
THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

Members

The Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust
E Crockett - Diocesan Board of Education-Chairman
T Elbourne - Diocesan Director of Education
P D Preston - Chairman of the Board of Trustees (resigned 27 September 2017)
T J Rose - Chairman of the Board of Trustees (appointed 1 December 2017)
C M Haynes - Acting Chair of the Board of Trustees (appointed 28 September 2017, resigned 30 November 2017)

Trustees

J Costello
J M Crane, Chief Executive
G Flynn (appointed 5 January 2017)
C Haynes (from 28 September to 30 November 2017), Acting Chair of Trustees
P J Howlett (appointed 29 March 2017)
B M Lester, Finance Director
D Olulode (appointed 25 November 2016)
R B Poynter (appointed 5 January 2017)
P Preston - (until 27 September 2017), Chair of Trustees
T J Rose (from 1 December 2017), Chair of Trustees (appointed 25 November 2016)
E Snowden (appointed 10 March 2017)
P Ward (resigned 9 November 2016)
T Wood (appointed 25 November 2016)

Company registered number

08709542

Company name

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust

Principal and registered office

53 New Street
Chelmsford
CM1 1AT

Company secretary

B M Lester

Chief executive officer

J M Crane

Key management team

J M R Crane, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer
B P Ince, Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

Advisers (continued)

S A Porter, Vine Trust Finance Manager
L Taylor, Executive Headteacher Ridgewell & Belchamp St Paul C of E Primary School
S Jones, Headteacher Orsett C of E Primary School
S Wade, Headteacher Howbridge C of E Junior School
M Amery, Headteacher Latchingdon C of E Primary School
K Jones, Headteacher Mistley Norman C of E Primary School
A Syred-Paul, Great Clacton C of E Junior School Headteacher
L Ratcliffe, Executive Headteacher The Rolph & St Andrews C of E Primary Schools
P Ward, Executive Headteacher Soutminster & St Cedds C of E primary Schools
B Fellows, Headteacher St James C of E Primary School Colchester
G Bailey, Headteacher St James C of E Primary School Harlow
E Wigmore, Executive Headteacher St Margarets & Bulphan C of E Primary School
M Carter-Tufnell, Headteacher St Osyth C of E Primary School

Independent auditors

Griffin Chapman
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
4 & 5 The Cedars
Apex 12
Old Ipswich Road
Colchester
Essex
CO7 7QR

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc
77/81 High Street
Chelmsford
Essex
CM1 1DU

Solicitors

Lee Bolton Monier-Williams
1 The Sanctuary
Westminster
London
SW1P 3JT

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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The Trust currently operates Church of England Academies, for pupils aged 2 to 11, serving the Diocese of Chelmsford catchment area, across East Anglia and North London. It has a pupil capacity of 3,462 and had a roll of 2,637 (excluding Orsett [212] who converted on 1 July 2017, Bulphan [89], Ridgewell [91] and Belchamp St Paul [90] all of who converted on 1 August 2017) in the school census on 19 January 2017.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. CONSTITUTION

The Academy is a charitable 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 The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law.

The charitable company is known as The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust and is also known as The Vine Trust and The Vine Schools Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

b. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

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

TRUSTEES' INDEMNITIES

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust maintains a provision for Trustee Indemnity, through the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement which gives appropriate cover for any legal action brought against its Trustees.

c. METHOD OF RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Members of the company and Trustees are appointed as set out in the Articles of Association. The Members recruited seven new Trustees during the period and accepted one resignation. Additionally, one Trustee will be stepping down on 27 September 2017 after completing their term of office. Eleven Trustees sit on the Board at the time of completing this report, exceeding the minimum required under the Articles of Association.

When appointing new Trustees, the Members and Board will give consideration to the skills and experience of existing Trustees to ensure new appointments enhance and expand the necessary skills required to develop the Trust further. The Members and Board engage external bodies to assist with recruitment by targeting individuals with identified skillsets.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

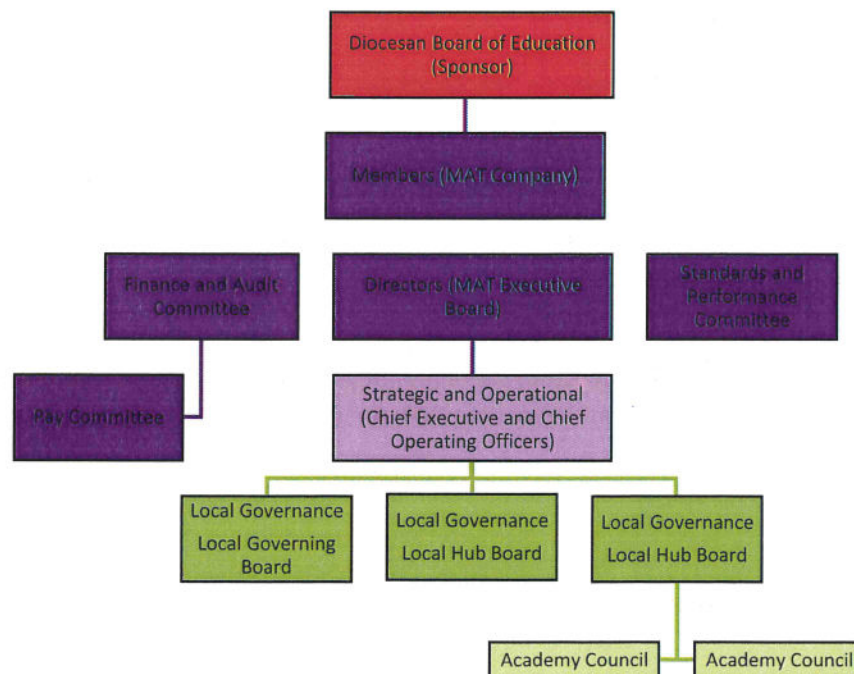
d. POLICIES AND PROCEDURES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

The Chairman is responsible for the induction and training of new trustees. Following appointment, election or co-option, new Trustees will receive training dependent on their existing experience and may include training on charity, educational, legal and financial matters.

e. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

The constitution of the board of trustees is set out in the Articles of Association. Trustees are appointed / elected / Co-opted for a period of four years. The Chair is elected bi-annually. Trustees have appointed a Chief Executive Officer to assure the strategic intentions of the Multi Academy Trust. The Chief Executive Officer is also the Chief Accounting Officer and a Director of the Multi Academy Trust. Trustees have formed a Finance and Audit Committee and a Standards and Performance Committee which operate within specific terms of references approved by the board of trustees. The Trustees appoint an Executive Headteacher / Headteacher to take responsibility for the day-to-day management of the constituent academies whose activities are regulated by a Scheme of Delegation and Scheme of Financial Delegation. Trustees appoint a Company Secretary who is also a Director of the Multi Academy Trust who takes the role of trustees' secretary and appoints a Clerk.

Organisation Chart



Trustees select and/or approve the Governors to the constituent schools Local Governing Bodies

The Trust had the following committees and governing bodies in place during the period:

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust

Full Board of Directors	Mrs J Costello Mr J Crane (CEO & Accounting Officer) Mr G Flynn (from 01.01.17) Dr C Haynes (Vice Chair) Dr P Howlett (from 29.03.17) Mr B Lester (Finance Director & Co Sec.) Mrs D Olulode (from 25.11.16) Hon. R Poynter (from 01.01.17) Mr P D Preston (Chair of the Board) Mr T Rose (from 25.11.17) Ven. E Snowden (from 10.03.17) Mrs P Ward (until 09.11.16) Mrs T Wood (from 25.11.16)	Quorum: 3
Finance and Audit Committee	Mrs J Costello (until 10.02.17) Mr G Flynn (member & Chair from 10.02.17) Dr C Haynes (Chair and member until 10.02.17) Mr B Lester Mr P Preston Mr T Rose (member & Vice Chair from 10.02.17) Mrs P Ward (until 09.11.16) Mrs T Wood (from 10.02.17)	Quorum: 3 Delegated Powers: Yes
Standards and Performance Committee (from 10.02.17)	Mrs J Costello Dr C Haynes (Chair) Dr P Howlett (from 29.03.17) Mrs D Olulode (Vice Chair) Hon. R Poynter Ven. E Snowden (from 10.03.17)	Quorum: 3 Delegated Powers: No
Pay Appeals Committee	Mrs J Costello Mr J Crane Mr P D Preston (until 27.09.17) Dr C Haynes (from 28.09.17)	Quorum: 2 Delegated Powers: No

Terms of Reference for the Audit and Finance Committees, Academy School specific Schemes of Delegation and Financial Regulations set out the responsibilities and authorisation framework for the trust and its educational establishments.

f. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration for key management personnel

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust applies the recommendations of the School Teachers Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD), published annually by the Department for Education, it also adopts the Local Government Pay Award for support staff. The Trust adopts the Essex Local Authority pay policy which is reviewed annually.

