to enable the programme to function effectively. LIFE MAT Services doesn't make any charge for this facility.

The Trust are custodians of the funding for the South Leicestershire Inclusion Partnership (SLIP) which is based at Countesthorpe Academy. The Trust holds a sum of money to cover any redundancy costs associated with SLIP and this figure is annually reviewed.

Auditor

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 12 December 2022 and signed on the board's behalf by:



Mrs Elizabeth Shears

Chair of Trustees

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Governance Statement

Scope of Responsibility

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that LIFE Multi-Academy 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, as Accounting Officer (AO), 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 Life Multi-Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The AO is also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met eight times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Attended	Out of a Possible
Andy Smith	8	8
Chris Parkinson	8	8
Darren Bumby (resigned on 31 st January 2022)	1	4
Elizabeth Shears	8	8
Hannah Cusworth (appointed 7 th March 2022)	4	4
Hatle Mehta (resigned on 16 th March 2022)	3	4
Hazel Cole	7	8
Liam McDonagh	7	8
Iain Kinnis (appointed 6 th September 2021 and resigned 31 st August 2022)	8	8
Sue Dunford (appointed 6 th September 2021)	6	7

LiFE is committed to local autonomy and Local Governing Boards have delegated powers. While some trusts maintain Local Governing Bodies as committees with no delegated powers, the Trust Scheme of Delegation provides, within an overall framework, for decision making to take place at the lowest level consistent with effective governance. Where powers are delegated, DfE/ESFA and NGA emphasise that Trust Boards and Local Governing Bodies should review their effectiveness annually. This is important from a governance perspective because not only must Trustees be satisfied that Local Governing Bodies are effectively discharging their delegations but also, Members seek to be assured this is the case and further, that the Trust Board has tested its own effectiveness.

The trustees receive regular monthly financial information from management in the form a Balance sheet, Cashflow forecast and Key Performance indicators. In addition to these they also receive a monthly Cost Centre budget reports for each school and provision operated by the trust. These allow governors to monitor and assess the financial position of the trust. In order to place reliance on these reports the governors have set the following requirements for trust financial data:

- | | |
|-----------------|---|
| Accuracy | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Data is captured only once, by the person nearest to the activity• It is dealt with in a Trust-wide secure environment• Where appropriate, calculations based on data are undertaken by programs rather than people |
|-----------------|---|

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Validity	• Guidance and definitions are provided for data requested, either by national standards or by the Trust
Reliability	• Data for several uses is now increasingly captured by a Trust-wide information management system rather than solely at school level • Local Governing Bodies interrogate school data on behalf of the Trust Board and there is a system for communicating key messages, in addition to checks from the Executive • Trustees balance interpretation of a scenario through both quantitative and qualitative data
Timeliness	• Data is captured on two grounds; different methods are clearly identified: ○ At the time of an activity ○ As snapshots in time for ongoing activities • The work cycle of the Trust Board both: ○ drives some data collection, for example Headteacher reports ○ is responsive to MAT and External data cycle, for example national assessment
Relevance	• Trustees keep a balance between reviewing which data is needed for their work and keeping parameters stable in order to be able to compare. • Trustees regularly question what a data set can tell them
Completeness	• Data requirements are clearly specified based on their information needs and data collection processes matched to these requirements. • As well as the Internal Audit, the format of data reports quickly shows where data is incomplete

Conflicts of interest

In order to manage potential conflicts of interest the trust has requires all Trustees and Local Governors to complete an annual declaration via the online system Governor Hub. These declarations must include any interest that the Trustee/Governor themselves hold or any spouse, partner or close family members might have, that are related to or might be construed as being related to the school, academy or trust and its budget.

The Governance professional monitors completion and this remains an agenda item until such time as everyone has completed. This information is published on the trust and schools' websites in accordance with ESFA guidance.

During every meeting of the Trustees or Local Governing boards, all trustees/Governors are required to declare any potential pecuniary interest or conflict of interest arising between an individual and the governing board.

Governance reviews

Members are responsible for review and/or amendment of Trust Articles. In June 2021, the DfE published new Model Articles for Multi-Academy Trusts.

Previously the Trust Board has undertaken an annual self-evaluation of its' effectiveness and of its' skill set. In 2021 requested to commission an External Reviewer for this term. Upon review of a skills audit, the trust decided to defer the external review to a later period, due to no current plans to grow the trust further.

The Trust Board will undertake an annual self-review, using a process developed by the Board, the outcomes/lessons learned from which will be reported to Members.

Some of the changes that would be formally considered have already been implemented, such as the appointment of Governance Professionals to support the Board, Local Governing Bodies and the Executive.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Local Governing Bodies will also be required to undertake an annual self-review, advise the Trust Board of the outcome from this review together with any actions to be taken as a result of those outcomes. Additionally, the Trust Board will now receive a termly summary assurance report of the issues discussed by Local Governing Bodies.

Local Governing Bodies agendas provide the opportunity for governors to register any concerns to the Trust Board. Local Governors have been advised that, in accordance with most recent guidance, if Local Governing Bodies are not satisfied with the response of Trustees to the issues they raise, they may now escalate concerns to Members.

Governor Development

The Board recognise that the growth of the Trust brings with it a range of governance implications. In reviewing how we provide for the training needs of our Trustees and Governors, the broader need for change in Trust Governance was highlighted. At the same point the DfE was requiring Trusts to employ a Governance Professional. The Trust appointed Stuart McDonough to the position of Clerk to several of our local governing bodies and as consultant on Governance protocols.

