



The Axholme Academy

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2024



Forrester Boyd
Statutory Auditors
Chartered Accountant
66-68 Oswald Road
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 7PG

The Axholme Academy

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The Axholme Academy

Reference and administrative details

Members	D M A Da Costa J Bassingdale I Hamilton
Trustees (Directors)	D Keogh (accounting officer) K Reich (resigned 31 December 2023) N Shaw T Fox L Pearce (resigned 4 July 2024) N Fairey K Andrews-Longbone C Foster T Pullan I McNiff A Merchant M Cooper (appointed 17 June 2024) J Cooper (appointed 27 January 2024 and resigned 14 March 2024) K Forbes (appointed 9 September 2024) H Brickley (appointed 2 October 2024)
Company Secretary	S E Leggott
Senior Management Team	D Keogh (Principal) B Creasy (Vice Principal) K Causier (Assistant Principal) L Cooke (Assistant Principal) S Leggott (Business Leader)
Principal and Registered Office	Wharf Road Crowle Scunthorpe North Lincolnshire DN17 4HU
Company Registration Number	07840804
Auditors	Forrester Boyd Statutory Auditors Chartered Accountant 66-68 Oswald Road Scunthorpe North Lincolnshire DN15 7PG

The Axholme Academy

Reference and administrative details (continued)

Bankers

Natwest
119 High Street
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 6LT

Solicitors

Judicium Consulting Ltd
72 Cannon Street
London
EC4N 6AE



The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31/08/2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The company registration number is 07840804.

The trustees of The Axholme Academy are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The Axholme Academy.

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

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The Academy Trust through its Articles has indemnified its Trustees to the fullest extent permissible by law. During the period the Academy also purchased and maintained liability insurance for its Trustees.

'Every learner is ready and able to go beyond expectations.'

Principal Activities

The Axholme Academy's principal activities are to advance for public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum. To promote for the benefit of individuals living in Crowle and the surrounding area who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large, the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of the life of the said individuals.

The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Members may appoint up to 1 Trustee, save that no more than one third of the total number of individuals appointed as Trustees shall be employees of the Academy Trust (including the Principal). The Principal shall be treated for all purposes as being an ex-officio Trustee. The Parent Trustees are elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Trustee must be a parent or grandparent of a student at the Academy at the time when they are elected, or if not reasonably practicable, the Board of Trustees is able to appoint a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age. The Board of Trustees shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of Parent Trustees, including any question of whether a person is a parent or grandparent of a registered student at the Academy. Any election of Parent Trustees which is contested is held by secret ballot.

The arrangements made for the election of a Parent Trustee provide for every person who is entitled to vote in the election to have the opportunity to do so by post, or if preferred by returning their ballot paper to the Academy. Where a vacancy for a Parent Trustee is required to be filled by election, the Board of Trustees take reasonably practicable steps to ensure that every person known to be a parent/carer of a registered pupil at the Academy is informed of the vacancy, that it is required to be filled by the election, informed that they are entitled to stand as a candidate, vote at the election and given the opportunity to do so. The number of Parent Trustees required are made up by Parent Trustees appointed by the Board of Trustees if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.

The Board of Trustees makes all necessary arrangements for, and determines all matters relating to, the election and removal of Staff Trustees.

Community Trustees may be appointed by the Board of Trustees, provided that the person appointed is a person who lives or works in the community served by the Academy, or a person who in their opinion is committed to the government and success of the Academy. An employee of the Academy may not be appointed if the number of Trustees employed by the Academy (including the Principal) would exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

Up to 3 Co-opted Trustees may be appointed by Trustees who have not themselves been so appointed.

Additional Trustees can be appointed by the Secretary of State in certain circumstances.

The quorum for the appointment of a Parent Trustee is two-thirds of the Trustees at the time entitled to vote on such matters.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees are inducted by the Chair and encouraged to access Trustee training opportunities provided by North Lincolnshire Council through the purchase of a Service Level Agreement, and also online training modules through subscription to the NGA.

Organisational structure

The Academy has defined the responsibilities of each person involved in the administration of Academy finances to avoid the duplication or omission of functions and to provide a framework of accountability for trustees and staff. The financial reporting structure is illustrated below:

The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

The Board of Trustees

The Board of Trustees has overall responsibility for the administration of the Academy's finances. The main responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are prescribed in the Funding Agreement between the academy and the DfE and in the Academy's scheme of government. The main responsibilities include:

- ensuring that grants from the DfE are used only for the purposes intended;
- ensuring that funds from sponsors are received according to the Academy's Funding Agreement, and are used only for the purposes intended;
- ensuring that the academy adheres to the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) and its appraisal and pay policies in setting the remuneration of all teaching staff (including the members of the Senior Leadership Team). These policies are reviewed annually by the Board of Trustees.
- the review and approval of the annual budget;
- the regular monitoring of actual expenditure and income against budget;
- ensuring the annual accounts are produced in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006 and the DfE/ESFA guidance issued to academies;
- authorising the expenditure over £15,000;
- authorising changes to the Academy personnel establishment;
- the annual review of the charges and concessions policy, in relation to setting charges for community use.
- annually reviewing the lettings policy outlining conditions for hiring the school premises.
- consideration on an annual basis to the provision of a Trustees' allowances policy-referring findings to the governing board.
- appointment of the Principal and
- appointment of the School Business Manager, in conjunction with the Principal.

The Trustee Risk Committee

The Trustee Risk Committee is a committee of the Board of Trustees and meets at least three times a year. The main responsibilities of the Risk Committee are detailed in written terms of reference which have been authorised by the Board of Trustees. The main responsibilities include:

- Critically reviewing the Academy's Risk Register, updating the risk ratings and mitigating actions, taking account of current and future challenges
- To present the top five risks to full Governing Board meeting, making the full risk register available to all trustees.

The Trustee Audit Committee (in conjunction with the Responsible Officer role).

