Company Registration Number: 10689559 (England & Wales)

Britannia Education Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2024

Contents

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1
Trustees' report	2 - 13
Governance statement	14 - 17
Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance	18
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	19
Independent auditors' report on the financial statements	20 - 24
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	25 - 26
Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account	27
Balance sheet	28
Statement of cash flows	29
Notes to the financial statements	30 - 57

Britannia Education Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members A Mawson

D Mann G Hicks H Thomas A Moore

Trustees H Fernandes, Chair of Trustees

R Burton (1) E Boxer L Dawes (1) S Monaghan T Peake (1) D Verroken S Obadan

J Gordon (1) (appointed 6th December 2023) R Masters (1) (appointed 20 March 2024)

L Bingham (1)

(1) Member of the Finance and Audit Committee

Company registered

number 10689559

Company name Britannia Education Trust

Principal and registered

office

Britannia Village Primary School

Westwood Road West Silvertown London E16 2AW

Company secretary R Thackery (resigned 29 February 2024)

Senior Leadership Team L Bingham, Executive Headteacher

R Thackery, Business Manager (resigned 29 February 2024)

C James, Chief Financial Officer

R Hussain, Headteacher

K Richardson, Headteacher (resigned 31 August 2024) E Joseph, Headteacher (appointed 1 September 2024) H Cleland, Business Manager (appointed 19 February 2024)

Independent auditors Kreston Reeves LLP

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor Montague Place Quayside

Chatham Maritime

Chatham Kent ME4 4QU

Trustees' report For the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates two 2 form entry primary academies in Newham, London that are within a 5 minute walk of each other:

Britannia Village Primary School (BVPS), an Academy for pupils aged 3 to 11 years, serving a catchment area in West Silvertown, Newham. It has a pupil capacity of 420 plus a 30 FTE nursery (60 part time) and had a total roll of 410 plus 46 part time nursery in the Summer 2024 school census.

Royal Wharf Primary School (RWPS) which opened in September 2019 with reception pupils only and expanded to include Year 4 in the 2023/24 year. RWPS had a capacity of 300 plus 30 FTE (60 part time) nursery and had a total roll of 315 plus 55 part time nursery in the Summer 2024 school census.

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 Britannia Education Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The Britannia Education Trust is covered through the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangements (RPA). The insurance provides £10,000,000 cover on any one claim and details of the costs are included in note 14 to the accounts.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The arrangements are as set out in the Articles and Funding Agreement.

Trustees may be appointed by the Members, elected by parents or co-opted by the Board of Trustees and are in post for four years. The CEO is an ex officio member of the Board of Trustees. Parent Trustees are elected to office or appointed if there are insufficient candidates offering themselves for election. The Articles of Association allow members to appoint up to nine Trustees. There must also be a minimum of two Parent Trustees. The Board of Trustees may also appoint additional Trustees (Co-opted Trustees) under rule 58. Employees of the Trust (including the CEO) must not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The Charitable Company is committed to providing adequate opportunities for Trustees to undertake and receive suitable training so as to enable them to perform their role effectively. To this end the Trust provides an internal programme of continued professional development led by School staff and links with a number of local training providers. Trustees complete an annual skills audit, which alongside identifying strengths, also identifies areas they would like to develop. This is then used to inform targeted training in specific areas. In addition, the Trust purchases a Service Level Agreement (SLA) from the local school's service Governors Support Section, which offers a comprehensive package of training and support.

All new Trustees are entitled to an induction to the role, according to their need, which may include, introductory sessions, mentoring and formal courses. This process will involve a meeting with the Chair of Trustees and CEO. All Trustees have access to a handbook plus copies of policies and procedures documents that are appropriate to the role they undertake as Trustees with particular emphasis on the committee work that they will undertake.

Organisational Structure

The governance structure of the Trust is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the Funding Agreement with the Department of Education. The Scheme of Delegation (Appendix C) sets out the level at which decisions are made.

The Board of Trustees, which meets on at least three occasions per year and each individual committee at least three times per year, is responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust and its Academies. The Board reviews progress towards educational objectives and results; monitors the budget; sets the budget for the following year; and sets the organisational staffing structure. A pay committee agrees the performance objectives of the CEO and reviews them. The CEO agrees and reviews the performance objectives of the Headteachers. The CEO is the designated Accounting Officer and has overall responsibility for the day to day financial management of the Charitable Company. Responsibility for low values of expenditure are delegated to specific budget holders who are responsible for managing their own departments within their allocated budgets. A system of financial controls is in place to manage this process.

The CEO/Executive Head oversees both schools. During the year the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) which included a Deputy Head, an Assistant Head, three Senior Leaders and the Trust Business Manager assisted the Headteachers and Executive Head and had Trust wide elements to their roles and responsibilities as well as school specific.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Trust applies the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) published annually by the DfE. The Trust has adopted the Local Authority pay policy which follows the STPCD regarding pay scales and ranges. This policy applies to all staff including key management personnel.

The Trust has adopted the Local Authority performance management policy. All staff, including the SLT, have clear performance management targets closely linked to the Trust's development plan. If all targets are met and clear evidence provided, the staff member receives an incremental point (until reaching the top of the pay range) in line with the policy, recommended by their line manager and authorised by the CEO.

For experienced teachers to gain access to the upper threshold, in addition, a professional portfolio must be presented to the Headteachers for assessment. The Trustees receive anonymised reports detailing performance grades, meeting of targets and upper threshold payments.

For the CEO's appraisal, the Chair of the Trustees and up to two other Trustees meet to review the CEO's evidence against the agreed targets. If targets have been met the Chair of Trustees will approve the pay award.

The procedure is minuted at Finance, Audit and HR Committee meetings.

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number c	of	employees	who	were	relevant	union	Full-time equivalent employee number
officials during the relevant period							
2							1.6

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	2
1%-50%	0
51%-99%	0
100%	0

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	nil
Provide the total pay bill	£4,455,190
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on	nil
facility time, calculated as:	
(total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) ×100	

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	

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time to time transactions will take place with organisations in which Trustees may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where the Trustee may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academy Trust Handbook.

The Trust cooperates with the following organisations in pursuit of its charitable activities:

- SEND and Behaviour Support services are purchased from the Local Authority.
- HR, Health and Safety, Governor, Payroll and HR services are purchased from The Education Space (formerly Newham Partnership Working).
- The CEO is a member of the Newham Association of Primary Headteachers (NAPH).
- The Creative Arts Partnership is a cluster of 7 schools. The Heads meet to plan Festival Of Voices an annual singing performance featuring children from years 4 or 5.
- The Trust works with Oasis Academy Silvertown to aid transition from Year 6 to Year 7 and jointly sponsored a West Ham Mentor who worked across both schools.
- The Trust works with and supports the work of West Silvertown Foundation (WSF) to provide services and events to benefit the Trust's families.