The Trust recognises that continual improvement is needed within the Trusts governance function to be of the highest standard. For this purpose, we commissioned Chris Tweedale to support a review of Trust governance with the aim of strengthening current arrangements.

The Trust Governing Body has assured our Local Governing Bodies, that whilst we acknowledge that some back-office functions, including governance, must be standardised, this will not be at the expense of local Autonomy. This allows the trust to achieve the financial savings achieved devoted to educational improvement whilst being able to safeguard our ethos in that each school develops their educational provision to meet local need.

Nevertheless, Trustees accept that there must be a common Trust-wide framework for governance within which duplication is eliminated and decision making delegated to the most appropriate level. A clearly documented Scheme is a requirement of the ESFA and an important means by which trustees can hold senior leadership to account. Following consideration of reports and advice from Chris Tweedale, the Board has already made a start on improving our governance by exercising the authority granted by Trust Articles to:

- Introduce a common Local Governing Bodies Constitution and Membership. All Local Governing Bodies have been asked to adopt this, but no serving governor will be asked to stand down - achievement of the new arrangements can easily be accommodated and if necessary, can be realised as resignations/expiry of term of office allow;
- Develop Schemes of Delegation. Currently there are eight of these (one for each school). Trustees recognise however that this arrangement requires review. We have therefore invited all Local Governing Bodies to review their individual schemes so that the Board can consider the scope there may be to simplify and streamline the Schemes; and
- Improve governance through professional clerking support for each Local Governing Body.

The Trust uses an online information distribution system called Governor Hub. The system provides a central archive of governance records, Trust Board and Local Governing Body meetings etc. The system has significantly improved communications and simplified administration of Trust governance, providing improved support to Trustees, Governors and Members. The system has proved very popular with those who have engaged with it (approximately 72% of all trustees and governors currently).

The Trust Board has also introduced a revised Scheme for the management of Policy and of Policy Review. This is to be implemented over the next 12 months and will replace the current arrangements whereby each school has their own policy review programme. The new approach will eliminate duplication (and some risks associated with this in terms of potential policy confusion) whilst extending delegations and enhancing accountability through improved assurance reporting.

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In order to support effective governance and holding to account, the review of the Local Governing Bodies Scheme of Delegation must be viewed in the context of development of the wider Scheme of Delegation governing Policy Review, the roles of Trust Board Committees and clarification of delegations to the Executive. The terms of reference and delegations of the Trust Board Finance, Resources and Infrastructure Committee are therefore to be significantly revised and, related to this, terms of reference and delegations for the new Trust Board Audit Committee (to be established from September 2022 at the latest), will be developed. An early challenge for the Audit Committee (and Trustees) will be to appoint new internal auditors following the resignation of the existing Providers (Leicestershire County Council Traded Services with effect from 31 March 2022).

Finance, Audit and Infrastructure Committee

The Finance, Audit and Infrastructure Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Draft the first formal budget plan of the financial year
- Establish and maintain an up to date 5-year financial plan
- Monitor relevant income and expenditure for all areas
- Have a Trust wide perspective on the MAT budget – reporting significant anomalies
- Check the budgets for accuracy and completeness
- Ensure the Trust operates within its Financial Regulations and the direction of the ESFA
- Annually review charges, remissions and expenses policies
- Approve and make decisions in respect of service agreements
- Approve and make decisions on expenditure following recommendations from other committees
- Consider/approve the CEO's expenses, to review and update policies relating to financial matter

A representative from the local governing bodies of the schools within the Trust attended the Directors Finance Committee meetings during the year. The schemes of delegation set out the varying delegated powers for each school.

Attendance at Finance, audit and infrastructure committee meetings in the Year was as follows:

Trustee	Attended	Out of a Possible
Andy Smith	3	3
Hannah Cusworth (appointed 7 th March 2022)	1	1
Hazel Cole	3	3
Iain Kinnis (appointed 6 th September 2021 and resigned on 31 st August 2022)	1	2

Audit and Risk Committee

The trust has formed an Audit and Risk Committee starting in the financial Year 2022. The first meeting is due to be held in November 2022.

Review of Value for Money

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

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

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

- Continuing to question the VFM of the Trust timetable structure
- Continuing to question the replacement of staff to enable efficiencies to be made where possible
- Regular benchmarking within the Trust and nationally
- Using ICFP across the Trust
- Creating of centralised support staff functions with the long-term aim of saving money
- Continuing with the implementation of energy saving strategies
- Implementing tight control of departmental spending, ensuring that budget holders are held to account for budgets

Purpose of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in LIFE Multi- Academy Trust for the period 01 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 01 September 2022 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The Risk Control Framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees
- Regular reviews by the finance and general purposes committee of reports, which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- Identification and management of risks.

The board of trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from RSM UK Risk Assurance Services LLP. This option has been chosen because RSM provides highly skilled and experienced internal auditors who have significant experience. This experience allows the trust to complete audits across all areas such as operations technology and regulatory functions, along with the required internal audit of the accounts.

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

- Testing of recruitment processes
- Testing of business continuity processes
- Testing of control account / bank reconciliations

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On an annual basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the Finance, Audit & Infrastructure Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. On an annual basis the auditor, prepare a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

RSM UK Risk Assurance Services LLP performed an internal audit of the trust financial function in June 2022 and a report of findings submitted to trustees.