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust has a robust performance management policy based on the Essex Local Authority model policy which governs pay and awards. Performance management of the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is the responsibility of the trust board, other Executive Officers that of the CEO. Responsibility for the performance management of Executive Headteachers and Headteachers is retained by the Trust but delegated to the Local Governing Body/Local Board for all other academy senior management personnel.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Key executive officer pay awards recognise the complexity and challenge associated with accountability for improving outcomes, efficiencies and strategic leadership across a growing trust, pay progression includes cost of living and performance related awards. Remuneration levels are consistent with the sector and considered reasonable.

All staff, school based or central, have clear performance targets. Where appropriate this includes pupil progress targets. If all targets are met then a pay award will be granted in line with the Trust Pay Policy.

g. Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust was formed by the Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust (CDET) as a vehicle to support its church schools converting to academies and to ensure that they retained their individual Christian ethos.

The Chelmsford Diocese Board of Education (CDBE) is the sponsoring body for the schools directed to convert and provides educational/financial specialism to support sponsored schools.

The membership of the Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust consists of CDET, a corporate body created by the CDBE, the Chairman of the CDBE, the Diocesan Director of Education and the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust had a second Multi Academy Trust, The Diocese of Chelmsford Sower Schools Trust, with which this Trust shared some facilities and staff. The four academies within the Sower Trust transferred into the Vine Trust on 1st September 2016.

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust formed two new Local Governing Bodies during the period bringing the total to twelve, acting as committees of the Trust (see above), the introduction of additional Local Governing Bodies and Local Governing Boards is underway in respect of the sixteen constituent academies within the Vine Trust; Belchamp St Paul CofE Primary School, Bulphan CofE Primary School, Great Clacton CofE Junior School, Howbridge CofE Junior School, Latchingdon CofE Primary School, Mistley Norman CofE Primary School, Orsett CofE Primary School, Ridgewell CofE Primary School, Rolph CofE Primary School, Southminster CofE Primary School, St Andrews CofE Primary School, St Cedd's CofE Primary School in Bradwell, St James CofE Primary School in Harlow, St James CofE Primary School in Colchester, St Margaret's CofE Primary School in Bowers Gifford and St Osyth CofE Primary School.

The Multi Academy Trust and its constituent academies commission professional services from the Essex Local Authority and engage with not for profit procurement providers associated with Thurrock Local Authority, Hertfordshire County Council and Kent County Council.

Objectives and Activities

a. Objects and Aims

Through The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust our schools will deliver, within a Christian context, the best educational, spiritual, physical, social and emotional outcomes for children and their families. This will be achieved through a range of partnerships, including; schools, local communities, churches and the Vine Trust family. We believe each partner has much to offer. We want our pupils and staff to achieve their full potential.

The Trust operates for charitable purposes to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but not without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Academies which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and which shall include:

- (a) Church of England schools designated as such which shall be conducted in accordance with the

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship, and having regard to any advice issued by the Diocesan Board of Education; and

(b) Other Academies whether with or without a designated religious character

In relation to each of the Academies to recognise and support their individual ethos, whether or not designated Church of England, furthermore support them to become and/or maintain a 'Good' or 'Outstanding' school status.

b. Objectives, Strategies and Activities

"I am the vine; you are the branches. If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit" (John 15:5)

c. Activities for Achieving Objectives

Within a positive and supportive Christian ethos, the Trust is committed to enriching the lives of its children, maximising the educational experiences and attainment levels of all of its pupils, developing creative and independent learners and providing them with transferable skills that can be applied throughout their life.

The Trust has been working towards:

1. Assure the high level academic outcomes for all pupils;

The Academy Trust was established to improve the life chances of every pupil in its constituent academies within a Christian context. By playing a direct role in enabling the constituent academies to maximise the rate of learning and results in national tests, the Academy Trust will both support and challenge its schools to help assure high academic outcomes for its pupils. Regular monitoring and evaluation of all schools within the Academy Trust will enable best practice to be shared and rapid action taken to address any identified underperformance. The aim of the Academy Trust is for all constituent academies to be at least good and/or on the journey towards outstanding within 2 years of joining the Academy Trust.

2. Assure the supply of high quality leaders, teachers and support staff;

The key to success across the Academy Trust is the quality of its staff. The trustees support academy leaders to assure the expertise available to them. By demonstrating and facilitating high expectations the Academy Trust will encourage outstanding practitioners and its good reputation will attract new ones as it grows.

3. Be an effective sponsor to academy schools 'not yet good';

The Trust, through its internal audit processes is confident that all Vine schools that are not yet good are making rapid progress towards being good at their next inspection.

4. Ensure high quality management information and reporting across the trust and within its constituent academies

The Academy Trust is committed to deploying exceptional financial applications across the Multi Academy Trust to facilitate the production of high quality management information for its Senior Leaders, Governors and Trustees to use for effective strategic planning and decision making. It will further develop its financial reporting framework for the Academy Trust and its constituent academies to follow, ensuring training, capacity and effective support is provided to deliver its objectives.

5. Develop the executive team, raise the public profile of the organisation, and continue to grow the Trust by attracting more good and outstanding schools.

The Vine has increased capacity by growing its central team. There are further plans in place to develop this team, increase efficiencies and improve the offer to schools.

d. PUBLIC BENEFIT

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Trust's trustees confirm that they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance contained within the Charity Commission's 'Charities and Public Benefit' when exercising their powers and duties and that they have maximised the impact of public funds for the educational benefit of the pupils within the Trust.

STRATEGIC REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The Trustees of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust approved a five year strategic development plan for 2016/17 to 2021/22 during the summer 2017.

The following reports on the key deliverables associated with the objectives, strategies and activities to August 2017.

1. Assure High Level Academic Outcomes for all Pupils

The Vine measures the academic outcomes for all pupils through key data from the nationally recognised measurement points and through external validation including external validation by Ofsted.

Academic outcomes:

	2016	2017	Difference
YR GLD	66%	75%	+9%
Y1 Phonics	74%	80%	+5%
Y2 Reading ARE	72%	74%	+2%
Y2 Writing ARE	58%	69%	+11%
Y2 Mathematics ARE	69%	74%	+5%
Y6 RWM Combined ARE	49%	56%	+7%

Therefore in the year to August the Vine has improved its academic performance against all of the key national measurements.

In the year to 31 August 2017 five Vine academies were inspected by Ofsted. As a result 10 of the 16 Vine academies are now rated as good, 4 are yet to be inspected as academies, 1 requires improvement and 1 has serious weaknesses. (In the year to August 2016 4 of 10 Vine academies were rated as good by Ofsted).

2. Assure the Supply of High Quality Leaders, Teachers and Support Staff

The Trust has through direct investment improved the quality of staff in its academies by providing matched funding for a range of development courses. Staff have access to Executive Leadership programmes, Church School Leadership courses, the NPQSL, NPQML, OTP, ITP and School Business Manager Diplomas among others. Over 75% of trust academies (excluding 4 new converters during July and August) took advantage of a matched funding initiative offered by the Trust in the year to August 2017.

The impact has been improved leadership and outcomes for pupils. This is evidenced in the Ofsted judgements (above).

As part of effective succession planning three senior leaders have been seconded to work in other schools both inside and outside of the Trust. This has enabled the staff concerned to gain valuable skills that they have been able to bring back to their substantive post, in addition to supporting succession planning.

3. Be an Effective Sponsor to Academies Not Yet Good

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

In the year to the end of August 2017 10 of 16 (62.5%) Vine academies are rated 'good' by Ofsted compared to 6 of 16 (37.5%) on academy conversion.

In the year to the end of August 2017 11 of 16 Vine academies are rated 'good' or 'outstanding' by SIAMs compared to 8 of 10 in the year to 31 August 2016.

Vine academies are making accelerated academic progress, improving the RWM ARE combined for KS2 by 7%. Further evidence can be found in the educational KPIs.

4. Ensure High Quality Management Information and reporting across the Trust and its constituent Academies

The Vine is able to produce high quality management information through the deployment of numerous applications and clearly documented procedures. The addition of business management software and an online training platform, during the period, have complimented the financial accounting and budget forecasting provisions already embedded across the Trust.

A clear reporting framework for the central operation teams and constituent academies to follow, in conjunction with the above applications, ensures consistency of high quality management information.

Enhanced operational efficiency, the introduction of central support and monitoring teams plus training programmes for staff responsible for preparing management information has led to a noticeable improvement in the quality and timing of circulated management information.

5. Develop the executive team, raise the public profile of the organisation, and continue to grow the Trust by attracting more good and outstanding schools

In May 2016 The Trust employed a Chief Executive Officer who was actively recruited by the board of directors. In addition the board introduced a Chief Operating Officer into the organisational structure from September 2016, facilitating continued development of the trust.

The reputation of the Trust has improved through effective marketing and communication. This has resulted in four of the six schools that have joined since August 2016 being rated as 'good' by Ofsted.

The Vine has introduced a new website that clearly communicates the aims and contains a range of information for current members and those seeking membership.

The year to August 2017 has been a successful period for The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust with improving academic outcomes and increasing efficiencies.

The Trust now judge 10 of 16 of its academies to be at least good, compared to 6 of 16 upon academy conversion, demonstrating its effectiveness as a sponsor. The public profile of the Trust as a home for successful schools is growing.

