Registration number: 7660690

Signhills Academy Limited

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2018

Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants
26 South St Mary's Gate
Grimsby
N E Lincolnshire
DN31 1LW

Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants

Praxity ASSOCIATE GLOBAL ALLIANCE OF INDEPENDENT FIRMS

Signhills Academy Limited

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Signhills Academy Limited

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	A Cole J Kaye A North G Stewart
Governors and Trustees (Directors)	K Abbott (resigned 5 October 2017) S Carr, Finance and Audit Committee A Cole A North J Kaye, Finance and Audit Committee G Lonsdale, Finance and Audit Committee L Manley G Stewart, Finance and Audit Committee K Tindall, Finance and Audit Committee K Barrs (resigned 27 October 2017) M Waters (appointed 5 October 2017 and resigned 20 October 2017) L Heinzman (appointed 29 November 2017) K George (appointed 23 January 2018) S Winfield (appointed 8 March 2018)
Head teacher	S Carr
Senior Management Team	S Carr, Headteacher K George, Assistant Head
Principal and Registered Office	Signhills Academy Hardy's Road Cleethorpes N E Lincolnshire DN35 0DN
Company Registration Number	7660690
Auditors	Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants 26 South St Mary's Gate Grimsby N E Lincolnshire DN31 1LW
Bankers	HSBC 55 Victoria Street Grimsby N E Lincolnshire DN31 1UX

Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

Solicitors	Wilkin Chapman LLP 26 Chantry Lane Grimsby N E Lincolnshire DN31 2LJ

Signhills Academy Limited

Trustees' Annual Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2018

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2018. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, including a strategic report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates an academy for pupils aged 7 to 11 serving a catchment area centred on Cleethorpes. The number of pupils on roll in the school census for January 2018 was 357.

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 7660690.

The Governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of Signhills Academy Limited and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the trustees who served throughout the year except as noted 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 company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

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.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Academy Trust has provision in its Memorandum and Articles of Association for the following Trustees, with a minimum of eight: the Headteacher; one teacher (other than the Headteacher); one non-teaching member of staff; at least two parents of a student at the Academy and a Local Authority Representative. In addition, the Academy may appoint up to four co-opted Trustees.

Trustees hold office for a period of 4 years and can be re-appointed for further periods. Each Trustee takes responsibility for monitoring the Academy's activities in specific operational areas and constant regard is had to the skills mix of the Trustees on both the full Board of Trustees and committees, to ensure that the Board of Trustees has all the necessary skills required to contribute fully to the Academy's development.

Trustees are appointed by the Members except for the following positions:
Staff representative – elected by their peers who are contracted by the Academy
Parent representative – elected by those people who have parental responsibility for a child on the roll of Signhills Academy
Local Authority Representative – nominated by NELC

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary induction will provide training on charity and educational, legal and financial matters. All new Trustees will be given a tour of the Academy and the chance to meet with staff and students. All Trustees are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees. As there are normally only two or three new Trustees a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

Induction and training for all Trustees is predominantly delivered through a service level agreement with SERCO. Additional training, in response to identified need, is arranged through the Senior Leadership Team.

Organisational structure

The work of the Board of Trustees is distributed between a number of sub committees whose roles are outlined below. Additionally, the day to day leadership and management of the Academy is delegated to the Headteacher. The Headteacher holds the role of Accounting Officer.

Finance & Audit committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Exercise the powers and duties of the Board of Trustees in respect of the financial administration of the Academy, except for those items delegated to the Headteacher and other staff. Keep under view the effectiveness of the Academy's internal control system established to ensure that the aims, objectives and key performance targets of the organisation are achieved in the most efficient and effective manner.

Personnel, Pay and Performance Management Committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Appoint the Headteacher and members of the leadership team (Deputy Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher) and appoint those staff which the Headteacher, in consultation with the Chair of this Committee, wishes to make.

Appeals Committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Hear and adjudicate on appeals against decisions taken related to personnel matters.

Admissions Committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Determine all matters relating to the admission of pupils to the Academy, in accordance with the Admissions Policy of the Academy.

Complaints Committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Deal with complaints in accordance with the Academy Complaints Policy.

