

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**

Trustees report and financial statements

For the year ended 31 August 2017

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Reference and administrative details**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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<b>Members</b>	Reverend I Poole R Lawton (appointed 5 July 2017) K Kent (appointed 11 January 2017) S Legg (appointed 5 July 2017) Dr R Roberts (appointed 11 January 2017)
<b>Trustees</b>	L Kruczek*, Chair K Bradshaw* (resigned 18 July 2017) J Briscoe (appointed 5 July 2017) D Brown (appointed 11 January 2017) K Grayson*, Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer G Hawkins (appointed 11 January 2017, resigned 18 July 2017) K Kent (resigned 11 January 2017) L Talbot (appointed 11 January 2017) G McDonald* K Pal* D Percival
<b>Company registered number</b>	09780473
<b>Company name</b>	Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust
<b>Principal and registered office</b>	Stafford Road Fordhouses Wolverhampton West Midlands WV10 6NN
<b>Company secretary</b>	T Chopra
<b>Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer</b>	K Grayson
<b>Senior management team</b>	K Grayson, Executive Headteacher L Dollery, Associate Headteacher L Foster, Deputy Headteacher (Elston Hall Primary) B Highman, Deputy Headteacher (Elston Hall Primary) S Collett, Deputy Headteacher (Palmers Cross Primary) R Cooper, Deputy Headteacher (Edward the Elder Primary) T Chopra, Trust Business Manager
<b>Independent auditors</b>	Dains LLP 15 Colmore Row Birmingham B3 2BH
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank 3rd Floor, Queen Square Wolverhampton WV1 1TF

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
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**Reference and administrative details of the academy, its trustees and advisers**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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**Advisers (continued)**

<b>Solicitors</b>	Howes Percival LLP Nene House 4 Rushmills Northampton Northamptonshire NN4 7YB
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**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
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**Trustees' report**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 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 three primary academies in Wolverhampton, all of which include a nursery. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 1050 plus 81 in nursery and had a roll of 1107 (including 109 in nursery) in the school census on 6 October 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 document of the academy trust.

The Trustees of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law. The charitable company is known as Elston Hall Multi Academy 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.

**c. Trustees' indemnities**

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Trust has purchased insurance to protect its Members, Directors, Academy Representatives and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The professional indemnity insurance cover is 'unlimited' and provided by the Department for Education under their 'Risk Protection Arrangements'.

**d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees**

Full details are laid out in the Trust's Articles of Association. The number of Trustees shall not be less than three (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) and shall not be subject to any maximum.

Subject to Articles 48-49 and 53, the Academy Trust shall have the following Trustees:

- a) Up to 9 Trustees, appointed under Article 50; and
- b) A minimum of 2 Parent Trustees elected or appointed under Articles 53-56 in the event that no Local Governing Bodies are established under Article 100a or if no provision is made for at least 2 Parent Local Governors on each established Local Governing Body pursuant to Article 101A.

The Academy Trust may also have any Co-opted Trustee appointed under Article 58.

The first Trustees shall be those persons named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006.

Future Trustees shall be appointed or elected, as the case may be, under these Articles. Where it is not

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**Trustees' report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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possible for such a Trustee to be appointed or elected due to the fact that an Academy has not yet been established, then the relevant Article or part thereof shall not apply.

Members may appoint new Trustees by ordinary resolution, up to 9 Trustees.

Members may also appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine.

**e. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees**

Upon appointment, all Trustees attended a training session delivered by the Trust's Solicitors that covered Governance, Trustee Roles and Responsibilities. Trustees also received a pack containing key Trust documents. A 'Governors Training' SLA package is also purchased from Services 4 Schools which is extended to Trustees.

**f. Organisational structure**

Members of the trust meet annually and have established an overall framework for the governance of all academies operating within the Trust.

The Board of Trustees meet on at least a termly basis and make all major decisions about the strategic direction of the Trust.

The Board is supported by a Finance, General Purposes & Audit Committee which is responsible for all financial matters of the Trust, strategic budget monitoring and ensuring appropriate controls are in place.

Each Academy has a Local Governing Body that meets half termly with responsibility for local financial decision making and budget monitoring, achievement and curriculum related matters.

The Accounting Officer for the Trust is the Executive Headteacher.

**g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel**

Decisions in relation to the Executive and Associate Headteacher posts are reviewed and implemented in accordance with the Trust's Pay Policy by the Finance, General Purposes and Audit Committee and minuted as 'confidential items'. Other members of the Leadership Team are also reviewed against the Trust's Pay Policy and considered by the relevant Local Governing Body. Such decisions are further ratified by the Board.

**h. Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations**

The Trust does not currently participate with any related parties or other connected charities and organisations.

**Objectives and Activities**

**a. Objects and aims**

The principal object and activity of the Trust is the operation of Elston Hall Primary School, Palmers Cross Primary School and Edward the Elder Primary School to provide education for pupils aged 3-11. In addition the Trust will focus on developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum whilst working closely with parents and other agencies, as appropriate, to maximise children's achievement in all areas of school life.