The Trust continues to improve operational efficiency across the Academy Trust, increasing capacity and delivering better value for money, which has supported the improved outcomes for pupils.

a. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Educational KPI's	KS2 Attainment (%)								KS2 Progress for RWM compared to national					
	Reading		Writing		Mathematics		RWM		Reading		Writing		Mathematics	
	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
St Andrew's	76	74	90	74	90	68	72	58	2.84	1.1	2.15	0.7	0.82	0.5
Southminster	40	38	52	46	56	54	36	29	-5.34	-4.9	-4.68	-4.4	-2.29	-3.3
Rolph	53	71	81	77	69	77	53	68	-2.90	-0.6	-0.17	-1.1	-1.14	0.3
Great Clacton	53	68	81	69	69	71	45	51	-1.89	-0.3	2.17	-1.8	-0.89	-1.0
St Cedd's	55	65	86	83	59	87	50	61	-1.45	-3.9	4.32	1.0	-0.71	-0.6
Howbridge	62	71	74	77	64	85	47	67	-0.30	-1.1	2.42	0.3	-1.66	-0.8
Mistley Norman	60	43	100	57	60	29	60	14	-0.98	-2.7	4.12	-3.2	0.39	-6.0
St James Harlow	72	70	60	80	67	73	60	67	2.70	0.7	-3.14	2.5	0.63	1.8
Latchingdon	50	85	64	77	71	85	43	70	-3.38	1.9	2.55	-0.3	1.59	0.9
St Osyth	55	55	65	43	58	61	40	34	-1.97	-0.6	-1.26	-2.9	-1.69	-0.7
Vine Average	58	66	74	69	67	73	49	55	-1.27	-1.04	0.85	-0.92	-0.5	-0.82
St Margaret's *		86		89		86		79		2.4		3.8		1.9
St James Col *		55		58		70		46		-2.5		-1.9		-0.8
Orsett **		90		87		93		87		0.3		0.3		0.7
Bulphan **		***		85		***		***		***		4.0		***
Belchamp St Paul **		94		88		82		71		2.6		0.9		0.7
Ridgewell **		100		86		86		86		0.5		-2.6		-0.9

* School joined the Vine in October 2016
 ** School joined the Vine in July or August 2017
 *** No 2017 published data is available

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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Trust Profile	Trust 13/14	Trust 14/15	Trust 15/16	Trust 16/17
Number of Academies	2	4	6	16
Total number of pupils	377	904	1,272	3,161
Published Admission Number (PAN)	490	1,084	1,574	3,462
Occupancy (%)	76.9%	83.4%	80.8%	91.3%

Income KPI's ¹	Trust 13/14	Trust 14/15	Trust 15/16	Trust 16/17
Total income per pupil (£)	3,335	5,088	4,874	4,913
GAG income per pupil (£) ²	2,591	3,948	3,413	3,308
GAG income as a % of total income ²	77.7%	77.6%	70.0%	75.4%
Non GAG income per pupil (£) ³	744	1,140	1,461	1,605

Staff KPI's ¹	Trust 13/14	Trust 14/15	Trust 15/16	Trust 16/17
Total staff costs as a % of total expenditure	72.7%	70.9%	62.4%	70.6%
Teaching staff costs as a % of total expenditure	57.3%	54.7%	48.0%	51.2%
Teaching staff costs as a % of total staff expenditure	78.8%	77.2%	76.9%	72.5%
% of teaching to non-teaching staff	46.7%	37.7%	41.3%	38.1%
Non-teaching support staff costs as a % of total expenditure	15.4%	16.2%	14.1%	19.4%
Staff costs as a % of GAG income ²	88.4%	90.4%	95.7%	106.2%
Pupil to teacher ratio	18:1	21:1	27:1	27:1
Pupil to non-teaching staff ratio	16:1	16:1	17:1	17:1

Expenditure KPI's ¹	Trust 13/14	Trust 14/15	Trust 15/16	Trust 16/17
Total expenditure as a % of total income	94.0%	99.0%	95.4%	100.6%
Expenditure on curriculum resources as a % of total expenditure	7.4%	8.0%	6.6%	6.6%
Expenditure on maintenance of premises as a % of total expenditure	2.7%	5.7%	18.1%	9.9%

Surpluses and deficits KPI's	Trust 13/14	Trust 14/15	Trust 15/16	Trust 16/17
Closing pension scheme deficit	910,000	1,168,002	3,554,000	7,715,000
Closing pension scheme deficit per pupil	1,396	1,650	2,747	2,441

Balance Sheet KPI's	Trust 13/14	Trust 14/15	Trust 15/16	Trust 16/17
Cash balances as a % of total income	21.9%	17.6%	23.6%	19.9%
Net current assets as a % of income	20.3%	25.9%	33.5%	24.5%
Ratio of current assets against current liabilities	2.88:1	3.71:1	3.42:1	3.17:1

¹ Excludes notional rent charges and donations

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
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- 2 13/14 figures updated to include Pupil Premium
- 3 13/14 figures updated to exclude Pupil Premium

b. GOING CONCERN

The Vine constantly undertakes rigorous central analysis of financial forecasts, this includes impact analysis of the proposed new National Funding Formula. Monitoring risks and implementation of effective strategic financial planning enables Vine academies to remain both viable and flexible in the short to medium term.

The Vine has planned a number of strategic projects during 2016/17, for implementation during the next period, to enhance the scope and functionality of its financial personnel and pupil data applications, it is also developing a centralised IT platform for its academies. The resulting cost savings and operational efficiencies benefit both existing academies and position the Trust for the next phase of its growth.

Having considered the additional impact and uncertainty around future funding and their continued growth plans and after making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that The Vine Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

Financial review

The Vine's principle source of income is obtained from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), in the form of recurrent grants and start up grants which are restricted for particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the period ending 31 August 2017 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Incoming resources for the year ending 31 August 2017 totalled £13,448,736 of which £12,154,366 was restricted funding received from the DfE and ESFA. Total resources expended for the year were £16,561,121.

During the period ended 31 August 2017 income, excluding balances transferred from conversion, was lower than the educational expenditure by £921,206 (2016: -£61,107).

Unrestricted funds totalling £1,648,146 at 31 August 2017 (at 31 August 2016: £619,935) are utilised at the discretion of the Trustees to enhance and improve educational support and resources in The Vine's member schools.

The Vine also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned and determined by the Trusts Accounting Policy.

At 31 August 2017 the net book value of tangible fixed assets was £427,174 (2016: £154,919).

The Trust's Fund balances before fixed asset fund and pension reserve adjustments, at 31 August 2017 were £4,213,914 (2016: £2,138,775), including £2,320,316 (2015: £394,281) which were inherited on conversion this year (excluding pension deficits).

Total cash balances at 31 August 2017 were £2,922,854.

The transfer of four existing academies into The Vine from its sister trust The Diocese of Chelmsford Sower Schools Trust on 01 September 2016 resulted in significant operational and financial efficiencies whilst also positioning The Vine for the next phase of its growth.

During the period 10 academies joined The Vine, including the schools from Sower providing some context to the significant variations reported against the previous period.

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Board of Trustees continue to be alert to increasing pressure in the sector and the uncertainty surrounding a new National Funding Formula. A programme of strategic projects to improve operational efficiency and introduce cost savings are being implemented, the impact of which will be realised during the next period and into 2019/20.

The Vine has enhanced its educational, training and operational 'core offer' during the period, resulting in academy savings and improving opportunities for pupils and staff.

The Vine continues to advocate the need for financial prudence, requiring a minimum three year financial strategy in its academies. Close scrutiny to reserve balances and working capital enables the Trust and its constituent academies to remain flexible in the current climate.

a. RESERVES POLICY

The trustees review the reserve levels annually. This review is designed to ensure reserves are held at levels commensurate with identified needs of the Academy Trust and its constituent academies going forward. Restricted and unrestricted reserves will be at levels necessary to allow for future planned expenditure that cannot be met from the annual budget, allow for the replacement of large capital and infrastructure items, create and maintain a capacity to deal with unknown items of expenditure that cannot be expected to be funded from annual budgets and ensure appropriate provision is made for working capital.

During the period trustees determined local and 'pooled' central reserve programmes for all of its constituent academies. Specifically, academies are directed to build central reserves equating to 6% of their total restricted funds, within three years of conversion. Additionally, academies must ensure that a local general contingency equating to a minimum of 2% of the academy's total restricted funds are held with further guidance on building non-directed and operational contingencies documented in the trusts Capital and Revenue Reserves Policy.

With uncertainty surrounding the timing and impact of a new National Funding Formula the Academy Trust continues to adopt a prudent Reserves Policy.

At 31 August 2017 the value of constituent academy restricted funds, excluding the fixed asset reserve and the pension funds were £2,565,768 (2016: £1,518,840) and unrestricted funds were £1,648,146, (2016: £619,935), totalling £4,213,914 (2016: £2,138,775) of which £652,862 (2016: £321,562) is held centrally by the Trust. In addition the trust holds centrally £382,700 (2016: £289,600) which have been set aside as a designated fund and held as a contingency fund.