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

 The Schools fundraise on behalf of several charities including the British Legion Poppy Appeal, Water Aid, Save The Children Fund, BBC Children in Need Appeal, Joy for Humanity, Shelter and others. The Trust does not have a formal sponsor.

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The principal object and aim of the Charitable Company is the operation of its Schools to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 3 and 11.

The Trustees and Members have defined the main objectives of the Trust as follows:

Our vision is to bring out the best in our pupils, our staff and our communities.

- We aim to give our pupils the best start in life through providing a creative and happy learning environment where achievement, mutual respect and self-esteem are valued.
- We aim to empower our pupils to have the necessary knowledge, skills, values, attitudes and understanding to make a positive contribution in a changing world both locally and globally.

We will:-

- Create safe, supportive, caring environments where children can flourish.
- Provide a broad, balanced, child-centred creative curriculum which is both accessible and appropriate to all our pupils.
- Demonstrate, expect and celebrate excellence in Achievement, Behaviour and Character.
- Develop and nurture an outstanding staff team.
- Be rigorous in the pursuit of inclusion and equity.
- Forge strong partnerships with parents and families.
- Work cooperatively within the Trust and with other schools, organisations and stakeholders.
- Equip children to become responsible global citizens, caring for the natural world and making wise, informed choices.
- Involve our Schools in the community and the community in our Schools.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The Trust's main objectives for 2023 - 2024 were:

Governance

Ensure that Trustees have a range of relevant skills, know the Schools well and have the knowledge they need to make decisions that will result in excellence for pupils and the School communities.

Finance Strategy

Ensure probity, regularity and sustainability in managing the Trust finances. Ensure that value for money is obtained through robust internal controls and well managed relationships with suppliers. Adhere to regulatory and statutory requirements and follow best practices for financial planning. Manage reserves to ensure that resources are deployed to support all aspects of the Trust Development Plan.

Education Strategy

Ensure the long term sustainability and continuity of excellent high quality education and experiences for pupils in the Trust's Schools.

- Continue to focus on achieving high standards for our pupils with end of key stage assessment results being above the national average (CEO/Curriculum Committee/Heads of Schools/leaders)
- Keep the Trust's curriculum provision under review, taking into consideration statutory changes, reliable educational research and the changing needs of our pupils. (CEO/Curriculum Committee/Heads of Schools/Subject leaders)

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

Succession planning and staff recruitment

- Recruit according to the trust's needs and in line with the agreed staffing structure
- Develop staff to perform at their best and meet the needs of the trust
- Ensure Succession planning for Schools' leadership

Growth Strategy

Pursue the long-term viability of the trust by sponsoring further new schools in the local area:

- Explore the potential for adding other new free schools to the MAT
- Reputation have a positive influence within and beyond Newham

Strategic development of Trust's sites

- Identify site development needs across the Trust's school sites
- Plan for ongoing maintenance and general improvements to school sites

Support the growth of Royal Wharf Primary School

- Ensure remedial works are completed
- Recruit staff in order to implement the staff growth plan for Royal Wharf
- Maintain a full pupil roll to maximise funding

Public Benefit

The Trustees believe that by working towards the objects and aims as detailed above, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

Pupils and their families are our main beneficiaries. Pupils are admitted to the trust's schools following an application to the London Borough of Newham's Admissions Team. Proximity to the school is one of the admissions criteria and most pupils live close to the school they attend, particularly at Royal Wharf where pupils typically live within a 4 minute walk of the school.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

Pupil numbers

Both schools are very popular with local families and some year groups have had over 60 pupils where there have been successful appeals and where the Trust has admitted siblings in order to keep families together. Vacancies in years 5 and 6 is an increasing pattern where families choose to move out of the borough in order to access grammar school places for their child's secondary education.

Nursery and Reception numbers for September 2024

Royal Wharf nursery was full for September with a waiting list, while Britannia Village had some spaces. Reception classes in both schools are full for September 2024 and Royal Wharf has a large waiting list. Royal Wharf was, again, the most oversubscribed school in the borough being oversubscribed by around 55% for admission into reception for September 2024. As part of our transition process, all new families have had an opportunity to tour the school, attend a Teddy Bear's picnic where they are able to meet other families and meet their reception teacher in school before the summer break.

Pupil attendance

Attendance at both schools was below the trust's target of 96% - May 2024 93.6% at Britannia Village and 94% at Royal Wharf. This was below the FFT National Average of 94.4%. It should be noted that for children entitled to free school meals, at both schools their attendance is above the national average.

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

Retention is high with only 5 teachers leaving at the end of the year. This was 9.3% of teachers on average employed by the Trust during the year which compares to 9.6% nationally in 2022-23. The Royal Wharf headteacher is moving on to a school closer to home and the former deputy head has been appointed as the new headteacher. Recruitment has been very successful and there are no current vacancies for teaching staff although some maternity absences are covered by agency staff. The Trust has recruited a mix of NQTs and more experienced teachers. Internal appointments have been made to middle and senior manager positions (year group leaders, subject leaders and senior leaders), and unpaid facilitation roles have been offered for staff to gain leadership experience.

Support Staff Recruitment and Retention

Currently the Trust's support staff are supplemented by a number of agency staff, some of whom have specialist SEND skills. The Trust continues to offer permanent employment to some and this is a reliable strategy for gradually increasing the Trust's support staff team with tried and tested staff.

Governance

Two new trustees were appointed bringing the total to 11. A new chair (Helen Fernandes) was elected in July 2024.

School Improvement

The Trust has strong school improvement capacity led by the Trust's Senior Leadership Team who meet weekly with a focused agenda.

School improvements are detailed in the SDP (School Development Plan) and progress on the plan is recorded on the same document and reviewed at least termly. The Trust's rigorous monitoring and evaluation cycle contributes to this self evaluation process which is reported to the Curriculum Committee termly. The Trust's CPD programme is used to promote high standards and consistency in all areas within the life of our schools.

Promoting a consistent approach to teaching and learning (SDP priority)

The quality and consistency of teaching is monitored each term through a robust program of lesson observations, learning walks, drop-ins, book looks and planning checks and this gives the leadership confidence in the quality of teaching, learning, marking and assessment. All teachers receive feedback and support, if required, is organised by the year group SLT link. This year the monitoring focus has been on Reading, Writing and Maths.