## **b. Objectives, strategies and activities**

### **Our Vision**

Our schools are places where learners are happy in an environment based on trust and support. We will settle for nothing less than excellence in our drive for achievement wherever this can be found.

### **Our Aims**

- To attain a calm, welcoming and purposeful atmosphere; providing a curriculum which is broad, balanced, enjoyable and challenging; differentiated in order to meet the needs of all our children.
- To provide a school environment that is attractive, stimulating and informative that motivates individuals to reach their full potential. This will be done within a culture of learning, high standards and expectations.
- We want our school to be a happy, safe environment where everyone feels cared for, nurtured, valued and free from discrimination. We aim to encourage mutual respect and sensitivity to the needs of others and recognise and celebrate success in everyone.
- To encourage and develop parental involvement in everyday life of each school and to foster a partnership between our schools and the wider community based on trust and openness.
- To empower staff and governors to develop their professional expertise and fulfill their role as valued members of a team, working to achieve the aims of the school, through effective leadership systems and professional development of staff.
- To ensure we promote the expectations outlined within the National agenda across EYFS, Key Stage 1 and 2 with regard to local and other legal regulations.

## **c. Public benefit**

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties when reviewing the Academy's aims and objectives and planning future activities.

## **Strategic report**

### **Achievements and performance**

#### **a. Key performance indicators**

The schools continue to use evidence from Ofsted RAISEonline in addition to its own data as Key Performance Indicators.

#### **b. Going concern**

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy 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 Accounting Policies.

c. Review of outcomes

Outcomes for Elston Hall Primary School as at July 2017

Reception

Good Level of Development 78%

2017	Reading	Writing	Number
ELG 2+	80%	79%	84%

Year 2

2017	Reading	Writing	Maths
Expected Standard +	83%	79%	80%
Greater Depth	36%	29%	31%

Year 6

2017	Reading	SPAG	Maths	Writing TA
Expected Standard+	92%	91%	91%	90%
Greater Depth	48%	54%	29%	19%
Progress (NA is 0.0)	4.93	N/A	1.41	2.49

Outcomes for Palmers Cross Primary School as at July 2017

Reception

Good Level of Development 77%

2017	Reading	Writing	Number
ELG 2+	77%	77%	77%

Year 2

2017	Reading	Writing	Maths
Expected Standard +	82%	82%	85%
Greater Depth	24%	24%	24%

Year 6

2017	Reading	SPAG	Maths	Writing TA
Expected Standard+	71%	71%	64%	71%
Greater Depth	21%	21%	14%	21%
Progress (NA is 0.0)	3.60	N/A	3.26	1.75



**Outcomes for Edward the Elder as at July 2017**

**Reception**

Good Level of Development 77%

2017	Reading	Writing	Number
<b>ELG 2+</b>	80%	77%	80%

**Year 2**

2017	Reading	Writing	Maths
<b>Expected Standard +</b>	73%	73%	80%
<b>Greater Depth</b>	27%	23%	30%

**Year 6**

2017	Reading	SPAG	Maths	Writing TA
<b>Expected Standard+</b>	70%	77%	83%	23%
<b>Greater Depth</b>	10%	23%	7%	7%
<b>Progress (NA is 0.0)</b>	0.26	N/A	0.26	2.67

**National averages and Elston Hall MAT averages**

		Trust Average	National Average	Academy Sponsored	Academy Converter
<b>Combined</b>	<b>Expected</b>	67	61	52	65
	<b>Higher level</b>	10	9	5	10
<b>Reading</b>	<b>Expected</b>	77	71	62	75
	<b>Higher level</b>	26	25		
<b>Writing</b>	<b>Expected</b>	81	76	71	80
	<b>Higher level</b>	16	18		
<b>Maths</b>	<b>Expected</b>	80	75	67	78
	<b>Higher level</b>	17	23		
<b>GPS</b>	<b>Expected</b>	80	77	68	80
	<b>Higher level</b>	33	31		

**Financial review**

**a. Financial review**

The Trust has completed its second academic year (established October 2015) for the period ended 31st August 2017. It should be noted that Edward the Elder Primary School joined the Trust in December 2016 and therefore only operated for 9 months under the Trust. The majority of the Trust's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted. Grants received and associated expenditure is shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Elston Hall Primary School - The budget covering the period September 2016 to August 2017 resulted in an in year deficit of £30k against a deficit planned budget of £30k. This is mainly due an increase in UIFSM funding and savings achieved in staffing and premises related costs.

Palmers Cross Primary School – The budget covering the period September 2016 to August 2017 resulted in an

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**Trustees' report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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in-year deficit of £82k against a planned deficit budget of £32k.

Edward the Elder Primary School – The budget covering the period December 2016 to August 2017 resulted in an in year deficit of £38k against a balanced budget.

**b. Reserves policy**

The Trust will review the reserve levels annually in accordance with the requirements specified in the Master Funding Agreement. The review will encompass identifying the nature of income and expenditure streams and the need to match income with commitments. Trustees will take into consideration the future plans of the Trust in accordance with 3 yearly budget plans, the uncertainty over future income streams and any other key risks identified during the risk review.