The Trustee Audit Committee is a committee of the Board of Trustees and meets at least three times a year. It does not include any staff members. The main responsibilities of The Audit Committee are detailed in the written terms of reference which have been authorised by the Board of Trustees. The main responsibilities include:

- Responsibility for monitoring the adequacy and effectiveness of the Academy's systems of internal control and its arrangements for risk management, control and governance processes and for securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness (value for money).
- advising the Board on the appointment, re-appointment, dismissal and remuneration of the External Auditors
- setting the scope and objectives of the work for the Internal Auditor and monitor this activity
- monitoring the Academy's risk management plan and advising the Board on its adequacy and effectiveness
- monitoring and advising the Board on any alleged fraud and irregularity in the Academy's financial and other control systems and ensuring that all allegations of fraud and irregularity are properly followed up.

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Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

The Principal

Within the framework of the Academy development plan as approved by the Board of Trustees the Principal has overall executive responsibility for the academy's activities including financial activities. Much of the financial responsibility has been delegated to the Academy Business Leader but the Principal still retains responsibility for (and in their absence the Vice Principal):

- approving new staff appointments within the authorised establishment, except for any senior staff posts which the Board of Trustees have agreed should be approved by them;
- authorising expenditure up to £15,000 including VAT in conjunction with the Academy Business Leader.
- signing cheques in conjunction with the Academy Business Leader (or other authorised signatories if the Principal were not to be available).

The Academy Business Leader

The Academy Business Leader works in close collaboration with the Principal through whom he or she is responsible to the trustees. The Academy Business Leader also had direct access to the trustees via the Board of Trustees. The main responsibilities of the Academy Business Leader are:

- the day to day management of financial issues including the establishment and operation of a suitable accounting system;
- the maintenance of effective systems of internal control;
- ensuring that the annual accounts are properly presented and adequately supported by the underlying books and records of the Academy;
- the preparation of monthly management accounts;
- authorising expenditure up to £1,000 including VAT
- signing cheques in conjunction with the Principal (or other authorised signatories if the Principal were not to be available)
- ensuring forms and returns are sent to the DfE/ESFA in line with the timetable in the DfE/ESFA guidance.

The Internal Auditor

The Internal Auditor (IA) is appointed by the Board of Trustees and provides trustees with an independent oversight of the Academy's financial affairs, carrying out the internal audit function. The main duties of the IA are to provide the Board of Trustees with independent assurance that:

- the financial responsibilities of the Board of Trustees are being properly discharged;
- resources are being managed in an efficient, economical and effective manner;
- sound systems of internal financial control are being maintained and
- financial considerations are fully taken into account in reaching decisions.

The Internal Auditor undertakes an annual programme of reviews to ensure that financial transactions have been properly processed and that controls are operating as laid down by the Board of Trustees. A report of the findings from each visit is presented to the Board of Trustees. Detailed guidance on the transactions to be checked by the IA is given in Appendix A of the DfE Guidance and the scope and objectives of the IA's work for the coming year is set in conjunction with the Audit Committee at the start of each year.

Other Staff

Other members of staff, primarily the Academy Business Leader, the Finance Officer and budget holders, will have some financial responsibilities and these are detailed in the Academy Finance Procedures. All staff are responsible for the security of Academy property, for avoiding loss or damage, for ensuring economy and efficiency in the use of resources and for conformity with the requirements of the Academy's financial procedures.

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Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Register of Interests

It is important for anyone involved in spending public money to demonstrate that they do not benefit personally from the decisions they make. To avoid any misunderstanding that might arise all Academy trustees and staff with significant financial or spending powers are required to declare any financial interests they have in companies or individuals from which the Academy may purchase goods or services. The register is open to public inspection.

The register should include all business interests such as directorships, share holdings or other appointments of influence within a business or organisation which may have dealings with the Academy. The disclosures should also include business interests of relatives such as a parent or spouse or business partner where influence could be exerted over a trustee or a member of staff by that person.

The existence of a register of business interests does not, of course, detract from the duties of trustees and staff to declare interests whenever they are relevant to matters being discussed by the Board of Trustees or a committee. Where an interest has been declared, trustees and staff should not attend that part of any committee or other meeting.

Risk Management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy, and its finances. The Academy has produced a Risk Register which is reviewed annually as a minimum by the Academy’s Risk Committee, the members will be made up of at least three Trustees. The major risks identified by the committee are reviewed and systems/procedures put in place to minimise these. The top risks are reported to the Board of Trustees and the full Risk Register is made available to all trustees. Where significant risk remains, adequate insurance cover is in place. The Academy has an effective system of internal financial controls and these are checked and reviewed during the year by the Internal Auditor.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

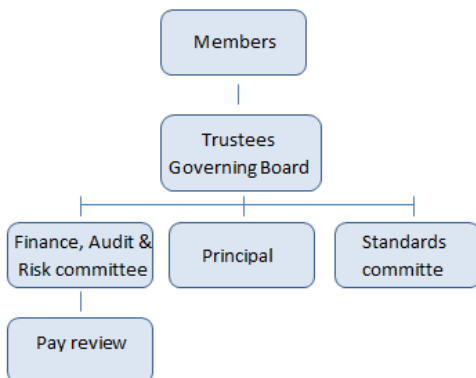
NLEC (Northern Lincolnshire Education Consortium)

The NLEC comprises 3 secondary schools and 2 post 16 providers:

- The Axholme Academy
- Frederick Gough School
- St Bede’s Catholic Voluntary Academy
- John Leggott 6th Form College
- North Lindsey College.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Governance Structure



The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

The Trustees are responsible for the general control and management of the administration of the Academy, and in accordance with the provisions set out in the memorandum, schemes of delegation and articles of association and its funding agreement, it is legally responsible and accountable for all statutory functions and must approve a written scheme of delegation of financial powers that maintains robust internal control arrangements.