The Trust continues to use the Cornerstones Essential Skills documents to enable teachers to plan the delivery of key skills in all subjects. As teachers cover specific skills, they insert links in the documents to specific lessons and activities that develop the relevant skills. The relevant skills are highlighted green so that teachers can see at a glance which skills are yet to be developed. The Essential Skills documents are invaluable as they help teachers to plan and to become familiar with skills progression from one year group to the next. .

Improving attainment in writing through a focus on:

- Embedding the detailed whole school overview to provide clarity, coverage, consistency and progression.
- Feedback and Marking.
- Effective and impactful CPD

Progress:

Formative assessments in writing are used to inform provision at all levels. These identify concrete next steps for underperforming or coasting pupils as well as an opportunity to discuss the impact of teaching on pupil performance and challenge where needed.

Ongoing improvements to writing assessment criteria - assessing against planned objectives

CPD has prioritised writing at the beginning of the academic year.

Teaching and Learning policy has been updated in line with Marking and Feedback.

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

Improving attainment in reading through a focus on:

- Improving the impact and outcomes of Early Reading.
- Applying a pedagogically recognised approach to reading comprehension
- Promoting a love of reading and access to appropriate and engaging texts for our children's independent reading

Progress:

Staff have fidelity with the RWI approach through training using the portal, school-based coaching and Development Day live training with the school's RWI advisor.

Teachers are empowered by CPD focused on a research based approach to reading which supports the school's use of the National Curriculum in developing deeper comprehension skills (for example, understanding different vocabulary, retrieval, inference, predicting, clarifying, summarising, questioning, evaluating, making links, etc).

Reading roadmap books, which offer a wide variety of genres, and core texts provide exciting and engaging texts for our children. Taking part in World Book Day activities, reading area competitions, reading awards and the Summer Reading Challenge all further promote a love for reading.

Google Educator Training

The trust aims to have all teaching staff qualified to at least level 1 in Google Educator training by the end of a school year. This enables staff to teach using technology in innovative ways

Inclusion

The trust operates a Learning Pathways model for all learners on the SEND register (Pre-formal, Semi-formal Explore, Semi-formal Challenge, Formal).

Class teachers make adaptations for pupils with additional learning needs to enable them to be successful learners.

Promoting Pupils' Wellbeing

Pupils enjoy a rich and varied curriculum including weekly French lessons from Year 3 and Music lessons from Year 1, themed enrichment weeks, residential visits and the use of technology to enhance learning. Our arts curriculum is a strength, with visits from and to orchestras, theatres and musical performances as well as work with local artists. Creative homework projects and a creative approach to the delivery of the curriculum ensure pupils benefit from a variety of opportunities to develop their own talents and interests. A wide range of clubs (sports, academic, intervention and enrichment based) are offered at both schools.

The take up of these clubs is very high. The school has well established systems of pastoral support including onsite access to a counsellor and Safeguarding Officer, as well as strong links with external agencies such as children's social care, speech and language therapists and specialist teachers.

Provision for SMSC is excellent with pupils having the opportunity to explore new ideas and experiences throughout the curriculum, incorporating our bespoke Qualities for Life. Our curriculum design allows for pupils to constantly share and reflect on their own experiences, alongside the experiences of others. This aids pupils in developing a strong understanding of the difference between right and wrong, supported by discrete lessons taught through our PSHE curriculum.

High profile school events, such as 'Careers Week' and opportunities to apply for a variety of pupil leadership roles ensure that children are fully involved and engaged in the values of the school and wider British society. The curriculum has been designed to recognise and celebrate the diversity of the school community and the world we live in. Discrete topics teach and challenge pupils to be responsible, active citizens, who contribute positively to society, being well prepared for life in modern Britain, such as the topic 'A Better World', as well as this being an integral part of our curriculum approach.

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

Curriculum Enrichment

The trust continues to fund enrichment activities so that there is no cost to families. Examples include the provision of a range of after school clubs such as sports, cheerleading, dancing and music clubs led by qualified specialist coaches, as well as clubs provided by school staff such as drama, art, sewing, lego, chess etc.

The trust also funds all educational visits and ensures that every year group has an annual theatre experience.

Outcomes

Through termly pupil progress meetings with each year group, senior leaders, the SENDCo and class teachers review attainment and progress and discuss adjustments to teaching for the following term as well as intervention for individual pupils.

Reception Good Level of Development, Year 1 phonics and KS2 statutory assessments were completed for this year and the data has been submitted to the local authority/Primary Assessment Gateway. Where it is available, there are comparisons with national data. The results are as follows and will be examined in detail in the autumn term once more national data is available to us.

Reception Good Level of Development.

BV 2024 All/PP%	RW 2024 All/PP%	England Average 2023
Overall - 71/67	Overall - 73/75	Overall - 65.2

Year 1 Phonics Check

BV 2024 All/PP%	RW 2023 All/PP%	England Average 2023 %
80/56	89/56	79

KS2 SATs

	Worki	ng at expe	cted + (EXS	Greater Depth (GDS)				
53 pupils			National	Newham			National	Newham
	BVP 2024		'24	'24	BVP	BVP 2024		'24
	All	PP	All	All	All	PP	All	All
Reading	79%	78%	74%	80%	34%	22%	28%	35%
Writing	74%	65%	72%	79%	30%	18%	12%	22%
SPAG*	85%	78%			34%	17%		
Maths	81%	70%	73%	83%	32%	17%	24%	36%
RWM	68%	61%	61%				8%	

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

Targeted use of grants:

Premium Funding (BV £178,024, RW £84,428) Recovery Premium (BV £17,363, RW £6,887) School Led Tutoring Grant (BV £7,627, RW £2,767)

Pupil Premium funding mainly contributes to the cost of small class sizes which enables pupils to have greater access to focused in-class support and care from their teacher. The grant also makes a contribution to the trust's pastoral care provided by the trust's Home School Support Officers and on-site Counsellor.

The School Led Tutoring grant was used to provide additional tuition to pupils who have been identified for catch up interventions such as Lexia (for reading) and Speech Bubbles (for communication and well-being).

Awards achieved this year

Britannia Village - Bronze Healthy Schools Award, Edu Futurists Award Royal Wharf - Bronze Healthy Schools Award

Key Financial Performance Indicators

The key financial performance indicators set by the Trust are aimed at ensuring the financial viability of the organisation both short term and longer term. These are:

- setting and operating within a balanced budget as required by the Academy Trust Handbook achieved
- maintaining positive cash flow forecast for at least 12 months achieved
- keeping the level of staff cost below 80% the actual end of year total staff cost was 77.3% of revenue income.