Review of Effectiveness

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

- The work of the internal auditor.
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool
- The work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework
- The work of the external auditor
- Correspondence from ESFA e.g. Financial Notice to Improve / Notice to Improve and 'minded to' letters.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and General-Purpose committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 12 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs Elizabeth Shears

Chair of Trustees



Mr Christopher Parkinson

Accounting Officer

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
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STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

As accounting officer of LiFE Multi-Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust board of Trustees and the Education Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2021.

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.



Mr Christopher Parkinson

Accounting Officer

12 December 2022

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

The Trustees (who act as governors of LiFE Multi-Academy Trust and are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees and signed on 12 December 2022 on its behalf by:



Mrs Elizabeth Shears

Chair of Trustees

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE
EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of LiFE Multi-Academy Trust (the 'parent academy') and its subsidiaries (the group) for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Group Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities incorporating the income and expenditure account, the Group Consolidated Balance Sheet, the Group Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Group's and of the parent Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2022, and of the Group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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 academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the

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**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the trustees' report and strategic report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement, the trustees (who are also the directors of the academy trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

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(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE
EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

It is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of the trustees, to ensure that the academy's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the industry and sector, including the legal and regulatory frameworks that the academy operates in and how the academy is complying with the legal and regulatory frameworks;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Financial Handbook 2021 & Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included:

- reviewing financial statement policies & disclosures and inspecting correspondence from the ESFA.
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of education and assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of potential bias.
- enquiring of management around actual and potential litigation and claims.
- enquiring of company's staff in compliance functions.

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

Use of our report

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



**Adam Bexon MChem FCA
Senior Statutory Auditor
For and on behalf of
Burrows Scarborough Limited
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors**

**Sovereign House
12-14 Warwick Street
Coventry
CV5 6ET**

Date 12th December 2022

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE
EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 10 July 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by LiFE Multi-Academy Trust during the year from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 LiFE Multi-Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to LiFE Multi-Academy 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 LiFE Multi-Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities LiFE Multi-Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of LiFE Multi-Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 April 2012 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 Academy Trusts income and expenditure.

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE
EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

The work undertaken to draw our conclusions includes:

- A review of the work undertaken and conclusions reached by Leicestershire County Council and RSM UK Risk Assurance Services LLP.
- A review of the minutes of the Full Governing Body and other relevant committees to establish action taken on the reports of Leicestershire County Council and RSM Auditors and to establish that appropriate action taken.
- A review of accounting controls and procedures.
- A review of transactions to ensure compliance with Academies Financial Handbook.
- Meetings with the Accounting Officer to confirm full knowledge of Academies Financial Handbook.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period from 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Burrows Scarborough Limited
Chartered Accountants
Sovereign House
12-14 Warwick Street
Earlsdon
Coventry
CV5 6ET

Date 12th December 2022

LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

	Note	Unrestricted Funds 2022 £	Restricted General Funds 2022 £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	66,206	-	5,560,127	5,626,333	12,606,941
Transfer of existing academies into the trust		-	-	-	-	33,840,948
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
<i>Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations</i>	3	1,226,135	47,383,189	-	48,609,324	34,645,432
<i>Other trading activities</i>	4	1,243,760	-	-	1,243,760	781,272
<i>Investments</i>	5	4,708	-	-	4,708	7,197
Total income		2,540,809	47,383,189	5,560,127	55,484,125	81,881,790
Expenditure on:						
<i>Raising funds</i>		-	-	-	-	-
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
<i>Academy Trust educational operations</i>		2,799,727	48,905,997	1,434,951	53,140,675	37,155,948
Total expenditure	6	2,799,727	48,905,997	1,434,951	53,140,675	37,155,948
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		(258,918)	(1,522,808)	4,125,176	2,343,450	44,725,842
Transfer between funds		(95,143)	(1,017,138)	1,112,281	-	-
Actuarial (losses) / gains on defined benefit pension schemes	28	-	32,949,000	-	32,949,000	(6,824,000)
Loss on disposal of land & property	13			-	-	(5,248,771)
Net movement in funds		(354,061)	30,409,054	5,237,457	35,292,450	32,653,071
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		2,242,027	(29,453,757)	103,487,717	76,275,987	43,622,929
Total funds carried forward		1,887,964	955,297	108,725,177	111,568,434	76,275,987

LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		105,586,839		99,641,825
Current assets					
Stocks	16	38,360		53,269	
Debtors	17	3,526,090		4,134,320	
Cash at bank and in hand		10,895,655		9,522,382	
		<u>14,460,105</u>		<u>13,709,971</u>	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(5,680,240)</u>		<u>(4,982,866)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>8,779,865</u>		<u>8,727,105</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			<u>114,366,704</u>		<u>108,368,930</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19		<u>(104,270)</u>		<u>(185,945)</u>
Net assets excluding pension scheme liabilities			<u>114,262,434</u>		<u>108,182,987</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	28		<u>(2,694,000)</u>		<u>(31,907,000)</u>
Total net assets including pension scheme liabilities			<u>111,568,434</u>		<u>76,275,987</u>
Funds of the academy:					
Restricted funds					
Restricted income funds	21	3,649,297		2,453,243	
Restricted fixed asset funds	21	<u>108,725,177</u>		<u>103,487,720</u>	
Restricted income funds excluding pension liability		<u>112,374,470</u>		<u>105,940,963</u>	
Pension reserve	21	<u>(2,694,000)</u>		<u>(31,907,000)</u>	
Total restricted income funds			109,680,470		74,033,963
Unrestricted income funds			1,887,964		2,242,025
Total funds			<u>111,568,434</u>		<u>76,275,987</u>

