

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

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Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	C O'Callaghan S Tomlinson M Smith R Pollington
Trustees	D Kavanagh S Robson M Betteridge I Randle J Hann J Bird
Company Secretary	V Carter
Senior Management Team:	
Head Teacher: Lee Chapel Primary School	S L Jackson
Head Teacher: Phoenix Primary School	K Geary (resigned 31/12/2023)
Head of School: Phoenix Primary School	M Kirkham (appointed 15/4/2024)
Head of School: Greensted Primary School	S Chetty
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 Devonshire House 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 2024

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 2024. 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 increased to 6 with effect from September 2024. Its 5 academies have a combined pupil capacity of 3325 (includes nursery pupils full and part time) and had a roll of 3371 in the school census in October 2023. Chapel Hill will have 420 school places.

	Capacity includes Nursery	Roll
Lee Chapel Primary School	992	1089
Greensted Primary School	472	489
Northlands Primary School	690	708
Ryedene Primary School	391	393
The Phoenix Primary School	780	692
Total	3,325	3371

Chapel Hill Primary School & Nursery a new build free school opened to pupils on 2nd September 2024. The initial proposal was for 1 reception class and to increase annually. However, due to the local demand in the area the school has opened with 3 classes: A Reception Class, a Mixed Years 1 & 2 and a Mixed Years 3 & 4 Class.

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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The Trust advertises local governing body and trust vacancies through Essex County Council. 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 of School, one staff governor (who is an employee of the Multi Academy Trust) two parent governors and three 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) one parent governors and four 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

The Trust subscribes to the National Governance Association who run online Governor training including Induction courses for new Governors.

The 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 session for 2023/24 were on the revised OFSTED inspection framework and pupil performance data.

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 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

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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 / head of school. 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. Chapel Hill Primary School and Nursery was built in 2024 and joined on 30th August 2024.

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.

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.

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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 5 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 exceptional curriculum for all learners, including those with SEND.
- To implement a curriculum that has depth and richness which enthuses learners and enables them to acquire skills and knowledge that they are able to systematically build on and apply across other subjects.
- To implement an ambitious and robust 'Keep-up' and 'Catch-up' programmes 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.
- To empower Leaders and governors to focus on consistently improving provision and outcomes for disadvantaged pupils so that their life chances match that of their advantaged peers.
- To ensure that teaching over time across all Year Groups is 'Outstanding' and never less than '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 improve provision and outcomes for Nursery pupils
- To further extend ITT provision, year on year increasing the numbers of trainee teachers working across the school in any year.
- To embed reading progression matrices in order to ensure that pupil's progress in reading and their acquisition of a rich vocabulary accelerates.
- To increase the levels of pastoral support available to vulnerable families through provision of trained counsellors and therapists.

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Trustees Report

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- To continue with the school's mission to ensure that all pupils achieve their potential; providing a wide range of extra-curricular activities, developing and retaining suitably qualified and experienced staff and successfully preparing pupils for their transfer to the Secondary phase of their education.
- To continue to implement the school's robust development plan to secure continuous improvements in all aspects of School life.
- To continue to maintain the school's 'Outstanding' Ofsted judgement (November 2023).
- To ensure that the academic performance across the school continues to operate at a very high level and compares favourably against local and national data and shows an improving trend over time.

Greensted Primary School

- 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 improve pupil attendance & meet target of 96%.
- To continue to promote the well-being of staff and pupils.
- 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.
- 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

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.
- To improve the personal development, offer across the school
- To refine the structure of teachers to ensure each 4th set is teacher led

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.

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- 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 improve children's reading fluency.
- To further develop the assessment of the school's curriculum subjects.
- To embed mathematical vocabulary and questioning into the lessons.
- To embed mental maths strategies to improve mathematical fluency.
- To provide greater opportunities for children to develop reading independence.
- To improve attendance rates for all pupil groups.
- To enable children to demonstrate skills and attitudes linked to British values.
- To provide CPD which positively impacts teaching and learning.
- To develop, embed and monitor a nursery curriculum for rising 3's.

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 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 424 applications for the September 2024 Reception intake for 120 places of which 221 were 1st choice. The school has eight open mornings with a total of 16 sessions, which it holds in the autumn term for prospective new parents.