The Board of Trustees is confident that staffing levels are closely monitored to agreed Full Time Equivalent and staffing structures are approved by the Board of Trustees.

The Finance and Audit Committee also monitor premises costs to General Annual Grant (GAG) income, capitation spend for curriculum departments to GAG income, total income less grants and cash flow on a regular basis to ensure that the budget is set and managed appropriately.

Going Concern

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

Financial Review

The principal source of funding for the Trust is the GAG and other grants that it received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). For the year ended 31 August 2024 the Trust received £6,602,925 of GAG and other funding. A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Trust's primary objective of the provision of education. The carry forward for 23/24 is £531,465 restricted general funding, £1,100,000 of designated funds and £93,895 of unrestricted funding.

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension under FRS102, the Trust is recognising a pension fund deficit of £Nil, please see note 25 for more information.

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Reserves Policy

The Trustees are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs and always aim to set a balanced budget with annual income balancing annual expenditure. The Trustees monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures via the monthly reports from the Head of Finance. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

The Trustees have set up a designated fund for future building improvement projects by the Trust. This is funded by general unrestricted funds.

Restricted reserves have been built up to sufficient levels to be spent on education provision at its academies in the coming years while Royal Wharf Primary School continues to grow its pupils on roll at one year group per academic year.

The Trust has adopted a GAG and reserves pooling policy. All reserves derived from GAG funding are pooled, held and managed by the Trust. All other non-GAG reserves are held by the individual academies within the Trust.

Investment Policy

The aim of the policy is to ensure funds that the Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested to maximise the Trust's income but with minimal risk. The aim is to research where funds may be deposited applying prudency in ensuring there is minimum risk. The Trust does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather as good stewardship and as and when circumstances allow.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees maintain a risk register identifying the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. A formal review of the risk register process is undertaken on an annual basis and the internal control systems and the exposure to said risks are monitored on behalf of the Trustees at each Finance and Audit Committee meeting. The principal risks facing the Trust are outlined below; those facing the Schools at an operational level are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls.

The Trustees Report that the Trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

The level of financial risk is low. Cash flows can be reliably forecast, monitored and reported. Staff costs make up the majority of expenditure and are relatively stable with contingencies in place to cover such items as sickness and maternity.

Trustees' report (continued) For the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees assess the other principal risks and uncertainties facing the Trust as follows:

- The Trust has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA and there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.
- A fall in pupil numbers would result in less funding however BVPS provides a good quality of education and is well subscribed for entry to younger year groups. In order to mitigate against pupils leaving in Years 5 and 6, senior leaders at the School were successful in a joint bid to establish a secondary feeder school in Silvertown which is now well established. RWPS continues to grow with one additional year group on roll per year and had one of the highest number of applications for its reception intake, compared to the number of places available in Newham.
- Failures in governance and/or management the risk in this are a arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Trust's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, estates management etc. The Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.
- Reputational the continuing success of the Schools is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk Trustees ensure that student progress and outcomes are closely monitored and reviewed.
- Safeguarding and child protection the Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline.
- Staffing the success of the Schools is reliant on the quality of its staff and the Trustees monitor and review policies and procedures and recruitment to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning.
- Fraud and mismanagement of funds The Trust has appointed Price Bailey LLP as internal auditors to carry out independent and external checks on financial systems and records as required by the Academy Trust Handbook.

All finance staff receive training to keep up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area.

- Financial instruments the Trust only deals with bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. The risk in this area is considered to be low.
- Defined benefit pension liability as the Government has agreed to meet the defined benefit pension liability of any school ceasing to exist the main risk to the Trust is an annual cash flow funding of part of the deficit. Trustees take these payments into account when setting the annual budget plan.
- Legal claim made against the Trust the Trust has RPA insurance and Gold legal support through Winckworth Sherwood. The Trust has also developed relevant policies and risk assessments and ensures that, through induction and training, staff are aware and follow them.

The Trust has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness.

Fundraising

The Trust only held small fundraising events during the year and collection days for various charities. The Trust does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events.

Trustees' report (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Trustees Plans for Future Periods

The Trustees aim to:

- Capital investment in improvements to the schools in the Trust
- Capital investment in a dedicated space for Trust wide admin staff
- Continue to focus on achieving high standards for pupils with end of key stage assessment results being above the national average
- Build on existing practices to recruit, develop and train staff to ensure a supply of good staff for future years
- Consider strategies to ensure that both schools achieve full pupil capacity in each year group
- Explore the potential for adding other new free schools to the MAT

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 the information.

The auditor, Kreston Reeves LLP, has indicated its willingness to continue in office. The Trustees will propose a motion re-appointing the auditor at a meeting of the Members.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 12 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Helen Fernandes 12 Dec 2024 15:17:07 GMT (UTC +0)

H Fernandes

Chair of Trustees

Governance Statement

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Britannia Education 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.

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Britannia Education Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The **Board of Trustees** has formally met 3 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
R Burton, resigned as Chair 9 July 2024	2	3
Helen Fernandes, appointed Chair 10 July 2024	3	3
E Boxer	2	3
L Dawes	2	3
S Monaghan	2	3
T Peake	2	3
D Verroken	3	3
S Obadan	2	3
J Gordon, appointed 6 December 2023	2	3
R Masters, appointed 20 March 2024	1	2
L Bingham , CEO/Executive Headteacher and accounting officer	3	3

Conflicts of interest:

To help manage conflicts of interest the Trust maintains an up to date register of interests for all members, Trustees and senior management. The opportunity to declare interests is given at every meeting of the board of Trustees and their committees. When faced with a conflict of interest the person who holds an interest should withdraw from any meeting, be excluded from participating in the decision-making process and should not vote on any matter relating to their interest. The conflict of interest will be recorded by the Clerk in the minutes of the meeting.

Governance reviews:

The Governance structure and Scheme of Delegation are reviewed annually by the Board. The current governance structure is deemed appropriate and effective. The Board of Trustees engaged the National Governance Association to carry out an external governance review in the 2021-22 academic year to ensure continued effective oversight.

Governance Statement (continued)

Governance (continued)

The **Finance and Audit Committee** is a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. Its purpose is to ensure value for money, regularity and propriety in relation to the management of the Trust's funds and that the Trust's financial activities are conducted in line with funding agreements, the Academy Trust Handbook and the Trust's scheme of delegation.