The financial statements on pages 29 to 56 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 12th December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:



E Shears
Trustee

Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration Number 07992438

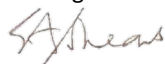
LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ACADEMY TRUST BALANCE SHEET

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2022 £	2021 £	2021 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		105,586,839		99,641,825
Investments	14		<u>1</u>		<u>1</u>
			105,586,840		99,641,826
Current assets					
Stocks	16	38,360		53,269	
Debtors	17	3,501,915		4,067,845	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>10,443,389</u>		<u>9,352,529</u>	
		13,983,664		13,473,643	
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	18	<u>(5,594,367)</u>		<u>(4,934,486)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>8,389,297</u>		<u>8,539,157</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			113,976,137		108,180,982
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19		<u>(104,270)</u>		<u>(185,945)</u>
Net assets excluding pension scheme liabilities			<u>113,871,867</u>		<u>107,995,039</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	28		(2,694,000)		(31,907,000)
Total net assets including pension scheme liabilities			<u>111,177,867</u>		<u>76,088,039</u>
Funds of the academy:					
Restricted funds					
Restricted income funds	21	3,649,165		2,453,243	
Restricted fixed asset funds	21	<u>108,725,306</u>		<u>103,487,852</u>	
Restricted income funds excluding pension asset		112,374,471		105,941,095	
Pension reserve	21	<u>(2,694,000)</u>		<u>(31,907,000)</u>	
Total restricted income funds			109,680,471		74,034,095
Unrestricted income funds			1,497,216		2,053,944
Total funds			<u>111,177,687</u>		<u>76,088,039</u>

The financial statements on pages 29 to 56 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 12th December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:



E Shears
Trustee

Company Limited by Guarantee
Registration Number 07992438

LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

CONSOLIDATED STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	23	3,150,597	6,318,120
Cash flows from investing activities	24	(1,691,431)	490,030
Cash flows from financing activities:	25	(85,893)	(87,478)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		<u>1,373,273</u>	<u>6,720,672</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2021		9,522,382	2,801,710
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2022	26	<u>10,895,655</u>	<u>9,522,382</u>

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022

1 Statement of accounting policies

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

General information and basis of preparation

LiFE Multi-Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the registered office is given in the Reference and Administrative Details given on pages 1-2 of these financial statements. The nature of the Academy Trusts operations and principal activities are set out in the Trustees' Report.

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP 2019), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

LiFE Multi-Academy Trust constitutes a public benefit as defined by FRS 102.

The Statement of financial activities (SOFA) and Balance sheet consolidate the financial statements of the Academy Trust and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line by line basis.

No separate SOFA has been presented for the Academy Trust alone as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis of consolidation

The financial statements consolidate the accounts of LiFE Multi-Academy Trust and all of its subsidiary undertakings ('subsidiaries').

The income and expenditure account for the year dealt with in the accounts of the Academy Trust was £35,089,830 (2021 - £44,725,842).

Going Concern

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

Income

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

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

- **Grants**

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the 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 when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance 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 Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided 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 financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within "Income from other trading activities".

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be 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 Academy Trust's accounting policies.

- **Transfer on conversion**

Where assets and liabilities are received by the Academy Trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred 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 Academy Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within Donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

- **Transfer of existing academies into the Academy Trust**

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing Academy into the Academy 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 Academy Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the Academy Trust within Donations and capital grant income to the net assets acquired.

Expenditure

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

- **Expenditure on raising funds**

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

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Tangible Fixed Assets

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Freehold property	2%
Leasehold property	0.8%
Furniture and fixtures	10%
Plant and equipment	20%
Motor Vehicles	20%
Computer equipment	25%

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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

Liabilities

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

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 32.

Provisions

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

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

Leased Assets

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

Investments

The Academy Trust's shareholding in the wholly owned subsidiary, Life MAT Services Limited, is included in the Balance Sheet at the cost of the share capital owned less any impairment. There is no readily available market value and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived.

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 20. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 18. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

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. Amounts due to charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

Stock

Unsold textbooks and catering stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Taxation

The Academy Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Academy Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, Chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Pensions Benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability 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.

Fund Accounting

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

Restricted 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 Department for Education Group.

**LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The 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 (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 28, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. 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.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Capital grants	-	5,290,209	5,290,209	3,400,200
Other donations	66,206	269,918	336,124	9,206,741
	<u>66,206</u>	<u>5,560,127</u>	<u>5,626,333</u>	<u>12,606,941</u>

Included in Other donations in 2021 is £9,193,000 relating to the fair value of the introduction into the trust of a new build leasehold property at Countesthorpe Academy under the DfE's Priority Schools Building Programme.