Standards Committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Set institutional targets according to statutory requirements.

Pupil Discipline Committee (Statutory) (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
To deal with all aspects of pupil exclusions in accordance with statutory policy.

Facilities Management and H&S Committee (Statutory) (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Deal with all matters pertaining to tendering for services, arranging quotations, letting contracts where the potential cost exceeds £50,000 subject to the OJEU approved level.
To receive and evaluate reports of incidents / accidents which relate to the Health & Safety of staff / pupils / visitors to the Academy.

Safeguarding Committee (Quorum 3) - to have delegated powers to:
Deal with all aspects of safeguarding and child protection in accordance with statutory policy.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Headteacher and Assistant Headteacher(s) will be awarded additional scale points in accordance with the provisions of the 2013 STPCD i.e. they must demonstrate sustained high quality of performance in respect of school leadership and management and pupil progress. In the event that the Headteacher has reached the maximum point on the relevant pay range under the STPCD, then the Pay and Performance Management Committee has discretion to award a pay increase which results in the Headteacher being paid in excess of the maximum pay point. The Pay and Performance Management Committee is only entitled to exercise its discretion if it considers that the Headteacher's performance has been sustained at a significant level and he/she has achieved their performance objectives.

Risk management

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular, those relating to leadership, teaching, behaviour and safety, achievement and finance. Systems are in place to regularly review policies and procedures relating to the above areas. The Academy actively seeks external review, advice and guidance to support the process.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Signhills Academy is an independent academy. To enhance its work and meet its duty to support the work of other educational establishments, the Academy operates within a number of networks. The most prominent of these is the Athena Learning Alliance, a group of local independent academies.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Trustees have agreed eight promises towards which they feel the Academy should work:

1 To foster curiosity and a love of learning.
2 To become aware of themselves as learners so they may pursue their chosen lines of interest and enquiry.
3 To develop those personal qualities that motivates and sustains learning.
4 To be equipped with those skills necessary to enable and facilitate learning.
5 To appreciate their own achievements and those of others.
6 To be thoughtful in their interactions with others.
7 To grow as active citizens in local, national and international contexts.
8 To use new technologies as a means for enhancing learning and communication.

The priorities for 2017 – 18 were:

Priority	Provisional Outcome		
85% to achieve the expected Standard in RWM	87% Combined RWM		
		SA 18	NAT 17
To increase the attainment of Pupil Premium children so that it is in line with 'non-disadvantaged'.	Reading	75%	77%
	Writing	67%	81%
	Maths	83%	80%
	SPAG	67%	82%
	Combined	67%	67%
To close the in-school gender gap.	% Difference		
	Reading	3.7%	
	Writing	3.9%	
	Maths	0.5%	
	SPAG	4.0%	
	Combined	3.6%	
To increase the proportion of children who achieve the greater depth standard in reading so that it is significantly above national.		Signhills 36%	National 48%

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.

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

Signhills Academy Limited enjoyed another successful year in a large number of areas.

Academic

The success of the Academy is primarily measured by pupil performance in the national SATs which take place in May each year. These, coupled with teacher assessment data for standards in writing, are published in the autumn term. The invalidated data for 2018 is shown below:

	Reading, writing and maths		Percentage of pupils reaching the expectedstandard				Average scaled score		
	Percentage of pupils reaching the expected standard	Percentage of pupils reaching a higher standard	Reading	SPaG	Writing	Maths	Reading	SPaG	Maths
Primary schools	65	10	75	78	78	76	105	106	104
Junior schools	66	11	-	-	-	71	-	-	-
Signhills (2017)	87 (76)	23 (21)	89 (81)	93 (87)	91 (89)	93 (90)	106 (105)	110 (108)	110 (107)

We are constantly monitoring and evaluating our children's performance to ensure we can adjust the learning they experience to improve their ability to be successful in future years.

Sporting

We continue to offer a very wide and diverse choice of sporting activities that give our children the chance to enjoy new experiences in sport as well as taking part in competitive sports. Our numbers of children participating and being successful in competitions continued to remain very high.

Performing Arts

We have successful individual music tuition for over eighty children. The children have also been given the opportunity to perform in groups in violin, choir, guitar, speech choir and dance.

