

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2023

Company Registration Number: 07673871 (England and Wales)

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Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	C O'Callaghan S Tomlinson M Smith M Jenkins (Resigned 07/2023) R Pollington (Appointed 03/2023)
Trustees	D Kavanagh S Robson M Betteridge I Randle J Hann J Bird (Appointed 03/2023)
Company Secretary	V Carter
Senior Management Team:	
Head Teacher: Lee Chapel Primary School	S L Jackson
Head Teacher: Phoenix Primary School	K Geary
Head of School: Greensted Primary School	I Hampshire (Resigned 31/8/2023)
Head of School: Greensted Primary School	S Chetty (Appointed 01/09/2023)
Head of School: Northlands Primary School	B Figg
Head of School: Ryedene Primary School	A Toomer
Chief Financial Officer	A Burrows
Principal and Registered Office	The Knares Basildon Essex SS16 5RU
Company Registration Number	07673871 (England and Wales)
Independent Auditor	Moore Kingston Smith LLP 9 Appold Street London EC2A 2AP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 14-20 Town Square Basildon Essex SS14 1DU

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 August 2023

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates five primary schools for pupils aged 2 – 11 serving a catchment area in Basildon, Essex. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 3320 (includes nursery pupils full and part time) and had a roll of 3247 in the school census in October 2022.

	Capacity includes Nursery	Roll
Lee Chapel Primary School	992	1105
Greensted Primary School	472	448
Northlands Primary School	690	676
Ryedene Primary School	391	348
The Phoenix Primary School	780	670
Total	3,325	3247

On 1st September 2022 Greensted Infant school closed and Greensted Junior School became Greensted Primary School & Nursery and the age range changed from 7 – 11-year-olds to 3 – 11-year-olds.

The trust was successful in its bid to sponsor and open a new Free School & Nursery from 1st September 2024 which will be known as Chapel Hill Primary School & Nursery.

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 Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust.

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

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.

Directors'/Trustees' Indemnities

The Charitable Company has Trustee liability insurance through Zurich Insurance which all the academies subscribe to.

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The Members of the Academy Trust shall comprise:

- a. the members of the company on the date of the adoption of the articles (01 August 2011); and
- b. any person appointed under Article ("The Members may agree by passing a special resolution to appoint such additional Members as they think fit") - provided that at any time the minimum number of Members shall not be less than three. An employee of the Academy Trust cannot be a Member of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of the Multi Academy Trust comprises the following from Lee Chapel Governing Body: the Headteacher, Chair, Vice Chair, Governor and a Parent; Greensted Governing Body the Chair and a Parent, Northlands, Ryedene and Phoenix each schools Chair of Governors and independently 2 community governors.

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For the year ended 31 August 2023

The Trust advertises local governing body and trust vacancies through Juniper Governor Services. New trustees or members are voted onto the board at their meetings.

Lee Chapel Academy's Governing Body comprises the Head Teacher, two Staff Governors (who are employees of Multi Academy Trust), two parent Governors and five Community Governors. The Articles of Association require that there be a minimum of three Governors. The term is normally four years although the Governors can resign at any time during this period.

Greensted Primary School Academy's Governing Body comprises of the head teacher, two staff governors (who are employees of the Multi Academy Trust) three parent governors and two community governors. The term is normally 4 years although governors can resign at any time during this period.

The Phoenix Primary School & Nursery Governing Body comprises of the head teacher, one staff governor (who is an employee of the Multi Academy Trust) two parent governors and 5 co-opted governors. The term is normally 4 years although governors can resign at any time during this period.

Ryedene Primary & Nursery School Governing Body comprises of the head teacher, two staff governors (who are employees of the Multi Academy Trust) two parent governors and five co-opted governors. The term is normally 4 years although governors can resign at any time during this period.

Northlands Primary School & Nursery Academy's Governing Body comprises of the Head of School, two staff governors (who are employees of the Multi Academy Trust), two parent governors and 3 co-opted governors.

Parent Governors for all schools are elected by the parents of current pupils.

Staff Governors for all schools are elected by the staff currently employed by the school.

With regards to the appointment of Community Governors, the Governing body will ensure that consideration is given to the skills mix of the Governors so that they can contribute fully ensure the Academy's development.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees & Governors

All the schools Governing Bodies subscribe to Juniper Education Services Ltd who run the Governor Induction courses and new Governors details are provided to Juniper Education Services Ltd so that they can receive the induction pack and the training courses details.

The training link Governor of the board receives additional training information which is forwarded to the Governors by the Clerk in order that each Governor has the opportunity to attend appropriate training courses.

The Multi Academy Trust runs training evenings concentrating on specific subjects. All the governors are invited to attend the training sessions, which are held at the schools. The training sessions for 2022/23 were the OFSTED inspection handbook, Safeguarding and Governing Bodies understanding their school's Key Performance Indicators.

Organisational Structure

The Directors are responsible for setting general Trust policy, approving budgets, monitoring the Academies, budget monitoring and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The Chief Executive is the Accounting Officer and is responsible to the Board of Directors for the overall performance of the Trust and its constituent schools. Local Governing Bodies are responsible for the strategic direction and financial oversight of their schools and holding their Headteacher / Heads of school to account for the performance of the school.

Head teachers / Heads of school are responsible for the overall performance of their schools and meeting the objectives set for them by their Local Governing Body and the CEO.

In line with the Trust's scheme of delegation the academy trust board meets once a term and have an additional

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Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 August 2023

meeting to agree the budgets in the summer term. The Finance & Audit committee meets at least termly.

All local Governing Bodies meet at least once a term and a number have established committees which meet regularly.

Each committee has Terms of Reference, which delegate some decisions to each committee from the board of trustees. The local governing body meeting receives reports from the committees.

At the first local governing body meeting in the autumn term, the governors elect the chair & vice chair of the local governing body and any committees.

The local Governing Body approves the draft plans and budgets presented by the head teacher. The Trust's Finance & Audit committee reviews the budgets presented and recommend after rigorous questioning to the Board for approval in the summer term. The local governing bodies monitor the budget and ensure that any decisions made are within the powers delegated to them. Any financial agreements in excess of the committee's limits are presented to the Trusts Finance & Audit committee and ultimately the board of trustees for approval.

The day to day running of the Academies is delegated to the Head teacher or head of school. The Multi Academy Trust Accounting Officer as required by the Funding Agreement with the Department of Education is Lee Chapel Primary School's head teacher.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The trustees have delegated the responsibility of remuneration for key management personnel to the CEO / head teacher of Lee Chapel, chair of the board and the individual chair of governors from the local governing body. All Head teachers' pay awards must be awarded and paid within the range for the size of the school (determined by the pupil numbers) as agreed by the Board of Directors. Decisions regarding performance related pay are made at the head teachers performance review and recommendations are forwarded to the local governing body and the board of directors are informed. The local Governing Body Chair or Vice Chair conduct the review for the Headteacher of Lee Chapel Primary School and Nursery as the salary is exclusively funded by the school (the head teacher is not paid for the CEO role and does not receive any remuneration from the Trust).

The CFO performance and pay review is conducted by the CEO and the chair of the Board of Directors.

Directors/Trustees receive no pay or remuneration for acting as Directors/Trustees.

Trade union facility time

The trust had no employees who were relevant union officials during the year.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Lee Chapel Primary School Academy became Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust and the sponsor of Greensted Junior School on 1st September 2012. On 1st September 2016, the following schools were sponsored: The Phoenix Primary School & Nursery, Northlands Primary School & Nursery and Ryedene Primary & Nursery School. Lee Chapel Nursery joined the trust on 1st September 2016. On 1st September 2018, Greensted Infant School joined the trust. From 1st September 2023 Greensted Junior and Greensted Infant are now known as Greensted Primary School.

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The welfare of our staff is fundamental to our business and to ensuring the provision of an 'Outstanding' education for our pupils. The Health and safety of all employees is important to us and we encourage and empower them to take ownership and to report and raise any issues they encounter in this respect.

The Trust Board agree common policies and practices and these are applied across all schools. The head teachers / heads of school have regular meetings with the CEO and these are communicated to the staff in the schools' weekly staff meeting and the minutes are circulated to all employees following these meetings. Risk Assessments are regularly carried out covering all aspects of the school's premises, staff and pupils to ensure a safe working environment.

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The staff are represented at the local governing body meetings and they may raise any issues brought to their attention by other staff and provide feedback. The financial position of the school is discussed and staff are regularly made aware of their individual responsibility in ensuring the stability of the finances at the school and ultimately the Trust.

The Trust policy is to treat disabled people on the same basis as all staff in relation to employment, career development and training. Staff involvement in meeting the company's aims is encouraged at all levels.

The Trust is committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all staff.

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

The Trust has continued to use its existing suppliers and continues to operate on Best for Value deals and this has been used to extend fixed contracts for up to 3 years. The trust has negotiated new centralised contract for HR & Payroll to ensure it receives best value for money and all current contracts within the schools have been centralised where possible to ensure that all future reviews are completed at the same time.