LIFE MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

3 Funding for Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
DfE/EFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	40,638,464	40,638,464	28,071,799
Pupil premium	-	1,550,474	1,550,474	1,202,286
Rates relief	-	186,451	186,451	119,983
Other DfE/EFA grants	-	1,655,907	1,655,907	2,151,754
	-	44,031,296	44,031,296	31,545,822
Other Government grants				
Coronavirus job retention scheme	-	-	-	74,438
Local authority grants	-	1,527,733	1,527,733	1,065,059
	-	1,527,733	1,527,733	1,139,497
Other income from the Academy				
Trust's educational operations	1,226,135	1,760,226	2,986,361	1,960,113
Other revenue grants	-	63,933	63,933	-
	1,226,135	47,383,188	48,609,324	34,645,432

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Sports centre and nursery income	1,222,454	-	1,222,454	536,665
Catering income	14,896	-	14,896	19,173
Other	6,411	-	6,411	225,434
	1,243,760	-	1,243,760	781,272

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Short term deposits	4,708	-	4,708	7,197
	4,708	-	4,708	7,197

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

6 Expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Premises £	Other Costs £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Academy educational operations:					
Direct costs	28,979,505	-	3,429,740	32,409,245	23,716,265
Allocated support costs	13,848,445	3,183,373	3,699,612	20,731,430	13,439,683
	<u>42,827,950</u>	<u>3,183,373</u>	<u>7,129,352</u>	<u>53,140,675</u>	<u>37,155,948</u>

7 Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Direct costs – educational operations	32,409,245	23,716,265
Support costs – educational operations	<u>20,731,430</u>	<u>13,439,683</u>
	<u>53,140,675</u>	<u>37,155,948</u>

Analysis of direct costs

	Educational operations £	Educational operations £
Direct staff costs	28,979,505	21,619,750
Administration	155,002	136,283
Educational consultancy	202,182	195,501
Educational supplies	1,730,426	1,216,216
Examination fees	656,953	312,963
Other supplies & services	51,117	45,500
School trips	301,543	26,458
Technology costs	<u>332,516</u>	<u>163,594</u>
	<u>32,409,245</u>	<u>23,716,265</u>

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations £	Educational operations £
Support staff costs	13,848,445	8,494,696
Depreciation	1,311,252	937,979
Technology costs	430,697	329,033
Premises costs	3,183,373	2,373,594
Other support costs	1,951,182	1,302,751
Governance costs	<u>6,481</u>	<u>1,630</u>
Total support costs	<u>20,731,430</u>	<u>13,439,683</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

8 Net income/ (expenditure)

Net expenditure for the year includes:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	286,262	275,319
Depreciation	1,311,252	937,979
Fees payable to the auditor for:		
Statutory audit	32,743	22,365
Other services	1,540	1,200
	<u>1,540</u>	<u>1,200</u>

9 Staff

(a) Staff costs

	2022	2021
	£	£
Staff costs during the period were:		
Wages and salaries	28,775,529	21,029,023
Social security costs	2,732,654	1,968,813
Pension Costs	10,292,981	4,729,653
	<u>41,801,164</u>	<u>27,727,489</u>
Supply staff costs	613,504	256,420
	<u>42,414,668</u>	<u>27,983,909</u>

(b) Staff numbers

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

	2022	2021
	Headcount	Headcount
Teachers	395	334
Administration and support	752	509
Management and leadership	71	38
	<u>1,217</u>	<u>881</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

(c) Higher paid staff

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

	2022	2021
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	-	-
£70,001 - £80,000	5	3
£80,001 - £90,000	4	3
£90,001 - £100,000	3	1
£100,001 - £110,000	-	-
£110,001 - £120,000	-	-
£120,001 - £130,000	1	1

(d) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £1,444,958 (2021: £1,066,167).

10 Central services

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

- Personnel
- Financial services

The Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

4.5% of total income

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Ashby School	424,824	-
Bosworth Academy	451,375	415,535
Braunstone Frith Primary	154,945	149,308
Countesthorpe Academy	378,249	352,618
Ibstock Community College	174,401	-
Ivanhoe College	251,531	-
Kingsway Primary School	76,995	63,439
The Winstanley School	222,752	217,186
	<u>2,135,072</u>	<u>1,198,086</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

11 Trustees' & Directors remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees have been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment.

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

Christopher Parkinson, Executive		
Remuneration	£120,000 - £130,000	(2021: 120,000 – £130,000)
Employers pension contributions	£25,000 - £30,000	(2021: £25,000 – £30,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no travel and subsistence expenses were reimbursed or paid directly to any Trustees (2021: £Nil).

A total of 1 Trustee is accruing benefits under a defined benefit pension plan.

12 Trustees and officers insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £434 (£344). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Leasehold property £	Furniture and fixtures £	Plant and equipment £
Cost				
At 1 September 2021	12,867,965	85,363,616	1,586,166	11,298
Additions	1,782,794	1,014,058	241,985	-
Transfer in from another trust/conversion	-	-	-	-
Disposals	-	-	-	-
Transfer between classes	652,544	1,747,448	42,498	-
At 31 August 2022	15,303,303	88,125,122	1,870,649	11,298
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021	1,497,223	1,125,260	709,799	10,053
Charged in period	210,439	636,685	151,741	357
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2022	1,707,662	1,761,945	861,540	10,410
Net book values				
At 31 August 2022	13,595,641	86,363,177	1,009,109	888
At 31 August 2021	11,370,742	84,238,358	876,368	1,245

	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2021	45,260	1,621,051	2,437,962	103,933,318
Additions	-	703,019	3,515,523	7,257,379
Transfer in from another trust/conversion	-	-	-	-
Disposals	(1,500)	-	-	(1,500)
Transfer between classes	-	-	(2,442,489)	-
At 31 August 2022	43,760	2,324,070	3,510,996	111,189,198
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021	14,816	934,270	-	4,291,421
Charged in period	6,192	305,925	-	1,311,339
Eliminated on disposal	(1,500)	-	-	(1,500)
At 31 August 2022	19,508	1,240,195	-	5,601,260
Net book values				
At 31 August 2022	24,252	1,083,875	3,510,996	105,586,839
At 31 August 2021	30,444	686,706	2,437,962	99,641,825

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Included in Freehold property and Leasehold property is land at cost, amounting to £16,039,650 (2021 - £16,039,650) which is not depreciated.