Lee Chapel Primary School Pupil Outcomes 2024

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 reg	% achieving EXP+EXC Man Self	% achieving EXP+EXC Rel
All Pupils (121)	80%	84%	83%	83%	82%	93%	93%	96%
Pupil Premium (15)	73%	80%	80%	73%	73%	100%	100%	100%
Non-Pupil Premium (106)	81%	85%	83%	84%	83%	92%	92%	96%
Boys (56)	74%	79%	77%	79%	77%	89%	89%	93%
Girls (65)	86%	89%	88%	86%	86%	97%	97%	98%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Yr 2 Phonics re-sits	% achieving National expectations
All Pupils (106/123)	86%	Year 2 (16)	50% (8 children)

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Pupil Premium (12/17)	71%	Pupil Premium (6)	50% (3 children)
Non-Pupil Premium (94/106)	89%	Non-Pupil Premium (10)	50% (5 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 (122)	93	76%	38	31%
Pupil Premium (22)	12	55%	5	23%
Non-Pupil Premium (100)	81	81%	33	33%
Writing				
All pupils (122)	88	72%	33	27%
Pupil Premium (22)	10	45%	3	14%
Non-Pupil Premium (100)	78	78%	30	30%
Mathematics				
All pupils (122)	102	84%	40	33%
Pupil Premium (22)	18	82%	3	14%
Non-Pupil Premium (100)	84	84%	37	37%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (122)	88	72%	27	22%
Pupil Premium (22)	10	45%	2	9%
Non-Pupil Premium (100)	78	78%	25	25%

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 (130)	117	90%	69	53%
Pupil Premium (33)	26	79%	8	24%
Non-Pupil Premium (97)	91	94%	61	63%
Writing (Teacher Assessment)				
All pupils (130)	120	92%	64	49%
Pupil Premium (33)	28	85%	5	15%
Non-Pupil Premium (97)	92	95%	59	61%
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling				
All pupils (130)	117	90%	73	56%
Pupil Premium (33)	26	79%	9	27%
Non-Pupil Premium (97)	91	94%	64	66%
Mathematics				
All pupils (130)	119	92%	61	47%
Pupil Premium (33)	27	82%	4	12%
Non-Pupil Premium (97)	92	95%	57	59%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (130)	114	88%	48	37%
Pupil Premium (33)	24	73%	2	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (97)	90	93%	46	47%

Attendance

Whole School Attendance 2023/24 was 96%.
FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance 2023/24 was 93.63%.



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 429 children on roll in our primary school and a further additional 72 children on roll in our newly built 2-form nursery.

Greensted Primary School & Nursery Key Stage 1 and Early Year Data 2024

Early Years Foundation Stage	% achieving GLD	% achieving EXP Word Reading	% achieving EXP Writing	% achieving EXP Number	% achieving EXP Numerical Patterns	% achieving EXP Self- Regulation	% achieving EXP Managing Self	% achieving EXP Building Relationships
All Pupils (60)	74%	80%	84%	77%	85%	82%	90%	92%
Pupil Premium (17)	77%	77%	77%	77%	77%	88%	94%	94%
Non-Pupil Premium (43)	72%	81%	86%	77%	88%	79%	86%	91%
Boys (28)	61%	64%	75%	61%	75%	75%	79%	82%
Girls (32)	88%	94%	91%	91%	94%	91%	100%	100%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Yr 2 Phonics re-sits	Year 2 % achieving National expectations
All Pupils (61)	80% (49/61)	Year 2 (7/9)	78% (7 children)
Pupil Premium (18)	61% (11/61)	Pupil Premium (6/6)	100% (6 children)
Non-Pupil Premium (43)	88% (38/61)	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 (59)	41	69%	16	27%
Pupil Premium (17)	7	41%	1	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (42)	34	81%	15	36%
Writing				
All pupils (59)	38	64%	16	27%
Pupil Premium (17)	7	41%	1	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (42)	31	74%	15	36%
Maths				
All pupils (59)	45	76%	14	24%
Pupil Premium (17)	11	65%	2	12%
Non-Pupil Premium (42)	48	81%	12	29%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (59)	41	69%	14	24%
Pupil Premium (17)	8	47%	3	18%
Non-Pupil Premium (42)	33	78%	11	26%

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End of Key Stage 2

	No. of pupils achieved age-related expectations	% of pupils achieved age-related expectations	No. of pupils exceeding age related expectations (GD)	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations (GD)
Reading				
All pupils (60)	41	69%	13	22%
Pupil Premium (17)	11	65%	3	18%
Non-Pupil Premium (43)	30	71%	10	24%
Writing				
All pupils (60)	51	86%	14	24%
Pupil Premium (17)	13	76%	3	18%
Non-Pupil Premium (43)	38	90%	11	26%
Maths				
All pupils (60)	45	76%	8	14%
Pupil Premium (17)	10	59%	1	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (43)	35	83%	7	17%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (60)	35	59%	4	7%
Pupil Premium (17)	6	35%	1	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (43)	29	69%	3	7%

Attendance

Whole School Attendance 2023/ 2024: 94.48%

Whole School Attendance: FSM / Pupil Premium Attendance 2023/2024: 92.08%

Phoenix Primary School & Nursery

The Phoenix Primary School & Nursery is a popular, three-form entry primary school with a 75 place nursery. We currently have 689 children on role (616 in the primary and 73 within nursery). 27% of the children on role are in receipt of PPG and for 16% of children English is not considered to be their first language. The school is noted to have a high number of children with EHCPs.