Objectives and Activities

The Multi Academy Trust's object is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools ("the Academies") offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The principal aim of the Multi Academy Trust is to provide high quality provision and outcomes and thus improves the life chances of all the pupils across the Trust. All pupils, regardless of their starting points, are expected to make outstanding progress and this is achieved through exceptional academic and extra-curricular opportunities and robust tracking and interventions.

Further aims are:

- To provide a stunning and inspirational learning environment that enables children to learn and teachers to teach effectively
- To identify those children requiring additional support to accelerate their progress and raise their attainment
- To identify high achieving children and effectively support them to achieve their potential
- To provide equal opportunities for all to achieve

The Multi Academy Trust focused on the following objectives:

Lee Chapel Primary School

- To deliver an ambitious curriculum for all learners, including those with SEND.
- To implement a curriculum that has depth and richness which engages learners and enables them to acquire skills and knowledge that they are able to systematically build on and apply across other subjects.
- Implement an ambitious and robust 'Keep-up' and 'Catch-up' programmes plan in order to teach to the gaps in children's knowledge and understanding and by so doing raise standards of attainment, and accelerate rates of progress and achievement.
- To continue to strengthen leadership at all levels across the school, ensuring that all are accountable and responsible for provision and progress in their area of responsibility.
- Leaders and governors focus on consistently improving provision and outcomes for disadvantaged pupils so that their life chances are match that of their advantaged peers.
- Ensure that teaching over time across all Year Groups is 'Outstanding' and never less than consistently 'Good'
- To improve the attendance overall by all groups, especially the disadvantaged and lowest 20%
- To promote the well-being of staff and pupils
- To further expand and improve provision and outcomes for Nursery pupils
- To further extend ITT provision, year on year increasing the numbers of trainee teachers

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

For the year ended 31 August 2023

- To embed reading progression matrices in order to ensure that pupil's progress in reading and their acquisition of a rich vocabulary accelerates.
- Review staffing structure and deployment of teaching and non-teaching staff in the light of budgetary pressures caused by declining SEND top-up funding.
- Increase the levels of pastoral support available to vulnerable families through provision of trained counsellors and therapists.

Greensted Primary School

- To continue to implement a robust Recovery Curriculum focusing on accelerating the progress of all groups of children (including boys, girls, disadvantaged pupils and academically more able).
- To continue to raise attainment at end of Key Stage Two for all groups of children in National Tests.
- To maintain and develop high standards of behaviour and community cohesion.
- To improve the attendance overall of all groups, especially the disadvantaged.
- To decrease the persistent absenteeism rate.
- To improve pupil attendance & meet target of 96%.
- To continue to promote the well-being of staff and pupils.
- To ensure all staff and stakeholders are aware and contribute towards the updated Covid 19 Risk Assessment.
- To review staffing structure and deployment of teaching and non-teaching staff in the light of budgetary pressures.
- To work with Governing Body to induct new members, ensuring constructive challenge to the school.
- To ensure that children's gaps in knowledge or understanding due to the COVID 19 closure are comprehensively identified and individually addressed. All planning will be based upon prior assessment.
- To ensure consistently high standards of Teaching & Learning and pupil feedback, so that all lessons are good or outstanding, thus impacting on all groups of pupils' progress and outcomes. GLD, Phonics Check and End of KS1 results to be at least national expectation.
- To continue to develop provision for SEN children and 'disadvantaged children' through the use of specific intervention focused upon child's learning barrier and scaffolded quality first teaching.
- To continue to provide a safe, happy, supportive working environment for all children & adults – by supporting all children's behavioural, social & emotional needs through the use of the PSHE curriculum & Sensory Room & implementation of Behaviour Policy.
- To raise the profile of Homework, encouraging children to consolidate learning at home.
- To work with Governing Body to induct new members, ensuring constructive challenge to the school.

The Phoenix Primary School & Nursery

- To continue to strengthen leadership at all levels across the school, ensuring that all are accountable and responsible for the standards and achievement in their subjects. Supporting new leaders in leading their subjects.
- Leaders and governors focus on consistently improving outcomes for disadvantaged pupils and the lowest 20%.
- Ensure that teaching over time in all Year Groups is outstanding and never less than consistently good.
- To improve the attendance overall by all groups, especially the disadvantaged, the lowest 20% and those from white British backgrounds.
- To deliver an ambitious curriculum for all learners, including those with SEND.
- To implement a curriculum that has depth and richness which engages learners and enables them to acquire skills and knowledge that they are able to systematically build on and apply across other subjects.
- To continue to promote the well-being of staff and pupils.
- Review staffing structure and deployment of teaching and non-teaching staff in the light of budgetary pressures.

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For the year ended 31 August 2023

- To continue to pursue the expansion from a three to a four-form entry due to overwhelming demand for school places.

Ryedene Primary & Nursery School

- To improve the outcomes for writing in all year groups, especially for boys and disadvantaged pupils.
- To ensure phonics is effectively taught and children achieving the expected standard in screening checks increases.
- To ensure the curriculum is planned to consist of sequences of learning that meet the needs of the most able in all subjects of the curriculum.
- To 'narrow the gap' between PPG and non-PPG children in terms of their end of year / key stage outcomes.
- To ensure any changes to the curriculum are implemented and embedded effectively across the school.
- To consistently adhere to the school's behaviour for learning policy.
- To prepare pupils for the future in terms of academia, wellbeing and confidence.
- To ensure inclusive classrooms are created across the school.
- To maintain the very highest pupil performance standards across the school, with pupils continuing to achieve at or above the national standards.
- To maintain a professional dialogue with parents and carers to continue the positive working partnership which has been fostered.
- To be judged as 'outstanding' in the EYFS.
- For the school to be judged 'outstanding' overall.

Northlands Primary School & Nursery

- To ensure that every child obtains the skills to be a confident reader.
- To embed strategies to promote reading for pleasure – new library, Doris.
- To improve reasoning and problem-solving arithmetic skills across the school.
- To embed new support staff PMR process to increase accountability.
- To develop middle leaders to become effective subject leaders. further so that curriculum subjects are being driven forward.
- To target effectively the appropriate children and groups of children for the School Led Tutoring Grant. Including training for relevant staff.
- To improve attendance overall by all groups.
- To develop how curriculum subjects are assessed.

Public benefit

The Multi Academy Trust receives the majority of its income from the Department for Education to provide educational services to children and to ensure that they have a broad & balanced curriculum. The Trustees are satisfied that they meet the public benefit criteria.

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, 'Charities and Public Benefit'.

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance

Lee Chapel Primary School & Nursery

Analysis & Main objectives

Lee Chapel Primary School is an oversubscribed primary school, which has an Outstanding Ofsted rating. The school received 402 applications for the September 2023 Reception intake for 120 places of which 190 were 1st choice. The school has eight open mornings with a total of 16 sessions, which it holds in the autumn

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term for prospective new parents.

Lee Chapel Primary School
Pupil Outcomes 2023

Early Years Foundation Stage	% achieving GLD	% achieving EXP+EXC Reading	% achieving EXP+EXC Writing	% achieving EXP+EXC Number	% achieving EXP+EXC Num Pat	% achieving EXP+EXC Self req	% achieving EXP+EXC Man Self	% achieving EXP+EXC Rel
All Pupils (123)	79.7%	87.0%	85.4%	89.4%	86.2%	86.2%	88.6%	88.6%
Pupil Premium (15)	66.7%	66.7%	66.7%	80.0%	80.0%	86.7%	86.7%	80.0%
Non-Pupil Premium (108)	81.5%	89.8%	88.0%	90.7%	87.0%	86.1%	88.9%	89.8%
Boys (65)	73.8%	83.1%	81.5%	90.8%	86.2%	83.1%	84.6%	84.6%
Girls (58)	82.8%	91.4%	89.7%	87.9%	86.2%	89.7%	93.1%	93.1%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Yr 2 Phonics re-sits	% achieving National expectations
All Pupils (95/123)	87%	Year 2 (27)	67% (18 children)
Pupil Premium (23/123)	74%	Pupil Premium (8)	50% (4 children)
Non-Pupil Premium (107/123)	90%	Non-Pupil Premium (19)	74% (14 children)

End of Key Stage 1

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (149)	122	82%	54	36%
Pupil Premium (27)	19	70%	9	33%
Non-Pupil Premium (122)	103	84%	45	37%
Writing				
All pupils (149)	121	81%	32	22%
Pupil Premium (27)	18	67%	2	7%
Non-Pupil Premium (122)	103	84%	30	25%
Mathematics				
All pupils (149)	127	85%	49	33%
Pupil Premium (27)	20	74%	4	15%
Non-Pupil Premium (122)	107	88%	45	37%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (149)	120	81%	27	18%
Pupil Premium (27)	18	67%	1	4%
Non-Pupil Premium (122)	102	84%	26	21%

End of Key Stage 2

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	Lee Chapel % of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations (Test Scaled Score \geq 110)	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations (Test Scaled Score \geq 110)
Reading				
All pupils (133)	118	89%	68	51%
Pupil Premium (26)	24	92%	12	46%
Non-Pupil Premium (107)	94	88%	56	52%
Writing (Teacher Assessment)				
All pupils (133)	118	89%	63	47%
Pupil Premium (26)	23	89%	11	42%
Non-Pupil Premium (107)	95	89%	52	49%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling				
All pupils (133)	116	87%	73	55%

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Pupil Premium (26)	20	77%	11	42%
Non-Pupil Premium (107)	96	90%	62	58%
Mathematics				
All pupils (133)	123	93%	65	49%
Pupil Premium (26)	22	85%	10	39%
Non-Pupil Premium (107)	101	94%	55	51%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (133)	112	84%	44	33%
Pupil Premium (26)	21	81%	6	23%
Non-Pupil Premium (107)	91	85%	38	36%

Attendance

Whole School Attendance 2022/23 was 95.2%
FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance 2022/23 was 92.94%



Greensted Primary School & Nursery

Excellence for All

Analysis & Main objectives

Greensted Primary School and Nursery recently amalgamated in September 2022, joining the Infant school rated 'good' in November 2014 and Junior school rated 'outstanding' in Summer 2016. We are a 2-form entry school with 423 children on roll in our primary school and a further additional 70 children on roll in our newly built 2-form nursery. The school is part of the Lee Chapel Multi Academy trust.