Educational Visits and Trips

We are always trying to find creative stimuli that will motivate our children to learn. Part of this philosophy includes exposing our children to experiences in and out of school that will capture their imagination.

Each year group has participated in a number of on-site and off-site experiences, including a residential visit.

Community

We have worked hard to make our school a centre for learning inside its community. We have continued to develop our wide range of activities available to learners to the extent where we enjoy hosting multiple events inside our school on most days. These include: Cleethorpes Childcare Pre-School Group, Adult Community Choir, Zumba, Martial Arts, Yoga and Swimming Groups.

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.

Strategic Report

Financial review

The Academy Trust remains in a strong financial position. Reserves and investments are in place to both mitigate the risks associated with unforeseen costs and support future, planned developments. The Academy operates under its 'Financial Procedures', 'Scheme of Delegated Authority' and 'Investment and Reserves Policy'. The Academy Trust is principally funded by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the DfE in the form of grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purpose. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2018 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities

During the year ended 31st August 2018, total expenditure of £1,787,~~433~~ 883 (2017: £1,740,575) was covered by grant funding from the DfE together with other incoming resources and brought forward reserves. The in year deficit, before the pension deficit, for the year and excluding restricted fixed asset funds was £150,428 (2017: £144,105 surplus).

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Academy Trust, by nature of its work, has limited exposure to financial risks such as credit, cash flow and liquidity risks. The Academy Trust provides for its employees through the Teachers' Pension Scheme and East Riding Pension Fund.

<u>Management of financial assets</u>

The Academy has appointed independent financial advisors to manage its financial assets on a discretionary basis in line with this policy. The Academy's advisors are entrusted to:

- Ensure cash is earning best rates of return possible;
- Undertake due diligence on banks and buildings societies before investments made;
- Analyse the financial strength of financial institutions on an on-going basis;
- Advise the Academy on the investment of any financial assets surplus to its short to medium term requirements; and
- Ensure there is an appropriate spread of investments to minimise risk of loss.

All cash and investments are to be held in the name of the Academy. The Academy's appointed financial advisors are required to present to the Finance and Audit committee on an annual basis on the performance of its investments.

<u>Reporting and monitoring</u>

The Finance and Audit committee has responsibility for agreeing the investment strategy and monitoring the performance of investments. The Committee will review on a termly basis:

- analysis of return on investments;
- risk profile; and
- asset allocation.

Performance will be monitored against agreed market benchmarks, and against the investment objective of inflation plus 1% for any long term investments.

The Finance and Audit committee is to report formally to the Board of Trustees on at least an annual basis. This report will include performance of investments and compliance with investment guidelines.

<u>Policy review</u>

This Policy shall be reviewed annually by the Finance and Audit committee to determine if modifications are necessary or desirable. If modifications are made, they shall be subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

Strategic Report

Reserves policy

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. The Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to three month's expenditure, approximately £421,000 plus any designated funds for projects.

The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. The Academy's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted pension fund) is £384,416 (2017: £534,844) which is below the required amount.

Steps are being taken to eliminate the pension scheme deficit as contributions have increased since converting to an Academy. It is possible that the deficit can have an effect on the cash flow of the academy, as it may mean the contributions will have to change again in the future.

The Academy held fund balances at 31 August 2018 of £3,387,910 (2017: £2,697,219) comprising £3,250,494 (2017: £2,456,375) of restricted fixed asset funds, £53,820 (2017: £64,149) of restricted general funds, £330,596 (2017: £470,695) of unrestricted general funds and a pension reserve deficit of £247,000 (2017: £294,000).

Of these amount £2,864,176 (2017: £2,419,676) can only be realised by disposing of tangible fixed assets.

Strategic Report

Investment policy

Aims

Our aim is to spend the public monies with which we are entrusted for the direct educational benefit of our students as soon as is prudent. The Academy does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather it is the result of good financial stewardship.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that funds which the Academy does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested in such a way as to maximise the school's income but without putting the capital value at unacceptable risk.