Total restricted and unrestricted reserves held within the Academy Trust at 31 August 2017 represented 31% (2016: 30%) of overall income, of which £3,156,870 (2016: £1,773,175) is earmarked to be spent within three years.

The majority of academy's within the Trust meet the minimum expected requirements set out in the Trusts Capital & Revenue Reserves Policy. Two established academies have yet to meet the minimum 'pooled' central reserve requirements of the policy, however, following a period of restructuring this is being addressed in both instances. The Trustees consider these provisions sufficient to cover unexpected costs.

b. INVESTMENT POLICY

All investments are made in accordance with the Investment Management Policy of the trust. The trust's policy on investments are one of minimum risk with all investments being held with the trust's bankers. The trust will nevertheless seek to maximise interest receipts within this arrangement. The Investment Management Policy is reviewed annually in November. Investments are made with regard to Charity Commission guidance in relation to investments.

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

c. PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Board has considered the risks faced by the Trust throughout its normal operational business. It has sought to address the risks by establishing appropriate governance and management arrangements, including the appointment of experienced executive officers, senior staff and other leaders, commissioning external specialists, engaging independent internal auditors in addition to establishing consistent robust operational policies and procedures. The Board considers that these arrangements have been effective throughout the period being reported.

The Board circulates a formal risk management policy to its member schools, weighted towards impact, supported by a detailed risk register, to more effectively document and track the managerial actions in relation to identified risks at a local establishment level.

At the time of reporting the Trust's identified key risks are as follows:

- Strategic Risk – Considerable progress has again been made, however, the Trust accepts that there may still be some exposure to risk associated with the support it provides all of its academy schools reaching and/or sustaining a 'good' or 'outstanding' category, this could impact on its reputation as a sponsor and its ability to recruit Governors to the Local Governing Bodies who have the correct skills profiles. Within certain geographic areas across the trust a higher risk associated with pupil numbers has been identified for which numerous strategies are being developed and implemented to recruit learners. The Trust previously recognised the need to improve its capacity to manage the absence of a key executive or trust Business Manager and considers that this has now been largely mitigated, it is acknowledged however that will require ongoing monitoring as the Trust continues to grow. A security audit is underway to qualify and report potential risks associated with cyber-attacks and IT network security across the trust following an isolated incident in one academy during the year.
- Operational Risk – Risk that; some of the Governors and senior leaders do not yet possess all of the skills and experience required to run the academy schools. There is risk that although a risk management strategy has been introduced greater scrutiny is required to reduce inherent risk and validate accuracy. Previously it was identified that a more effective communication platform was required across the Trust for key stakeholders, significant development towards a central IT platform has been made with regular stakeholder forums introduced mitigating the risk to a degree.
- Compliance Risk – Although more robust procedures have been implemented, supported by central business management applications the Trust still considers that it may have some exposure to risk associated with non-compliance in some legislative areas across the Trust and its academy schools, this is receiving urgent attention.
- Financial Risk – Associated with uncertainty surrounding future levels of education funding continues to be one of the most significant factors facing the trust and sector as a whole, however, focus on effective marketing and increasing occupancy levels are underway. Failure to maintain financial control in relation to academy budgets has not been identified as a key risk but with increasing financial pressure the trust are increasing scrutiny and their monitoring regime. 'Trust-wide' disaster recovery plans, provision for contingent liability risk and the failure to monitor the performance of the employee pension scheme are also under review.

Mitigating actions and strategies, both current and planned have been identified and partially introduced to address these risks. This is true of all other risks that have been formally identified but have a lower level of impact and/or likelihood.

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

d. PRINCIPAL FUNDING

The majority of funding received into the Multi Academy Trust is obtained from the Education Funding Agency (EFA) in the form of recurrent grants and start up grants which are restricted for a particular purpose and shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. Additionally, activities for generating funds, as shown in the Statement of Financial Affairs, outline those income streams that are deemed as restricted income.

Plans for future periods

Informed by a thorough evaluation of the progress made by the Trust during 2016-17 and continuing to focus its long term intentions, The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust has set its priorities for the 2017-18 which both reflect and inform those of the constituent academies.

1. The Academy Trust will continue to assure the high level academic outcomes for all pupils;
2. The Academy Trust will continue to assure the supply of high quality leaders, teachers and support staff;
3. The Academy Trust will be an effective sponsor to academy schools 'not yet good';
4. The Academy Trust will continue to develop its executive team, raise the public profile of the organisation, and continue to grow the Trust by attracting more good and outstanding schools.
5. The Academy Trust will review its finance and back office structures to better support current academies and enable future growth.

The 2017-18 trustees' report from the Multi Academy Trust will report progress against the key deliverables associated with each of these priorities.

During the period the Secretary of State issued four Academy Orders for schools to join the Academy Trust, one joined the Trust on 1 July 2017 and the other three on 1 August 2017. Furthermore, at the time of writing this report, four new applications have been submitted to the Department for Education with the expectation of academy conversions taking place during Spring 2018.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN

The Trustees act as principal for the Academy Trust and have discretion (subject to the purposes or terms on which funds are held) as to how the funds are used in the Academy Trust.

EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE DISABLED

Employees have been consulted on issues of concern to them by means of regular consultative committee and staff meetings and have been kept informed on specific matters directly by management. The Academy carries out exit interviews for all staff leaving the organisation and has adopted a procedure of upward feedback for senior management and the Trustees.

The Academy has implemented a number of detailed policies in relation to all aspects of personnel matters including:

- Equal opportunities policy
- Volunteers' policy
- Health & safety policy

In accordance with the Academy's Equal opportunities policy, the Academy has long established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff.

Full details of these policies are available from the Academy's offices.

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustees have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditors are aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The auditors, Griffin Chapman, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The Designated Trustees will propose a motion re-appointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 11/12/17 and signed on its behalf by:

T J Rose
Chairman



THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools 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 Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J Costello	3	6
J M R Crane, CEO and Accounting Officer	6	6
G Flynn (from 01/01/2017)	2	4
P Howlett(from 29/03/2017)	1	1
B Lester (Finance Director)	5	6
D Olulode (from 25/11/2016)	4	5
R Poynter (from 01/01/2017)	4	5
P Preston , Chair of Trustees until 27/09/2017	5	6
T Rose (from 25/11/2017)	5	5
E Snowden (from 10/03/2017)	3	4
P Ward (until 09/11/2016)	1	1
T Wood (from 25/11/2016)	3	5

The Articles of Association stipulate that 3 Trustees is the number to be quorate at any meeting.

The Board of Trustees recruited seven directors during the period to enhance and compliment the skillset of the board, following one resignation membership at 31st August 2017 stands at twelve.

The Trustees are also directors of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust, ensuring continuity for the academies within this Trust.

During the period a review of governance and governance consultation have taken place. The process has contained a number of elements.

- Skills audit and analysis of the Trustees and active recruitment to ensure complete skills coverage.
- Effectiveness reviews for the Trust and LGBs took place towards the end of the summer term 2017, including the completion of a skills matrix by each Trustee and Governor.
- An external advisor undertook review of Local Governance, reporting to the Trustees and prompting a Governance consultation.

Following the local governance consultation:

Three Local Boards will be created at the start of the next reporting period, involving seven Vine academies, to provide consistent strategic leadership across those academies.

Following the local governance consultation:

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- Three Local Boards will be created at the start of the next reporting period, involving seven Vine academies, to provide consistent strategic leadership across those academies.

The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to regularly monitor income and expenditure against budgets, consider the annual budget before presentation to the Board of Trustees and consider the Trusts primary business partners and major contracts. It has a duty to report to the Board of Trustees on all significant financial matters.

This committee has formally met 6 times during the year, 1 meeting was not quorate and ratification was made by the full board at its next meeting.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
G Flynn (Chair from 31/03/2017)	1	3
C Haynes (Chair until 10/02/2017)	2	3
B Lester (Finance Director)	5	6
P Preston	5	6
T Rose (from 31/03/2017)	3	3
P Ward (until 09/11/2016)	1	1
T Wood	2	3

The Terms of Reference for the Finance Committee state the Committee will be quorate if 3 members are present and at least 50% of the members are Vine Trust Board Directors, whilst present at all meetings the Accounting Officer does not have voting rights on the committee.

The Standards and Performance Committee was formed on 10 February 2016 and is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to review educational data, performance and outcomes of academies in the Vine Trust and will have a duty to report to the Board of Trustees on all significant matters.

This committee has formally met 3 times during the year.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J Costello	1	3
C Haynes (Chair)	2	3
D Olulode	2	3
R Poynter (Vice Chair)	3	3
E Snowden	3	3

The Terms of Reference for the Standards and Performance Committee state the Committee will be quorate if 3 members are present and at least 50% of the members are Vine Trust Board Directors.

The Pay Appeals Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to review appeals received from employees of The Vine Trust and will have a duty to recommend and report to the Board of Trustees on all matters.

This committee did not convene during the period.