Strengths highlighted in our recent MAT review:

- ✓ Greensted is a welcoming and caring school community. Everything staff do is centred around meeting the needs of the school's pupils and providing the very best for them.
- ✓ Staff know and understand pupils' needs extremely well and have strong, productive relationships with children and their families and these are the foundations of the school's success.
- ✓ The learning environment across the school is exemplary – the displays are beautiful and showcase the best of the children's work. Children move around the school quietly and calmly.
- ✓ Learning behaviours are clearly embedded. Children were polite to visitors.
- ✓ The children showed great pride in their work and loved showing it off.
- ✓ Presentation in books was excellent and there is a praiseworthy range of activities which exemplify the school's rich curriculum.

Greensted Primary School & Nursery Key Stage 1 and Early Year Data 2023

Early Years Foundation Stage	% achieving GLD	% achieving EXP	% achieving EXP	% achieving EXP	% achieving EXP	% achieving EXP	% achieving EXP	% achieving EXP
		Word Reading	Writing	Number	Numerical Patterns	Self-Regulation	Managing Self	Building Relationships
All Pupils (60)	68%	72%	72%	78%	77%	90%	95%	97%
Pupil Premium (18)	56%	61%	56%	72%	67%	89%	94%	94%
Non-Pupil Premium (42)	73%	76%	79%	81%	81%	91%	95%	98%

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Boys (32)	58%	63%	63%	69%	69%	81%	91%	94%
Girls (28)	79%	82%	82%	89%	86%	100%	100%	100%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Yr 2 Phonics re-sits	Year 2 % achieving National expectations
All Pupils (60)	78% (46/60)	Year 2 (7/9)	78% (7 children)
Pupil Premium (21)	56.3% (9/60)	Pupil Premium (6/6)	100% (6 children)
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	86% (37/60)	Non-Pupil Premium (2/3)	67% (2 children)

End of Key Stage 1

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (60)	42	70%	14	23%
Pupil Premium (15)	9	60%	1	7%
Non-Pupil Premium (45)	32	71%	13	29%
Writing				
All pupils (60)	42	70%	14	33%
Pupil Premium (15)	7	47%	1	7%
Non-Pupil Premium (45)	35	78%	13	29%
Mathematics				
All pupils (60)	42	70%	15	25%
Pupil Premium (15)	7	47%	2	13%
Non-Pupil Premium (45)	36	80%	13	29%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (60)	40	67%	10	17%
Pupil Premium (15)	7	47%	1	7%
Non-Pupil Premium (45)	33	73%	9	20%

End of Key Stage 2

	No. of pupils expected to meet age-related expectations	% of pupils expected to meet age-related expectations	No. of pupils expected to exceed age related expectations	% of pupils expected to exceed age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (60)	48	80%	19	32%
Pupil Premium (26)	20	77%	3	12%
Non-Pupil Premium (34)	28	82%	16	47%
Writing				
All pupils (60)	54	90%	18	30%
Pupil Premium (26)	22	85%	4	15%
Non-Pupil Premium (34)	32	94%	14	41%
Math's				
All pupils (60)	51	85%	14	23%
Pupil Premium (26)	20	77%	3	12%
Non-Pupil Premium (34)	31	91%	11	32%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Math's)				
All pupils (60)	46	77%	11	18%
Pupil Premium (26)	17	65%	2	8%
Non-Pupil Premium (34)	29	85%	9	26%

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Attendance

Whole School Attendance 2022/ 2023: 93.8%

Whole School Attendance: FSM / Pupil Premium Attendance 2022/2023: 91.7%

Phoenix Primary School & Nursery

Analysis & Main objectives

The Phoenix Primary School & Nursery is an oversubscribed primary school with 270 first choice places for Reception (2023). We expected our nursery last year to accommodate 150 pupils and we still have demand to expand further. The school has split the Nursery into two distinct age group classes (rising 3s and rising 4s) to ensure the older pupils are Reception class ready.

Since joining Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust, the school has seen radical improvements across all key stages and most notable in our KS2 results in 2018, 2019, 2021 (Teacher Assessment) and maintained in 2022 and now 2023. The school has worked closely with Mrs S Jackson (CEO) and has implemented all the suggested improvements to systems and teaching resulting in significant improvements in terms of pupil's outcomes.

The school is now an oversubscribed three-form entry primary school in all years. We have an extensive waiting list for Reception.

The school has worked tirelessly to improve its reputation, which was poor in the past. Phoenix is now held in high esteem by all, with governors extremely proud of the achievements to date.

The success of the school's progress on its school improvement journey is due to the talented and dedicated staff and the swift action of the leadership team. The recent Ofsted stated 'Since becoming an academy in 2016, inspirational leadership from the headteacher and her deputy headteacher has transformed the quality of education provided for pupils'

'Teaching is outstanding. Staff go the extra mile to ensure that pupils overcome any barriers to their learning and make exceptional progresses. The distributed leadership and 'team purpose' is also a significant factor in the success of the school. The aspirational strategic and robust operational leadership and management of the school continues to drive up pupils' standards of attainment (as evidenced in books) and accelerate their progress (evidenced in tracking data and pupil outcomes).

The learning environment and building updates have inspired the children and promoted a 'can do' culture which has supported the schools drive to raise standards of attainment and rates of pupil progress.

Phoenix Primary School & Nursery Data - July 2023

Early Years Foundation Stage

EYFS (90)	60% GLD
Pupil Premium (23)	43.5% GLD
Non-Pupil Premium (67)	65.7% GLD

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Yr 2 Phonics re-sits	% achieving National expectations
All Pupils (90)	84%	Year 2 (21)	71% (15/21 children)
Pupil Premium (22)	64%	Pupil Premium (8)	50% (4/8 children)
Non-Pupil Premium (68)	91%	Non-Pupil Premium (13)	85% (11/13 children)

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Key Stage 1

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meet age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (90)	72 out of 90 children	80%	19 out of 90 children	21%
Pupil Premium (27)	19 out of 27 children	70%	4 out of 27 children	15%
Non-Pupil Premium (63)	53 out of 63 children	84%	15 out of 63 children	24%
Writing				
All pupils (90)	69 out of 90 children	77%	10 out of 90 children	11%
Pupil Premium (27)	17 out of 27 children	63%	1 out of 27 children	4%
Non-Pupil Premium (63)	52 out of 63 children	83%	9 out of 63 children	14%
Math's				
All pupils (90)	69 out of 90 children	77%	15 out of 90 children	17%
Pupil Premium (27)	17 out of 27 children	63%	2 out of 27 children	7%
Non -Pupil Premium (63)	52 out of 63 children	83%	13 out of 63 children	21%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Math's)				
All pupils (90)	66 out of 90 children	73%	8 out of 90 children	9%
Pupil Premium (27)	16 out of 27 children	59%	1 out of 27 children	4%
Non-Pupil Premium (63)	50 out of 63 children	80%	7 out of 63 children	11%

Key Stage 2

	No. of pupils meeting age-related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (84)	69	82%	22	26%
Pupil Premium (45)	33	73%	9	20%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	36	92%	13	33%
Writing				
All pupils (84)	74	88%	28	33%
Pupil Premium (45)	37	82%	9	20%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	37	95%	19	49%
Math's				
All pupils (84)	77	92%	22	26%
Pupil Premium (45)	38	84%	7	16%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	39	100%	15	38%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Math's)				
All pupils (84)	67	80%	12	14%
Pupil Premium (45)	32	71%	2	4%
Non -Pupil Premium (39)	35	90%	10	26%
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar				
All pupils (84)	70	83%	33	39%
Pupil Premium (45)	35	78%	10	22%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	35	90%	23	59%

Attendance

Whole School Attendance 2022/23 was 94.8%
FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance 2022/23 was 92.4%

We have a relentless drive to improve attendance with the quote of, 'the spotlight has never shone as brightly, as it currently does, on attendance in schools.'