Objectives

• To ensure that adequate cash balances are maintained in the current account to cover day-to-day working capital requirements;
• To ensure that there is no unacceptable risk of loss to the capital value of any financial assets invested;
• To protect the capital value of financial assets against inflation; and
• To optimise returns on invested funds

Guidelines

Regular cash flows are to be prepared and monitored to ensure there are adequate liquid funds to meet all payroll commitments, outstanding creditors that are due for payment and any short term capital investment expenditure. In addition, the Academy will maintain a short term cash reserve equivalent to at least two months expenditure to provide financial security and meet any emergency short notice cash requirements.

Capital volatility cannot be tolerated in these short term reserves and investment of these assets should be focused on minimising this. Short term reserves would be invested in Treasury Deposits or institutions authorised by the Prudential Regulation Authority, or its successor, and only in interest bearing deposit accounts with maturity dates which do not result in the cash funds being unavailable for longer than 8 weeks.

Where the cash flow forecast identifies a base level of cash funds that will be surplus to short term requirements these may be invested in a diversified investment portfolio. Such a portfolio would contain mainly low or medium risk investments such as cash, bonds or property and some higher risk investments such as shares. The Academy accept that the capital value may go up or down in the short term but wish to protect its financial reserves against the effect of inflation over the long term.

Ethical Investment

The Academy's financial assets should be invested in line with its overall aims. The Trustees do not wish to adopt an exclusionary policy, but individual investments may be excluded if perceived to conflict with the Academy's purpose.

Strategic Report

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Academy has an effective system of internal financial controls. The Members and Trustees have reviewed current examples of best practice and have set policies on internal controls which cover the following:
• the type of risks the Academy faces;
• the level of risks which they regard as acceptable;
• the likelihood of the risks materialising;
• the Academy's ability to reduce the incidence and impact on the Academy's operations of risks that do materialise;
• the costs of operating particular controls relative to the benefits obtained.
• clarified the responsibility of the Senior Leadership Team to implement the Trustees' policies and to identify and evaluate risks for the Trustees' consideration;
• explained to employees that they have responsibility for internal control as part of their accountability for achieving objectives;
• embedded the control system in the Academy's operations so that it becomes part of the culture of the Academy;
• developed systems to respond quickly to evolving risks arising from factors within the Academy and to changes in the external environment; and
• included procedures for reporting failings immediately to appropriate levels of management and the Trustees together with details of corrective action being undertaken.

Fundraising

The Academy recognises that fundraising is a highly valued source of income but should remain low key as it is mainly targeted at parents of the children in school and supporters, and the relationship built with donors must not be impaired. Most of the Academy's fundraising is carried out on a voluntary contribution basis and no fundraising is carried out on the Academy's behalf. The Academy conforms to recognised standards and has not received any complaints regarding its fundraising activities.

Plans for future periods

Provisional information for 2018/19, based on the results from this year's SATs tests, suggest key priorities will include:
• 85% to achieve the Expected Standard in RWM combined.
• To increase the attainment of disadvantaged children so that it is in line with 'non-disadvantaged.'
• To close the in-school gender gap in Literacy at Greater Depth.

We are committed to
• ensuring that at least 85% of children leave Signhills Academy having reached or exceeded the expected standard in Reading, Writing and Maths.
• increasing the proportion of children Reading at a high standard.
• narrowing the attainment Gender gap.

And
• developing pupils' resilience to support high outcomes.
• maximising the impact of leadership at all levels.
• maximising the impact of monitoring and evaluation to support teaching and learning.

Auditor

In so far 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.

Reappointment of auditor

In accordance with section 485 of the Companies Act 2006, a resolution for the re-appointment of Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants as auditors of the company is to be proposed at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Trustees' Annual Report, incorporating the directors' report and strategic report, was approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 27 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

....

G Stewart
Governor and trustee

Signhills Academy Limited

Governance Statement

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to S Carr, 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 Signhills Academy Limited 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' Annual Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 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
S Carr	4	4
A Cole	2	4
A North	3	4
J Kaye	3	4
G Lonsdale	2	4
L Manley	1	4
K Barrs	1	1
G Stewart	4	4
K Tindall	3	4
L Heinzman	3	4
K George	3	4
M Waters	1	1
S Winfield	2	2
K Abbott	0	0

Governance reviews

Following an audit of the skills of the Governing Body, we have strength in Finance, Premises, Health & Safety, and Standards, but feel there is a lack of legal expertise among the group. We will look to appoint such a trustee in the future.