**c. Investment policy**

The Trust's investment principles are outlined in its Investment Policy which requires the Trust to:

- undertake suitable risk assessment against any potential investment
- gain professional advice
- review ethical status of potential investments
- monitor and report upon performance

The Trust does not currently have any active investments.

**d. Principal risks and uncertainties**

**Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies**

The risk management process involves identification and review of risks annually by the Finance, General Purposes & Audit Committee. This identifies the types of risk, risk score (high, medium, low) and actions taken to mitigate/minimise risk levels. These have been presented to the Board in the form of an action plan which will be monitored on an ongoing basis.

In addition, financial risks of not achieving budget plan forecast outcomes and actions required are outlined as part of the 3 yearly budget forecast monitoring process which is regularly reported to the Executive and Associate Headteachers and the Finance, General Purposes and Audit Committee.

The key risks of concern to the Multi-Academy Trust have been identified as follows:

- Failure to ensure that the objectives of the academy are met;
- Failure of the academy to recruit sufficient learners to make it viable;
- Failure of the Academy and the Governing Body to have procedures in place to cover the absence of the Headteacher or other members of the Senior Leadership Team;
- Failure to ensure that staff recruited to the school have the required skills and expertise to meet the strategic objectives of the school;
- National Funding Review and Spending Reviews result in significant decrease in funding.

**Plans for future periods**

**a. Future developments**

Future aims of the Trust include the following:

- Continue to support Primary Schools in Wolverhampton following their request to join the MAT:  
- Goldthorn Park Primary School - joined the Trust on 1st November 2017.

**Trustees' report (continued)**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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- Plans for continued excellent performance are identified in each Academy School Improvement Plan (SIP). An understanding of each Academy's effectiveness can be judged through its self-evaluation form.
- The following priorities are shared across the Trust:

**Achievement**

To ensure every child, regardless of their starting point, achieves their maximum potential. Progress and attainment will be above national averages for all groups. Behaviour will be excellent and attendance levels will be above average in all Academies.

**Quality of Teaching and Learning**

This will be high standards of learning supported by teaching that is at least Good and much Outstanding.

**Leadership**

The Trust will continue to develop and grow its own Leaders who will be outstanding and effective in ensuring high standards are maintained.

The effectiveness of these plans and actions will be reported at half termly Local Governing Board meetings.

- The Trust will continue to strive to achieve excellence in children's performance levels.

**Funds held as custodian**

No monies are being held on behalf of other schools or other organisations as at 31 August 2017.

**Disclosure of information to auditors**

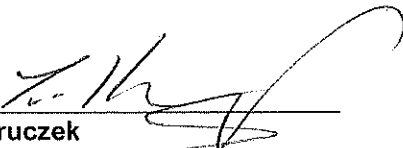
Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- 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, Dains LLP, 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 29 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**L Kruczek**  
**Chair of Trustees**

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
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**Governance Statement**

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**Scope of Responsibility**

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Executive Headteacher, 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 Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the statement of trustees' responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 5 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
L Kruczek, Chair	5	5
K Bradshaw (resigned 18 July 2017)	5	5
J Briscoe (appointed 5 July 2017)	1	1
D Brown (appointed 11 January 2017)	3	3
K Grayson, Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer	5	5
G Hawkins (appointed 11 January 2017, resigned 18 July 2017)	2	3
K Kent (resigned 11 January 2017)	2	2
G McDonald (resigned 18 July 2017)	4	5
L Talbot (appointed 11 January 2017)	1	3
K Pal	5	5
D Percival	3	5

**Governance Reviews**

A skills review was undertaken during the academy conversion application process to ensure all Trustees had relevant and sufficient experience in order to effectively discharge their duties as a Director for the Trust.

A documented review will now be completed annually from October 2016 to ensure continued effectiveness of Directors' skills and identification of any potential training needs. The Chair of Trustees will undertake a governance review following successful conversion of Edward the Elder in joining the Trust.

The **Finance and General Purposes Committee** is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to assist the board in effective and informed decision making. The committee are required to give detailed consideration to the best means of fulfilling the board's responsibility and to ensure sound management of the Trust's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
L Kruczek	2	2
K Grayson	2	2
K Pal (Chair)	2	2
K Bradshaw	2	2
G McDonald	1	2

**Governance Statement (continued)**

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**Review of Value for Money**

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the academy'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:

- The Headteacher post at Edward the Elder Primary School remains vacant following conversion. The school is currently led by the Deputy Headteacher with support from the Associate and Executive Headteachers. This is consistent with the leadership structure across all schools in the Trust.
- Appointment of a Finance Manager to assist the Trust Business Manager to ensure the efficiency of systems, processes, procedures and financial controls and that these are consistent across all schools as the Trust develops and expands.
- Review of current Service Level Agreements (SLA) has resulted in savings being achieved and Contracts across all schools has identified areas where future Trust contracts can be negotiated (upon end of contractual terms) to continue to achieve economies of scale and future savings for the Trust.
- Other Senior Leaders (i.e. Assessment / Inclusion) are operating across all schools within the Trust.

**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 Elston Hall Multi Academy 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, General Purposes and Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.