Ryedene Primary & Nursery School

Ryedene Primary and Nursery School was graded as 'good' by Ofsted in June 2019 in all Ofsted categories. Continued improvements in the quality of teaching have been supported by the Head and the school's Senior Leadership Team. School leaders continue to scrutinise and act upon outcomes for disadvantaged pupils. Robust and timely interventions are planned for in the school timetable for those children who need support. Other teaching tools are used such as 'split starts' and 'pre teaching' to help children keep up with their peers across the curriculum. High expectations are demonstrated for all children so they are fully prepared for life after primary school. The school is growing and we have many ambitions for the future: to be rated 'outstanding', to improve the school environment and to recruit and retain high quality teaching and support staff.

Governors continue to regularly monitor the work of the school, as outlined in the School Improvement Plan. During 2022/23 governor monitoring has focussed on ensuring a broad and balanced curriculum as well as ensuring high expectations for all pupils regardless of their level of need.

Analysis & Main objectives

Strengths of the school, highlighted in our previous Ofsted and previous MAT Reviews include;

- The school has established a strong culture of learning and pupils display positive learning behaviours
- Teachers and pupils value learning and work hard together so that pupils make good progress
- Relationships between staff and pupils is a strength
- Leaders' professional development for teachers is effective and has contributed towards the many improvements to teaching, learning and assessment over recent years
- Teachers are fully committed to their professional development and use what they learn to improve their pupils' learning
- Pupils make good progress as they move through the school
- Pupils show confidence in their learning. They demonstrate determination to succeed and they learn well together
- The quality of provision in the early years is good. Children enjoy and value their learning and make a good start to their education
- Leaders' and teachers' support for pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) is effective. These pupils make good progress from their starting points
- Good coverage of the curriculum
- The commendable commitment and drive of the new Head of school, supported by his dedicated team, is the golden thread that runs throughout the school. There is a palpable sense of urgency to further improve provision and outcomes.
- The children are keen to please and their manners were impeccable (children were enthusiastically opening doors and supporting with finding with books etc.
- Ryedene's children love attention and are really keen to show their work and what they can do
- Ryedene's provision for Special Educational Needs is effective because SEND policy and practice is the golden thread that runs through the school and is testament to the hard work and commitment of support staff and teachers.
- Early identification and assessment and a graduated approach ensures that staff are well-informed and able to plan and deliver the appropriate next steps in teaching and learning.
- Flexible groupings appropriate scaffolding and lots of encouragement and praise to motivate and reward learners for their effort and achievement.
- Children with special educational needs make sound progress in their social and emotional skills, enabling them to regulate their emotions and access the curriculum, making good educational progress from their relatively low starting points.

Ryedene Primary and Nursery School

Pupil Outcomes 2023 Early Years Foundation Stage	% achieving GLD	% achieving EXP Reading	% achieving EXP Writing	% achieving EXP Number	% achieving EXP Comm & Lang	% achieving EXP Phys Dev	% achieving EXP PSED
All Pupils (49)	74%	74%	74%	78%	86%	90%	90%

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Pupil Premium (21)	62%	62%	62%	71%	86%	86%	86%
Non-Pupil Premium (28)	82%	82%	82%	82%	86%	93%	93%
Boys (26)	62%	62%	62%	66%	77%	85%	85%
Girls (23)	87%	87%	87%	91%	96%	96%	96%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Year 2 Phonics following resits	% achieving national expectations
All Pupils (60)	62%	All Pupils (60)	77%
Pupil Premium (16)	52%	Pupil Premium (24)	58%
Non-Pupil Premium ()	72%	Non-Pupil Premium (36)	89%

End of Key Stage 1

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (60)	38	63%	12	20%
Pupil Premium (24)	10	42%	2	8%
Non-Pupil Premium (36)	28	78%	10	28%
Writing				
All pupils (60)	37	62%	10	17%
Pupil Premium (24)	9	38%	2	8%
Non-Pupil Premium (36)	28	78%	8	22%
Maths				
All pupils (60)	42	70%	16	27%
Pupil Premium (24)	14	58%	2	8%
Non-Pupil Premium (36)	28	78%	14	39%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (60)	35	58%	7	12%
Pupil Premium (24)	8	33%	2	8%
Non-Pupil Premium (36)	27	75%	5	14%

End of Key Stage 2

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	% pupils achieving 'at least expected' Essex	% pupils achieving 'at least expected' England	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations (Test Scaled Score \geq 110)	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations (Test Scaled Score \geq 110)
Reading						
All pupils (34)	29	85%		73%	9	26%
Pupil Premium (15)	12	80%			2	13%
Non-Pupil Premium (19)	17	89%			7	37%
Writing (Teacher Assessment)						
All pupils (34)	28	82%		71%	10	29%
Pupil Premium (15)	10	67%			4	27%
Non-Pupil Premium (19)	18	95%			6	32%
Maths						
All pupils (34)	31	91%		73%	10	29%
Pupil Premium (15)	14	93%			4	27%
Non-Pupil Premium (19)	17	89%			6	32%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)						
All Pupils (34)	27	79%		59%	3	9%
Pupil Premium (15)	10	67%			0	0%
Non-Pupil Premium (19)	17	89%			3	16%
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling						
All Pupils (34)	28	82%		72%	14	41%
Pupil Premium (15)	12	80%			2	13%

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Non-Pupil Premium (19)	16	84%			12	63%
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Attendance

Attendance 2022/23 = 92.12%

FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance = 90.1%

Northlands Primary School and Nursery

Analysis & Main objectives

Northlands Primary School & Nursery is a 3-form entry school located in Pitsea Basildon. There are 705 children on roll including nursery with 40% of the children meeting the PPG criteria. The school has continued to make rapid progress towards its school improvement plan which resulted in some pleasing end of KS2 and KS1 data. The staff have worked tirelessly this year to ensure that every child receives a high-quality education across the curriculum.

**Northlands Primary School and Nursery
2022-2023 Pupil Outcomes**

Early Years Foundation Stage	% achieving GLD	% achieving EXP Reading	% achieving EXP Writing	% achieving EXP Number	% achieving EXP Num Pat	% achieving EXP Self reg	% achieving EXP Man Self	% achieving EXP Rel
All Pupils (84)	76%	79%	79%	81%	80%	77%	78%	79%
Pupil Premium (36)	61%	64%	62%	70%	70%	62%	64%	62%
Non-Pupil Premium (48)	83%	81%	83%	84%	84%	81%	81%	83%
Boys (43)	74%	75%	75%	79%	78%	74%	75%	75%
Girls (41)	77%	79%	79%	81%	82%	78%	79%	79%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Year 2 Phonics Resits	% achieving national expectations
All Pupils (90)	79%	All Pupils (10/17)	58%
Pupil Premium (36)	69%	Pupil Premium (10)	50%
Non-Pupil Premium (54)	84%	Non-Pupil Premium (7)	71%

End of Key Stage 1

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
Pupils (90)	64	71%	25	27%
Pupil Premium (34)	22	64%	5	14%
Non-Pupil Premium (56)	42	75%	20	35%
Writing				
All pupils (90)	62	68%	20	22%
Pupil Premium (34)	20	58%	5	15%
Non-Pupil Premium (56)	42	75%	15	26%
Maths				
All pupils (90)	69	77%	21	23%
Pupil Premium (34)	25	74%	5	15%

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Non-Pupil Premium (56)	44	79%	16	29%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All Pupils (90)	60	66%	17	19%
Pupil Premium (34)	20	59%	4	12%
Non-Pupil Premium (56)	40	71%	13	23%

End of Key Stage 2

	No. of pupils meeting age related expectations	% of pupils meeting age related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations
Reading				
All pupils (84)	53	63%	21	25%
Pupil Premium (38)	21	55%	8	21%
Non-Pupil Premium (46)	32	70%	13	28%
Writing (Teacher Assessment)				
All pupils (84)	63	75%	7	8%
Pupil Premium (38)	27	71%	3	7%
Non-Pupil Premium (46)	36	78%	4	9%
Maths				
All pupils (84)	64	76%	15	18%
Pupil Premium (38)	28	73%	7	18%
Non-Pupil Premium (46)	36	78%	8	18%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All Pupils (84)	44	52%	7	8%
Pupil Premium (38)	18	47%	3	8%
Non-Pupil Premium (46)	26	56%	4	8%

Analysis & Main objectives

The following measures have been put in place in order to help us achieve further school improvements next year:

- To improve reading fluency and independence.
- To embed mental maths strategies to improve mathematical fluency.
- To ensure greater accuracy of how curriculum subjects are assessed.
- To improve attendance rates for all pupil groups
- To enable children to demonstrate skills and attitudes linked to British values.
- To provide ongoing CPD which directly improves teaching and learning.
- To adopt and implement an early year's curriculum for 2-year-olds

Attendance

Attendance 2022/2023 = 92.4%

Attendance 2022/2023 = 90.1%

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees considers these effects to be manageable and

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

Promoting the success of the company

The trust as a charity maintains its status within the community by promoting its academies and its achievements i.e. OFSTED ratings to ensure that the high standards in achievements are maintained. The pupils are rewarded when outstanding achievements are made. The Trust builds on its relationships with other Businesses including local ones and has tried to centralise contracts where possible to ensure it has some continuity for all its academies, which will continue.