The Principal is responsible for the operational and day-to-day running of the Academy, although the trust board may intervene in certain circumstances. One of the Principal's responsibilities is to provide information to the trust board so that the trust board can meet their three core objectives. Academy Trustees will agree with the Principal the data and information they need in order to fulfill their duties in advance of meetings. The Governing Board is responsible for the appointment and dismissal of the Principal, along with the Principal's pay award and the whole staff appraisal procedure and pay progression which are reviewed by the Finance, Audit and Risk committee each year. The Principal is responsible for staff pay awards. Further information can be found in The Axholme Academy Scheme of Delegation.

The arrangements for setting out pay for key management personnel can be found in the academy's whole school pay policy.

Pay ranges for Principals, Vice Principals and Assistant Principals will be determined in line with STPCD for new appointments, where responsibilities significantly change or if this academy chooses to review pay of leadership posts in line with STPCD. The pay range will take into account all permanent responsibilities of the role, any challenges that are specific to the role and all other relevant considerations including the skills and competencies required. Pay ranges will allow appropriate scope for performance related progression over time.

The school will be assigned to a Headteacher group calculated using its total unit score, in accordance with STPCD.

A pay range will be determined for the Principal which will not normally exceed the maximum of the headteacher group, unless the specific exceptional circumstances or candidate warrant it, up to an additional 25%.

A pay range will be determined for any Vice Principal, Assistant Principal and Business Leader considering how the role fits within the wider leadership structure of the academy. The pay range will not exceed the maximum of the headteacher group for the school and will not normally overlap with the pay range of the Principal, except in exceptional circumstances.

Eligible members of the leadership group will be automatically considered for further progression and no application will be necessary. However annual pay progression within the range is not automatic and decisions regarding pay progression will be clearly attributable to the leadership group member's performance with reference to the appraisal process.

Leadership group members will progress by one point until they reach the top of their range if they can demonstrate and the Governing Body is satisfied that there is evidence of sustained high quality of performance in academy leadership and management and student progress, clearly linked to school improvement priorities and outcomes. The group size for this academy is 5.

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Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

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

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time

1%-50%

Number of employees

2

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time

Provide the total pay bill

2024

1,361

3,051,816

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period ÷ total paid facility time hours) x 100

2024

100

Trustees should refer to Statutory Instrument 2017 No. 328, The Trade Union Facility Time Publication Requirements Regulations 2017 for calculation details.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of The Axholme Academy to provide education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 11 and 16.

In accordance with the articles of association the charitable company has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Secretary of State for Education and Skills. The Scheme of Government specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the Academy, the catchment area from which the students are drawn, and that the curriculum should comply with the substance of the national curriculum.

The main objectives of the Academy during the year ended 31 August 2024 are summarised below:

- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care;
- to raise the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- to improve the effectiveness of the Academy by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- to maintain close links with industry and commerce; and
- to conduct the Academy’s business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Academy's main strategy is encompassed in its Vision Statement, which is "Every learner is ready and able to go beyond expectations."

We expect all to go 'Beyond expectations': from the staff who work here, from the students who learn here and from the parents who choose to send their children here. In return we offer students and staff an innovative, progressive, challenging but supportive environment in which to thrive.

For 2024-25 the means by which the academy will make progress towards fulfilling this vision are presented in the Academy Improvement Plan which contains priorities, actions and strategies relating to how we will achieve our vision.

Improvement Priorities 2024/2025

- Progress improves and underpins every interaction
- Consistent delivery of Quality First teaching using the AtL Lesson cycle - Promotes the use of active learning strategies that enable a high pace of learning, students engaged and motivated.
- Further improving students' attendance, readiness and ability to learn
- Plan and manage finances effectively to ensure value for money and use resources efficiently to maximise outcomes for students

During our 5 year learning journey we want students to attain skills, knowledge and qualifications to thrive post-16 by securing high levels of engagement and independence through quality first teaching, reflective approaches and personalised support.

- Enable students to retain knowledge, make at least good progress in all subjects and gain the qualifications and cultural capital to succeed in life by:
- Embedding a broad, well sequenced and structured curriculum
- Further improving the quality of teaching through the consistent use of high impact evidence based approaches
- Further improving student engagement and independence.

This will be achieved by leadership at all levels:

- Working with clarity, cohesiveness and ambition to maximise impact
- Managing finances effectively to ensure value for money.

Public benefit

The academy trust provides educational services to all children in the local area. The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

In setting objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

Unvalidated data for GCSE outcomes 2024, a year where exam boards and Ofqual adjusted grade boundaries and National outcomes back to be more in line with 2019, shows that attainment Key Performance Indicators for the whole cohort were sustained at 4+ English and Maths 2024 65% (2023 66%, 2022 59% National Average 66%) and improved slightly at 5+ English and Maths 2024 38% (2023 36%, 2022 39% National Average 45%). Progress 8 in 2024 will be below average with progress of a small number of students with personalised circumstances and provision impacting on this measure. Students continue to progress onto their chosen Post 16 pathway.

Going concern

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

The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Key Performance Indicators

The academy is in its thirteenth year of operation. The number of students on roll as of and October 2023 was 537 and October 2024 was 537. The Published Admission Number for 2023 is 115 and the Academy agreed to accept 120 students due to the popularity of first choice preference. The work done by our Primary Liaison Team both locally and further afield is proving a continued success, as we continue to attract a large number of students from beyond our traditional catchment area.

For many years students at the Academy have achieved positive results which have prepared them well for the next stage in their lives and we are determined that this will be the case for our current Y11 students and all those that follow.

The Academy was subject to a two day Section 5 Ofsted inspection in March 2023. We believe the report to be a fair reflection of our Academy. The inspection process was detailed and rigorous and the report is positive and praiseworthy about all aspects of Academy life.

The summary of the inspection judgement is as follows:

- Overall effectiveness - Good
- The quality of education - Good
- Behaviour and attitudes - Good
- Personal development - Good
- Leadership and management - Good

These findings are no surprise to us and agree with our own Academy self-evaluations. We never 'do things just for Ofsted'; we do things because they fit with our values and vision to go 'Beyond Expectations' and we believe they are right for our community, to help our students thrive academically, socially and emotionally. Nevertheless, it is always pleasing to have our practice and Quality of Education endorsed by external organisations.