The Trustees of LiFE Multi-Academy Trust (registered charity 517907) have entered into a Supplemental Agreement with the Academy Trust to make their land available during the continuance of the Funding Agreement between the Secretary of State for Education and LiFE Multi-Academy Trust, subject to the right by the Trustees to give not less than 2 years written notice to terminate the agreement, such notice to expire on 31 August 2014 or any subsequent anniversary of that date.

14 Fixed asset investments

Academy Trust		Shares in group
Cost		undertakings
		£
At 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022		<u>1</u>
Academy Trust investments at cost comprise:	2022	2021
	£	£
Group	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

15 Principal subsidiaries

LiFE MAT Services Limited

Subsidiary name	LiFE MAT Services Limited
Company registration number	08166524
Basis of control	Wholly owned subsidiary
Equity shareholding	100%
Total assets at 31 August 2022	£573,404
Total liabilities at 31 August 2022	£182,836
Total equity as at 31 August 2022	£390,568
Turnover for the year ended 31 August 2022	£1,196,793
Expenditure for the year ended 31 August 2022	£806,226
Profit for the year ended 31 August 2022	£390,567

16 Stocks

	Group		Academy Trust
	2022	2021	2022
	£	£	£
Textbooks and catering	38,360	53,269	38,360
	<u>38,360</u>	<u>53,269</u>	<u>38,360</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

17 Debtors

	Group		Academy Trust	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Trade debtors	1,172,575	208,246	1,128,344	140,906
Amounts owed by group undertakings	-	-	23,243	-
VAT recoverable	745,363	488,580	748,726	494,799
Other debtors	992	-	992	-
Prepayments and accrued income	1,607,160	3,437,494	1,600,610	3,432,140
	3,526,090	4,134,320	3,501,915	4,067,845

18 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group		Academy Trust	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Trade creditors	2,712,391	2,305,154	2,708,114	2,299,016
Amounts owed to group undertakings	-	-	-	1,418
Other taxation and social security	659,264	622,894	659,264	622,894
Other creditors	1,094,821	726,698	1,089,148	701,541
Accruals and deferred income	1,101,597	1,211,735	1,025,672	1,193,232
Other loans	112,167	116,385	112,167	116,385
	5,680,240	4,982,866	5,594,367	4,934,486

	Group		Academy Trust	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Deferred income				
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	357,799	587,936	340,831	226,710
Resources deferred during the year	228,350	357,799	154,000	340,831
Amounts released from previous years	(357,799)	(587,936)	(340,831)	(226,710)
	228,350	357,799	154,000	340,831

At the Balance Sheet date, the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance of universal free school meals and school trips for the autumn term.

19 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	Group		Academy Trust	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Other loans	104,270	185,945	104,270	185,945

Loans consist of 12 separate loans.

The largest loan, from the ESFA, stands at £86,668 at 31st August 2022 (£173,334 at 31st August 2021). This loan bears no interest. Regular repayments began in September 2020 and will continue until August 2023.

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9 loans have balances of less than £15,000 each at 31st August 2022.

Only 1 loan bears interest, at 1.73% per annum. The balance on this loan at 31st August 2022 was £8,333 (2021 £11,818).

There are 5 zero-interest Salix loans. One has a balance of £10,991, with £7,328 due within 1 year and £3,663 due the following year. The second has a balance of £33,553 at 31st August 2022, with £7,456 repayable within 1 year followed by annual payments of £7,456 until repayment is complete. The third has a balance of £5,500 at 31st August 2022, with £500 repayable each year until repayment is complete. The fourth and fifth both have balances have balances of £11,648 and £12,424 at 31st August 2022, with £776 repayable each year until repayment is complete.

20 Financial instruments

	2022	2021
	£	£
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	10,895,655	9,522,372
Financial assets measured at amortised cost	<u>2,039,700</u>	<u>3,201,785</u>
	<u>12,935,355</u>	<u>12,724,157</u>
 Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost	 5,125,245	 4,205,085
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise cash at bank and in hand.

Financial assets measured at amortised cost comprise trade debtors, other debtors and accrued income.