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**Governance Statement (continued)**

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- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed Dains LLP, the external auditors, to perform additional checks.

The auditors' 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 testing payroll and purchases systems, testing the completeness of income and testing management override.

The academy trust has confirmed that the appointee has delivered their schedule of work as planned. No material control issues were noted as having arisen as a result of the appointee's work.

**Review of Effectiveness**

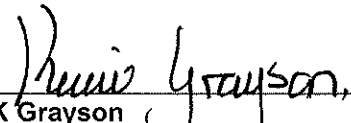
As Accounting Officer, the Executive Headteacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditors;
- 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, General Purposes Committee and Audit 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 29 November 2017 and signed on their behalf, by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
L Kruczek  
Chair of Trustees

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
K Grayson  
Accounting Officer

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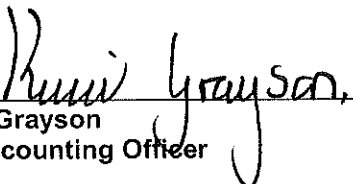
**Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance**

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As Accounting Officer of Elston Hall Multi Academy 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.

  
K Grayson  
Accounting Officer

Date: 29 November 2017

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**Statement of Trustees' responsibilities**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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The Trustees (who act as governors of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the 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 29 November 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**L Kruczek**  
**Chair of Trustees**



**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
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**Independent auditors' report on the financial statements to the members of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**

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**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Elston Hall Multi Academy 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.

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Independent auditors' report on the financial statements to the members of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**

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**Other information**

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 and the Strategic report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the academy 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,

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
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**Independent auditors' report on the financial statements to the members of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**

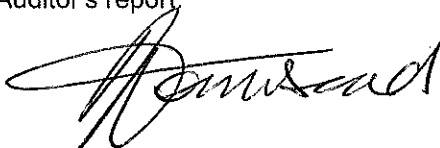
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or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

**Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). The description forms part of our Auditor's report



Julian Townsend ACA FCCA (senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

**Dains LLP**

Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham  
29 November 2017

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Independent reporting auditors' assurance report on regularity to Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 26 September 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 Elston Hall Multi Academy 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 Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Elston Hall Multi Academy 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 Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting auditors**

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 29 September 2015, 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.

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Independent reporting auditors' assurance report on regularity to Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)**

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### **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.



**Dains LLP**

Statutory Auditor  
Chartered Accountants

Birmingham

29 December 2017

**Elston Hall Multi Academy 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 General funds 2017 £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations & capital grants:						
Transferred from local authority	2	-	(1,767,000)	2,813,896	1,046,896	3,324,935
Other donations and capital grants	2	6,901	-	230,820	237,721	9,591
Charitable activities:						
Funding for the multi academy trust's educational operations	3	29,692	5,244,250	-	5,273,942	3,602,308
Other trading activities	4	80,942	-	-	80,942	15,852
Investments	5	423	-	-	423	379
<b>Total income</b>		<b>117,958</b>	<b>3,477,250</b>	<b>3,044,716</b>	<b>6,639,924</b>	<b>6,953,065</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds		28,195	-	-	28,195	17,512
Multi academy trust's educational operations		53,502	5,569,729	292,060	5,915,291	3,586,693
<b>Total expenditure</b>	7	<b>81,697</b>	<b>5,569,729</b>	<b>292,060</b>	<b>5,943,486</b>	<b>3,604,205</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure) before transfers</b>		<b>36,261</b>	<b>(2,092,479)</b>	<b>2,752,656</b>	<b>696,438</b>	<b>3,348,860</b>
Transfers between Funds	16	(48,364)	-	48,364	-	-
<b>Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses</b>		<b>(12,103)</b>	<b>(2,092,479)</b>	<b>2,801,020</b>	<b>696,438</b>	<b>3,348,860</b>
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	726,000	-	726,000	(1,062,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(12,103)</b>	<b>(1,366,479)</b>	<b>2,801,020</b>	<b>1,422,438</b>	<b>2,286,860</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		265,465	(2,896,521)	4,917,916	2,286,860	-
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>253,362</b>	<b>(4,263,000)</b>	<b>7,718,936</b>	<b>3,709,298</b>	<b>2,286,860</b>

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**Registered number: 09780473**

**Balance sheet**  
**As at 31 August 2017**

	Note	£	2017 £	£	2016 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		7,718,936		4,917,916
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	353,572		168,683	
Cash at bank and in hand		405,285		553,034	
		<u>758,857</u>		<u>721,717</u>	
<b>Creditors: amounts falling due within one year</b>	15	<b>(505,495)</b>		<b>(318,773)</b>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<b>253,362</b>		<b>402,944</b>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>7,972,298</b>		<b>5,320,860</b>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22		<b>(4,263,000)</b>		<b>(3,034,000)</b>
<b>Net assets including pension scheme liabilities</b>			<b>3,709,298</b>		<b>2,286,860</b>
<b>Funds of the academy</b>					
Restricted funds:					
Restricted income funds	16	-		137,479	
Restricted fixed asset funds	16	7,718,936		4,917,916	
		<u>7,718,936</u>		<u>5,055,395</u>	
Restricted funds excluding pension liability					
Pension reserve		<b>(4,263,000)</b>		<b>(3,034,000)</b>	
Total restricted funds			<b>3,455,936</b>		<b>2,021,395</b>
Unrestricted income funds	16		<b>253,362</b>		<b>265,465</b>
<b>Total funds</b>			<b>3,709,298</b>		<b>2,286,860</b>