The areas identified by the inspection team that we need to improve further were already an area of focus for the Academy and will continue to form a central part of our forward looking improvement strategies.

Financial review

These financial statements reflect a 12 month account period from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The majority of income received is obtained from the Educational Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent General Annual Grant (GAG) funding, the use of which is restricted for the day to day running of the Academy Trust. Total grants received from the ESFA are set out in the statement of financial activities.

During the period the Academy Trust received £4,296,081 of income, of which £3,402,934 was GAG funding. Other grants and income amount to £893,147.

Expenditure for the period totalled £4,428,969 (excluding depreciation and loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets), including £3,186,319 of staff related costs supporting the day to day running of the Academy Trust.

There was an in year surplus on restricted general funds and unrestricted funds of £45,857.

The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) liability/(asset) stands at £Nil as at 31 August 2024. This is detailed in note 24 to the financial statements.

As at 31 August 2024, the net book value of fixed assets after depreciation is £3,038,928 as shown in note 11 of the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy Trust.

The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Reserves policy

The trustees regularly review the reserve levels of the Academy. They also review the budgets and spend against them as part of the effective stewardship of the Academy.

The trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be 10% of total revenue and therefore the academy has saved as much as possible year on year. Going forward, the trustees agree that the level of reserves can be reduced slightly and spending on urgent premises repairs and replacement of old equipment and services that have been unaffordable in previous years due to the impact of the 'lagged funding' can be prioritised, as student numbers start to even out.

The trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. At the year end the Academy held £3,691,523 of total reserves, made up of fixed asset reserves of £3,038,928, unrestricted reserves of £Nil, restricted reserves of £652,595 and restricted pension reserves of £Nil. Of the total restricted fixed asset fund, £3,038,928 can only be realised by disposing of tangible fixed assets.

Investment policy

Surplus funds are held in a separate 'Reserve' account. The trustees have previously considered the need for an investment policy and explored the options available. It was resolved that such a policy is not required at this time, as the Academy will not be making any investments other than the Reserve account during the foreseeable future.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal uncertainty for the Academy continues to be sustainability, in terms of real terms shrinking budgets, increasing staff costs and the ongoing challenge to maximise intake and maintain standards across the board. The number currently on roll is 534. We continue to enrol the vast majority of students from our traditional partner primary schools and also from primary schools in neighbouring authorities. This is evidence that the work being done by the Primary liaison team is proving successful. The Governors are aware of the need to promote the Academy and its achievements to the local and surrounding area and support the staff in the ongoing extensive work being done to facilitate this.

The viability of providing bus services to students from some neighbouring authorities continues to prove worthwhile. Promotion of the Academy for 2024/25 intake took place on 20th September 2023, we had a very good turn out for the event and feel secure we will be up to PAN in 2024.

The top risks identified by the Risk Committee in Summer 2024 are:

1. Funding cuts/lack of funding in future periods and increased costs/inflation
2. Outcomes reduce to significantly below other local secondary schools
3. Admitting a disproportionate number of high needs students who risk impacting on academy capacity
4. Inability to recruit and retain pupils
5. Fail to attract and retain personnel (staff) which results in loss of expertise and reliance on expensive agency staff

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

The Axholme Academy

Trustees' report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Plans for future periods

The Academy will continue striving to improve the levels of performance of its students at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure its students continue in education, employment or training to get jobs when they leave at 16.

The key objectives for the future of the academy are represented by the Vision (see above) and the mission statement – To achieve our Vision we will:

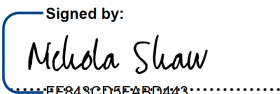
1. All share a relentless drive to improve the academy
2. Have the highest expectations of all students and staff
3. Ensure all students have high aspirations
4. Recognise and reward success
5. Deliver consistently high quality lessons which enable students to learn well
6. Develop independent learning, communication, literacy and numeracy skills across all subject areas
7. Provide a creative and challenging curriculum which is personalised to meet the needs of all students
8. Create a variety of opportunities to promote students' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development
9. Provide excellent information, advice and guidance to fully prepare students for their future education, employment and training
10. Work with parents, carers, other schools and the wider community to provide the best opportunities for all students

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

.....FF843CD5FABD443:.....
N Shaw
Trustee

The Axholme Academy

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

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

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

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 3 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
K Reich (resigned 31 December 2023)	1	1
D Keogh	3	3
N Shaw	3	3
T Fox	3	3
N Fairey	1	3
L Pearce (resigned 4 July 2024)	2	3
K Andrews-Longbone	3	3
T Pullan	3	3
A Merchant	1	3
C Foster	2	3
I McNiff	2	3
J Cooper (appointed 27 January 2024 and resigned 14 March 2024)	0	1
M Cooper (appointed 17 June 2024)	1	1

During the year the academy appointed J Cooper on the 27th January 2024 and M Cooper on the 17th June 2024. K Reich resigned as a trustee on the 31st December 2023, J Cooper resigned on the 14th March 2024 and L Pearce resigned on the 4th July 2024.

The Axholme Academy

Governance statement (continued)

The Board of Trustees is composed of a diverse group of Trustees who collectively have all the required skills and experience to effectively meet the strategic role and responsibilities of governance, as evidenced by the Skills Audit. The Board are active members of the National Governance Association and recognise the NGA's fourth core function of 'ensuring decisions take into account the views and experiences of stakeholders (pupils, parents, staff and the community).

A strategic planning cycle approach is adopted, based on the National Governance Association 'Being Strategic' and has contributed to a 'holding the Academy to account' culture. Governors sit on either, or both the standards, and risk and audit committees, which meet at least termly, with well planned agendas. All meetings are minuted by someone independent, with questions and actions clearly highlighted to allow for future follow up. Governors are also linked to safeguarding, SEND, and pupil premium separately, conducting termly school visits and feeding back to the Full Board meetings using a visit report template. Allocations are based on Governor skills and preferences to ensure best use is made of this valuable volunteer resource, but Governors are also encouraged to attend and link to as many positions as they wish to expand their knowledge and skills, and aid succession planning.