Financial Review

The Trust has made it a priority to ensure high standards are maintained in the children's attainments and the environment they are taught in but at the same time as ensuring this is within the budget and any proposals for additional expenditure is rigorously evaluated especially in view of the current climate of uncertainty about future funding.

During this period most of the Trust's income is from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of various grants. Some additional grants (Early Years, SEN and growth funding for schools expanding) have been received from the Local Authority. The grants and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA). The Trust received School Condition Allocation (SCA) in replacement of the Capital Improvement Funding which was targeted towards the urgent amalgamation works at the newly formed Greensted Primary School link extension project. Monies were also used to support the urgent safeguarding and sufficiency work at Ryedene Primary with regards to their reception office expansion and pupil toilets and Classrooms. The outstanding Capital Improvement Funding projects continue for heating, roofing, drainage and the nursery with the final allocations to be received in 2023/2024.

The Trust also received grants from the Local Authority for fixed assets (building project at Greensted Primary School). This grant is shown in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. This fund is reduced annually by the depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

The Trust raises and receives funds from the children to pay for a wide variety of activities and these have been applied against the associated costs and these are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) as unrestricted funds.

The Trust in year surplus was £5,475,000 (2022: £10,874,000 this includes a gain on the defined benefit pensions liability of £2,178,000 (2022: £10,947,000)).

The Local Government Pension Scheme, which is provided to support staff, is a restricted fund and the projected deficits are included within the fund, which reduces the reserves shown in the total funds of the Trust.

The Governors have appointed Juniper Educations Services Ltd to complete a programme of internal checks on internal controls and reports have been provided to the chairperson and the head teacher.

Reserves Policy

The Trust aims to carry forward some resources from the (restricted fund) to cover the medium and long-term needs for renewal and replacement of major capital items and unforeseen contingencies. At the year end the trust held general restricted funds of £1,141,000 (2022: £1,089,000) and general unrestricted funds of £1,621,000 (2022: £1,254,000).

The unrestricted fund represents funds received for educational activities, breakfast club, tuck, nursery and teatime club and their related expenses, which are not included within the restricted reserves within SORP.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is included within restricted funds however, it should be noted that the

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academy has to recognise a significant pension fund deficit. This does not impose an immediate liability and if it had surplus funds, then this would still be included within the restricted fund but it would not be an asset which could be realised and subsequently funds expended.

Investment Policy

The trustees of the trust are firmly committed to ensuring that all funds under their control are administered in such a way as to maximise return while minimising risk. Trustees do not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, but rather a requirement for the effective management of the various funds. Surplus funds are therefore invested in short-term bank deposits where appropriate.

Local Governors' management of cash flow should ensure that there are always sufficient funds in the main bank account to cover operational costs. Banks must be selected from the FSA Approved List included in the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).

Local Governors will seek to ensure that any cash not required for operating expenses is placed on deposit at the most favourable rate. If longer-term arrangements were required then alternative investment opportunities would be sought, e.g. Treasury Bonds, long term deposits. However, the providers would be selected from the FCA Approved List included in the Financial Services Compensation Scheme (FSCS).

Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The main financial risk to the academy trust is the cash flows. The governing bodies monitor cash flow to ensure that the academy has sufficient funds available to meet its debts as they fall due. The Governors have assessed the credit risk but as the academy's main income is from the ESFA and Essex County Council they feel that this is not an issue as funds are received when due. The Trust Finance and audit committee receive the individual schools' reports (Cashflow, Trial Balance and Balance sheet) and consolidated reports.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Trustees and Governors have identified the following areas affecting the academy risk and uncertainties at the Academy.

Financial Risk

The academy continues to operate in a period of uncertainty with regard to public funding. The number of pupils in the individual academy drives the funding and the schools proactively organise open events for prospective parents. The school development plans are followed closely to ensure that a continuing maintenance of the sites are maintained and that staffing is sustainable. The trust is proactively reviewing the ongoing staffing structure within the trust to reduce costs in order to eliminate any future deficit forecasts.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The Academy participates in the Local Government Pension Scheme. At 31 August 2023, the surplus on that scheme was £376,000. The surplus on the pension scheme was inherited from Essex County Council. From 1st April 2017, the Pension fund increased the monthly contribution rate paid based on employees' monthly salaries to include the pension deficit. The Trust agreed in June 2022 to move to one Local Government Scheme when the payroll moved from 5 PAYE to 1 PAYE payroll.

Failure in Governance/management

Trustees and governors continue to review and ensure that measures are in place to mitigate this risk.

Reputational Risk

The continuing success of the academy trust depends on maintaining high educational standards in order to attract sufficient numbers of outstanding teacher's pupils to the school. Trustees and governors are focused on monitoring and reviewing the achievement and success of the children.

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Safeguarding and Child Protection risks

Trustees and governors continue to ensure that high standards are maintained in selecting staff. The schools have a child protection policy and provide training and support in order to protect the vulnerable young children in its care.

Significant changes in staff

Trustees and Governors have in place a succession planning policy to develop existing staff as well as continue to review and monitor arrangements for any new staff which may be required.

"We are an equal opportunity organisation and are committed to a working environment that is free from any form of discrimination on the grounds of colour, race, ethnicity, religion, sex, sexual orientation or disability. We will make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or pupils who are or become disabled".

Risk Management

The trustees and governors are responsible for the management of risks to which the academy trust is exposed and have completed a review of risks associated with its activities. The key controls used within the trust are:

- Formal Agendas for all meetings
- Terms of Reference for the committees
- Development Plan which identifies key strategic planning objectives and the resources required to achieve them
- Budget planning, monitoring and reviews strategy group
- Financial authorisation and approval levels
- Written policies reviewed regularly
- Clear Safeguarding and vetting procedures as required by law to protect the pupils
- Continuous review of educational achievements to ensure high standards can be achieved
- Succession Planning
- The individual academy expansion will only be considered if the funding is not lagged

The trustees and governors have reviewed the major risks, focusing on operational, financial, governance, compliance and reputational risk, and are satisfied that steps have been taken to mitigate the risks. The trustees and governors recognise that systems can only provide reasonable assurance that major risks are adequately managed.

The trustees have appointed Juniper Educational Services Ltd to complete the Internal Controls Evaluation and provide assurance to the Trustees and Governors on Financial matters by performing a range of checks on the Academy's Financial Management System (ACCESS). The trust financial system whilst using the ESFA chart of accounts was further centralised on 1st September 2022 to enable reports to be uploaded directly to the ESFA from 2023. The visits are completed twice a year for each school and provide a report to the Chair of the Board, Chair of Governors and the head teacher.

The Internal Controls Evaluation completed a review of the internal controls in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook of all schools and the Trust for finance and no material control issues were identified. The non – financial review of the single central register and personnel files highlighted some control issues and action plans were put in place and all issues have been resolved and the new payroll system was reviewed and no issues were raised.

There is no credit risk as the amounts generally owed to the academy are due from the local authority.

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. No complaints were received during the year in relation to fundraising practices.

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Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

The trust is a large company, as determined by sections 465 and 466 of the Companies Act 2006 and consumes more than 40,000 kWh of energy (in the UK) in a reporting period accordingly it includes within the trustees' report: its UK energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions, as a minimum relating to gas, purchased electricity and transport fuel in the period

- its energy use and emissions
- an emissions intensity ratio
- methodologies used in the calculations
- measures taken to improve energy efficiency in the period.

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 st September 2022 to 31 st August 2023	1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	2,179,112	2,695,936
Energy consumption break down (kWh) (optional) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gas, • electricity, • transport fuel 		
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO ₂ e Gas consumption Owned transport – mini-buses Total scope 1	422,585	503,855
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO ₂ e Purchased electricity		
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO ₂ e Business travel in employee-owned vehicles	760	111
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO ₂ e	422,660	503,996
Intensity ratio Tonnes CO ₂ e per pupil	0.13	0.16
<p>Quantification and Reporting Methodology: -</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2023 UK Government’s Conversion Factors for Company Reporting. <p>Intensity measurement - The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO₂e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.</p> <p>Measures taken to improve energy efficiency – School hours reduced in the evenings to reduce costs and closed during school holidays to staff only maintenance completed.</p> <p>Trust installing solar panels to reduce electric costs.</p>		

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Plans for Future Periods

The trust will continue to talent spot and train outstanding teachers to take on key roles across the multi academy trust.