The financial statements on pages 20 to 47 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 29 November 2017 and are signed on their behalf, by:

  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
**L Kruczek**  
**Chair of Trustees**

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Statement of cash flows**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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	<b>Note</b>	<b>2017</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2016</b> <b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	18	<u>(225,880)</u>	<u>608,746</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities:</b>			
Interest from investments		423	379
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(153,112)	(60,874)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA		230,820	4,783
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>		<u>78,131</u>	<u>(55,712)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>(147,749)</b>	<b>553,034</b>
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		<u>553,034</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents carried forward</b>	19	<u><u>405,285</u></u>	<u><u>553,034</u></u>



**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.

Elston Hall Multi Academy 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.

**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**

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of 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 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 an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

**Sponsorship Income**

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

**Donations**

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

**Other income**

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.

**Transfer on conversion**

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.

**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 Raising Funds**

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

**Charitable Activities**

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.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

All assets costing more than £1,500 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:

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

Leasehold buildings	-	2% straight line
Long-term leasehold land	-	over lease term
Leasehold improvements	-	10% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	-	20% straight line
Computer equipment	-	25% straight line

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

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 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.

**1.7 Debtors**

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

**1.8 Cash at Bank and in hand**

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

**1.9 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. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.10 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 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

*Financial liabilities* - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised costs as detailed in note 15. 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.

**1.11 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.

**1.12 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 22, 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.

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.13 Conversion to an academy trust**

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £NIL consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from Edward the Elder Primary School to an academy trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion in the statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds.

Further details of the transaction are set out in note 20.

**1.14 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 Education and Skills Funding Agency 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.

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.15 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 22, 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.

Critical areas of judgment:

The preparation of the financial statements in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles requires the Trustees to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amount of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results in the future could differ from those estimates. In this regard, the Trustees believe that the critical accounting policies where judgements or estimating are necessarily applied are summarised below.

**Depreciation and residual values**

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over the useful lives taking into account residual values where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors.

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

**2. Income from donations and capital grants**

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted General funds 2017 £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Transfer from local authority on conversion	-	(1,767,000)	2,813,896	1,046,896	3,324,935
Donations	6,901	-	-	6,901	4,808
Capital Grants	-	-	230,820	230,820	4,783
Subtotal	6,901	-	230,820	237,721	9,591
	<b>6,901</b>	<b>(1,767,000)</b>	<b>3,044,716</b>	<b>1,284,617</b>	<b>3,334,526</b>
<i>Total 2016</i>	266,746	(1,877,000)	4,944,780	3,334,526	



Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust  
(A company limited by guarantee)

Notes to the financial statements  
For the year ended 31 August 2017

3. Funding for Academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted General funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
GAG (General Annual Grant)	-	3,911,283	3,911,283	2,581,965
Pupil Premium	-	469,863	469,863	317,600
Universal Free School Meals	-	100,710	100,710	31,354
Start up grants	-	25,000	25,000	50,000
Rates relief	-	14,489	14,489	3,836
PE Sports grant funding	-	23,063	23,063	14,054
Other grants	-	41,556	41,556	-
	-	4,585,964	4,585,964	2,998,809
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority start up / assistance grants	-	-	-	129,500
Maternity insurance cover grant income	-	45,507	45,507	30,965
Other local authority grants	-	341,807	341,807	225,515
	-	387,314	387,314	385,980
<b>Other funding</b>				
Catering income	-	47,642	47,642	26,826
School trip income	-	45,345	45,345	33,536
Extended services income	-	75,974	75,974	45,150
Outsourced Teacher income	29,692	99,691	129,383	110,052
University placement income	-	2,320	2,320	1,955
	29,692	270,972	300,664	217,519
	29,692	5,244,250	5,273,942	3,602,308
<i>Total 2016</i>	-	3,602,308	3,602,308	

**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

**4. Other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted General funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Fundraising activities	7,090	-	7,090	3,441
Lettings income	8,483	-	8,483	-
Sale of uniform	10,164	-	10,164	3,941
Other income	21,310	-	21,310	4,261
Music services income	330	-	330	575
Sale of goods and services	33,565	-	33,565	3,634
	<u>80,942</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>80,942</u>	<u>15,852</u>
<i>Total 2016</i>	<u>15,852</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>15,852</u>	

**5. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted General funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
Bank interest receivable	423	-	423	379
	<u>423</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>423</u>	<u>379</u>
<i>Total 2016</i>	<u>379</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>379</u>	

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**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