Meeting agendas are aligned to the strategic planning cycle whereby an annual work plan at the start of the year and a calendar of key events/activities is maintained throughout the year.

Overall governance is strong however the Board of Trustees continues to review and improve through engagement in training/conference activities, being an active member of the Axholme Governor Network and identifying good practice from a range of external sources including the National Governance Association. The Chair is well regarded across the local authority and has taken part in peer review exercises and supported new and developing Chairs.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
N Shaw	3	3
T Fox	3	3
C Foster	3	3
N Fairey	1	3
D Keogh	3	3
K Andrews-Longbone	1	3

The Axholme Academy

Governance statement (continued)

Conflicts of interest

A conflict of interest can be defined as any situation in which a trustee's personal interests or responsibilities they owe to another body, may, or may appear to influence the trustee's decision making. It is important that trustees, and senior staff members, can identify, avoid and manage conflicts of interest. This is to demonstrate that public funds have been used in an appropriate manner, protecting the reputations of the academy trust and its trustees and senior managers. Trustees have a duty to act in the best interests of the academy.

All trustees adhere to the Governor Code of Conduct. Section 7 of the code of conduct states:

- We will declare any business, personal or other interest that we have in connection with the governing body's business, and these will be recorded in the register of business interests.
- We will also declare any conflict of loyalty at the start of any meeting should the need arise.
- If a conflicted matter arises in a meeting, we will offer to leave the meeting for the duration of the discussion and any subsequent vote.
- We accept that the Register of Business Interests will be published on the school's/academy's website.
- We will act as governor/trustee; not as a representative of any group.
- We accept that in the interests of open governance, our full names, date of appointment, terms of office, roles on the governing body, attendance records, relevant business and pecuniary interests, category of governor/trustee and the body responsible for appointing us will be published on the school/academy website.
- We accept that information relating to governing body members will be collected and recorded on the DfE's national database (Get information about schools), some of which will be publicly available.

If a trustee is aware of an undeclared conflict of interest affecting another trustee, they should notify the other trustees or the chair. Trustees must consider any conflict of interest to prevent any potential effect on their decision making in the best interests of the trust.

All trustees complete an annual Register of Pecuniary and Personal Interests, this is reviewed by the Governors Services at North Lincolnshire Council, Principal, Business Leader and external auditors.

Review of value for money

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

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

- Completing the School Resource Management self-Assessment and ensuring criteria is met. One area was highlighted amber and is being factored into the budget for next academic year.
- Completion of Curriculum led financial planning tool to allow accurate financial decisions to take place about staff and class groups.
- DfE benching marking site reviewed annually to ensure we align with other schools. We have tendered for new providers in Catering, HR, Payroll and Health and Safety consultants due to benchmarking results.
- Use of government procurement service and public sector buying organisations termly to compare prices
- The successful Safeguarding Condition Improvement fund bid has now been completed around the site. The Accounting officer and Company Secretary have ensured all funds were spent appropriately.

The Axholme Academy

Governance statement (continued)

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 trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Axholme Academy for the year ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Board of Trustees of reports, which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties

The Governing Board considered the need for a specific internal audit function and have appointed an internal auditor. For 2023-24, the academy has bought in the services of DSDN Consultancy Ltd to act as the internal auditor and Responsible Officer. The checks carried out by the internal auditor will be agreed by the Finance, Audit and Risk committee at the start of each academic year.

To follow policy and meet ethical standards DSDN Consultancy were hired after a rigorous tender process and to ensure we use a provider separate to our external auditors. The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- To carry out a series of financial transactional checks on their purchasing
- A review of the "must" elements of the Academy Trusts Handbook
- Carry out a validation of the fraud checklist and examine whether there are any issues in the veracity of the purchasing system
- An examination of the Alternative Provision and the commissioning
- Review the costs of transport to the academy

The auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the Finance, Audit and Risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. On an annual basis the auditor prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress. The schedule of work for 2023/2024 has been completed by the internal auditor with no major concerns.

The Axholme Academy

Governance statement (continued)

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor ;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the school resource management self-assessment tools
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust 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 Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Conclusion

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:



1198E5A63AD8433:.....

D Keogh
Trustee

Signed by:



PF843CD9FABD443:.....

N Shaw
Trustee

The Axholme Academy

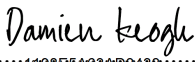
Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As Accounting Officer of The Axholme Academy 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 terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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

DocuSigned by:


1198E5A63AD3433.....
D Keogh, Trustee
Accounting officer

21 November 2024

The Axholme Academy

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who act as Governors of The Axholme Academy 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 Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial 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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS 102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- 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 21 November 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

.....FF843CD5FAB0443.....
N Shaw
Trustee

The Axholme Academy

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Axholme Academy

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Axholme Academy (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024, Balance Sheet, as at 31 August 2024 Statement of Cash Flows, as at 31 August 2024 and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the trustees annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Other information includes trustees' annual report (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report), the governance statement, and the Accounting Officer's statement. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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 course of the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether 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.

The Axholme Academy

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Axholme Academy (continued)

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 (which includes the Strategic report and Directors' report prepared for the purposes of company law) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Directors' Report included within the trustees' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report included within the Trustee's report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 20], the Trustees (who are also directors of the Academy Trust for the purpose of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance held.
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made within significant accounting estimates and judgements such as depreciation and the local government pension scheme liability.
- Testing of income, bank, purchases and payroll, systems and controls and providing conclusions on the regularity of samples chosen.
- Identification of key laws and regulations central to the academies operations and review of compliance with such laws including a review of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023 and correspondence with solicitors to identify any on-going litigation.
- Testing of journal entries and potential override of systems.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. The risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

The Axholme Academy

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Axholme Academy (continued)

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy Trust's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Academy Trust's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 Trust and the Academy Trust's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

DocuSigned by:

Carrie Jensen

BDAEC37F17274BE
Carrie Anne Jensen ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd

Chartered Accountant
66-68 Oswald Road
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 7PG

21 November 2024

The Axholme Academy

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Axholme Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 27 June 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Axholme Academy during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of The Axholme Academy's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Axholme Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 21 December 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

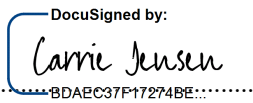
- Evaluating the systems and control environment;
- Assessing the risk of irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance;
- Ensuring that the activities of the Academy Trust are in keeping with the Academy's framework and the charitable objectives; and
- Obtaining representations from the Accounting Officer and Key Management Personnel.