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive has responsibility for ensuring that the academy delivers good value

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the academy'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 has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Embedding the formal value for money policy, across the trust, to ensure a consistent 'good practice' approach to achieving value for money is adopted in the pursuit of economy, efficiency and effectiveness.
- Negotiating preferential 'group' arrangements with key supply and service providers which are accessible to all constituent academies and departments in the trust.
- Using key benchmarking data to inform senior leaders and trustees when considering budgets and to influence strategic decisions that strengthen the financial position of the trust and its constituent academies in the future.
- Identifying and implementing strategies to improve financial and administrative effectiveness across elements of the group. Whilst some progress has been made, further centralisation of some finance and administrative functions will improve value for money in the future.

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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust for the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy's significant risks, that has been in place for the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 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'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 & Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint SBM Services Ltd as internal auditor.

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

- Retesting previously identified controls not considered adequately robust, including external audit findings
- Testing of finance, administration, management systems and governance
- Testing of payroll systems and authentication processes
- Testing of procurement compliance, purchase and sales systems particularly surrounding charge card purchases
- Testing of control account/bank reconciliations
- Review of Fixed Asset register, acquisition and disposal procedures
- Review of budget integrity, approval and setting processes

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

The Finance & Audit Committee review the findings of the internal auditor half termly at their Committee meetings. During the period the internal auditor will visit each academy school in both the Spring and Summer Terms, as a result several operational processes were reviewed and updated, monitoring and progress reports are regularly circulated to Senior Leaders, Governors and Trustees.

During the period, following local restructuring, it was necessary to delay second visits to three academies within the academy trust, these were completed between September 2017 and November 2017. Four academies that joined the trust between July 2017 and August 2017 were not visited by internal auditors.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditors;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 11/12/17 and signed on their behalf, by:


T J Rose
Chairman


J R Crane
Accounting Officer

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

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 2016.

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

J R Crane
Accounting Officer



11 December 2017

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Trustees (who act as governors of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

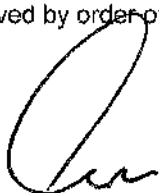
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 11/12/17 and signed on its behalf by:



T J Rose
Chairman

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST**

OPINION

We have audited the financial statements of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust for the year ended 31 August 2017 which comprise the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy's affairs as at 31 August 2017 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

BASIS OF OPINION

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

CONCLUSIONS RELATING TO GOING CONCERN

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you where:

- the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the Trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the academy's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

OTHER INFORMATION

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST**

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the 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 MATTERS PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

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

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

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

RESPONSIBILITIES OF TRUSTEES

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

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

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF THE
DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST**

AUDITOR'S RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

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



Daniel Aldworth (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Griffin Chapman

Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

4 & 5 The Cedars
Apex 12
Old Ipswich Road
Colchester
Essex

CO7 7QR

Date:

11 December 2017

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE
DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING
AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 August 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust during the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST'S
ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT**

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 November 2013, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2016, 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 2016 to 2017. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 2016 to 2017 Issued by the 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's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken comprised:

- a) Obtaining a sufficient understanding of the framework of authorities which apply to the academy.
- b) Understanding the system of internal control to secure compliance with the framework of authorities.
- c) Considering the basis upon which the Accounting Officer is able to make statements on regularity,

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO THE
DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING
AGENCY (continued)**

- propriety and compliance in the Financial Statements.
- d) Assessing the risk of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance.
 - e) Designing and carrying out tests and drawing of conclusions from this work to provide assurance over regularity, propriety and compliance.

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 year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Daniel Aldworth (Reporting accountant)

Griffin Chapman

Chartered Accountants

4 & 5 The Cedars
Apex 12
Old Ipswich Road
Colchester
Essex
CO7 7QR

Date: 11 December 2017

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
INCOME FROM:						
Donations & capital grants:						
Voluntary income - transfer from Local Authority on conversion	2	637,983	(2,572,000)	78,821	(1,855,196)	(191,719)
Voluntary income	2	-	933,686	4,409	938,095	111,147
Voluntary income - transfers of existing academies into the trust	2	328,312	(1,640,434)	244,683	(1,067,439)	-
Other donations and capital grants	2	-	731,455	1,426,879	2,158,334	1,528,505
Charitable activities	3	-	12,154,366	-	12,154,366	5,150,290
Other trading activities	4	60,171	1,058,660	-	1,118,831	469,553
Investments	5	1,745	-	-	1,745	1,656
TOTAL INCOME		1,028,211	10,665,733	1,754,792	13,448,736	7,069,432
EXPENDITURE ON:						
Charitable activities		-	16,458,718	102,403	16,561,121	7,200,044
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	6	-	16,458,718	102,403	16,561,121	7,200,044
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE TRANSFERS		1,028,211	(5,792,985)	1,652,389	(3,112,385)	(130,612)
Transfers between Funds	19	-	1,141,913	(1,141,913)	-	-
NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) BEFORE OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES		1,028,211	(4,651,072)	510,476	(3,112,385)	(130,612)
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	1,537,000	-	1,537,000	(1,383,000)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS		1,028,211	(3,114,072)	510,476	(1,575,385)	(1,513,612)
RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS:						
Total funds brought forward		619,935	(2,035,160)	272,614	(1,142,611)	371,001
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		1,648,146	(5,149,232)	783,090	(2,717,996)	(1,142,611)

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08709542

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	£	2017 £	£	2016 £
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	15		427,173		154,919
CURRENT ASSETS					
Stocks	16	4,785		1,945	
Debtors	17	3,305,651		1,603,235	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,922,854		1,585,156	
		<u>6,233,290</u>		<u>3,190,336</u>	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	18	(1,663,459)		(933,866)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			4,569,831		2,256,470
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			4,997,004		2,411,389
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	26		(7,715,000)		(3,554,000)
NET LIABILITIES INCLUDING PENSION SCHEME LIABILITIES			<u>(2,717,996)</u>		<u>(1,142,611)</u>
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY					
Restricted income funds:					
Restricted income funds	19	2,565,768		1,518,840	
Restricted fixed asset funds	19	783,090		272,614	
Restricted income funds excluding pension liability		<u>3,348,858</u>		<u>1,791,454</u>	
Pension reserve		<u>(7,715,000)</u>		<u>(3,554,000)</u>	
Total restricted income funds			(4,366,142)		(1,762,546)
Unrestricted income funds	19		1,648,146		619,935
TOTAL DEFICIT			<u>(2,717,996)</u>		<u>(1,142,611)</u>

The financial statements on pages 28 to 65 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 11/12/17 and are signed on their behalf, by:

T J Rose
Chairman



THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	22	(995,060)	(924,537)
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Investment income		1,745	1,656
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(170,141)	(87,774)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA		1,426,879	1,108,451
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		4,409	32,000
Cash transferred on conversion		313,070	51,878
Assets transferred on conversion		(78,821)	(10,714)
Cash transferred on existing academy transfer		962,313	-
Assets transferred on existing academy transfer		(125,696)	-
Pension liabilities assumed extinguished on settlements		(1,000)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities		2,332,758	1,095,497
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		1,337,698	170,960
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		1,585,156	1,414,196
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward		2,922,854	1,585,156

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the 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 2016 to 2017 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the academy 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

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.3 Income

All income is recognised once the academy has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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.

Sponsorship income provided to the academy which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account in the period in which it is receivable, where receipt is probable and it is measurable.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Where assets are received by the trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risk and rewards of ownership pass to the trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within Income from donations and capital grants.

Where assets are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the trust, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the trust, which is on signing of the transfer agreement with the transferring trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the trust within Income and donations and capital grants.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.4 Expenditure

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

Expenditure on charitable activities are costs incurred on the academy's educational operations, including support costs and those costs relating to the governance of the academy appointed to charitable activities.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £2,000 are capitalised 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 incorporating income and expenditure account 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 incorporating income and expenditure account. 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 these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Fixtures and fittings	-	7 years
Computer equipment	-	5 years

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 incorporating income and expenditure account.

1.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the academy; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the Bank.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.7 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.8 Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

1.9 Debtors

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

1.10 Cash at Bank and in hand

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

1.11 Liabilities and provisions

Liabilities and provisions are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the academy anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide. Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

1.12 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised costs as detailed in note 18. 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 instruments. Amounts due to the academy's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.13 Taxation

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

1.14 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Governments 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. As stated in note 26, 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 incorporating income and expenditure account 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.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.15 Fund accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Department for Education 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 and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Transfers are made between the restricted fixed asset fund and the restricted general fund to the extent that fixed asset additions during the period are not covered by capital grants received, or vice versa to the extent that capital grants received are used to cover revenue expenditure.

1.16 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

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 26, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2017. 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.