The Finance and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to review actual financial reports compared to the budget, authorise expenditure over a certain amount, and to ensure the systems and controls are working efficiently and effectively. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Carr	5	5
J Kaye	4	5
G Lonsdale	0	5
G Stewart	3	5
K Tindall	5	5

Review of value for money

As accounting officer the Headteacher 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 available. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

• A number of collaborative CPD opportunities have been delivered across the Academies within the Alliance. This has saved money on participation and travel costs as high quality training opportunities are rarely offered locally by external bodies.
• The Academy has been pro-active in supporting the Government's drive to increase the number of apprentices in the workplace; over the last three years the Academy has employed six apprentices, supported by the successful partnership it has forged with Grimsby Institute of Higher Education.
• The Academy was successful in obtaining CIF funding for the refurbishment of the roof which will considerably improve the insulation properties of the building and reduce ongoing running costs for many years to come.

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 Signhills Academy Limited for the year ended 31 August 2018 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 ending 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Finance and Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;

Governance Statement (continued)

- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- not to appoint an internal auditor. However the Trustees have appointed Forrester Boyd, the external auditor, to perform additional checks

The role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. On a periodic basis, at least 4 areas a year, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees's financial responsibilities.

The reviewer has delivered the planned reviews in the following areas:

- Income Systems
- Bank Systems
- Purchases
- Wages

There were no material control or other issues reported to date.

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

- the work of the external auditor;
- 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 Finance and Audit Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 27 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

....
S Carr
Accounting officer
Governor and trustee

....
G Stewart
Governor and trustee

Signhills Academy Limited

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of Signhills Academy Limited I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

I confirm that I and the academy trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2017.

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.

....

S Carr
Accounting officer

27 November 2018

Signhills Academy Limited

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who act as Governors of Signhills Academy Limited and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018;
- make judgments and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; 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 the ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board on 27 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

....

G Stewart
Governor and trustee

Signhills Academy Limited

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Signhills Academy Limited

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Signhills Academy Limited (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2018, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 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 Trusts affairs as at 31 August 2018 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 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's 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

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

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

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Annual Report (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report), other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. 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 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.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Signhills Academy Limited (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' Annual Report (incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors' Report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Directors' 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 or Directors' 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 16], the Trustees (who are also the 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 or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy's Trusts 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.

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

....
Carrie Anne Jensen ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor

26 South St Mary's Gate
Grimsby
N E Lincolnshire
DN31 1LW

27 November 2018

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Signhills Academy Limited and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 30 August 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Signhills Academy Limited during the period 1 September 2017 to 31 August 2018 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 Signhills Academy Limited and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to the Signhills Academy Limited 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 Signhills Academy Limited and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Signhills Academy Limited's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Signhill Academy Limited's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 29 July 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2017, 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 2017 to 2018. 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 2017 to 31 August 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity and propriety of the academy 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 all the activities of the Academy Trust are in keeping with the academy's framework and the charitable objectives;
- Obtaining representations from the Accounting Officer and Key Management Personnel.

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

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 2017 to 31 August 2018 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

....

Carrie Anne Jensen ACA, Reporting Accountant
For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants,
26 South St Mary's Gate
Grimsby
N E Lincolnshire
DN31 1LW

27 November 2018

Signhills Academy Limited

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2018 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2017/18 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	52,821	-	702,303	755,124
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	1,478,940	-	1,478,940
Other trading activities	4	113,775	-	-	113,775
Investment income	5	8,646	-	-	8,646
Total		175,242	1,478,940	702,303	2,356,485
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	121,847	-	-	121,847
Charitable activities:					
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	1,556,269	109,767	1,666,036
Total		121,847	1,556,269	109,767	1,787,883
Gains/losses on investment assets		8,089	-	-	8,089
Net income/(expenditure)		61,484	(77,329)	592,536	576,691
Transfers between funds		(201,583)	-	201,583	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	114,000	-	114,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(140,099)	36,671	794,119	690,691
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2017		470,695	(229,851)	2,456,375	2,697,219
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2018		330,596	(193,180)	3,250,494	3,387,910

Comparative figures are stated on page 23.