During the year J Gordon who is a secondary school senior leader and R Masters who works in banking and financial services, joined the committee. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
L Dawes, chair	3	4
R Burton	4	4
T Peake	4	4
J Gordon	2	2
R Masters	1	1

Review of value for money

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

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

- Utilising resources available for free or low cost which enrich the curriculum such as free travel for educational visits where possible, Class Dojo, Google classroom;
- Implementing a range of strategies that bring potential trainee teachers into our schools reducing advertising costs for ECTs;
- Sourcing free or low cost staff training such as NPQ qualifications and LGFL online courses
- Constantly reviewing suppliers for good quality and value resources, including online purchases where appropriate and ensuring budget holders comply with limits set out in the financial procedures;
- Implementing a rolling program for the purchase of good quality laptops and other tech equipment for staff so that they were able to plan and deliver high quality learning for pupils across the Trust's schools;
- An improved order and approval system that enables budget holders to be more aware of their ongoing spend
- Continuing to investigate latent defects identified in the Royal Wharf building and whose responsibility it is to meet the cost of repairs:

Overall the Trust was able to maintain value for money as well as ensuring safety and management of the Trust's buildings in spite of continued challenging circumstances.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Britannia Education Trust for the period to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Governance Statement (continued)

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 to 31 August 2024 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 and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Finance and Audit 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 appoint Price Bailey LLP as internal auditor.

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

cyber security, business continuity and disaster recovery planning

On an annual basis, the internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees through the Finance and Audit Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares 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.

Governance Statement (continued)

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of external auditor;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Trust's who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the Finance and Audit Committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on their behalf by:

12 December 2024

Linda-May Bingham 11 Dec 2024 16:01:15 GMT (UTC +0)

and signed on

Helen Fernandes 12 Dec 2024 15:17:07 GMT (UTC +0)

H FernandesChair of Trustees

L Bingham
Accounting Officer

L.M. Bingham

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of Britannia Education Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of all funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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.

L M . Birgham Linda-May Birgham 11 Dec 2024 16:01:15 GMT (UTC +0)

L Bingham
Accounting Officer

Date: 11 December 2024

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities For the year ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees (who 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. 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 of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 12 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Helen Fernandes 12 Dec 2024 15:17:07 GMT (UTC +0)

H Fernandes
Chair of Trustees

Independent auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Britannia Education Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Britannia Education Trust (the 'trust') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, 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 2023 to 2024 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 Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended:
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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.

Independent auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Britannia Education Trust (continued)

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' 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 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report and the 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 Trustees' report including the Strategic report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the 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 Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Independent auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Britannia Education Trust (continued)

Auditors' 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 Auditors' 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:

Capability of the audit in detecting irregularities, including fraud

Based on our understanding of the Academy Trust and the sector, and through discussion with the Trustees and other management (as required by auditing standards), we identified that the principal risks of non-compliance with laws and regulations related to child protection and safeguarding, health and safety and employment law. We considered the extent to which non-compliance might have a material effect on the financial statements. We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements such as the Companies Act 2006, Statement of Recommended Practice, Academies Accounts Direction, Academy Trust Handbook, taxation, and pension legislation. We communicated identified laws and regulations throughout our team and remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We evaluated management's incentives and opportunities for fraudulent manipulation of the financial statements (including the risk of override of controls), and determined that the principal risks were related to posting inappropriate journal entries to increase revenue or reduce expenditure, management bias in accounting estimates and judgemental areas of the financial statements such as the valuation of land and buildings and revenue and non-compliance with financial management and governance requirements which are consistent with the obligations of public funded bodies. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:

- Discussions with management and assessment of known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations (including health and safety) and fraud, and review of the reports made by management and internal audit; and
- Assessment of identified fraud risk factors; and
- Consideration of income streams, completeness of income and compliance with the obligations of funders including the ESFA; and
- Identifying and assessing the design effectiveness of controls that management has in place to prevent and detect fraud; and
- Review of cash and credit card expenditure to confirm no evidence of personal benefit; and
- · Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates; and
- · Checking and reperforming the reconciliation of key control accounts; and
- Performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships, including related party transactions, that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud; and
- Confirmation of related parties with management, and review of transactions throughout the period to identify
 any previously undisclosed transactions with related parties outside the normal course of business; and
- Reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance, reviewing internal audit reports and reviewing correspondence with relevant tax and regulatory authorities; and
- Review of internal controls and physical inspection of tangible assets susceptible to fraud or irregularity; and
- Review of significant and unusual transactions and evaluation of the underlying financial rationale supporting the transactions; and
- Identifying and testing journal entries, in particular any manual entries made at the year end for financial statement preparation.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including

Independent auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Britannia Education Trust (continued)

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.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or
 error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is
 sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material
 misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve
 collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that
 are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness
 of the Academy Trust's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditors' report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditors' report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Academy Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the
 disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a
 manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

Independent auditors' Report on the financial statements to the Members of Britannia Education Trust (continued)

Use of our report

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

Simon Webber BA (Hons), DChA, FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

Kresta Recour US

16 December 2024

for and on behalf of **Kreston Reeves LLP** Statutory Auditor Chartered Accountants Chatham Maritime

Date:

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Britannia Education Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 30 July 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Britannia Education Trust during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 Britannia Education Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Britannia Education 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 Britannia Education Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Britannia Education Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Britannia Education Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 21 December 2017 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. 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 year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Britannia Education Trust and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (continued) Approach

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

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

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

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

Work undertaken

- Reviewed the evidence used to support the Accounting Officer's sign off of the regularity statement.
- Reviewed expenditure against specific terms of grant funding within the Funding Agreement.
- Reviewed that grants have been applied for the purposes for which they were intended.
- Confirmed that internal control procedures exist relating to expenditure incurred of cash and credit cards.
- Confirmed items claimed on cash and credit cards are not for personal benefit.
- Reviewed expenditure and considered whether any supplies are from related parties.
- Reviewed Board of Trustee minutes for declaration of interests.
- Considered whether other income activities are permitted within the Academy Trust's charitable objects.
- Considered if borrowing agreements, including leases, have been made in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook.
- Confirmed that procurement and tendering procedures exist relating to expenditure and have been complied
 with
- Considered if the Trust's governance arrangements and composition are in-line with the Academy Trust handbook 2023.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant Kreston Reeves LLP Chartered Accountants