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 from 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

The Axholme Academy

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Axholme Academy and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

DocuSigned by:


.....BDAEC37F17274BE.....
Carrie Anne Jensen ACA, Reporting Accountant
For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd, Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors
Chartered Accountant
66-68 Oswald Road
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN15 7PG

21 November 2024

The Axholme Academy

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £	
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	3,688	-	49,604	53,292	378,090
Other trading activities	4	121,394	-	-	121,394	88,583
Investments	5	1,522	-	-	1,522	933
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	<u>75,559</u>	<u>4,044,313</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,119,872</u>	<u>3,992,015</u>
Total		<u>202,163</u>	<u>4,044,313</u>	<u>49,604</u>	<u>4,296,080</u>	<u>4,459,621</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	17,625	-	-	17,625	20,362
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Academy trust educational operations	7	<u>184,538</u>	<u>3,966,621</u>	<u>350,032</u>	<u>4,501,191</u>	<u>4,450,085</u>
Total		<u>202,163</u>	<u>3,966,621</u>	<u>350,032</u>	<u>4,518,816</u>	<u>4,470,447</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		-	77,692	(300,428)	(222,736)	(10,826)
Transfers between funds		-	(16,835)	16,835	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>244,000</u>
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		-	45,857	(283,593)	(237,736)	233,174
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2023		<u>-</u>	<u>606,738</u>	<u>3,322,521</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>	<u>3,696,085</u>
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2024		<u>-</u>	<u>652,595</u>	<u>3,038,928</u>	<u>3,691,523</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>

Comparative figures are stated on page 27.

The Axholme Academy


Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2022/23 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	4,426	-	373,664	378,090
Other trading activities	4	88,583	-	-	88,583
Investments	5	933	-	-	933
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	162,585	3,829,430	-	3,992,015
Total		<u>256,527</u>	<u>3,829,430</u>	<u>373,664</u>	<u>4,459,621</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	20,362	-	-	20,362
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	236,165	3,923,135	290,785	4,450,085
Total		<u>256,527</u>	<u>3,923,135</u>	<u>290,785</u>	<u>4,470,447</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		-	(93,705)	82,879	(10,826)
Transfers between funds		-	(3,194)	3,194	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	244,000	-	244,000
Net movement in funds		-	147,101	86,073	233,174
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2022		-	459,637	3,236,448	3,696,085
Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2023		<u>-</u>	<u>606,738</u>	<u>3,322,521</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>

The Axholme Academy
(Registration number: 07840804)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	3,038,928	3,126,796
Current assets			
Debtors	12	128,544	410,060
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>654,260</u>	<u>720,117</u>
		782,804	1,130,177
Liabilities			
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	13	<u>(117,307)</u>	<u>(312,467)</u>
Net current assets		<u>665,497</u>	<u>817,710</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		3,704,425	3,944,506
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	14	<u>(12,902)</u>	<u>(15,247)</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		<u>3,691,523</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>
Total net assets		<u>3,691,523</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund	15	652,595	606,738
Restricted fixed asset fund	15	<u>3,038,928</u>	<u>3,322,521</u>
		<u>3,691,523</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>
Total funds		<u>3,691,523</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>

The financial statements on pages 26 to 47 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 21 November 2024 and signed on their behalf by:

Signed by:

 FF843CB5FABD449:.....
 N Shaw
 Trustee

The Axholme Academy

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(112,658)	(455,204)
Cash flows from investing activities	20	49,146	356,548
Cash flows from financing activities	19	<u>(2,345)</u>	<u>(2,345)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(65,857)	(101,001)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>720,117</u>	<u>821,118</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	21	<u><u>654,260</u></u>	<u><u>720,117</u></u>

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

The academy trust is a private company limited by guarantee and incorporated in the United Kingdom.

The address of its registered office is:

The Axholme Academy
Wharf Road
Crowle
Scunthorpe
North Lincolnshire
DN17 4HU

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 21 November 2024.

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

Basis of preparation

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

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the academy trust and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

The Axholme Academy meets the definition of a public entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements cover the individual entity, The Axholme Academy.

Going concern

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

Income

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

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Grants

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions, there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

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

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, per the table below.

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

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Leasehold land	125 years straight line
Leasehold buildings	50 years straight line
Plant and machinery	15% reducing balance
Computer equipment	15% reducing balance

Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the academy trust anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

Leased assets

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

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at transaction price less any provision for impairment. 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 transaction price. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Taxation

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

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

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pension benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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 based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The 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 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The Trustees do not believe the asset value of the LGPS provided by the actuary can be recovered, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds in the scheme, and the asset has therefore been restricted to £nil.