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

2. INCOME FROM DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Voluntary income - transfer from Local Authority on conversion	637,983	(2,572,000)	78,821	(1,855,196)	(191,719)
Voluntary income	-	933,686	4,409	938,095	111,147
Voluntary income - transfers of existing academies into the trust	328,312	(1,640,434)	244,683	(1,067,439)	-
Subtotal detailed disclosure	966,295	(3,278,748)	327,913	(1,984,540)	(80,572)
Donations	-	731,455	-	731,455	420,054
Grants	-	-	1,426,879	1,426,879	1,108,451
Subtotal	-	731,455	1,426,879	2,158,334	1,528,505
	966,295	(2,547,293)	1,754,792	173,794	1,447,933
Total 2016	-	339,482	1,108,451	1,447,933	

3. FUNDING FOR ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant	-	10,456,756	10,456,756	4,295,464
Start up grants	-	145,000	145,000	210,000
Other DfE grants	-	1,552,610	1,552,610	644,826
	-	12,154,366	12,154,366	5,150,290
Total 2016	-	5,150,290	5,150,290	

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Lettings income	60,171	-	60,171	52,541
Music services income	-	13,022	13,022	2,543
Catering income	-	517,708	517,708	225,881
Uniform income	-	1,383	1,383	378
Trip income	-	154,839	154,839	69,520
Sales of goods and services	-	1,267	1,267	893
Activity costs	-	29,898	29,898	31,142
Supply teachers insurance income	-	82,213	82,213	48,230
Other income	-	258,330	258,330	38,425
	<u>60,171</u>	<u>1,058,660</u>	<u>1,118,831</u>	<u>469,553</u>
<i>Total 2016</i>	<u>83,684</u>	<u>385,869</u>	<u>469,553</u>	

5. INVESTMENT INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Investment income - local cash	1,745	-	1,745	1,656
	<u>1,745</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,745</u>	
<i>Total 2016</i>	<u>1,656</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,656</u>	

6. EXPENDITURE

	Staff costs 2017 £	Premises 2017 £	Other costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Educational operations:					
Direct costs	8,054,796	-	1,143,755	9,198,551	3,741,447
Support costs	3,055,009	2,906,362	1,401,199	7,362,570	3,458,597
	<u>11,109,805</u>	<u>2,906,362</u>	<u>2,544,954</u>	<u>16,561,121</u>	<u>7,200,044</u>
<i>Total 2016</i>	<u>4,226,591</u>	<u>1,896,054</u>	<u>1,077,399</u>	<u>7,200,044</u>	

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

7. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES

	Activities undertaken directly 2017 £	Support costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Educational operations	9,198,551	7,362,570	16,561,121	7,200,044
<i>Total 2016</i>	-	-	-	

Analysis of direct costs

	Educational operations £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Technology costs	42,968	42,968	9,868
Education supplies	607,236	607,236	298,319
Educational consultancy	273,701	273,701	109,471
Other direct costs	116,099	116,099	37,035
Wages and salaries	6,803,408	6,803,408	2,780,149
National insurance	525,605	525,605	170,300
Pension cost	727,131	727,131	301,377
Depreciation	102,403	102,403	34,928
	9,198,551	9,198,551	3,741,447
<i>At 31 August 2016</i>	3,741,447	3,741,447	

THE DIOCESE OF CHELMSFORD VINE SCHOOLS TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017**

7. ANALYSIS OF EXPENDITURE BY ACTIVITIES (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Pension costs	159,000	159,000	66,000
Staff costs	3,042,834	3,042,834	974,766
Technology costs	245,372	245,372	90,137
Recruitment and support	55,176	55,176	7,706
Maintenance of premises and equipment	1,549,905	1,549,905	1,251,503
Cleaning	75,093	75,093	32,236
Rent and rates	933,966	933,966	458,924
Energy costs	163,346	163,346	74,928
Insurance	134,956	134,956	62,317
Security and transport	38,270	38,270	16,146
Catering	402,225	402,225	176,597
Bank interest and charges	3,501	3,501	(1,429)
Other support costs	495,706	495,706	220,926
Audit and accountancy	63,220	63,220	27,840
	7,362,570	7,362,570	3,458,597
<i>At 31 August 2016</i>	3,392,597	3,392,597	

8. NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)

This is stated after charging:

	2017 £	2016 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	102,403	34,927
Auditors' remuneration - audit	22,000	17,000
Auditors' remuneration - other services	17,850	9,650
Governance internal audit costs	23,370	8,065
Operating lease rentals	23,676	7,114

9. AUDITORS' REMUNERATION

The Auditor's remuneration amounts to an audit fee of £22,000 (2016 - £17,000), and other services of £17,850 (2015 - £9,650)

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10. STAFF COSTS

Staff costs were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Wages and salaries	8,497,686	3,441,704
Social security costs	619,415	195,731
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	1,981,877	589,156
	<u>11,098,978</u>	<u>4,226,591</u>
Apprenticeship levy	10,827	-
	<u>11,109,805</u>	<u>4,226,591</u>

Included within salary and wages costs is a settlement payment made during the year which was fully covered by insurance recoveries.

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

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers	152	62
Administration and support	348	143
Management	18	6
	<u>518</u>	<u>211</u>

Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent:

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers	115	48
Administration and support	170	69
Management	17	6
	<u>302</u>	<u>123</u>

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

	2017 No.	2016 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	7	5
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	0
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	0	1

6 of the 8 of the employees in the above bandings participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31 August 2017, pension contributions for all the staff included in the Teachers Pension scheme amounted to £65,558 (2016: £31,352). The 2 other employees not in the Teachers Pension Scheme are included within the Local Government Pension Scheme.

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10. STAFF COSTS (continued)

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and senior management team as listed on page 1. The total of the employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,020,815 (2016: £371,085).

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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11. CENTRAL SERVICES

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

- ICT support services and resources
- Financial services
- Legal and professional services
- Educational and training support services and resources
- Others as arising

The academy charges for these services on the following basis:

flat percentage of the General Annual Grant as follows:

- Southminster Church of England Primary School - 5% plus 2% towards school improvement
- St Cedd's Church of England Primary School - 5%
- Howbridge Church of England Junior School - 5%
- St James Harlow Church of England Primary School - 5%
- Latchingdon Church of England Primary School - 5%
- St Osyth Church of England Primary School - 5% plus 2% towards school improvement
- St Andrews Church of England Primary School - 5%
- The Rolph Church of England Primary School - 5%
- Great Clacton Church of England Junior School - 5%
- Mistley Norman Church of England Primary School - 5% plus 2% towards school improvement
- St James Colchester Church of England Primary School - 5% plus 2% towards school improvement
- St Margarets Church of England Primary School - 5%
- Orsett Church of England Primary School - 5%
- Bulphan Church of England Primary School - 5% plus 2% towards school improvement
- Belchamp St Paul Church of England Primary School - 5%
- Ridgewell Church of England Primary School - 5% plus 2% towards school improvement

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Southminster Church of England Primary School	51,841	45,088
St Cedd's Church of England Primary School	31,119	26,126
Howbridge Church of England Junior School	61,428	48,439
St James Harlow Church of England Primary School	43,872	33,522
Latchingdon Church of England Primary School	22,574	17,475
St Osyth Church of England Primary School	84,747	24,096
St Andrews Church of England Primary School	41,041	-
The Rolph Church of England Primary School	39,391	-
Great Clacton Church of England Junior School	49,571	-
Mistley Norman Church of England Primary School	25,086	-
St James Colchester Church of England Primary School	96,254	-
St Margarets Church of England Primary School	37,219	-
Orsett Church of England Primary School	7,038	-
Bulphan Church of England Primary School	2,583	-
Belchamp St Paul Church of England Primary School	1,739	-
Ridgewell Church of England Primary School	2,472	-
Total	<u>597,975</u>	<u>194,746</u>

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12. 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 Principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and other staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2017	2016
		£'000	£'000
P Ward - remuneration	Remuneration	60-65	60-65
P Ward - employers pension contribution	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	10-15	10-15
John Crane - remuneration	Remuneration	75-80	
John Crane - employers pension contribution	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	15-20	

During the year ended 31 August 2017, expenses totalling £7,498 (2016 - £1,841) were reimbursed to 2 Trustees (2016 - 2).

13. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

The academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

14. OTHER FINANCE INCOME

	2017	2016
	£	£
Interest on pension scheme liabilities	(159,000)	(66,000)

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15. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Fixtures and fittings	Computer equipment	Total
Cost			
At 1 September 2016	85,241	126,831	212,072
Additions	50,133	120,007	170,140
Transfer on conversion	14,956	63,865	78,821
Transfer of existing academy	44,126	81,570	125,696
	<u>194,456</u>	<u>392,273</u>	<u>586,729</u>
At 31 August 2017			
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2016	18,630	38,523	57,153
Charge for the year	30,808	71,595	102,403
	<u>49,438</u>	<u>110,118</u>	<u>159,556</u>
At 31 August 2017			
Net book value			
At 31 August 2017	<u>145,018</u>	<u>282,155</u>	<u>427,173</u>
At 31 August 2016	<u>66,611</u>	<u>88,308</u>	<u>154,919</u>

16. STOCKS

	2017 £	2016 £
Finished goods and goods for resale	<u>4,785</u>	<u>1,945</u>

17. DEBTORS

	2017 £	2016 £
Due after more than one year		
Other debtors	964,794	420,054
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	37,758	38,935
Other debtors	2,118,153	1,071,219
Prepayments and accrued income	184,946	73,027
	<u>3,305,651</u>	<u>1,603,235</u>

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18. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade creditors	568,008	541,952
Other taxation and social security	199,763	74,195
Other creditors	340,396	76,253
Accruals and deferred income	555,292	241,466
	<u>1,663,459</u>	<u>933,866</u>

Included in other creditors is a Salix loan of £17,442 funded by the EFA, this was an energy saving loan made to St Andrews Primary School during the year to 31st August 2015.