Date: 16 December 2024

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Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) For the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital						
grants	4	-	-	51,935	51,935	29,336
Other trading activities		101,489	=	-	101,489	144,507
Investments	7	56,659	-	-	56,659	16,260
Charitable activities		1,508	6,391,334	-	6,392,842	5,833,480
Total income		159,656	6,391,334	51,935	6,602,925	6,023,583
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		27,705	6,683,326	389,613	7,100,644	6,435,703
Total expenditure		27,705	6,683,326	389,613	7,100,644	6,435,703
Net						
income/(expenditure)		131,951	(291,992)	(337,678)	(497,719)	(412,120)
Transfers between funds	18	(211,253)	66,314	144,939	-	-
Net movement in funds before other						
recognised gains/(losses)		(79,302)	(225,678)	(192,739)	(497,719)	(412,120)
gams/(iosses)		(19,302)	(223,078)	(192,739)	(497,719)	(412,120)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on						
defined benefit pension schemes	25	=	54,000	-	54,000	501,000
Net movement in		(70,000)	(474.670)	(400.700)	(440.740)	00.000
funds		(79,302)	(171,678) ———	(192,739) ————	(443,719) ————	88,880
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought						
forward		1,273,197	703,143	10,345,788	12,322,128	12,233,248
Net movement in funds		(79,302)	(171,678)	(192,739)	(443,719)	88,880
Total funds carried forward		1,193,895	531,465	10,153,049	11,878,409	12,322,128

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 30 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

Registered number: 10689559

Balance sheet As at 31 August 2024

	Note		2024 £		2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	15		10,153,049		10,345,788
Current assets					
Debtors	16	193,205		227,194	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,151,770		2,419,595	
		2,344,975		2,646,789	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(619,615)		(563,449)	
Net current assets			1,725,360		2,083,340
Total assets less current liabilities			11,878,409		12,429,128
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	25		-		(107,000)
Total net assets			11,878,409		12,322,128
Funds of the Academy Trust Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	18	10,153,049		10,345,788	
Restricted income funds	18	531,465		810,143	
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	18	10,684,514	•	11,155,931	
Pension reserve	18	-		(107,000)	
Total restricted funds	18		10,684,514	_	11,048,931
Unrestricted income funds	18	_	1,193,895	_	1,273,197
Total funds			11,878,409	·	12,322,128

The financial statements on pages 27 to 57 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 12 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Helen Fernandes 12 Dec 2024 15:17:07 GMT (UTC +0)

H Fernandes

Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 30 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

Statement of cash flows For the year ended 31 August 2024

Cash flows from operating activities	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	(179,545)	333,518
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(88,280)	(278,069)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(267,825)	55,449
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,419,595	2,364,146
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22, 23	2,151,770	2,419,595

The notes on pages 30 to 57 form part of these financial statements

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

1. General information

Britannia Education Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Britannia Village Primary School. Westwood Road, West Silvertown, London, United Kingdom, E16 2AW. The principal activity of the Academy Trust is to provide an education for pupils that satisfies the requirements of the Education Act 2002.

2. Accounting policies

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

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Britannia Education Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Trust's functional and presentational currency is Pounds Sterling.

2.2 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 at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 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.

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 year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Other income

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

Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Trust)

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 Capital Grants' 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.

2.4 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.

• 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's apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £2,000 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 and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property
Furniture and equipment
Computer equipment
- 50 years straight line
- 5 years straight line
- 3 years straight line

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.

2.7 Debtors

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

2.8 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

2.9 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.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.10 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 bases 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 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

2.11 Operating leases

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

2,12 Pensions

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/asset is also recognised in the Statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.13 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.

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments 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.

Multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. 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.

Tangible fixed assets

The Academy Trust has recognised tangible fixed assets with a carrying value of £10,153,049 at the reporting date (see note 15). These assets are stated at their cost less provision for depreciation and impairment. The Academy Trust's accounting policy sets out the approach to calculating depreciation for immaterial assets acquired. For material assets such as land and buildings the Academy Trust determines at acquisition reliable estimates for the useful life of the asset, its residual value and decommissioning costs. These estimates are based upon such factors as the expected use of the acquired asset and market conditions. At subsequent reporting dates the Trustees consider whether there are any factors such as technological advancements or changes in market conditions that indicate a need to reconsider the estimates used.

Where there are indicators that the carrying value of tangible assets may be impaired the Academy Trust undertakes tests to determine the recoverable amount of assets. These tests require estimates of the fair value of assets less cost to sell and of their value in use. Wherever possible the estimate of the fair value of assets is based upon observable market prices less incremental cost for disposing of the asset. The value in use calculation is based upon a discounted cash flow model, based upon the Academy Trusts' forecasts for the foreseeable future which do not include any restructuring activities that the Academy Trust is not yet committed to or significant future investments that will enhance the asset's performance. The recoverable amount is most sensitive to the discount rate used for the discounted cash flow model as well expected future cash flows and the growth rate used for extrapolation purposes.

Critical areas of judgment:

Lease commitments

The Academy Trust has entered into a range of lease commitments in respect of plant and equipment. The classification of these leases as either financial or operating leases requires the Trustees to consider whether the terms and conditions of each lease are such that the Academy Trust has acquired the risks and rewards associated with the ownership of the underlying assets.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment (continued)

Multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme

Certain employees participate in a multi-employer defined benefit pension scheme with other companies in the region. In the judgement of the Trustees the Academy Trust does not have sufficient information of the plans assets and liabilities to be able to reliably account for its share of the defined obligation and plan assets. Therefore the scheme is accounted for as a defined contribution scheme, see note 25 for further details.

The plan surplus as at 31 August 2024 was £13,000 (2023: deficit of £107,000). A pension plan asset is recognised to the extent that the company is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. In the opinion of the trustees, the academy trust will not recover the surplus through reduced contributions and they do not anticipate receiving any refunds from the plan and therefore the net surplus recognised within the financial statements has been restricted to £NIL.