Signhills Academy Limited

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2017 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2016/17 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	63,607	-	62,559	126,166
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	40,975	1,487,798	-	1,528,773
Other trading activities	4	141,867	-	-	141,867
Investment income	5	22,682	-	-	22,682
Total		269,131	1,487,798	62,559	1,819,488
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	148,651	-	-	148,651
Charitable activities:					
Academy trust educational operations	7	-	1,511,607	80,317	1,591,924
Total		148,651	1,511,607	80,317	1,740,575
Gains/losses on investment assets		434	-	-	434
Net income/(expenditure)		120,914	(23,809)	(17,758)	79,347
Transfers between funds		-	(154,923)	154,923	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	170,000	-	170,000
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		120,914	(8,732)	137,165	249,347
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2016		349,781	(221,119)	2,319,210	2,447,872
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2017		470,695	(229,851)	2,456,375	2,697,219

Signhills Academy Limited

(Registration number: 7660690)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2018

	Note	2018 £	2017 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	2,864,176	2,419,676
Investments	12	246,871	238,909
		3,111,047	2,658,585
Current assets			
Stocks	13	1,879	1,547
Debtors	14	343,035	82,342
Cash at bank and in hand		296,907	316,162
		641,821	400,051
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(96,134)	(40,137)
Net current assets		545,687	359,914
Total assets less current liabilities		3,656,734	3,018,499
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(21,824)	(27,280)
Net assets excluding pension liability		3,634,910	2,991,219
Pension scheme liability	25	(247,000)	(294,000)
Net assets including pension liability		3,387,910	2,697,219
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund		53,820	64,149
Restricted fixed asset fund		3,250,494	2,456,375
Restricted pension fund		(247,000)	(294,000)
		3,057,314	2,226,524
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund		330,596	470,695
Total funds	17	3,387,910	2,697,219

The financial statements on pages 23 to 50 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 27 November 2018 and signed on their behalf by:

....

G Stewart
Governor and trustee

Signhills Academy Limited

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 August 2018

	Note	2018 £	2017 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	21	89,453	89,450
Cash flows from investing activities	22	(108,708)	(94,141)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(19,255)	(4,691)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		316,162	320,853
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	23	296,907	316,162

1 Accounting policies

General information

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

The address of its registered office is:

Signhills Academy
Hardy's Road
Cleethorpes
DN35 0DN

These financial statements were authorised for issue by the Board on 27 November 2018.

Statement of accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 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 company and have been rounded to the nearest pound.

Signhills Academy Limited meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements cover the individual entity, Signhills Academy Limited.

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.

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 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.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5,000 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. 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 such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy. Where tangible assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

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**
Computer Equipment	50% straight line basis
Furniture and fittings	33% straight line basis
Buildings	50 years straight line basis
Leasehold land	125 years straight line basis

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.

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the academy trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Leased assets

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

Long term leasehold land:
The land is held on a 125 year lease with North East Lincolnshire Council. It was recognised as an asset on conversion and is being depreciated accordingly.

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.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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.

Investments
Fixed asset investments are included at market value at the balance sheet date.

Realised gains and losses on investments are calculated as the difference between sales proceeds and their market value at the start of the year, or their subsequent cost, and are changed or credited to the statement of financial activities in the year of disposal. Unrealised gains and losses represent the movement in market values during the year and are credited or charged to the statement of financial activities based on the market value at the year end.

Stock
Unsold uniforms and catering stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

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 Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

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 so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. 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 operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2018. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2017/18 Total £	2016/17 Total £
Educational trips and visits	43,214	-	43,214	35,106
Capital grants	-	702,303	702,303	62,559
Other donations	9,607	-	9,607	28,501
	52,821	702,303	755,124	126,166

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds £	2017/18 Total £	2016/17 Total £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,370,792	1,370,792	1,390,012
Pupil Premium Grant	75,970	75,970	78,372
Other DfE Grant	26,478	26,478	16,083
	1,473,240	1,473,240	1,484,467
Other government grants			
Local Authority Funding	5,700	5,700	3,331
Other Grants	-	-	40,975
	5,700	5,700	44,306
Total grants	1,478,940	1,478,940	1,528,773