The objectives for the next year of the academy at Lee Chapel Primary School & Nursery are:

- To maintain the school's 'Outstanding' OFSTED rating in recognition of the school's exceptional curricular and extra-curricular provision.
- To further improve the school's provision and outcomes for all pupils and in particular disadvantaged and 'vulnerable' pupils
- To further develop the richness and depth of the school's curriculum and maintain the academic opportunities for all learners to succeed
- To continue to invest in provisions for the SEND, gifted and talented pupils
- To further improve the library provision for all pupils
- To continue to embed best practice with regards to assessment to learning. (editing, reshaping lessons as a result of assessment, resilience, articulation of targets and learning, Steps to Success, Success Criteria)
- To continue to improve nursery provision and Out of School Hours Learning
- To ensure that standards across all Classes are consistent
- To further increase opportunities for the development of reading and vocabulary

The objectives for the next year of the Academy at Greensted Primary School & Nursery are:

- Ensure sufficient capacity for setting in Maths and English across Years 1 – 6, including smaller "keep up" groups.
- Ensure sufficient capacity for supporting children with SEND across the curriculum (especially those with EHCPs)
- Develop middle leadership model with greater accountability on raising standards across the one, 'whole' school.
- Continue the mindset of all staff – 'one school, one team'.
- Develop an outdoor Reading Area for KS1 and KS2 to promote Reading for Pleasure outside of the classroom
- Ensure Curriculum between Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 is aligned and progression evident.
- Develop and design an AMBITIOUS curriculum designed for all
- Embed technology into the curriculum using AR to enhance learning in the class room
- Embed the new Sounds Write Phonics scheme through continued training of staff and reviewing lessons
- Teachers and staff to identify the lowest 20% and target those children to 'keep up not catch up'

The objectives for the next year of the Academy at The Phoenix Primary School & Nursery are:

- To maintain our recent Ofsted grading of Outstanding and embrace the school's recent Ofsted success
- To, further, improve the school's provision and outcomes for all pupils, particularly the percentage achieving greater depth in all areas.
- To continue to refine the curriculum, particularly in Foundation Subjects so attainment in these subjects is in-line with Reading, Writing, Maths and Science and maintain the academic opportunities for all learners including those who are disadvantaged and those with SEND, to succeed
- To further enhance extra curricula provision so that pupils' experience is as rich and as varied as possible.
- To promote our school within the local area and beyond as a 'Beacon of Success' (Ofsted July 2019)
- To continue to invest in provision for the SEND and the most able pupils
- To continue to develop the ability of staff to manage their own wellbeing and that of the pupils.

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The objectives for the next year of the Academy at Northlands Primary School & Nursery are:

- To further improve the outcomes for pupils and in particular to push the more able so that percentages at age related increase
- To continue to develop the school's reading curriculum
- To continue to have a focus on writing so that standards improve from Early years throughout the school
- To develop the school's approach to personal development
- To adopt a new EYFS curriculum

The objectives for the next year of the Academy at Ryedene Primary and Nursery School are:

- To design the curriculum to enable teachers to plan well sequenced lessons in all foundation subjects so that pupils make strong progress in these subjects.
- To mentor and coach our middle leaders
- The curriculum equips teachers with the skills and strategies to plan sequences of learning in reading that meet the needs of all pupils, particularly those pupils who find reading difficult.
- The curriculum equips teachers with the skills and strategies to plan sequences of learning that meet the needs of the most able in all subjects of the curriculum and in the early years.
- To improve the outcomes for writing in all year groups, especially for boys and disadvantaged pupils
- To continue to develop the teaching of Maths
- To ensure that standards across all Classes are consistent
- To continue to develop RSE Education so that all children understand what constitutes healthy relationships and tolerance towards diverse ways of life.
- To continue to implement the school's behaviour policy alongside positive praise and rewards
- To prepare pupils for the future
- To maintain the very highest pupil performance standards across the school, with pupils continuing to achieve at or above the national standards
- To achieve 'outstanding' in EYFS
- To further enhance extra curricula provision so that pupils' experience is as rich and as varied as possible.
- To continue to invest in provision for the SEND and the most able pupils
- The Senior Leadership Team will continue focusing on ensuring every child is provided with a safe, nurturing environment alongside an aspirational ethos of challenge and high expectations for all.
- We have worked extremely hard to 'market' the school in order to increase the number of pupils on roll. This work will continue to ensure we fill our reception places year-on-year (58/60 places 2023 – 2024 compared to 44/60 in 2022-2023)
- The staff here are passionate, driven people and we want to continue to harness this energy and enthusiasm to drive up the standards for all children, regardless of backgrounds.

Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others

The Academy does not hold any funds as Custodian Trustee.

Auditor

In so far as the governors are aware:

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

Moore Kingston Smith LLP have indicated their willingness to continue in office and a resolution proposing that they be re-appointed as auditors will be put to the Annual General Meeting.

**Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Trustees' Report
For the year ended 31 August 2023**

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 29th November 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C O'Callaghan', written in a cursive style.

Mr C O'Callaghan

Chair

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Governance Report

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Scope of Responsibility

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

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 Head teachers, Head of Schools and the CEO as the 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 Lee Chapel Multi Academy 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 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the governing body was as follows:

Governance	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
C O'Callaghan (Chairperson)	5	6
M Smith	6	6
S Tomlinson	5	6
M Jenkins	4	6
D Kavanagh	3	6
M Betteridge	3	6
S Robson	5	6
R Pollington	5	6
J Hann	5	6
J Bird	1	1
I Randle	4	6
S Jackson (Headteacher Lee Chapel & Accounting Officer)	6	6

Governance Review

The Management accounts and Key performance indicators are uploaded for all members and trustees of the board.

The finance and audit committee are a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Oversee the budgets
- Oversee management accounts
- To review finance staff and look to centralise

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Governance Report

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Governance	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Tomlinson	3	3
D Kavanagh	2	3
M Smith	2	3
S Robson	2	3
L Medlock	1	3
J Hann	2	2
S Jackson (Headteacher / Accounting Officer)	3	3

Review of Value for Money

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

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

The trust promotes fair competition through quotations and tenders, in accordance with its Financial Regulations to ensure that goods and services are secured in an economic, efficient and effective way. Contracts are reviewed to ensure that they are competitive and meet the schools ongoing requirements.

The trust regularly challenges quotes received and negotiates further reductions when appropriate in order to ensure that Best Value for Money is obtained. Staff are encouraged to obtain best value for money by researching alternative suppliers online for comparative products when spending their budgets. The Head teacher / head of school approves all purchase orders and regularly challenge to ensure that we are obtaining best value.

All schools have a procurement framework in place that ensures that formal tender processes are followed or three supplier quotes are obtained according to specified order value limits. The quality of service, contract prices and terms and conditions of the academy's suppliers are regularly reviewed and compared with the open market.

Income Generation

The academy has explored other opportunities to generate additional funds through Grants.

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 at the academy trust for the year ended 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Governance Report

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1st September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 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 considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint Juniper Education Services Ltd as internal auditor to complete the Internal Scrutiny function. Juniper Education Services Ltd provides assurance to the trustees and governors on financial matters by performing a range of checks including non-financial reviews. Juniper auditor complete the checks and provides the reports to the Chair of the Board, local Chair of Governors and head teacher on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the governing body's financial responsibilities.

The Juniper Education Services Ltd auditor 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:

- Testing of the new payroll system
- Testing of the new HR system
- Testing of Single Central Register and personnel files

The internal auditor completed a review of the payroll and HR system of the Academy in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook and did not identify any material control issues as a result of the review.

The non-financial audit was on the single central record which consisted of various checks and some areas were identified and have been rectified with a further review due in the new year.

Juniper auditor complete the checks and provides the reports to the Chair of the Board, local Chair of Governors and head teacher and chief Financial Officer on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the governing body's financial responsibilities

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 Juniper Educational Services Ltd auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;

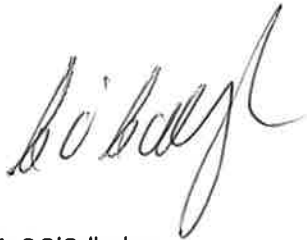
**Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Governance Report
For the year ended 31 August 2023**

- the work of the academy trust and Juniper Educational Services Ltd 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 local governing body and plans to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system are in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 29th November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed



Mr C O'Callaghan

Chairperson

Signed



Mrs S Jackson

Accounting officer

**Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
For the year ended 31 August 2023**

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and noncompliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, including for estates safety and management, 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2022.

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 the statement, these will be notified to the board of trustees and ESFA.

Signed on 29th November 2023.

Signed

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'S Jackson', written in a cursive style.

Mrs S Jackson

Accounting officer

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

For the year ended 31 August 2023

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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 & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- 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 to the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the 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 29th November 2023 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed



Mr C O'Callaghan

Chairperson

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust ('the academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

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 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information. 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.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust (continued)

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matter 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 strategic report and the trustees' annual report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements, and
- the strategic report and the trustees' annual report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 or 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 set out on page 28, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company 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.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust (continued)

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK) we exercise professional judgement 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 purposes of expressing an opinion on 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 charitable company's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's 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 auditor's report.
- 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.
- 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 School's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's 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 auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the School 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 and significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

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.

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the Trust.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of
Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
(continued)

Our approach was as follows:

- We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the Trust and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, the Charities Act 2011, the Charities SORP 2021, the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, the Academies Financial Handbook 2021 and UK financial reporting standards as issued by the Financial Reporting Council.
- We obtained an understanding of how the School complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.
- We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above. We are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations that are not closely related to events and transactions reflected in the financial statements. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery or intentional misrepresentations, or through collusion.