The Head of School was new to post in April 2024. The school had a Section 8 OFSTED inspection in April 2024. This positive report recognised the strong direction and understanding leaders had, the strength of early reading and positive changes made to improve personal development. Leaders and Governors are united in their understanding of what the school needs to do to improve further.

Staffing is in place for academic year 24/25 to ensure that all year groups have an additional set led by a teacher to ensure high standards are met for all learners. An Assistant Headteacher has taken on the role of Senior Attendance Lead and is implementing the maximising attendance document. Additional opportunities for children to represent the school, take part in clubs and hold roles and responsibilities are already in place.

The school is blessed with large site. We are currently undergoing improvements to the site with building works underway for a much-needed staff room and ICT suite. Development of play equipment for the children is also planned.

Phoenix Primary School & Nursery Data - July 2024

Early Years Foundation Stage

EYFS (90)	61% GLD
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Pupil Premium (19)	32% GLD
Non-Pupil Premium (70)	69% GLD

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Year 2 Phonics Re-sits	% achieving national expectations
All Pupils (89)	71% (63 out of 89 children)	Year 2 (15)	73% (11 out of 15 children)
Pupil Premium (23)	43% (10 out of 23 children)	Pupil Premium (9)	78% (7 out of 9 children)
Non-Pupil Premium (66)	80% (53 out of 66 children)	Non-Pupil Premium (6)	67% (4 out of 6 children)

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 (89)	64 out of 90 children	72%	31 out of 90 children	35%
Pupil Premium (22)	10 out of 22 children	45%	1 out of 22 children	5%
Non-Pupil Premium (67)	54 out of 67 children	81%	30 out of 67 children	45%
Writing				
All pupils (89)	out of 90 children	69%	8 out of 90 children	9%
Pupil Premium (22)	out of 22 children	36%	0 out of 22 children	0%
Non-Pupil Premium (67)	out of 67 children	79%	8 out of 67 children	12%
Maths				
All pupils (89)	out of 90 children	70%	out of 90 children	21%
Pupil Premium (22)	out of 22 children	45%	out of 22 children	0%
Non-Pupil Premium (67)	out of 67 children	78%	out of 67 children	28%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (89)	out of 90 children	63%	8 out of 90 children	9%
Pupil Premium (22)	out of 22 children	32%	0 out of 22 children	0%
Non-Pupil Premium (67)	out of 67 children	73%	8 out of 67 children	12%

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 (90)	72	80%	24	27%
Pupil Premium (32)	23	72%	1	3%
Non-Pupil Premium (58)	49	85%	23	40%
Writing				
All pupils (90)	79	88%	36	40%
Pupil Premium (45)	26	81%	5	16%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	53	92%	31	53%
Maths				
All pupils (90)	70	78%	25	28%
Pupil Premium (45)	21	66%	2	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	49	85%	23	40%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (90)	66	73%	9	10%
Pupil Premium (45)	19	59%	0	0%
Non -Pupil Premium (39)	47	81%	9	16%
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar				
All pupils (90)	66	74%	29	32%
Pupil Premium (45)	20	62%	2	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	47	81%	27	47%

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
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Attendance

Whole School Attendance 2023/24 was 94.7%
FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance 2023/24 was 92.2%

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.

Analysis & Main objectives

Governors continue to regularly monitor the work of the school, as outlined in the School Improvement Plan. During 2023/24 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. Governors have also focused on ensuring our SEND offer is suitable for the needs of our children.

Ryedene Primary and Nursery School

Pupil Outcomes 2024 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 (58)	71%	72%	71%	76%	72%	74%	72%
Pupil Premium (19)	47%	47%	47%	47%	47%	47%	47%
Non-Pupil Premium (39)	82%	85%	82%	90%	85%	87%	85%
Boys (21)	62%	67%	62%	76%	62%	71%	62%
Girls (37)	76%	76%	76%	76%	78%	76%	78%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Year 2 Phonics following resits	% achieving national expectations
All Pupils (55)	69%	All Pupils (60)	90%
Pupil Premium (28)	61%	Pupil Premium (35)	89%
Non-Pupil Premium (27)	78%	Non-Pupil Premium (25)	92%

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)	39	65%	12	20%
Pupil Premium (35)	20	57%	3	9%
Non-Pupil Premium (25)	19	76%	9	36%
Writing				
All pupils (60)	36	60%	4	7%
Pupil Premium (35)	18	51%	0	0%
Non-Pupil Premium (25)	18	72%	4	16%
Maths				
All pupils (60)	44	73%	6	10%