Financial liabilities measured at amortised cost comprise trade creditors, loans, other creditors and accruals.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

21 Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	1,841,725	2,540,809	(2,799,727)	(135,143)	1,447,664
Unrestricted designated funds	400,300	-	-	40,000	440,300
	<u>2,242,025</u>	<u>2,540,809</u>	<u>(2,799,727)</u>	<u>(95,143)</u>	<u>1,887,964</u>
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,445,243	40,646,044	(38,424,852)	(1,017,138)	3,649,297
South Leicestershire inclusion partnership	-	990,920	(990,920)	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	186,451	(186,451)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	1,550,474	(1,550,474)	-	-
Catch up premium	8,000	-	(8,000)	-	-
Other income from Academy Trust educational operations	-	761,727	(761,727)	-	-
Government grants	-	63,933	(63,933)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA	-	1,655,907	(1,655,907)	-	-
Local Authority Grants	-	1,527,733	(1,527,733)	-	-
Pension reserve	(31,907,000)	-	(3,736,000)	32,949,000	(2,694,000)
	<u>(29,453,757)</u>	<u>47,383,189</u>	<u>(48,905,997)</u>	<u>31,931,862</u>	<u>955,297</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds	<u>103,487,720</u>	<u>5,560,127</u>	<u>(1,434,951)</u>	<u>1,112,281</u>	<u>108,725,177</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>74,033,963</u>	<u>52,943,316</u>	<u>(50,340,948)</u>	<u>33,044,143</u>	<u>109,680,474</u>
Total funds	<u>76,275,987</u>	<u>55,484,125</u>	<u>(53,140,675)</u>	<u>32,949,000</u>	<u>111,568,434</u>

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

Restricted general funds

This fund represents grants and other income received for the Academy Trust's education operations and development.

South Leicestershire Inclusion Partnership

Funds received to improve outcomes for KS4 pupils, raise educational standard and personalise provision for vulnerable young people in their area.

Restricted fixed asset funds

The restricted fixed assets funds relate to assets acquired from schools on initial introduction to the trust plus any unspent capital funding received. The transfer highlighted in this fund represent capital expenditure out of other funds.

Restricted General Funds

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

The pension reserve represents the Academy Trust's share of the deficits in the Leicestershire County Council Pension Fund.

Analysis of Academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Central MAT	636,761	249,015
Bosworth Academy	977,030	645,356
The Winstanley School	7,503	18,700
Kingsway Primary School	89,666	128,155
Braunstone Frith	99,605	15,337
Countesthorpe Academy	1,340,111	1,028,131
Ashby School	1,677,476	1,447,626
Ibstock Community College	129,873	469,834
Ivanhoe College	188,538	505,036
Total before fixed asset fund and pension reserve	<u>5,146,563</u>	<u>4,507,190</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	108,725,177	103,487,851
Pension reserve	(2,694,000)	(31,907,000)
General unrestricted reserves of subsidiary	390,567	187,948
Total	<u>111,568,434</u>	<u>76,275,987</u>

Analysis of Academies by cost

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Central MAT	430,683	1,143,143	2,241	428,509	2,004,576	1,240,031
Bosworth Academy	5,653,770	1,761,346	268,801	1,567,496	9,251,413	9,077,279
The Winstanley School	2,885,653	952,960	226,284	566,011	4,630,908	4,534,545
Braunstone Frith Primary School	2,293,411	537,713	56,788	395,845	3,283,757	3,335,614
Countesthorpe Academy	5,351,040	1,357,151	705,877	1,224,189	8,638,257	8,855,212
Kingsway Primary School	1,136,302	205,576	36,731	154,405	1,533,014	1,429,184
Ashby School	5,609,974	1,878,228	237,273	1,482,064	9,207,539	4,552,979
Ibstock Community College	2,124,471	1,139,542	82,117	696,576	4,042,706	616,297
Ivanhoe College	3,494,202	1,136,787	114,790	755,475	5,501,254	921,830
	<u>28,979,505</u>	<u>10,112,445</u>	<u>1,730,903</u>	<u>7,270,570</u>	<u>48,093,423</u>	<u>34,562,970</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

Costs not attributable and excluded from the above, relating to costs within the local government pension scheme, totalled £3,736,000. Depreciation amounting to £1,311,252 is also excluded from the above summary.

21. Statement of funds - prior year

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, Losses and Transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	167,915	2,428,906	(553,431)	(201,665)	1,841,725
Unrestricted designated funds	-	400,300	-	-	400,300
	<u>167,915</u>	<u>2,829,206</u>	<u>(553,431)</u>	<u>(201,665)</u>	<u>2,242,025</u>
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,732,542	28,760,480	(27,800,800)	(246,979)	2,445,243
South Leicestershire inclusion partnership	318,863	811,125	(1,022,399)	(107,589)	-
Rates reclaim	-	119,983	(119,983)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	1,202,286	(1,202,286)	-	-
Catch up premium	-	8,000	-	-	8,000
Other income from Academy Trust educational operations	-	604,025	(604,025)	-	-
Government grants	-	32,239	(32,239)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA	-	2,151,754	(2,151,754)	-	-
Local Authority Grants	-	1,065,059	(1,065,059)	-	-
Pension reserve	(13,823,000)	(9,605,000)	(1,655,000)	(6,824,000)	(31,907,000)
	<u>(11,771,595)</u>	<u>25,149,951</u>	<u>(35,653,545)</u>	<u>(7,178,568)</u>	<u>(29,453,757)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds	<u>55,226,598</u>	<u>53,902,631</u>	<u>(948,971)</u>	<u>(4,692,538)</u>	<u>103,487,720</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>43,455,003</u>	<u>79,052,582</u>	<u>(36,602,516)</u>	<u>(11,871,106)</u>	<u>74,033,963</u>
Total funds	<u>43,622,918</u>	<u>81,881,788</u>	<u>(37,155,947)</u>	<u>(12,072,771)</u>	<u>76,275,987</u>