Use of this 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 any party other than the charitable company and charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Date: 6 December 2023

James Cross (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 October 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education Funding and Skills Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust an ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 November 2011 and the Academies Financial 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 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and the evidence
- Undertaking a risk assessment based on our understanding of the general control environment and any
- Review of minutes of the Board, various committees and sub-committees, management accounts,
- Evaluation and walk through of the implementation of the internal control procedures, and detailed
- Walk through and sample testing of staff expense claims and credit card expenditure, to ensure these
- Sample test transactions for compliance with procurement policies, and that these comply with
- Obtain and review key staff and governors' register of interests;
- Sample test transactions for compliance with procurement policies, and that these comply with

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Moore Kingston Smith LLP

Date: *6 December 2023*

James Cross (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Statutory Auditor

9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023

(including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	137	97	3,003	3,237	1,349
Charitable activities:						
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	3	159	17,984	-	18,143	16,831
Other trading activities	4	523	17	-	540	329
Total		819	18,098	3,003	21,920	18,509
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
Academy trust educational operations	5, 6	454	17,174	995	18,623	18,582
Total		454	17,174	995	18,623	18,582
Net income/(expenditure)		365	924	2,008	3,297	(73)
Transfers between funds	14	2	(1,033)	1,031	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	14, 21	-	2,178	-	2,178	10,947
Net movement in funds		367	2,069	3,039	5,475	10,874
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		1,254	(928)	35,952	36,278	25,404
Total funds carried forward		1,621	1,141	38,991	41,753	36,278

All of the academy's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

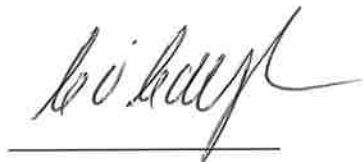
A Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as all gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The detailed comparative information for the Statement of Financial Activities is included in note 23.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £000	2023 £000	2022 £000	2022 £000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		38,991		35,952
Current assets					
Debtors	12	483		797	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>3,957</u>		<u>2,721</u>	
		4,440		3,518	
Liabilities					
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(1,678)</u>		<u>(1,175)</u>	
Net current assets/(liabilities)			<u>2,762</u>		<u>2,343</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability					
			41,753		38,295
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	21		-		(2,017)
Total net assets			<u>41,753</u>		<u>36,278</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	14	38,991		35,952	
General fund	14	1,141		1,089	
Pension reserve	14	<u>-</u>		<u>(2,017)</u>	
Total restricted funds			40,132		35,024
Unrestricted income funds	14		1,621		1,254
Total funds			<u>41,753</u>		<u>36,278</u>

The financial statements on pages 38 to 58 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 29 November 2023 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr Craig O'Callaghan

Chair of the Board of Governors

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Statement of Cash Flow for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £000	2022 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	18	2,267	1,146
Cash flows from investing activities	19	(1,031)	(1,911)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>1,236</u>	<u>(765)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2022		2,721	3,486
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2023	20	<u>3,957</u>	<u>2,721</u>



1 Statement of Accounting Policies

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

Company information

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust is a private company limited by guarantee, domiciled and incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office and principal place of business is The Knares, Basildon, Essex, SS16 5RU.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: 'Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest thousand pound.

Going Concern

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

Income

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

• 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 period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

• Donations

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

• Other Income

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

• Donated goods, facilities and services

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

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

• **Donated fixed assets**

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

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 a 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 the support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

• **Expenditure on Raising Funds**

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

• **Charitable Activities**

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

Tangible Fixed Assets

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

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

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

Long leasehold land	125 years, on a straight line basis
Long leasehold buildings	2% straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	15% straight line
Computer hardware	20% - 33.33% straight line
Motor vehicles	15% straight line

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in the 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 and services it must provide.

Leased Assets

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

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Financial Instruments

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

Cash and cash equivalents include cash in hand, deposits held at call with banks, and other short-term liquid investments with original maturities of three months or less.

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Financial instruments are recognised in the company's balance sheet when the company becomes party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

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

Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

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

Employee benefits

The cost of any unused holiday entitlement is recognised in the period in which the employee's services are received.

Termination benefits are recognised immediately as an expense when the company is demonstrably committed to terminate the employment of an employee or to provide termination benefits.

Pensions Benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

Fund Accounting

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

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

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

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)**Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2023 £000
Capital Grants	-	-	3,003	3,003
Other donations	137	97	-	234
2023/22 Total	137	97	3,003	3,237
2022/21 Total	126	206	1,017	1,349

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's Educational Operations

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
DfE / ESFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	12,813	12,813	12,260
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
UIFSM	-	391	391	357
Pupil Premium	-	1,333	1,333	1,243
Teachers pay grant	-	10	10	17
Teachers pension grant	-	29	29	48
Others	-	1,083	1,083	675
	-	15,659	15,659	14,600
Other Government grants				
Local authority grants	-	2,065	2,065	1,817
	-	2,065	2,065	1,817
Other Income from the academy trust's educational operations	159	260	419	414
	159	260	419	414
2023/22 Total	159	17,984	18,143	16,831
2022/21 Total	191	16,640		16,831

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Hire of facilities	-	13	13	12
Other generated income	523	4	527	317
2023/22 Total	523	17	540	329
2022/21 Total	314	15		329

5 Expenditure

	Staff Costs £000	Non Pay Premises £000	Expenditure Other £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	12,728	1,315	393	14,436	13,268
Allocated support costs	2,398	602	1,187	4,187	5,314
2023/22 Total	15,126	1,917	1,580	18,623	18,582
2022/21 Total	15,236	1,773	1,573		18,582

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Depreciation	995	928
Fees payable to auditor for:		
Audit	33	24
Other services	9	12

6 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Direct costs - educational operations	409	13,032	995	14,436	13,268
Support costs - educational operations	45	4,142	-	4,187	5,314
2023/22 Total	454	17,174	995	18,623	18,582
2022/21 Total	321	17,333	928		18,582

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Support staff costs	2,398	2,398	3,670
Technology costs	198	198	261
Premises costs	602	602	552
Other support costs	793	793	646
Legal Costs	148	148	138
Governance costs	48	48	47
	4,187	4,187	5,314

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

7 Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the period were:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Wages and salaries	11,353	10,203
Social security costs	935	856
Operating costs of defined benefit pension scheme	2,743	4,034
Apprenticeship levy	43	36
	<u>15,074</u>	<u>15,129</u>
Staff training	47	49
Supply staff costs	5	58
	<u>15,126</u>	<u>15,236</u>

b. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the academy during the period was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teachers	128	126
Administration and support	380	356
Management	22	29
	<u>530</u>	<u>511</u>

The full time equivalent number of persons employed by the trust during the period was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teachers	113	116
Administration and support	237	206
Management	22	28
	<u>372</u>	<u>350</u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	2	4
£70,001 - £80,000	2	1
£80,001 - £90,000	-	1
£90,001 - £100,000	2	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) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,631,000 (2022: £1,625,000).

8 Related Party Transactions - Trustees' Remuneration and Expenses

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

S L Jackson (headteacher and trustee):

Remuneration £100,001 - £105,000 (2022 : £90,001 - £95,000)
 Employer's pension contributions £20,001 - £25,000 (2022 : £20,001 - £25,000)

No governors received reimbursements for expenses during the year ended 31 August 2023 (2022: none).

9 Trustees and officers insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Lee Chapel Primary School, Greensted Primary School, Northlands Primary School, The Phoenix Primary School and Ryedene Primary and Nursery School within the multi academy trust have purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 for each school on any one claim. The Trust is covered under the school insurance for the members and trustees and the cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost and is not separately identifiable.

10 Disclosure of central services

The academy trust has provided central services to its academies during the year, including human resources, financial services, legal services and educational support services.

Central services have been charged on a basis of 1% on General Annual Grant income and a fixed cost per school.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Lee Chapel Primary School	67	61
Greensted Primary School	361	60
Northlands Primary School and Nursery	58	24
The Phoenix Primary School and Nursery	61	45
Ryedene Primary School and Nursery	160	48
	707	238

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Land and Buildings £000	Assets Under Construction £000	Furniture and Equipment £000	Computer Equipment £000	Total £000
Cost					
At 1 September 2022	38,752	-	1,643	687	41,082
Additions	3,794	-	179	61	4,034
Disposals	-	-	-	(5)	(5)
At 31 August 2023	42,546	-	1,822	743	45,111
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2022	3,561	-	979	590	5,130
Charged in year	720	-	198	77	995
Disposals	-	-	-	(5)	(5)
At 31 August 2023	4,281	-	1,177	662	6,120
Net book values					
At 31 August 2023	38,265	-	645	81	38,991
At 31 August 2022	35,191	-	664	97	35,952

The trust's transactions relating to land and buildings included:

- 125 year lease with Essex County Council from 11 August 2011 for Lee Chapel Primary School, The Knares, Basildon, Essex, SS16 5RU.
- 122 year lease with Essex County Council from 4 September 2014 for Lee Chapel Primary School, The Knares, Basildon, Essex, SS16 5RU.
- 125 year lease with Essex County Council from 14 September 2012 for Greensted Junior School, Kirby Road, Basildon, Essex, SS14 1RX.
- 125 year lease with Essex County Council from 06 October 2016 for Ryedene Community Primary School, Ryedene, Basildon, SS16 4SY.
- 125 year lease with Essex County Council from 07 November 2016 for Northlands Primary School & Nursery, Winifred Road, Basildon, SS13 3JQ.
- 125 year lease with Essex County Council from 06 March 2017 For Phoenix Primary School, Leinster Road, Basildon, SS15 5NQ.
- 125 year lease with Essex County Council from 01 September 2018 For Greensted Infant School & Nursery, Kirby Road, Basildon, SS14 1RX.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
VAT recoverable	107	40
Prepayments and accrued income	376	757
	<u>483</u>	<u>797</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Other taxation and social security	212	-
Other creditors	281	2
Accruals and deferred income	1,185	1,173
	<u>1,678</u>	<u>1,175</u>

Included within other creditors at the year end are unpaid pension contributions of £279,000 (2022: £nil).