**6. Charitable activities**

	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
<b>Direct costs - educational operations</b>		
Wages and salaries	2,653,300	1,808,711
National insurance	260,555	21,939
Pension cost	534,386	440,624
Depreciation	165,988	82,955
Pension income	100,000	59,000
Educational supplies	105,596	46,533
Staff development	15,425	14,972
Technology costs	31,380	9,463
Other direct costs	416,756	142,293
Supply teacher insurance	287	7,648
	<u>4,283,673</u>	<u>2,634,138</u>
<b>Support costs - educational operations</b>		
Wages and salaries	459,349	270,966
National insurance	27,262	14,844
Pension cost	190,562	113,440
Educational supplies	84,416	-
Technology costs	49,423	12,411
Other direct costs	125,306	129,895
Maintenance of premises	265,248	134,908
Operating leases	15,798	8,646
Rates	13,613	6,131
Energy	56,230	40,887
Insurance	50,921	47,360
Governance costs	12,326	13,981
Catering costs	281,164	159,087
	<u>1,631,618</u>	<u>952,556</u>
	<u><u>5,915,291</u></u>	<u><u>3,586,694</u></u>

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**7. Expenditure**

	Staff costs 2017 £	Premises 2017 £	Other costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Expenditure on raising funds:					
Direct Costs	-	-	28,195	28,195	17,512
Activities:					
Direct costs	3,548,278	135,363	600,032	4,283,673	2,634,138
Support costs	677,173	386,012	568,433	1,631,618	952,555
	<u>4,225,451</u>	<u>521,375</u>	<u>1,196,660</u>	<u>5,943,486</u>	<u>3,604,205</u>
<i>Total 2016</i>	<u>2,670,524</u>	<u>291,267</u>	<u>642,414</u>	<u>3,604,205</u>	

**8. Net income/(expenditure)**

This is stated after charging:

	2017 £	2016 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
- owned by the charity	165,988	82,955
Auditors' remuneration - audit	10,075	8,000
Auditors' remuneration - other services	1,300	1,900
Operating leases	15,798	8,646
	<u>193,061</u>	<u>101,501</u>

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**9. Staff costs**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Wages and salaries	3,112,649	2,079,678
Social security costs	287,817	36,783
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	724,948	554,063
	<u>4,125,414</u>	<u>2,670,524</u>
Supply teacher costs	100,037	-
	<u>4,225,451</u>	<u>2,670,524</u>

**b. Staff numbers**

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

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers	47	34
Teaching Assistants	68	42
Administrative	11	7
Management	11	7
Support staff	56	36
Caretaker	8	2
	<u>201</u>	<u>128</u>

Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent:

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers	34	31
Teaching Assistants	50	29
Administrative	9	6
Management	11	7
Support Staff	10	6
Caretaker	5	2
	<u>119</u>	<u>81</u>

**c. Higher paid staff**

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

	2017 No.	2016 No.
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1

**9. Staff costs (continued)**

**d. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £500,168 (2016 - £461,607).

**10. 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 £	11 months 2016 £
K Grayson (Executive Headteacher and trustee)	Remuneration	95,000-100,000	90,000-95,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000-20,000	10,000-15,000

During the year, no Trustees received any benefits in kind (2016 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2017, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2016 - £NIL).

**11. Central services**

No central services were provided by the academy to its academies during the year and no central charges arose.

**12. 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.

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**13. Tangible fixed assets**

	Long-term leasehold property £	Leasehold improvements £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Assets under construction £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 September 2016	4,882,878	55,392	498	62,103	-	5,000,871
Additions	-	-	30,866	41,496	80,750	153,112
Assets transferred on conversion	2,808,439	-	5,457	-	-	2,813,896
At 31 August 2017	<u>7,691,317</u>	<u>55,392</u>	<u>36,821</u>	<u>103,599</u>	<u>80,750</u>	<u>7,967,879</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2016	61,982	-	32	20,941	-	82,955
Charge for the year	129,824	5,539	2,231	28,394	-	165,988
At 31 August 2017	<u>191,806</u>	<u>5,539</u>	<u>2,263</u>	<u>49,335</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>248,943</u>
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2017	<u>7,499,511</u>	<u>49,853</u>	<u>34,558</u>	<u>54,264</u>	<u>80,750</u>	<u>7,718,936</u>
At 31 August 2016	<u>4,820,896</u>	<u>55,392</u>	<u>466</u>	<u>41,162</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,917,916</u>

The trust's transactions relating to land and buildings included the acquisition of the leasehold land and buildings of Edward the Elder Primary School, Moathouse Lane East, Wednesfield, Wolverhampton, which was donated to the trust at a value of £2,808,439 representing the best estimate of the depreciated replacement cost available to the Trustees at the balance sheet date.