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Pupil Premium (35)	24	69%	2	6%
Non-Pupil Premium (25)	20	80%	4	16%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All pupils (60)	36	60%	4	7%
Pupil Premium (35)	18	51%	0	0%
Non-Pupil Premium (25)	18	72%	4	16%

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 ≥ 110)	% of pupils exceeding age related expectations (Test Scaled Score ≥ 110)
Reading						
All pupils (41)	31	76%		74%	10	24%
Pupil Premium (15)	11	73%			3	20%
Non-Pupil Premium (26)	20	77%			7	27%
Writing (Teacher Assessment)						
All pupils (41)	34	83%		72%	10	24%
Pupil Premium (15)	13	87%			4	27%
Non-Pupil Premium (26)	21	81%			6	23%
Maths						
All pupils (41)	34	83%		73%	9	22%
Pupil Premium (15)	13	87%			3	20%
Non-Pupil Premium (26)	21	81%			6	23%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)						
All pupils (41)	27	66%		61%	6	15%
Pupil Premium (15)	9	60%			1	7%
Non-Pupil Premium (26)	18	69%			5	19%
Grammar, Punctuation & Spelling						
All pupils (41)	30	73%		72%	11	27%
Pupil Premium (15)	12	80%			4	27%
Non-Pupil Premium (26)	18	69%			7	27%

Attendance

Attendance 2022/23 = 94.15%

FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance = 91.19%

Northlands Primary School and Nursery

Analysis & Main objectives

Northlands Primary School & Nursery is a 3-form entry school located in Pitsea Basildon. There are 767 children on roll including nursery with 42% of the children meeting the PPG criteria. The school has continued to make rapid progress towards its school improvement plan which resulted in the school achieving its best results in recent years. In July, the school was inspected by Ofsted. The school was rated as Good overall with Outstanding in personal development. The school was highly praised in a number of areas but especially the intensive work the school has carried out to support pupil development. 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
2023-2024 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 (88)	73%	75%	75%	74%	74%	88%	86%	89%
Pupil Premium (26)	46%	46%	46%	46%	46%	81%	81%	85%
Non-Pupil Premium (62)	84%	84%	84%	84%	84%	90%	89%	90%
Boys (45)	69%	71%	71%	70%	70%	84%	83%	85%
Girls (43)	76%	78%	78%	77%	77%	92%	91%	93%

Year 1 Phonics	% achieving national expectations	Year 2 Phonics Resits	% achieving national expectations
All Pupils (90)	77%	All Pupils (8/18)	44%
Pupil Premium (25)	44%	Pupil Premium (13)	54%
Non-Pupil Premium (65)	89%	Non-Pupil Premium (5)	20%

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)	48	53%	9	10%
Pupil Premium (41)	19	41%	2	5%
Non-Pupil Premium (49)	31	63%	7	14%
Writing				
All pupils (90)	47	52%	6	7%
Pupil Premium (41)	16	39%	2	5%
Non-Pupil Premium (49)	31	63%	4	8%
Maths				
All pupils (90)	54	60%	12	13%
Pupil Premium (41)	22	54%	4	10%
Non-Pupil Premium (49)	32	65%	8	16%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All Pupils (90)	48	53%	6	7%
Pupil Premium (41)	16	39%	2	5%
Non-Pupil Premium (49)	32	65%	4	8%

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 (91)	69	76%	21	23%
Pupil Premium (37)	25	67%	6	16%
Non-Pupil Premium (54)	44	82%	15	28%
Writing (Teacher Assessment)				

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All pupils (91)	76	84%	12	13%
Pupil Premium (37)	28	75%	2	5%
Non-Pupil Premium (54)	48	89%	10	19%
Maths				
All pupils (91)	72	79%	16	18%
Pupil Premium (37)	23	62%	4	11%
Non-Pupil Premium (54)	49	91%	12	22%
Combined Results (Reading, Writing and Maths)				
All Pupils (91)	62	68%	7	8%
Pupil Premium (37)	20	54%	1	3%
Non-Pupil Premium (54)	42	78%	11%	11%

Analysis & Main objectives

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

- Staffing to remain a priority in order to accelerate progress.
- Subject leaders to ensure in depth coverage of the full curriculum.
- CPD around developing tasks which promote higher level thinking.
- Targeted greater depth interventions.
- Key knowledge, that children require, will be identified by subject leaders across the curriculum.
- Early Years to share their practice with subject leaders.
- Early Years foundational knowledge will be present on curriculum mapping.
- Full implementation of “Working Together To Improve School Attendance” document including parental contracts.
- Parent workshops, reading cafes, curriculum days will provide parents with the opportunity to share in their child’s learning.
- To continue to implement and adapt an Early Years curriculum for Rising 3’s.