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Capital grants	-	49,604	49,604	373,664
Other donations	3,688	-	3,688	4,426
	<u>3,688</u>	<u>49,604</u>	<u>53,292</u>	<u>378,090</u>

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Educational operations				
DfE/ESFA revenue grants				
Other ESFA Grants	-	74,812	74,812	66,210
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,402,934	3,402,934	3,309,815
Pupil premium	-	150,775	150,775	146,210
Teachers Pay and Pension Grants	-	92,409	92,409	-
Supplementary Grant	-	118,812	118,812	149,599
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,839,742</u>	<u>3,839,742</u>	<u>3,671,834</u>
Other government grants				
Special Education Needs	-	170,227	170,227	132,630
Local authority grants	-	34,344	34,344	24,966
	<u>-</u>	<u>204,571</u>	<u>204,571</u>	<u>157,596</u>
Non-government grants and other income				
Trip income	75,559	-	75,559	162,585
Total grants	<u>75,559</u>	<u>4,044,313</u>	<u>4,119,872</u>	<u>3,992,015</u>

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Hire of facilities	25,302	25,302	-
School shop sales	8,178	8,178	2,892
Recharges and reimbursements	5,621	5,621	-
Transport contributions	77,241	77,241	82,797
Income from other charitable activities	5,052	5,052	2,894
	<u>121,394</u>	<u>121,394</u>	<u>88,583</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Short term deposits	1,522	1,522	933

6 Expenditure

	Non Pay Expenditure			2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £		
Expenditure on raising funds					
Direct costs	-	-	17,625	17,625	20,362
Academy trust's educational operations					
Direct costs	2,617,280	-	399,783	3,017,063	2,911,733
Allocated support costs	<u>569,039</u>	<u>605,344</u>	<u>309,745</u>	<u>1,484,128</u>	<u>1,538,352</u>
	<u>3,186,319</u>	<u>605,344</u>	<u>727,153</u>	<u>4,518,816</u>	<u>4,470,447</u>

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

6 Expenditure (continued)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	5,192	4,476
Depreciation	89,386	89,256
Fees payable to auditor - audit	7,500	6,545
Fees payable - other audit services	5,392	5,071
(Gain)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	462	264
	462	264

7 Charitable activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Direct costs - educational operations	3,017,063	2,911,733
Support costs - educational operations	1,484,128	1,538,352
	4,501,191	4,450,085

	Educational operations	2023/24	2022/23
	£	Total	Total
	£	£	£
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	569,039	569,039	618,767
Depreciation	89,386	89,386	89,256
Technology costs	22,016	22,016	26,070
Premises costs	515,958	515,958	489,289
Other support costs	262,444	262,444	282,853
Governance costs	25,285	25,285	32,117
Total support costs	1,484,128	1,484,128	1,538,352

8 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	2,295,827	2,182,727
Social security costs	227,606	226,188
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	515,383	508,322
	3,038,816	2,917,237
Agency staff costs	122,703	163,847
Staff restructuring costs	24,800	15,209
	3,186,319	3,096,293

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	24,800	15,209

Severance payments

The academy trust paid 1 severance payments in the year disclosed in the following bands:

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
0 - £25,000	1	1

Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £18,600 (2023: £Nil). Individually, the payments were:

Non-contractual payments £18,600

Staff numbers

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	No	No
Teachers	30	32
Administration and support	27	25
Management	5	5
	62	62

Higher paid staff

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

	2024	2023
	No	No
£60,001 - £70,000	-	2
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£90,001 - £100,000	-	1
£100,001 - £110,000	1	-

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 key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £514,811 (2023: £472,326).

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

9 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from 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 staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

D Keogh (Headteacher, Accounting Officer and Trustee):

Remuneration: £100,000 - £105,000 (2023 - £90,000 - £95,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £25,000 - £30,000 (2023 - £20,000 - £25,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2024, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £295 (2023 - £38) were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 trustees (2023 - 1).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 25.

10 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 trust 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.

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Plant and Machinery £	Computer equipment £	2023/24 Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	3,764,990	140,172	72,078	3,977,240
Additions	-	-	1,980	1,980
Disposals	-	-	(3,613)	(3,613)
At 31 August 2024	<u>3,764,990</u>	<u>140,172</u>	<u>70,445</u>	<u>3,975,607</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	713,134	103,460	33,850	850,444
Charge for the year	78,128	5,496	5,762	89,386
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	(3,151)	(3,151)
At 31 August 2024	<u>791,262</u>	<u>108,956</u>	<u>36,461</u>	<u>936,679</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	<u>2,973,728</u>	<u>31,216</u>	<u>33,984</u>	<u>3,038,928</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>3,051,856</u>	<u>36,712</u>	<u>38,228</u>	<u>3,126,796</u>

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

12 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	19,564	244
VAT recoverable	34,493	53,904
Prepayments and accrued income	74,487	355,912
	128,544	410,060

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	69,513	89,326
Other taxation and social security	1,910	(1,958)
Concessionary loans	2,345	2,345
Other creditors	427	22
Accruals	29,015	222,732
Deferred income	14,097	-
	117,307	312,467

Included within concessionary loans is the portion of the long term CIF loan which falls due within the following year. The terms of the loan are disclosed in note 14.

	2024
	£
Deferred income	
Resources deferred in the period	14,097

Deferred income relates to income received for trips taking place in 24/25.

14 Creditors: amounts falling due in greater than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Concessionary loans	12,902	15,247

Included within Concessionary loans is the loan received as part of the Condition Improvement Funding grant. The interest rate on the loan is 2.29% and commenced in March 2021. Repayments of £195.43 will be made monthly for 10 years until the loan is fully repaid.

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant	606,738	3,402,934	(3,340,242)	(16,835)	652,595
Pupil Premium	-	150,775	(150,775)	-	-
Other grants	-	490,604	(490,604)	-	-
Total restricted general funds	<u>606,738</u>	<u>4,044,313</u>	<u>(3,981,621)</u>	<u>(16,835)</u>	<u>652,595</u>
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
DfE Group capital grants	210,580	49,604	(260,184)	-	-
Donated Assets	3,111,941	-	(89,848)	16,835	3,038,928
Total restricted fixed asset funds	<u>3,322,521</u>	<u>49,604</u>	<u>(350,032)</u>	<u>16,835</u>	<u>3,038,928</u>
<i>Pension reserve funds</i>					
Pension reserve	-	-	15,000	(15,000)	-
Total restricted funds	<u>3,929,259</u>	<u>4,093,917</u>	<u>(4,316,653)</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>3,691,523</u>
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
Unrestricted General Fund	-	202,163	(202,163)	-	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>202,163</u>	<u>(202,163)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u><u>3,929,259</u></u>	<u><u>4,296,080</u></u>	<u><u>(4,518,816)</u></u>	<u><u>(15,000)</u></u>	<u><u>3,691,523</u></u>