4. Income from donations and capital grants

	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Capital Grants	51,935	51,935	29,336

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

5. Funding for the Trust's provision of education

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
DfE/ESFA Grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	4,713,659	4,713,659	4,259,716
Pupil Premium	-	262,453	262,453	232,637
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	138,442	138,442	130,273
Other DfE Group grants	-	361,326	361,326	311,630
	-	5,475,880	5,475,880	4,934,256
Other Government grants				
Local Authority Grants	-	915,454	915,454	898,404
	-	915,454	915,454	898,404
Other funding				
Catering Income	1,508	-	1,508	820
	1,508	-	1,508	820
	1,508	6,391,334	6,392,842	5,833,480
	1,508	6,391,334	6,392,842	5,833,480
Total 2023	820	5,832,660	5,833,480	
	=======================================			

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

6. Other trading activities

				Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Other income			101,489	101,489	144,507
	Total 2023			144,507	144,507	
7.	Investment income					
				Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Investment income			56,659	56,659 ———	16,260
	Total 2023			16,260	16,260	
8.	Expenditure					
		Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
	Direct costs Allocated support costs	3,328,213 1,775,668	- 443,244	528,313 1,025,206	3,856,526 3,244,118	3,190,501 3,245,202
		5,103,881	443,244	1,553,519	7,100,644	6,435,703
	Total 2023	4,526,151	433,669	1,475,883	6,435,703	

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational operations	3,856,526	3,244,118	7,100,644	6,435,703
Total 2023	3,190,501	3,245,202	6,435,703	
Analysis of direct costs				
		Educational operations 2024	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs		operations 2024	funds 2024	funds 2023
Staff costs Educational materials		operations 2024 £	funds 2024 £	funds 2023 £
		operations 2024 £ 3,328,213	funds 2024 £ 3,328,213	funds 2023 £ 2,699,807
Educational materials		operations 2024 £ 3,328,213 287,044	funds 2024 £ 3,328,213 287,044	funds 2023 £ 2,699,807 285,518
Educational materials Computer costs		operations 2024 £ 3,328,213 287,044 16,143	funds 2024 £ 3,328,213 287,044 16,143	funds 2023 £ 2,699,807 285,518 14,928

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Pension finance costs	-	-	18,000
Staff costs	1,433,224	1,433,224	1,504,743
Depreciation	389,613	389,613	391,568
Premises costs	443,244	443,244	433,669
Technology costs	79,179	79,179	84,136
Other support costs	526,670	526,670	463,546
Governance costs	13,338	13,338	12,747
Legal & professional costs	16,406	16,406	15,192
Agency staff costs	342,444	342,444	321,601
	3,244,118	3,244,118	3,245,202
Total 2023	3,245,202	3,245,202	

10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024 £	2023 £
Operating lease rentals	416	416
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	389,613	391,568
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	15,500	14,900
- other services	3,150	3,000

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

11. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	3,720,670	3,191,843
Social security costs	388,569	379,386
Pension costs	652,198	633,321
	4,761,437	4,204,550
Agency staff costs	342,444	321,601
	5,103,881	4,526,151

b. Staff numbers

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	48	44
Administration and support	52	48
Management	8	7
	108	99
The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:		
	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	45	40
Administration and support	38	36
Management	8	7
	91	83

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

11. Staff (continued)

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	6	3
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	-
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	-
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	-	1
In the band £130,000 - £140,000	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 £595,931 (2023 - £415,179).

12. Central services

The Trust has provided the following central service to its academies during the financial year: financial services; educational support services; and human resources.

In accordance with the funding agreement with the DfE, the Trust pools the General Annual Grant (GAG) and therefore does not recharge out central services.

13. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The CEO and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of CEO and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2024	2023
		£	£
L Bingham	Remuneration	130,000 -	120,000 -
-		135,000	125,000
	Pension contributions paid	30,000 -	25,000 -
	·	35,000	30.000

During the year ended 31 August 2024, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

14. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy Trust 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. The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

15. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2023	10,854,907	615,424	633,182	12,103,513
Additions	137,540	1,963	57,371	196,874
Disposals	-	(18,078)	(9,559)	(27,637)
At 31 August 2024	10,992,447	599,309	680,994	12,272,750
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	922,973	356,634	478,118	1,757,725
Charge for the year	217,522	73,195	98,896	389,613
On disposals	-	(18,078)	(9,559)	(27,637)
At 31 August 2024	1,140,495	411,751	567,455	2,119,701
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	9,851,952	187,558	113,539	10,153,049
At 31 August 2023	9,931,934	258,790	155,064	10,345,788

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

16. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due within one year	_	~
Trade debtors	5,489	6,710
Other debtors	40,930	26,848
Prepayments and accrued income	146,786	193,636
- -	193,205	227,194
17. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	240,453	163,390
Other taxation and social security	91,374	79,373
Other creditors	91,492	67,560
Accruals and deferred income	196,296	253,126
- -	619,615	563,449
	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	101,696	86,198
Resources deferred during the year	80,759	101,696
Amounts released from previous periods	(101,696)	(86,198)
-	80,759	101,696

Deferred income received relates to Universal Infant Free School Meals income and other ESFA income relating to the Autumn Term 2024.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Building improvement fund	1,100,000				<u>.</u>	1,100,000
General funds						
General Funds	173,197	159,656	(27,705)	(211,253)	=	93,895
Total Unrestricted funds	1,273,197	159,656	(27,705)	(211,253)	-	1,193,895
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG) Pupil Premium	810,143 -	4,713,659 262,453	(5,058,651) (262,453)	66,314 -	-	531,465 -
Universal Infant Free School Meals	_	138,442	(138,442)	-	_	-
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	_	361,326	(361,326)	_	_	_
Other Government						
Grants Pension reserve	- (107,000)	915,454 -	(915,454) 53,000	-	- 54,000	-
	703,143	6,391,334	(6,683,326)	66,314	54,000	531,465
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed Asset Funds	10,345,788	-	(389,613)	196,874	-	10,153,049
DfE Group Capital Grants	-	51,935	-	(51,935)	-	-
	10,345,788	51,935	(389,613)	144,939	-	10,153,049

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Total Restricted funds	11,048,931	6,443,269	(7,072,939)	211,253	54,000	10,684,514
Total funds	12,322,128	6,602,925	(7,100,644)		54,000	11,878,409

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Unrestricted funds are applied to the general work of the Academy Trust to support activities inside and outside the curriculum.

GAG represents to be used to cover normal running costs of the Academy Trust.

Pupil premium is an ESFA grant given to schools for under privileged children to help improve their education and reduce the attainment gap.

UIFSM supports schools in delivering the legal requirement to offer free school meals to all reception, year 1 and year 2 pupils.

Other DfE/ESFA grants represent those grants provided for specific purposes, such as universal infant free schools, teachers pay and teachers pension grants.

Other government grants represent those grants provided for specific purposes, such as early years and SEN funding, to provide additional support to the pupils where required.