Attendance

Attendance 2023/2024 = 93.2%

FSM/Pupil Premium Attendance 2023/2024 = 90.7%

Going Concern

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

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Trustees Report

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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 in 23/24 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 received in 2023/2024. The Trust School Condition Allocation for 23/24 was targeted towards Phoenix Primary School for the creation of a staff room and computing suite, Ryedene Primary School playground levelling due to health and safety issues and Northlands Primary School electrical wiring works and installation of single panel alarm system.

The Trust also received grants from the Local Authority for fixed assets (building project at Chapel Hill 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 £15,647,000 (2023: £5,475,000 this includes a gain on the defined benefit pensions liability of £nil (2023: £2,178,000).

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 £399,000 (2022: £1,141,000) and general unrestricted funds of £3,283,000 (2022: £1,621,000).

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 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.

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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 2024, the deficit on that scheme was £1,480,000. The deficit 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.

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

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

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For the year ended 31 August 2024

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 a review of the Internal Scrutiny Controls in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook of all schools and the Trust and provide assurance to the Trustees and Governors on IT Security (Cyber) and GDPR by performing a range of checks on the Academy's IT Systems and GDPR Processes. The reports highlighted some actions and action plans have been put in place.

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.

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.

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UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 st September 2023 to 31 st August 2024	1 st September 2022 to 31 st August 2023
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	1,981,970	2,179,112
Energy consumption break down (kWh) (optional) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • gas, • electricity, • transport fuel 		
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e Gas consumption Owned transport – mini-buses Total scope 1	380,970	422,585
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e Purchased electricity		
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e Business travel in employee-owned vehicles	0	0
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	38.10	42.26
Intensity ratio Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.11	0.13
<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 installed solar panels to reduce electric costs.</p>		

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 November 2023 ‘Outstanding’ OFSTED rating in recognition of the school’s exceptional curricular and extra-curricular provision, standards of pupil outcomes and rates of progress.
- 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

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- 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 consistently high
- To further increase opportunities for the development of reading fluency and vocabulary

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

- Celebrate Personal Development at Greensted –launching a learning Quest for children to achieve during their Primary years starting in September 2024
- Invest in new hardware for the school (iPad/tablets, Interactive whiteboards) 16 per year
- Embed technology into the curriculum using AR to enhance learning in the class room
- Embed the new phonics scheme (Essential Letters and Sounds) 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’
- Provide additional booster sessions in Year 6 to raise the attainment in Year 6 in preparation for Year 7
- Attendance: continue to drive up attendance – embed the celebration of attendance during weekly assemblies, embed the 100% party every half-term and continue to proactively contact parents when they fall below 95%
- Develop the SEN provision planning specific sessions to target key learning goals as detailed in their EHCPs

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

- To ensure all children receive consistently excellent teaching that challenges children of all abilities
- To improve attendance rates for all pupils, in particular those that are disadvantaged.
- To reduce rates of persistent absenteeism for disadvantaged pupils (making school irresistible through exciting curriculum, extra-curricular opportunities and development of play equipment)
- To provide high-quality CPD that impacts positively on teaching and learning - including the strengthening of coaching from our leaders.
- To deliver an exciting curriculum where the core learning, progression and assessment is consistent across all foundation subjects
- To ensure the school’s personal development offer enriches the lives of all pupils, promoting community and enjoyment
- To continue to refine SEND provision for those learners with exceptionally high needs
- To promote well-being of staff, and pupils, ensuring Phoenix is a happy environment to learn and work within
- To develop the computing offer for children through the addition of a computing laboratory.
- Development of EYFS curriculum to ensure children are ready for KS1

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

- To increase the number of children achieving the greater depth level in reading, writing and maths.
- Teachers and subject leaders to have greater clarity over the knowledge and skills that are needed across the wider curriculum.
- Subject leaders to have greater awareness of how the Early Years curriculum sequences into their subjects.
- To change from WALT to LO which will provide teachers and children with greater clarity over what has been learnt.
- To utilise the school parliament to raise further funds.

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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
- 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.
- To enhance our already excellent personal development, offer through the introduction of the 'Ryedene 30' personal development 'passport' led by the newly appointed AHT

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.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 27th November 2024 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Signed



Mr C O'Callaghan

Chair

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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)	4	5
M Smith	5	5
S Tomlinson	5	5
D Kavanagh	4	5
M Betteridge	4	5
S Robson	5	5
R Pollington	3	5
J Hann	4	5
J Bird	5	5
I Randle	1	5
S Jackson (Headteacher Lee Chapel & Accounting Officer)	5	5

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

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
 Governance Statement
 For the year ended 31 August 2024

Governance	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Tomlinson	2	4
D Kavanagh	4	4
M Smith	4	4
S Robson	4	4
L Medlock	0	4
J Hann	4	4
S Jackson (Headteacher / Accounting Officer)	4	4

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 scrutiny has been in place at the academy trust for the year ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees;
- regular reviews by the finance 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. 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 in particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Testing of IT Security system
- Testing process for GDPR

The internal auditor completed a review of the IT Systems and GDPR in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook and identified some areas for action plans to be put in place as a result of the review.