**14. Debtors**

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade debtors	26,717	30,000
VAT debtor	66,760	9,505
Other debtors	183,936	87,441
Prepayments and accrued income	76,159	41,737
	<u>353,572</u>	<u>168,683</u>

**15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2017 £	2016 £
Other creditors	1,072	786
Accruals and deferred income	504,423	317,987
	<u>505,495</u>	<u>318,773</u>

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**15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year (continued)**

	2017 £	2016 £
<b>Deferred income</b>		
Deferred income at 1 September 2016	112,379	-
Resources deferred during the year	306,612	112,379
Amounts released from previous years	(112,379)	-
	<u>306,612</u>	<u>112,379</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2017	<u>306,612</u>	<u>112,379</u>

**16. Statement of funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Unrestricted costs	<u>265,465</u>	<u>117,958</u>	<u>(81,697)</u>	<u>(48,364)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>253,362</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	134,853	3,911,283	(4,046,136)	-	-	-
Start up grants	-	25,000	(25,000)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	469,863	(469,863)	-	-	-
Other DfE/EFSA grants	-	179,818	(179,818)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	387,314	(387,314)	-	-	-
Catering	-	47,642	(47,642)	-	-	-
Educational visits	-	45,345	(45,345)	-	-	-
Teachers outsourced	-	99,691	(99,691)	-	-	-
Extended services	672	75,974	(76,646)	-	-	-
Other restricted funds	1,954	2,320	(4,274)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,034,000)	(1,767,000)	(188,000)	-	726,000	(4,263,000)
	<u>(2,896,521)</u>	<u>3,477,250</u>	<u>(5,569,729)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>726,000</u>	<u>(4,263,000)</u>



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**Notes to the financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

**16. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Restricted fixed funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
Transferred on conversion	4,857,501	2,813,896	(216,909)	-	-	7,454,488
DfE grants and transfers from the GAG	60,415	230,820	(75,151)	48,364	-	264,448
	<u>4,917,916</u>	<u>3,044,716</u>	<u>(292,060)</u>	<u>48,364</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,718,936</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>2,021,395</u>	<u>6,521,966</u>	<u>(5,861,789)</u>	<u>48,364</u>	<u>726,000</u>	<u>3,455,936</u>
Total of funds	<u>2,286,860</u>	<u>6,639,924</u>	<u>(5,943,486)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>726,000</u>	<u>3,709,298</u>

**Statement of funds - prior year**

	Balance at 1 October 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2016 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Unrestricted costs	-	282,977	(17,512)	-	-	265,465
	<u>-</u>	<u>282,977</u>	<u>(17,512)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>265,465</u>

**Restricted funds**

General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,581,965	(2,285,549)	(161,563)	-	134,853
Start up grants	-	50,000	(50,000)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	317,600	(317,600)	-	-	-
Other DfE/EFSA grants	-	52,283	(20,929)	(31,354)	-	-
Local authority grants	-	385,980	(385,980)	-	-	-
Catering	-	26,826	(159,087)	132,261	-	-
Educational visits	-	33,538	(38,103)	4,565	-	-
Teachers outsourced	-	107,012	(107,012)	-	-	-
Extended services	-	45,150	(44,478)	-	-	672
Other restricted funds	-	1,954	-	-	-	1,954
Pension reserve	-	(1,877,000)	(95,000)	-	(1,062,000)	(3,034,000)
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,725,308</u>	<u>(3,503,738)</u>	<u>(56,091)</u>	<u>(1,062,000)</u>	<u>(2,896,521)</u>

**16. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Restricted fixed funds**

	Balance at 1 October 2015 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2016 £
Transferred on conversion	-	4,939,997	(82,496)	-	-	4,857,501
DfE grants and transfers from the GAG	-	4,783	(459)	56,091	-	60,415
	-	4,944,780	(82,955)	56,091	-	4,917,916
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	-	<b>6,670,088</b>	<b>(3,586,693)</b>	-	<b>(1,062,000)</b>	<b>2,021,395</b>
<b>Total of funds</b>	-	<b>6,953,065</b>	<b>(3,604,205)</b>	-	<b>(1,062,000)</b>	<b>2,286,860</b>

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

**Unrestricted funds**

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

**Restricted general fund**

This fund represents grants and other income received for the Academy's operational activities and development.

**Pension reserve**

This pension reserve included within restricted general funds represents the Academy's share of the pension liability arising on the LGPS pension fund.

**Restricted Fixed Asset Fund**

This fund represents grants received from the DfE, EFA and Local Authority to carry out works of a capital nature.

**Transfers between funds**

Transfers between funds represent the transfer of the General Annual Grant for the purchase of fixed assets.

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Elston Hall Primary School	391,334	421,337
Palmers Cross Primary School	(100,349)	(18,393)
Edward the Elder Primary School	(37,623)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total before fixed asset fund and pension reserve	253,362	402,944
Restricted fixed asset fund	7,718,936	4,917,916
Pension reserve	(4,263,000)	(3,034,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	3,709,298	2,286,860
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The following academies are carrying net deficits on their portion of the funds as follows:

Name of academy	Amount of deficit £
Palmers Cross Primary School	(100,349)
Edward the Elder Primary School	(37,623)

The multi academy trust is taking the following action to return the academies to surplus:

**Palmers Cross Primary**

This school has considerably increased its pupil numbers from 158 to 203 (October 2017 census) and is operating on lag funding.

**Edward the Elder Primary**

This school joined the Trust on 1st December 2016 and required a high level of additional school improvement resources, including staff changes.