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted funds					
<i>Restricted general funds</i>					
General Annual Grant	661,637	3,309,815	(3,361,520)	(3,194)	606,738
Pupil Premium	-	146,210	(146,210)	-	-
Other grants	-	373,405	(373,405)	-	-
Total restricted general funds	<u>661,637</u>	<u>3,829,430</u>	<u>(3,881,135)</u>	<u>(3,194)</u>	<u>606,738</u>
<i>Restricted fixed asset funds</i>					
DfE Group capital grants	38,181	373,664	(201,265)	-	210,580
Donated Assets	3,198,267	-	(89,520)	3,194	3,111,941
Total restricted fixed asset funds	<u>3,236,448</u>	<u>373,664</u>	<u>(290,785)</u>	<u>3,194</u>	<u>3,322,521</u>
<i>Pension reserve funds</i>					
Pension reserve	(202,000)	-	(42,000)	244,000	-
Total restricted funds	<u>3,696,085</u>	<u>4,203,094</u>	<u>(4,213,920)</u>	<u>244,000</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>
<i>Unrestricted general funds</i>					
Unrestricted General Fund	-	256,527	(256,527)	-	-
Total unrestricted funds	<u>-</u>	<u>256,527</u>	<u>(256,527)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total funds	<u><u>3,696,085</u></u>	<u><u>4,459,621</u></u>	<u><u>(4,470,447)</u></u>	<u><u>244,000</u></u>	<u><u>3,929,259</u></u>

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

Restricted general funds have been spent with the terms of the Master Funding Agreement.

Restricted fixed asset funds are used solely for capital purchases in line with the strategic objectives of The Axholme Academy.

The restricted pension fund is £Nil as at 31 August 2024, which is in excess of the unrestricted funds. The fund was inherited upon conversion to Academy status and is underwritten by the DfE.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to limits on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:

	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,038,928	3,038,928
Current assets	767,557	15,247	782,804
Current liabilities	(114,962)	(2,345)	(117,307)
Creditors over 1 year	-	(12,902)	(12,902)
	<u>652,595</u>	<u>3,038,928</u>	<u>3,691,523</u>

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

	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	3,126,796	3,126,796
Current assets	916,860	213,317	1,130,177
Current liabilities	(310,122)	(2,345)	(312,467)
Creditors over 1 year	-	(15,247)	(15,247)
	<u>606,738</u>	<u>3,322,521</u>	<u>3,929,259</u>

17 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts due within one year	5,192	4,476
Amounts due between one and five years	5,192	22,380
	<u>10,384</u>	<u>26,856</u>

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

18 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Net expenditure	(222,736)	(10,826)
Depreciation	89,386	89,256
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(49,604)	(373,664)
Interest receivable	(1,522)	(933)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(13,000)	33,000
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	281,516	(291,119)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(195,160)	89,818
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(2,000)	9,000
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	462	264
	<u>(112,658)</u>	<u>(455,204)</u>
Net cash used in Operating Activities		

19 Cash flows from financing activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Repayments of borrowing	<u>(2,345)</u>	<u>(2,345)</u>
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(2,345)</u>	<u>(2,345)</u>

20 Cash flows from investing activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	1,522	933
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,980)	(18,049)
Capital grants from DfE Group	<u>49,604</u>	<u>373,664</u>
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>49,146</u>	<u>356,548</u>

21 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024	2023
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>654,260</u>	<u>720,117</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>654,260</u>	<u>720,117</u>

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

22 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash	720,117	(65,857)	654,260
Loans falling due within one year	(2,345)	-	(2,345)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(15,247)	2,345	(12,902)
	(17,592)	2,345	(15,247)
Total	702,525	(63,512)	639,013

23 Member 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 cease to be a member.

24 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

There were contributions outstanding at 31 August 2024 totalling £nil (2023: £nil).

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI.

The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million

The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £417,588 (2023: £388,769).

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

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

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £133,000 (2023 - £123,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £103,000 (2023 - £92,000) and employees' contributions totalled £30,000 (2023 - £31,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.4 per cent for employers and 5.5-6.5 per cent for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	2.70	3.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	2.70	3.00

The Axholme Academy

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2024	2023
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	20.50	21.10
Females retiring today	23.50	24.00
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	21.20	21.90
Females retiring in 20 years	25.00	25.50
Sensitivity analysis		
	2024	2023
	£	£
Discount rate -0.1%	43,000	40,000
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	75,000	67,000
CPI rate +0.1%	44,000	40,000
Salary rate +0.1%	1,000	1,000

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Equities	1,504,000	1,224,000
Gilts	325,000	289,000
Property	163,000	153,000
Cash and other liquid assets	40,000	34,000
Total market value of assets	2,032,000	1,700,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £223,000 (2023 - £115,000).

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Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Current service cost	90,000	125,000
Interest income	(91,000)	(65,000)
Interest cost	89,000	74,000
	<u>88,000</u>	<u>134,000</u>
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>88,000</u>	<u>134,000</u>

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
At start of period	1,666,000	1,684,000
Current service cost	90,000	125,000
Interest cost	89,000	74,000
Employee contributions	30,000	31,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	14,000	(228,000)
Benefits paid	(24,000)	(20,000)
	<u>1,865,000</u>	<u>1,666,000</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,865,000</u>	<u>1,666,000</u>

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
At start of period	1,700,000	1,482,000
Interest income	91,000	65,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	132,000	50,000
Employer contributions	103,000	92,000
Employee contributions	30,000	31,000
Benefits paid	(24,000)	(20,000)
Asset ceiling restriction	(167,000)	(34,000)
	<u>1,865,000</u>	<u>1,666,000</u>
At 31 August	<u>1,865,000</u>	<u>1,666,000</u>

25 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

There were no related party transactions in the year, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.