22 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	105,586,839	105,586,839
Current assets	2,000,444	9,321,323	3,138,338	14,460,105
Current liabilities	(112,480)	(5,567,760)	-	(5,680,240)
Long term liabilities	-	(104,270)	-	(104,270)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,694,000)	-	(2,694,000)
Total net assets/(liabilities)	<u>1,887,964</u>	<u>955,297</u>	<u>108,725,177</u>	<u>111,568,434</u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31ST AUGUST 2022 (CONTINUED)

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	99,641,825	99,641,825
Current assets	2,298,043	7,565,901	3,846,027	13,709,971
Current liabilities	(56,017)	(4,926,849)	-	(4,982,866)
Long term liabilities	-	(185,945)	-	(185,945)
Pension scheme liability	-	(31,907,000)	-	(31,907,000)
Total net assets/(liabilities)	2,242,026	(29,453,891)	103,487,852	76,275,987

23 Reconciliation of net income to net cash inflow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	2,343,450	44,725,842
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation (note 13)	1,311,252	937,979
(Increase) / decrease in stocks	14,909	(25,486)
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	608,230	(3,068,381)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	701,592	3,579,691
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(5,290,209)	(3,400,201)
Interest receivable (note 5)	(4,708)	(7,197)
Interest payable	-	497
Transfer from local authority	-	-
Transfer in from existing academies (where movements not already factored in above)	-	(28,886,624)
Non-cash donation of fixed assets	(269,918)	(9,193,000)
Loan written off	-	-
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contribution payable	3,736,000	1,655,000
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	3,150,597	6,318,120

24 Cash flows from investing activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Interest	4,708	7,197
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(6,986,348)	(2,917,368)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA	5,290,209	3,400,201
Net cash provided/(expended) by investing activities	(1,691,431)	490,030

In 2021, £9,193,000 relating to the fair value of the non-cash introduction into the trust of a new build leasehold property at Countesthorpe Academy under the DfE's Priority Schools Building Programme is excluded from this investing activities note. In 2022, this excludes £269,918 of donated laptops.

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25 Cash flows from financing activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Repayments of borrowing	(110,741)	(86,981)
Inflows from new borrowings	24,848	
Interest payments	-	(497)
Net cash provided by financing activities	(85,893)	(87,478)

26 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	10,895,655	9,522,382

27 Capital commitments

	Group		Academy Trust	
	2022	2021	2022	2021
	£	£	£	£
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	3,138,468	1,389,326	3,138,468	1,389,326

28 Pension and similar obligations

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £737,331 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021 - £671,816) 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 enrolment.

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The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £3,781,660 (2021: £3,158,562).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the [Teachers' Pensions website](#).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £2,611,000 (2021: £1,874,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £2,090,000 (2021: £1,514,000), and employees' contributions totalled £521,000 (2021: £360,000). The current agreed contribution rate for future years is 24.7% for employers. Employee's contributions are dependent upon the individual's salary.

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

Principal assumptions

	At 31 August 2022	At 31 August 2021
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55%	3.40%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation (CPI)	3.05%	2.90%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25%	1.65%

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

	At 31 August 2022	At 31 August 2021
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.5	21.7
Females	24.0	24.2
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.4	22.6
Females	25.7	25.9

Sensitivity analysis

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Discount rate -0.1%	984,000	1,648,000
1 year increase in life expectancy	1,643,000	2,716,000
Salary rate +0.1%	89,000	144,000
Pension rate +0.1%	903,000	1,480,000

The Group's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	Fair value at 31 August 2022 £	Fair value at 31 August 2021 £
Equity instruments	23,419,000	20,869,560
Corporate bonds	10,749,000	10,434,780
Property	3,455,000	2,518,740
Cash/liquidity	768,000	2,158,920
Total market value of assets	38,391,000	35,982,000

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	5,274,000	2,790,000
Past service cost (including curtailments)		77,000
Net interest cost	552,000	302,000
Total operating charge	5,826,000	3,169,000

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

	2022	2021
	£	£
At 1 September	67,889,000	29,044,000
Current service cost	5,274,000	2,867,000
Interest cost	1,166,000	655,000
Employee contributions	521,000	360,000
Actuarial (gains)/loss	(33,615,000)	11,137,000
Effect of business combinations and disposals	-	23,990,000
Benefits paid net of transfers in	(150,000)	(164,000)
At 31 August	41,085,000	67,889,000

Changes in the fair value of the Group's share of scheme assets:

	2022	2021
	£	£
At 1 September	35,982,000	15,221,000
Interest income	614,000	353,000
Employer contributions	2,090,000	1,514,000
Employee contributions	521,000	360,000
Benefits paid	(150,000)	(164,000)
Effect of business combinations and disposals	-	14,385,000
Actuarial gain / (loss)	(666,000)	4,313,000
At 31 August	38,391,000	35,982,000

29 Commitments under operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2022 the total of the Group's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2022	2021
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	216,299	176,270
Amounts due between one and five years	568,644	467,423
Amounts due after 5 years	636,049	596,255
	1,420,992	1,239,948

30 Members' Liability

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

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31 Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy 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 and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

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

32 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 Bursary Funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2022, the trust received £54,824 (2021- £99,555) and disbursed £80,311 (2021 - £47,603) from the fund. An amount of £26,465 (2021 - £51,952) is included in other creditors relating to the undistributed funds that are repayable to the ESFA.

33 Post Balance Sheet Events

On 1st September 2022, Desford Community Primary School and Dove Bank Primary School joined the trust.