Deferred income

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Deferred income as at 1 September 2022	413	661
Resources deferred in the year	489	413
Amounts released from previous years	(413)	(661)
Deferred income as at 31 August 2023	<u>489</u>	<u>413</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust had received grant income which relates to the following accounting year, therefore this income has been deferred.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Gains, Losses and Transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	214	12,813	(10,412)	(2,481)	134
UIFSM	-	391	(391)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,333	(1,333)	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	10	(10)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	29	(29)	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	1,083	(1,083)	-	-
Other income	875	373	(1,689)	1,448	1,007
Local Authority Grant	-	2,065	(2,065)	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,017)	-	(161)	2,178	-
	<u>(928)</u>	<u>18,098</u>	<u>(17,174)</u>	<u>1,145</u>	<u>1,141</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA and other capital items	18,127	2,997	(758)	1,031	21,397
Leased gifts	17,825	-	(236)	-	17,589
Local authority capital grant	-	6	(1)	-	5
	<u>35,952</u>	<u>3,003</u>	<u>(995)</u>	<u>1,031</u>	<u>38,991</u>
Total restricted funds	35,024	21,101	(18,169)	2,176	40,132
Total unrestricted funds	1,254	819	(454)	2	1,621
Total funds	36,278	21,920	(18,623)	2,178	41,753

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy Trust. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG the it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

Other government grants consist of other grants received from Government and Local Authority including Early Years Funding and Statemented Educational Needs which are used for resourcing children and supporting teacher training within the Trust.

The transfer of £1,029,000 (2022: £1,864,000) has arisen due to the purchase of fixed assets during the year out of the academies General Annual Grant (GAG) funding.

14 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Gains, Losses and Transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	196	12,260	(9,774)	(2,468)	214
UIFSM	-	357	(357)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,243	(1,243)	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	17	(17)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	48	(48)	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	675	(675)	-	-
Other income	1,528	444	(1,656)	559	875
Local Authority Grant	2	1,817	(1,819)	-	-
Pension reserve	(11,220)	-	(1,744)	10,947	(2,017)
	<u>(9,494)</u>	<u>16,861</u>	<u>(17,333)</u>	<u>9,038</u>	<u>(928)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA and other capital items	15,862	1,017	(661)	1,909	18,127
Leased gifts	18,092	-	(267)	-	17,825
	<u>33,954</u>	<u>1,017</u>	<u>(928)</u>	<u>1,909</u>	<u>35,952</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>24,460</u>	<u>17,878</u>	<u>(18,261)</u>	<u>10,947</u>	<u>35,024</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>944</u>	<u>631</u>	<u>(321)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,254</u>
Total funds	<u>25,404</u>	<u>18,509</u>	<u>(18,582)</u>	<u>10,947</u>	<u>36,278</u>

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

14 Funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Lee Chapel Primary School	959	221
Greensted Primary School	502	573
Northlands Primary School and Nursery	709	799
The Phoenix Primary School and Nursery	378	449
Ryedene Primary School and Nursery	188	298
Central services	26	3
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	<u>2,762</u>	<u>2,343</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	38,991	35,952
Pension reserve	-	(2,017)
Total funds	<u>41,753</u>	<u>36,278</u>

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £000	Other Support Staff Costs £000	Educational Supplies £000	Other Costs (excluding depreciation) £000	2023 Total £000	2022 Total £000
Lee Chapel Primary School	3,957	660	79	570	5,266	4,811
Greensted Primary School	1,785	333	34	306	2,458	3,023
Northlands Primary School and Nursery	2,957	410	84	415	3,866	1,123
The Phoenix Primary School and Nursery	1,737	604	36	1,572	3,949	3,298
Ryedene Primary School and Nursery	1,284	230	34	245	1,793	3,550
Central services	4	-	-	293	297	104
	<u>11,724</u>	<u>2,237</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>3,401</u>	<u>17,629</u>	<u>15,909</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	38,991	38,991
Current assets	1,621	2,819	-	4,440
Current liabilities	-	(1,678)	-	(1,678)
Pension scheme liability	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	1,621	1,141	38,991	41,753

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	35,952	35,952
Current assets	1,254	2,264	-	3,518
Current liabilities	-	(1,175)	-	(1,175)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,017)	-	(2,017)
Total net assets	1,254	(928)	35,952	36,278

16 Capital Commitments

Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements

	2023 £000	2022 £000
	-	-

17 Commitments under operating leases

a) Operating Leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Amounts due within one year	47	52
Amounts due between two and five years	62	60
	109	112

18 Reconciliation of Net Income/(expenditure) to Net Cash Inflow from Operating Activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	3,297	(73)
<i>Adjusted for:</i>		
Depreciation	995	930
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income	(3,003)	(1,017)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	161	1,744
Decrease in debtors	314	(253)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	503	(185)
Net Cash provided by / (used in) Operating Activities	<u>2,267</u>	<u>1,146</u>

19 Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(4,034)	(2,928)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income	3,003	1,017
Net Cash provided by / (used in) investing Activities	<u>(1,031)</u>	<u>(1,911)</u>

20 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Cash in hand and at bank	3,957	2,721
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>3,957</u>	<u>2,721</u>

21 Pension and Similar Obligations

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

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 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.

21 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS affecting contributions during the year was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023. The key elements of the valuation 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 £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million
- the SCAPE (Superannuation Contributions Adjusted for Past Experience) rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is based on OBR's forecast for long-term GDP growth. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI.

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £2,542,000 (2022: £2,996,000).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £1,593,000 (2022: £1,267,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,290,000 (2022: £1,005,000) and employees' contributions totalled £303,000 (2022: £262,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.0% for employers and 5.0% - 6.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of an 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.

21 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Principal Actuarial Assumptions

	2023	2022
Rate of increase in salaries	3.90%	3.95%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90%	2.95%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.30%	4.25%

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

	2023	2022
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.70	21.00
Females	23.20	23.50
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.00	22.30
Females	24.60	24.90

Sensitivity analysis

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	11,952	12,426
Discount rate -0.1%	12,464	13,064
Long term salary increase +0.1%	12,216	12,762
Long term salary increase -0.1%	12,192	12,720
Pension increases and deferred revaluation +0.1%	12,457	13,047
Pension increases and deferred revaluation -0.1%	11,958	12,442
Adjustments to life expectancy assumptions + 1 year	12,539	13,101
Adjustments to life expectancy assumptions - 1 year	11,878	12,391

The academy's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Equity instruments	7,319	6,034
Gilts	161	206
Corporate bonds	-	475
Property	985	1,015
Cash and other liquid assets	368	321
Alternative assets	1,992	1,606
Other	1,755	1,067
Total market value of assets	<u>12,580</u>	<u>10,724</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £49,000 (2022: £142,000 loss on scheme assets).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities:

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Current service cost	(1,402)	(2,587)
Interest income	486	167
Interest cost	544	(344)
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>(378)</u>	<u>(2,768)</u>

21 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

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

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
At 1 September	12,741	20,763
Current service cost	1,402	2,587
Interest cost	(544)	344
Employee contributions	305	247
Actuarial loss	(2,621)	(11,093)
Benefits paid	(167)	(107)
At 31 August	11,116	12,741

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

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
At 1 September	10,724	9,543
Interest income	486	167
Actuarial (loss)/gain	(67)	(146)
Employer contributions	1,299	1,020
Employee contributions	305	247
Benefits paid	(167)	(107)
At 31 August	12,580	10,724

22 Related Party Transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

23 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2022 £000
Income and endowments from:				
Donations and capital grants	126	206	1,017	1,349
Charitable activities:				
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	191	16,793	-	16,984
Teaching schools	-	(153)	-	(153)
Other trading activities	314	15	-	329
Total	<u>631</u>	<u>16,861</u>	<u>1,017</u>	<u>18,509</u>
Expenditure on:				
Charitable activities:				
Academy trust educational operations	321	17,334	928	18,583
Total	<u>321</u>	<u>17,334</u>	<u>928</u>	<u>18,583</u>
Net income / (expenditure)	310	(473)	89	(74)
Transfers between funds	-	(1,909)	1,909	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):				
Actuarial (losses) / gains on defined benefit pension schemes	-	10,947	-	10,947
Net movement in funds	<u>310</u>	<u>8,565</u>	<u>1,998</u>	<u>10,873</u>
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	944	(9,494)	33,954	25,404
Total funds carried forward	<u>1,254</u>	<u>(929)</u>	<u>35,952</u>	<u>36,277</u>