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;
- 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 scrutiny by the local governing body and plans to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system are in place.

Conclusion

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

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Governance Statement
For the year ended 31 August 2024

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 27th November 2024 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 2024

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 non-compliance 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 27th November 2024.

Signed



Mrs S Jackson

Accounting officer

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

For the year ended 31 August 2024

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

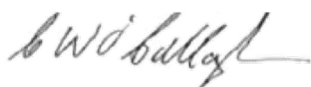
The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements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

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform 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 27th November 2024 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 2024 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 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 27, 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
- 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, the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, the Academies Financial Handbook 2023 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: 4 December 2024

James Saunders (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 2023 to 2024 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 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to 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 2024 for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 . We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 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 review
- 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 delegated
- Obtain and review key staff and governors' register of interests;
- Sample test transactions for compliance with procurement policies, and that these comply with delegated

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 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Date: 4 December 2024

Moore Kingston Smith LLP


Moore Kingston Smith LLP, Reporting Accountant

9 Appold Street
London
EC2A 2AP

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024
(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 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	161	149	14,773	15,083	3,237
Charitable activities:						
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	3	229	20,164	-	20,393	18,143
Other trading activities	4	681	17	-	698	540
Total		1,071	20,330	14,773	36,174	21,920
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
Academy trust educational operations	5, 6	595	18,219	1,215	20,029	18,623
Total		595	18,219	1,215	20,029	18,623
Net income/(expenditure)		476	2,111	13,558	16,145	3,297
Transfers between funds	14	1,186	(2,355)	1,169	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	14, 20	-	(498)	-	(498)	2,178
Net movement in funds		1,662	(742)	14,727	15,647	5,475
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		1,621	1,141	38,991	41,753	36,278
Total funds carried forward		3,283	399	53,718	57,400	41,753

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

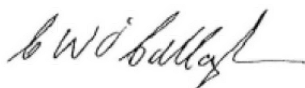
A Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as all gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The detailed comparative information for the Statement of Financial Activities is included in note 22.

Lee Chapel Multi Academy Trust
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Notes	2024 £000	2024 £000	2023 £000	2023 £000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		53,718		38,991
Current assets					
Debtors	12	357		483	
Cash at bank and in hand		4,981		3,957	
		<u>5,338</u>		<u>4,440</u>	
Liabilities					
Creditors : Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(1,656)</u>		<u>(1,678)</u>	
Net current assets/(liabilities)			<u>3,682</u>		<u>2,762</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability					
			57,400		41,753
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20		-		-
Total net assets			<u>57,400</u>		<u>41,753</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	14	53,718		38,991	
General fund	14	399		1,141	
Pension reserve	14	-		-	
Total restricted funds			54,117		40,132
Unrestricted income funds	14		3,283		1,621
Total funds			<u>57,400</u>		<u>41,753</u>

The financial statements on pages 34 to 54 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 November 2024 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 2024

	Notes	2024 £000	2023 £000
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	2,193	2,267
Cash flows from investing activities	18	(1,169)	(1,031)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		1,024	1,236
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2023		3,957	2,721
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2024	19	4,981	3,957

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 2023 to 2024 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% - 20% 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 2023 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2024 £000
Capital Grants	-	-	1,480	1,480
Donated fixed assets	-	-	13,293	13,293
Other donations	161	149	-	310
2024/23 Total	161	149	14,773	15,083
2023/22 Total	137	97	3,003	3,237

The donated fixed assets relates to the gift of the building for the new Primary School, Chapel Hill Primary School and Nursery, which was gifted 30th August 2024 and opened on 1st September 2024.

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's Educational Operations

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
DfE / ESFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	14,016	14,016	12,813
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
UFSM	-	414	414	391
Pupil Premium	-	1,384	1,384	1,333
Teachers pay grant	-	250	250	10
Teachers pension grant	-	127	127	29
Others	-	882	882	1,083
	-	17,073	17,073	15,659
Other Government grants				
Local authority grants	-	2,798	2,798	2,065
	-	2,798	2,798	2,065
Other Income from the academy trust's educational operations	229	293	522	419
	229	293	522	419
2024/23 Total	229	20,164	20,393	18,143
2023/22 Total	159	17,984		18,143

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Hire of facilities	-	14	14	13
Other generated income	681	3	684	527
2024/23 Total	681	17	698	540
2023/22 Total	523	17		540

5 Expenditure

	Staff Costs £000	Non Pay Expenditure		Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
		Premises £000	Other £000		
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	14,245	1,617	478	16,340	14,436
Allocated support costs	1,875	671	1,143	3,689	4,187
2024/23 Total	16,120	2,288	1,621	20,029	18,623
2023/22 Total	15,126	1,917	1,580		18,623