The restricted fixed asset fund represents the tangible fixed assets including depreciation to the Balance Sheet date. Capital grants are also represented and provide the Academy Trust with its own capital money to address improvements to buildings and other facilities.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated funds						
Building improvement fund	1,100,000		<u>-</u>	<u> </u>		1,100,000
General funds						
General Funds	40,202	161,587	(28,592)	-	-	173,197
Total Unrestricted funds	1,140,202	161,587	(28,592)			1,273,197
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,198,355	4,259,716	(4,353,599)	(294,329)	<u>-</u>	810,143
Pupil Premium	-	232,637	(232,637)	-	=	-
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	130,273	(130,273)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	311,630	(311,630)	-	-	-
Other Government Grants	_	898,404	(898,404)	_	<u>-</u>	_
Pension reserve	(519,000)	· -	(89,000)	-	501,000	(107,000)
	679,355	5,832,660	(6,015,543)	(294,329)	501,000	703,143
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed Asset Funds	10,413,691	_	(391,568)	323,665	-	10,345,788
DfE Group Capital Grants	-	29,336	- -	(29,336)	-	-

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

18. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
	10,413,691	29,336	(391,568)	294,329	-	10,345,788
Total Restricted funds	11,093,046	5,861,996	(6,407,111)		501,000	11,048,931
Total funds	12,233,248	6,023,583	(6,435,703)		501,000	12,322,128

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances for each academy at 31 August 2024 and 31 August 2023 were zero, hence a breakdown by academy is not included in these accounts.

Total cost analysis by academy

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 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Britannia Village Primary School	1,885,541	820,957	312,837	674,143	3,693,478	3,583,500
Royal Wharf Primary School	1,442,672	665,267	170,724	599,004	2,877,667	2,141,501
Britannia Education Trust	-	(53,000)	44,752	148,134	139,886	319,134
Academy Trust	3,328,213	1,433,224	528,313	1,421,281	6,711,031	6,044,135

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024	Total funds 2024 £
	Tangible fixed assets	-	-	10,153,049	10,153,049
	Current assets	1,193,895	1,151,080	_	2,344,975
	Creditors due within one year	-	(619,615)	-	(619,615)
	Total	1,193,895	531,465	10,153,049	11,878,409
	Analysis of net assets between funds - pri	or period			
	Analysis of hist assets settlesh falles phi	Unrestricted funds 2023	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
	Tangible fixed assets	-	_	10,345,788	10,345,788
	Current assets	1,273,197	1,373,592	-	2,646,789
	Creditors due within one year	-,=. 0,.0.	(563,449)	_	(563,449)
	Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(107,000)	-	(107,000)
	Total	1,273,197	703,143	10,345,788	12,322,128
20.	Reconciliation of net expenditure to net ca	ısh flow from op	erating activit	ies	
				2024 £	2023 £
	Net expenditure for the period (as per Statem	ent of financial ac	ctivities)	(497,719)	(412,120)
	Adjustments for:				
	Depreciation			389,613	391,568
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital inco	ome		(51,936)	(29,336)
	Interest receivable			(56,659)	(16,260)
	Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inl	nerited		(53,000)	89,000
	Decrease in debtors			33,989	206,078
	Increase/(decrease) in creditors			56,167	104,588
	Net cash (used in)/provided by operating a	ıctivities		(179,545)	333,518

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

21. Cash flows from investing activities

			2024	2023
			£	£
	Dividends, interest and rents from investments		56,659	16,260
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(196,874)	
	Capital grants from DfE Group		51,935	29,336
	Net cash used in investing activities		(88,280)	(278,069)
22.	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents			
			2024 £	2023 £
	Cash in hand and at bank		2,151,770	2,419,595
	Total cash and cash equivalents		2,151,770	2,419,595
23.	Analysis of changes in net debt			
	•	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
	Cash at bank and in hand	2,419,595	(267,825)	2,151,770
		2,419,595	(267,825)	2,151,770
24.	Capital commitments			
			2024 £	2023 £
	Contracted for but not provided in these financial statement Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	s	223,057	-

25. Pension commitments

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 London Borough of Newham. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Contributions amounting to £90,524 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023 - £64,223) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £484,768 (2023 - £366,013).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx).

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.

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £295,000 (2023 - £246,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £229,000 (2023 - £191,000) and employees' contributions totalled £66,000 (2023 - £55,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.3 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

The plan surplus as at 31 August 2024 was £13,000 (2023: deficit of £107,000). A pension plan asset is recognised to the extent that the company is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. In the opinion of the trustees, the academy trust will not recover the surplus through reduced contributions and they do not anticipate receiving any refunds from the plan and therefore the net surplus recognised within the financial statements has been restricted to £NIL.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.80	3.85
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.80	2.85
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.10	5.30
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.80	2.85
Inflation assumption (RPI)	3.80	3.85

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
Males	19.7	19.6
Females	23.1	23.0
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.1	21.0
Females	24.6	24.5

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(37,000)	(34,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	36,000	33,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	55,000	49,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(53,000)	(48,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	2,000	2,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(2,000)	(2,000)

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023
Equities	1,341,000	1,009,000
Other bonds	153,000	215,000
Property	267,000	166,000
Cash and other liquid assets	53,000	52,000
Alternative Assets	147,000	205,000
Total market value of assets	1,961,000	1,647,000
The actual return on scheme assets was £213,000 (2023 - £16,000).		
The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follow	vs:	
	2024 £	2023 £
Current service cost	(175,000)	(261,000)
Interest cost	-	(18,000)
Administrative expenses	(1,000)	(1,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(176,000)	(280,000)
Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follows:	ows:	
	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 September	1,754,000	1,911,000
Current service cost	175,000	261,000
Interest cost	90,000	82,000
Employee contributions	66,000	55,000
Benefits paid	(193,000)	,
Actuarial (gains)/losses	69,000	(422,000)
Change in demographic assumptions	-	(106,000)
At 31 August	1,961,000	1,754,000

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 September	1,647,000	1,392,000
Return on assets	123,000	(48,000)
Interest income	90,000	64,000
Employer contributions	229,000	191,000
Employee contributions	66,000	55,000
Benefits paid	(193,000)	(27,000)
Other actuarial gains/(losses)	-	21,000
Administration expenses	(1,000)	(1,000)
At 31 August	1,961,000	1,647,000

26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	416	416
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	104	554
	520	970

27. Members' liability

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

Notes to the financial statements For the year ended 31 August 2024

28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy 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 Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The following related party transactions took place in the financial period:

During the year Britannia Education Trust made 2 donations to the West Silvertown Foundation totalling £20,159 (2023: £19,940). These are related party transactions due to Helen Fernandes (a trustee) being the CEO of the West Silvertown Foundation. The ESFA were notified of these transactions. As at 31 August 2024 £Nil was owed to the West Silvertown Foundation (2023: £4,221) In entering into this transaction the Academy Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.