4 Other trading income

	Unrestricted funds £	2017/18 Total £	2016/17 Total £
Hire of facilities	19,818	19,818	17,985
Catering income	52,324	52,324	83,331
Other income	41,633	41,633	40,551
	113,775	113,775	141,867

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2017/18 Total £	2016/17 Total £
Short term deposits	3,508	3,508	22,682
Dividends received	5,138	5,138	-
	8,646	8,646	22,682

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non Pay Expenditure Premises £	Other costs £	2017/18 Total £	2016/17 Total £
Expenditure on raising funds					
Direct costs	-	-	121,847	121,847	148,651
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	1,084,620	44,540	102,134	1,231,294	1,165,590
Allocated support costs	209,924	153,747	71,071	434,742	426,334
	1,294,544	198,287	295,052	1,787,883	1,740,575

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
Operating leases - other leases	1,178	1,195
Fees payable to auditor - audit	5,295	4,795
Fees payable to auditor - other audit services	3,530	2,145
Profit/(loss) on disposal of tangible fixed assets	40	-
Profit/(loss) on disposal of investments	6,369	1,738
Depreciation	86,347	62,418

7 Charitable activities

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
Direct costs - educational operations	1,231,294	1,165,590
Support costs - educational operations	434,742	426,334
	1,666,036	1,591,924

	Educational operations £	2017/18 Total £	2016/17 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	209,924	209,924	187,215
Depreciation	41,807	41,807	19,386
Technology costs	12,819	12,819	12,701
Premises costs	111,940	111,940	127,179
Other support costs	39,216	39,216	62,117
Governance costs	19,036	19,036	17,736
Total support costs	434,742	434,742	426,334

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	956,824	910,009
Social security costs	78,267	69,607
Pension costs	241,465	175,871
	1,276,556	1,155,487
Agency staff costs	11,015	35,251
Staff restructuring costs	6,973	-
	1,294,544	1,190,738

	2018 £
Staff restructuring costs comprise:	
Severance payments	6,973

Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments
Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £6,973 (2017: £Nil). Individually, the payments were:

Non-contractual payments £6,973 made on 20 October 2017

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

	2017/18 No	2016/17 No
Charitable Activities		
Teachers	16	16
Administration and support	14	14
Teaching assistants and learning mentors	20	20
Management	2	2
	52	52

Higher paid staff

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

	2018 No	2017 No
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£80,001 - £90,000	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 employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £180,721 (2017: £169,868).

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 headteacher and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

S Carr (Headteacher):

Remuneration: £80,000 - £85,000 (2017 - £70,000 - £75,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £10,000 - £15,000 (2017 - £10,000 - £15,000)

K Barrs (Teaching assistant):

Remuneration: £0 - £5,000 (2017 - £10,000 - £15,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2017 - £0 - £5,000)

K Abbott (Teacher):

Remuneration: £0 - £5,000 (2017 - £35,000 - £40,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2017 - £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2018, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £144 (2017 - £198) were reimbursed or paid directly to 2 trustees (2017 - 1).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 26.

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 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 £	Furniture and fixtures £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2017	2,320,259	365,664	134,637	2,820,560
Additions	482,451	48,396	-	530,847
Disposals	-	-	(345)	(345)
At 31 August 2018	2,802,710	414,060	134,292	3,351,062
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2017	194,316	114,473	92,095	400,884
Charge for the year	44,540	19,611	22,196	86,347
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	(345)	(345)
At 31 August 2018	238,856	134,084	113,946	486,886
Net book value				
At 31 August 2018	2,563,854	279,976	20,346	2,864,176
At 31 August 2017	2,125,943	251,191	42,542	2,419,676

Included within leasehold land and buildings is £2,563,854 (2017: £2,125,943) relating to long leasehold land and buildings.