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Depreciation	1,215	995
Fees payable to auditor for:		
Audit	38	33
Other services	3	9

6 Charitable Activities

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Direct costs - educational operations	538	14,587	1,215	16,340	14,436
Support costs - educational operations	57	3,632	-	3,689	4,187
2024/23 Total	595	18,219	1,215	20,029	18,623
2023/22 Total	454	17,174	995		18,623

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations £000	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Support staff costs	1,875	1,875	2,398
Technology costs	213	213	198
Premises costs	671	671	602
Other support costs	771	771	793
Legal Costs	112	112	148
Governance costs	47	47	48
	3,689	3,689	4,187

7 Staff**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the period were:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Wages and salaries	12,455	11,353
Social security costs	1,067	935
Operating costs of defined benefit pension scheme	2,503	2,743
Apprenticeship levy	48	43
	16,073	15,074
Staff training	47	47
Supply staff costs	-	5
	16,120	15,126

b. Staff numbers

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	135	128
Administration and support	383	380
Management	24	22
	542	530

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	122	113
Administration and support	247	237
Management	24	22
	393	372

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	6	2
£70,001 - £80,000	2	2
£90,001 - £100,000	1	2

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 £1,808,000 (2023: £1,631,000).

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 £115,001 - £120,000 (2023 : £100,001 - £105,000)
Employer's pension contributions £25,001 - £30,000 (2023 : £20,001 - £25,000)

No governors received reimbursements for expenses during the year ended 31 August 2024 (2023: 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:

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Lee Chapel Primary School	71	67
Greensted Primary School	59	361
Northlands Primary School and Nursery	183	58
The Phoenix Primary School and Nursery	272	61
Ryedene Primary School and Nursery	138	160
Chapel Hill Primary School	204	-
	<u>927</u>	<u>707</u>

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 2023	42,546	-	1,822	743	45,111
Additions	15,329	-	484	129	15,942
Disposals	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 August 2024	<u>57,875</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,306</u>	<u>870</u>	<u>61,051</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	4,281	-	1,177	662	6,120
Charged in year	883	-	244	88	1,215
Disposals	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 August 2024	<u>5,164</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,421</u>	<u>748</u>	<u>7,333</u>
Net book values					
At 31 August 2024	<u>52,711</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>885</u>	<u>122</u>	<u>53,718</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>38,265</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>81</u>	<u>38,991</u>

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 30 August 2024 for Chapel Hill Primary School & Nursery, Westley Green, Basildon, SS16 5NH.
- 25 year lease with Essex County Council from 30 August 2024 for Chapel Hill Nursery, Westley Green, Basildon, SS16 5NH.

12 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
VAT recoverable	45	107
Prepayments and accrued income	312	376
	<u>357</u>	<u>483</u>

13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Other taxation and social security	228	212
Other creditors	332	281
Accruals and deferred income	1,096	1,185
	<u>1,656</u>	<u>1,678</u>

Included within other creditors at the year end are unpaid pension contributions of £332,000 (2023: £279,000).

Deferred income

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Deferred income as at 1 September 2023	489	413
Resources deferred in the year	443	489
Amounts released from previous years	(489)	(413)
Deferred income as at 31 August 2024	<u>443</u>	<u>489</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.

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Gains, Losses and Transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	134	14,016	(11,772)	(2,144)	234
UIFSM	-	414	(414)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,384	(1,384)	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	250	(250)	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	127	(127)	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	882	(882)	-	-
Other income	1,007	459	(1,246)	(151)	69
Local Authority Grant	-	2,798	(2,642)	(60)	96
Pension reserve	-	-	498	(498)	-
	<u>1,141</u>	<u>20,330</u>	<u>(18,219)</u>	<u>(2,853)</u>	<u>399</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/ESFA and other capital items	21,397	1,480	(977)	1,169	23,069
Leased gifts	17,589	13,293	(236)	-	30,646
Local authority capital grant	5	-	(2)	-	3
	<u>38,991</u>	<u>14,773</u>	<u>(1,215)</u>	<u>1,169</u>	<u>53,718</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>40,132</u>	<u>35,103</u>	<u>(19,434)</u>	<u>(1,684)</u>	<u>54,117</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,621</u>	<u>1,071</u>	<u>(595)</u>	<u>1,186</u>	<u>3,283</u>
Total funds	<u>41,753</u>	<u>36,174</u>	<u>(20,029)</u>	<u>(498)</u>	<u>57,400</u>

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 2023.