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16. 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 depreciation £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Elston Hall Primary School	2,249,003	787,807	248,200	294,648	3,579,658	3,085,864
Palmers Cross Primary School	633,053	217,952	140,532	86,958	1,078,495	435,387
Edward the Elder Primary School	478,185	205,799	218,036	91,253	993,273	-
	<u>3,360,241</u>	<u>1,211,558</u>	<u>606,768</u>	<u>472,859</u>	<u>5,651,426</u>	<u>3,521,251</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted General funds 2017 £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	7,718,936	7,718,936
Current assets	253,362	318,857	186,638	758,857
Creditors due within one year	-	(318,857)	(186,638)	(505,495)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(4,263,000)	-	(4,263,000)
	<u>253,362</u>	<u>(4,263,000)</u>	<u>7,718,936</u>	<u>3,709,298</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2016 £	Restricted General funds 2016 £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds 2016 £	Total funds 2016 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	4,917,916	4,917,916
Current assets	265,465	394,164	62,088	721,717
Creditors due within one year	-	(256,685)	(62,088)	(318,773)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(3,034,000)	-	(3,034,000)
	<u>265,465</u>	<u>(2,896,521)</u>	<u>4,917,916</u>	<u>2,286,860</u>

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**18. Reconciliation of net movement in funds to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2017 £	2016 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<b>696,438</b>	3,348,860
<b>Adjustment for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	<b>165,988</b>	82,955
Interest from investments	<b>(423)</b>	(379)
Increase in debtors	<b>(184,889)</b>	(169,181)
Increase in creditors	<b>186,722</b>	319,271
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	<b>(230,820)</b>	(4,783)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	<b>1,767,000</b>	1,877,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	<b>188,000</b>	95,000
Tangible fixed assets gifted	<b>(2,813,896)</b>	(4,939,997)
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(225,880)</b>	608,746

**19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	2017 £	2016 £
Cash in hand	<b>405,285</b>	553,034
Total	<b>405,285</b>	553,034

**20. Conversion to an academy trust**

On 1 December 2016 Edward the Elder Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust from City of Wolverhampton 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 General funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets				
- Freehold/leasehold land and buildings	-	-	2,808,439	2,808,439
- Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	5,457	5,457
LGPS pension surplus/(deficit)	-	(1,767,000)	-	(1,767,000)
<b>Net assets/(liabilities)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>(1,767,000)</b>	<b>2,813,896</b>	<b>1,046,896</b>

Notes to the financial statements  
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**21. 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>172,739</u>	<u>-</u>

**22. 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 Wolverhampton City 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.

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

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

**Introduction**

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

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

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 £450,000 (2016 - £409,000).

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](http://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 £351,000 (2016 - £174,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £275,000 (2016 - £145,000) and employees' contributions totalled £76,000 (2016 - £29,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 15.9% for employers and 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions:

	2017	2016
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.60 %	2.20 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.20 %	3.75 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.70 %	2.00 %

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	21.8 years	23.1 years
Females	24.3 years	25.8 years
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.0 years	25.3 years
Females	26.6 years	28.1 years

Sensitivity analysis	At 31 August	At 31 August
	2017	2016
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	(11,000)	(9,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	11,000	9,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	14,000	9,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(14,000)	(9,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	11,000	9,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(11,000)	(9,000)

**22. 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	601,000	178,000
Gilts	69,000	21,000
Corporate bonds	37,000	25,000
Property	69,000	24,000
Cash and other liquid assets	47,000	20,000
Other	126,000	32,000
	<u>949,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>949,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £91,000 (2016 - £35,000).

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

	2017 £	2016 £
Current service cost	(433,000)	(181,000)
Benefit changes, gain/(loss) on curtailment and gain/(loss) on settlement	70,000	-
Interest cost	(100,000)	(59,000)
	<u>(463,000)</u>	<u>(240,000)</u>
Total	<u>(463,000)</u>	<u>(240,000)</u>
Actual return on scheme assets	<u>(91,000)</u>	<u>(35,000)</u>

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

	2017 £	2016 £
Opening defined benefit obligation	3,334,000	-
Upon conversion	1,767,000	1,968,000
Current service cost	433,000	181,000
Interest cost	111,000	65,000
Employee contributions	76,000	29,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(509,000)	1,091,000
	<u>5,212,000</u>	<u>3,334,000</u>
Closing defined benefit obligation	<u>5,212,000</u>	<u>3,334,000</u>



**Elston Hall Multi Academy Trust**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**Notes to the financial statements**  
**For the year ended 31 August 2017**

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**22. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	2017 £	2016 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets	300,000	-
Upon conversion	-	91,000
Return on plan assets (excluding net interest)	80,000	29,000
Interest income	11,000	6,000
Actuarial losses	137,000	-
Employer contributions	275,000	145,000
Employee contributions	76,000	29,000
Settlement prices received	70,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Closing fair value of scheme assets	<u>949,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>

**23. 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 £
<b>Amounts payable:</b>		
Within 1 year	4,890	1,098
Between 1 and 5 years	-	1,098
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total	<u>4,890</u>	<u>2,196</u>

**24. Members' liability**

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

**25. Related party transactions**

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.