	2017 £	2016 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2016	113,085	-
Resources deferred during the year	224,586	113,085
Amounts released from previous years	(113,085)	(49,530)
Deferred income at 31 August 2017	<u>224,586</u>	<u>63,555</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for universal infant free school meals.

19. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
Unrestricted funds						
Designated Funds - all funds	289,600	-	-	93,100	-	382,700
General funds						
General Funds - all funds	330,335	1,028,211	-	(93,100)	-	1,265,446
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>619,935</u>	<u>1,028,211</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,648,146</u>

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19. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Restricted funds

Restricted Funds - all funds	678,732	13,581,007	(14,214,726)	591,167	-	636,180
Right to occupy the land	840,108	1,919,726	(830,246)	-	-	1,929,588
Pension reserve	(3,554,000)	(4,835,000)	(1,413,746)	550,746	1,537,000	(7,715,000)
	<u>(2,035,160)</u>	<u>10,665,733</u>	<u>(16,458,718)</u>	<u>1,141,913</u>	<u>1,537,000</u>	<u>(5,149,232)</u>

Restricted fixed asset funds

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds - all funds	272,614	1,754,792	(102,403)	(1,141,913)	-	783,090
Total restricted funds	<u>(1,762,546)</u>	<u>12,420,525</u>	<u>(16,561,121)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,537,000</u>	<u>(4,366,142)</u>
Total of funds	<u>(1,142,611)</u>	<u>13,448,736</u>	<u>(16,561,121)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,537,000</u>	<u>(2,717,996)</u>

STATEMENT OF FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	Balance at 1 September 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2016 £
Designated funds						
Designated Funds - all funds	107,400	-	-	182,200	-	289,600
	<u>107,400</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>182,200</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>289,600</u>
General funds						
General Funds - all funds	398,775	113,760	-	(182,200)	-	330,335
	<u>398,775</u>	<u>113,760</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(182,200)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>330,335</u>
Total Unrestricted funds	<u>506,175</u>	<u>113,760</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>619,935</u>

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19. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Restricted funds

Restricted Funds - all funds	520,409	5,646,451	(6,391,282)	903,154	-	678,732
Right to occupy the land	540,454	719,708	(420,054)	-	-	840,108
Pension reserve	(1,431,000)	(586,000)	(353,780)	199,780	(1,383,000)	(3,554,000)
	<u>(370,137)</u>	<u>5,780,159</u>	<u>(7,165,116)</u>	<u>1,102,934</u>	<u>(1,383,000)</u>	<u>(2,035,160)</u>

Restricted fixed asset funds

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds - all funds	234,963	1,175,513	(34,928)	(1,102,934)	-	272,614
	<u>234,963</u>	<u>1,175,513</u>	<u>(34,928)</u>	<u>(1,102,934)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>272,614</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>(135,174)</u>	<u>6,955,672</u>	<u>(7,200,044)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,383,000)</u>	<u>(1,762,546)</u>
Total of funds	<u>371,001</u>	<u>7,069,432</u>	<u>(7,200,044)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,383,000)</u>	<u>(1,142,611)</u>

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

The Multi Academy Trust's principle source of income is government funding derived from the Education Funding Agency (EFA), in the form of recurrent grants and start up grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the EFA during the period ended 31 August 2016 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Multi Academy Trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the EFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2005), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned and determined by the Trusts Accounting Policy.

The balance sheet includes a liability of £7,715,000 in relation to the Academy's FRS 102 valuation of the Local Government Pension Scheme (see note for further details).

The Board of Trustees are acutely aware of the future impact of a continuing reduction in pupil led funding levels, in conjunction with the potential conflict of new ring-fenced funding streams on existing pupil specific grants. It has therefore been deemed appropriate that financial prudence is practiced and an increased reserves programme is being introduced to enable the Trust and its member schools to more effectively react to unforeseen events. £93,100 has been transferred in the year to a designated fund.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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19. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF ACADEMIES BY FUND BALANCE

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Southminster Church of England Primary School	361,046	446,502
St Cedd's Church of England Primary School	289,273	313,165
Howbridge Church of England Junior School	326,346	591,332
St James Church of England Primary	239,831	211,046
Latchingdon Church of England Primary	104,086	80,090
St Osyth Church of England Primary	252,629	175,078
St Andrews Church of England Primary	190,499	-
The Rolph Church of England Primary	306,435	-
Great Clacton Church of England Junior School	235,849	-
Mistley Norman Church of England Primary	35,503	-
St James Colchester Church of England Primary	395,489	-
St Margarets Church of England Primary	288,871	-
Orsett Church of England Primary	187,646	-
Bulphan Church of England Primary	77,000	-
Belchamp St Paul Church of England Primary	150,716	-
Ridgewell Church of England Primary	119,832	-
Central Services	652,863	321,562
Total before fixed asset fund and pension reserve	<u>4,213,914</u>	<u>2,138,775</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	783,090	272,614
Pension reserve	(7,715,000)	(3,554,000)
Total	<u><u>(2,717,996)</u></u>	<u><u>(1,142,611)</u></u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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19. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF ACADEMIES BY COST

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciat- ion £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Southminster Church of England Primary School	617,144	194,151	93,343	519,170	1,423,808	988,579
St Cedd's Church of England Primary School	458,037	149,139	57,355	161,781	826,312	1,035,606
Howbridge Church of England Junior School	1,035,606	364,626	159,352	995,343	2,554,927	2,490,811
St James Church of England Primary School	659,299	230,026	71,162	199,877	1,160,364	1,076,976
Latchingdon Church of England Primary School	340,283	93,215	38,796	148,213	620,507	685,188
St Osyth Church of England Primary School	918,766	288,864	101,212	273,817	1,582,659	531,614
St Andrews Church of England Primary	649,099	189,565	82,586	214,110	1,135,360	-
The Rolph Church of England Primary	507,463	161,641	73,929	172,482	915,515	-
Great Clacton Church of England Juniors	760,867	257,680	89,364	330,849	1,438,760	-
Mistley Norman Church of England Primary	256,662	48,737	25,490	384,037	714,926	-
St James Colchester Church of England Primary	1,086,108	427,175	135,667	381,736	2,030,686	-
St Margaret's Church of England Primary	554,122	205,178	39,211	179,137	977,648	-
Orsett Church of England Primary	103,978	36,364	616	21,953	162,911	-
Bulphan Church of England Primary	21,680	7,329	-	7,066	36,075	-
Belchamp St Paul Church of England Primary	28,756	5,742	349	4,371	39,218	-

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19. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

Ridgewell Church of England Primary	23,113	8,762	-	3,721	35,596	-
Central services	33,902	375,900	72,432	321,212	803,446	-
	<u>8,054,885</u>	<u>3,044,094</u>	<u>1,040,864</u>	<u>4,318,875</u>	<u>16,458,718</u>	<u>6,808,774</u>

20. THE RIGHT TO OCCUPY THE LAND (INCLUDING BUILDINGS)

The academy trust occupies the land (including buildings) which are owned by its trustees who are incumbents and churchwardens in the case of Latchingdon Church of England Primary School and Chelmsford Diocesan Board of Finance in the case of the other schools. The Trustees are the providers of the academies on the same basis as when the academies were maintained schools. The Academy Trust Company occupies the land (and buildings) under a licence to occupy. This continuing permission of their Trustees is pursuant to, and subject to the Trustees' charitable objects, and is part of the Church of England contribution since 1833 to provide state funded education in partnership with the state. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land (and buildings) to the Academy Trust Company for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the Academy Trust Company. The trustees have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the Academy Trust less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the land (including the buildings). Having considered the factual matrix under which the Academy Trust is occupying the land the Trustees have considered that a donation in kind and a rent expense of £830,246 should be included in the accounts each year which amounts to 1/50th of the insurance rebuild value pro-rata and a value in use of £1,929,588 should be considered as being twice the annual rental value, this is included in other debtors and shown as a separate restricted fund.

21. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	427,173	427,173
Debtors due after more than 1 year	-	964,794	-	964,794
Current assets	1,648,146	3,264,433	355,917	5,268,496
Creditors due within one year	-	(1,663,459)	-	(1,663,459)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(7,715,000)	-	(7,715,000)
	<u>1,648,146</u>	<u>(5,149,232)</u>	<u>783,090</u>	<u>(2,717,996)</u>

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21. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS (continued)

ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS - PRIOR YEAR

	<i>Unrestricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted funds</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>	<i>Total funds</i>
	2016	2016	2016	2016
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	154,919	154,919
Debtors due after more than 1 year	-	420,054	-	420,054
Current assets	619,935	2,032,652	117,695	2,770,282
Creditors due within one year	-	(933,866)	-	(933,866)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(3,554,000)	-	(3,554,000)
	<u>619,935</u>	<u>(2,035,160)</u>	<u>272,614</u>	<u>(1,142,611)</u>

22. RECONCILIATION OF NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2017 £	2016 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(3,112,385)	(130,612)
Adjustment for:		
Depreciation charges	102,403	34,928
Investment income	(1,745)	(1,656)
Increase in stocks	(2,840)	(1,047)
Increase in debtors	(1,702,417)	(864,837)
Increase in creditors	729,593	491,016
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,426,878)	(1,108,451)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited on conversion	2,572,000	586,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	704,000	88,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance Cost	159,000	66,000
Net (loss) on assets and liabilities from local authority on conversion	(78,821)	(51,878)
Capital Donation	(4,409)	(32,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited on transfer from another multi-academy trust	2,263,000	-
Net (loss) on fixed assets and liabilities transferred from another multi-academy trust	(125,696)	-
Net (loss) on current assets and liabilities transferred from another multi-academy trust	(1,069,865)	-
Net cash used in operating activities	<u>(995,060)</u>	<u>(924,537)</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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23. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS

	2017 £	2016 £
Cash in hand	2,922,854	1,585,156
Total	<u>2,922,854</u>	<u>1,585,156</u>

24. CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1 October 2016 St James Colchester C of E Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	14,955	14,955
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	248,534	-	-	248,534
LGPS pension surplus/(deficit)	-	(942,000)	-	(942,000)
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>248,534</u>	<u>(942,000)</u>	<u>14,955</u>	<u>(678,511)</u>

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CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1 October 2016 St Margarets C of E Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for using the acquisition method. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as voluntary income.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	23,031	23,031
Other assets	16,514	-	-	16,514
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	84,771	-	-	84,771
LGPS pension surplus/(deficit)	-	(586,000)	-	(586,000)
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>101,285</u>	<u>(586,000)</u>	<u>23,031</u>	<u>(461,684)</u>

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CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1st convert July 2017 Orsett C of E Primary converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for using the acquisition method. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as voluntary income.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	23,230	23,230
Other assets	11,252	-	-	11,252
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	61,921	-	-	61,921
LGPS pension surplus(deficit)	-	(496,000)	-	(496,000)
	<u>73,173</u>	<u>(496,000)</u>	<u>23,230</u>	<u>(399,597)</u>
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>73,173</u>	<u>(496,000)</u>	<u>23,230</u>	<u>(399,597)</u>

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CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1st August 2017 Bulphan C of E Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for using the acquisition method. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as voluntary income.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,418	8,418
Other assets	2,367	-	-	2,367
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	29,341	-	-	29,341
LGPS pension surplus(deficit)	-	(175,000)	-	(175,000)
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>31,708</u>	<u>(175,000)</u>	<u>8,418</u>	<u>(134,874)</u>

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CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1st August 2017 Ridgewell C of E Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for using the acquisition method. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as voluntary income.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,186	9,186
Other assets	-	-	-	-
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	62,670	-	-	62,670
LGPS pension surplus(deficit)	-	(215,000)	-	(215,000)
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>62,670</u>	<u>(215,000)</u>	<u>9,186</u>	<u>(143,144)</u>

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CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1st August 2017 Belchamp St Paul C of E Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for using the acquisition method. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as voluntary income.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Other assets	-	-	-	-
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	88,959	-	-	88,959
LGPS pension surplus(deficit)	-	(158,000)	-	(158,000)
Net assets/(liabilities)	88,959	(158,000)	-	(69,041)

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CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY TRUST

On 1st May 2016 St Osyth C of E Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust from Essex County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer was accounted for using the acquisition method in the previous year. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as net incoming resources in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as voluntary income in the previous year.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred late that were omitted last year and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account during this year.

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Other assets	-	-	-	-
Budget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	31,654	-	-	31,654
LGPS pension surplus(deficit)	-	-	-	-
	<u>31,654</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,654</u>
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>31,654</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>31,654</u>

25. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2017 the academy had capital commitments as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	<u>207,652</u>	<u>42,410</u>

26. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teacher's Pension Scheme for 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 County Council. Both are Multi-employer defined benefit pension schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £79,221 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2017 (2016 - £66,624) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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26. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. 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 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay, including a 0.08% employer administration charge (currently 14.1%)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £650,031 (2016 - £280,360).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2017 was £615,060 (2016 - £256,780), of which employer's contributions totalled £452,060 (2016 - £199,780) and employees' contributions totalled £163,000 (2016 - £57,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 12.3% for employers and

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26. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

5.5 - 12.5% for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions:

	2017	2016
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.59 %	2.20 %
Expected return on scheme assets at 31 August	2.70 %	2.20 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.20 %	4.10 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	3.60 %	2.30 %
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.70 %	2.30 %
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00 %	60.00 %

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

	2017	2016
Retiring today		
Males	22.2	22.9
Females	24.7	25.3
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.3	25.2
Females	27.0	27.7

	At 31 August 2017 £	At 31 August 2016 £
Sensitivity analysis		
Discount rate +0.1%	11,814,000	4,323,000
Discount rate -0.1%	12,417,000	4,570,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	12,514,000	4,558,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	11,724,000	4,334,000
CPI rate +0.1%	12,362,000	4,539,000
CPI rate -0.1%	11,870,000	4,353,000

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26. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2017 £	Fair value at 31 August 2016 £
Equities	2,868,000	612,000
Gilts	445,000	70,000
Corporate bonds	426,000	99,000
Cash	-	26,660
Cash and other liquid assets	136,000	26,660
Alternative assets	336,000	39,000
Other managed funds	187,000	43,000
Total market value of assets	<u>4,398,000</u>	<u>916,320</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £427,000 (2016 - £96,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account are as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Current service cost	(1,254,746)	(287,780)
Interest cost	(159,000)	(66,000)
Total	<u>(1,413,746)</u>	<u>(353,780)</u>

Movements in the present value of the defined benefit obligation were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Opening defined benefit obligation	4,443,660	1,789,880
Upon conversion	3,915,000	766,000
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	3,259,670	-
Current service cost	1,254,746	287,780
Interest cost	225,000	89,000
Employee contributions	163,000	57,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(1,176,000)	1,456,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	145,000	-
Effect of non-routine settlements	(116,000)	(2,000)
Liabilities assumed extinguished on settlements	1,000	-
Closing defined benefit obligation	<u>12,115,076</u>	<u>4,443,660</u>

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26. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

Movements in the fair value of the academy's share of scheme assets:

	2017 £	2016 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets	889,660	358,880
Upon conversion	1,343,000	180,000
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	996,670	-
Interest income	66,000	23,000
Actuarial losses	361,000	73,000
Employer contributions	550,745	199,780
Employee contributions	163,000	57,000
Benefits paid	(116,000)	(2,000)
Return on assets	145,000	-
Settlement prices received/(paid)	1,000	-
	<u>4,400,075</u>	<u>887,660</u>
Closing fair value of scheme assets	<u>4,400,075</u>	<u>887,660</u>

27. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2017 the total of the Academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2017 £	2016 £
Amounts payable:		
Within 1 year	30,450	9,782
Between 1 and 5 years	37,269	9,352
Total	<u>67,719</u>	<u>19,134</u>

28. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

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

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29. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust, a member in The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust, previously formed another Multi Academy Trust, The Diocese of Chelmsford Sower School Trust, with which this Trust shares some facilities and staff. From 1st September 2016 the two academy trusts were joined with The Diocese of Chelmsford Sower Schools Trust becoming part of The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust.

During the year The Diocese of Chelmsford agreed to donate £74,594 to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust to cover the merger costs with The Diocese of Chelmsford Sower Schools Trust. At 31 August 2017 £nil (2016: £53,875) was owed to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust. During the year £11,040 of expenses were re-charged (2016: £9,239) from The Diocese of Chelmsford to The Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust. At 31st August 2017 £nil (2016: £1,616) was owed to The Diocese of Chelmsford.

In entering into the transactions above, the trust has complied with the requirements of the EFA's Academies Financial Handbook.

30. TRANSFER OF EXISTING ACADEMIES INTO THE ACADEMY

**The Diocese of Chelmsford Sower School
Trust - Transferred-in multi academy trust**

	Value reporting by transferring trust £	Fair value adjustments £	Transfer in recognised £
Tangible fixed assets			
Fixtures and fittings	44,126	-	44,126
Computer equipment	81,570	-	81,570
Stock	4,345	-	4,345
Debtors due after one year	179,013	-	179,013
Debtors due within one year	383,072	-	383,072
Cash in bank and in hand	857,705	-	857,705
Liabilities			
Creditors due within one year	(354,270)	-	(354,270)
Pensions			
Pensions - pension scheme assets	996,790	-	996,790
Pensions - pension scheme liabilities	(3,259,790)	-	(3,259,790)
Net liabilities	<u>(1,067,439)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,067,439)</u>

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