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 £1.169,000 (2023: £1,031,000) 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 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	<u>35,024</u>	<u>21,101</u>	<u>(18,169)</u>	<u>2,176</u>	<u>40,132</u>
Total unrestricted funds	<u>1,254</u>	<u>819</u>	<u>(454)</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>1,621</u>
Total funds	<u>36,278</u>	<u>21,920</u>	<u>(18,623)</u>	<u>2,178</u>	<u>41,753</u>

14 Funds (continued)**Total funds analysis by academy**

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2024 £000	Total 2023 £000
Lee Chapel Primary School	1,482	959
Greensted Primary School	276	502
Northlands Primary School and Nursery	846	709
The Phoenix Primary School and Nursery	718	378
Ryedene Primary School and Nursery	194	188
Chapel Hill Primary School	126	-
Central services	40	26
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	<u>3,682</u>	<u>2,762</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	53,718	38,991
Total funds	<u>57,400</u>	<u>41,753</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	2024 Total £000	2023 Total £000
Lee Chapel Primary School	4,320	739	134	576	5,770	5,266
Greensted Primary School	2,073	315	42	314	2,744	2,458
Northlands Primary School and Nursery	3,317	433	56	416	4,222	3,866
The Phoenix Primary School and Nursery	2,900	593	110	472	4,075	3,949
Ryedene Primary School and Nursery	1,630	292	60	288	2,269	1,793
Chapel Hill Primary School	-	-	-	80	80	-
Central services	5	1	-	(353)	(347)	297
	<u>14,245</u>	<u>2,373</u>	<u>402</u>	<u>1,793</u>	<u>18,813</u>	<u>17,629</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	53,718	53,718
Current assets	3,283	2,055	-	5,338
Current liabilities	-	(1,656)	-	(1,656)
Total net assets	3,283	399	53,718	57,400

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)
Total net assets	1,621	1,141	38,991	41,753

16 Capital Commitments

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	199	-

16 Commitments under operating leases**a) Operating Leases**

At 31 August 2024 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2024 £000	2023 £000
Amounts due within one year	67	47
Amounts due between two and five years	169	62
	236	109

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

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period	16,145	3,297
<i>Adjusted for:</i>		
Depreciation	1,215	995
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income	(1,480)	(3,003)
Donated fixed assets	(13,293)	-
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(498)	161
Decrease in debtors	126	314
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(22)	503
Net Cash provided by / (used in) Operating Activities	<u>2,193</u>	<u>2,267</u>

18 Cash flows from investing activities

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,649)	(4,034)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income	1,480	3,003
Net Cash provided by / (used in) investing Activities	<u>(1,169)</u>	<u>(1,031)</u>

19 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Cash in hand and at bank	4,981	3,957
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>4,981</u>	<u>3,957</u>

20 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 2022 and of the LGPS 31 March 2024.

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.

20 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- 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 result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £1,543,000 (2023: £2,542,000).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS102, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £1,788,000 (2023: £1,593,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,458,000 (2023: £1,290,000) and employees' contributions totalled £330,000 (2023: £303,000). 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.

20 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)**Principal Actuarial Assumptions**

	2024	2023
Rate of increase in salaries	3.80%	3.90%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.80%	2.90%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.10%	5.30%

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

	2024	2023
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.70	20.70
Females	23.30	23.20
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.00	22.00
Females	24.70	24.60

Sensitivity analysis

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	13,784	11,952
Discount rate -0.1%	14,379	12,464
Long term salary increase +0.1%	14,088	12,216
Long term salary increase -0.1%	14,066	12,192
Pension increases and deferred revaluation +0.1%	14,375	12,457
Pension increases and deferred revaluation -0.1%	13,787	11,958
Adjustments to life expectancy assumptions + 1 year	14,467	12,539
Adjustments to life expectancy assumptions - 1 year	13,698	11,878

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

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Equity instruments	8,740	7,319
Gilts	269	161
Property	1,093	985
Cash and other liquid assets	266	368
Alternative assets	2,323	1,992
Other	2,866	1,755
Total market value of assets	<u>15,557</u>	<u>12,580</u>

The actual loss on scheme assets was £827,000 (2023: £49,000).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities:

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Current service cost	(1,042)	(1,402)
Interest income	705	486
Interest cost	(646)	(544)
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>(983)</u>	<u>(1,460)</u>

20 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

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

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
At 1 September	12,204	12,741
Current service cost	1,042	1,402
Interest cost	646	544
Employee contributions	336	305
Actuarial loss	213	(2,621)
Benefits paid	(364)	(167)
At 31 August	14,077	12,204

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

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
At 1 September	12,580	10,724
Interest income	705	486
Actuarial (loss)/gain	819	(67)
Employer contributions	1,481	1,299
Employee contributions	336	305
Benefits paid	(364)	(167)
At 31 August	15,557	12,580

21 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

21 Events after the balance sheet date

A new Primary school, Chapel Hill Primary School and Nursery, joined the Trust on 30th August 2024 and opened on 2nd September 2024.

22 Comparative Statement of Financial Activities

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