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

• the granting of a leasehold on 4th December 2017 between Signhills Academy Limited and Cleethorpes Childcare Limited for £32,400 over a term of 6 years

12 Investments

	Brooks MacDonald £
Cost	
At 1 September 2017	238,909
Additions	65,223
Disposals	(58,981)
Revaluation	1,720
At 31 August 2018	246,871
Provision	
At 31 August 2018	-
Net book value	
At 31 August 2018	246,871
At 31 August 2017	238,909

The investment portfolio is managed by Brooks MacDonald Asset Management and includes a diverse range of investments including structured returns, equities, fixed interest and property.

13 Stock

	2018 £	2017 £
Clothing	1,879	1,547

14 Debtors

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade debtors	481	20,277
Prepayments	18,497	21,390
Accrued grant and other income	300,717	13,320
VAT recoverable	23,340	27,355
	343,035	82,342

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2018 £	2017 £
Trade creditors	35,474	12,295
Other taxation and social security	16,679	18,545
Other creditors	5,456	5,456
Accruals	38,525	3,841
	96,134	40,137

Incleded within other creditors ia a loan of £5,456 from Salix which is provided on the following terms: an interest free loan which will be repaid on a straight line basis over 7 years, paid out of the annual savings made from the improved lighting the loan has funded.

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2018 £	2017 £
Other creditors	21,824	27,280

Included within other creditors is a loan of £21,824 from Salix which is provided on the following terms: an interest free loan which will be repaid on a straight line basis over 7 years, paid out of the annual savings made from the improved lighting the loan has funded.

The amount repayable by instalments which falls due after more than five years is £Nil (2017: £5,456).

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	50,829	1,370,792	(1,368,128)	-	53,493
Pupil Premium Grant	13,320	75,970	(88,963)	-	327
Local Authority Funding	-	5,700	(5,700)	-	-
Other DfE Income	-	26,478	(26,478)	-	-
	64,149	1,478,940	(1,489,269)	-	53,820
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE Capital Grant	59,223	702,303	(23,420)	-	738,106
Donated Assets from Local Authority	1,721,006	-	(36,367)	-	1,684,639
Capital from Local Authority	117,486	-	(23,497)	-	93,989
Capital Expenditure from other funds	487,780	-	(19,511)	201,583	669,852
Other grants	70,880	-	(6,972)	-	63,908
	2,456,375	702,303	(109,767)	201,583	3,250,494
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Reserve	(294,000)	-	(67,000)	114,000	(247,000)
Total restricted funds	2,226,524	2,181,243	(1,666,036)	315,583	3,057,314
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	470,695	175,242	(121,847)	(193,494)	330,596
Total funds	2,697,219	2,356,485	(1,787,883)	122,089	3,387,910

17 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	183,004	1,398,975	(1,376,227)	(154,923)	50,829
Pupil Premium Grant	12,877	78,372	(77,929)	-	13,320
Local Authority Funding	-	3,331	(3,331)	-	-
	195,881	1,480,678	(1,457,487)	(154,923)	64,149
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE Capital Grant	20,991	62,559	(24,327)	-	59,223
Donated Assets from Local Authority	1,757,304	-	(36,298)	-	1,721,006
Capital from Local Authority	120,325	-	(2,839)	-	117,486
Capital Expenditure from other funds	348,310	-	(15,453)	154,923	487,780
Other grants	72,280	-	(1,400)	-	70,880
	2,319,210	62,559	(80,317)	154,923	2,456,375
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Reserve	(417,000)	-	(47,000)	170,000	(294,000)
Total restricted funds	2,098,091	1,543,237	(1,584,804)	170,000	2,226,524
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	349,781	269,131	(148,651)	434	470,695
Total funds	2,447,872	1,812,368	(1,733,455)	170,434	2,697,219

17 Funds (continued)

A current year 12 months and prior year 12 months combined position is as follows:

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	183,004	2,769,767	(2,744,355)	(154,923)	53,493
Pupil Premium Grant	12,877	154,342	(166,892)	-	327
Local Authority Funding	-	9,031	(9,031)	-	-
Other DfE Income	-	26,478	(26,478)	-	-
	195,881	2,959,618	(2,946,756)	(154,923)	53,820
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE Capital Grant	20,991	764,862	(47,747)	-	738,106
Donated Assets from Local Authority	1,757,304	-	(72,665)	-	1,684,639
Capital from Local Authority	120,325	-	(26,336)	-	93,989
Capital Expenditure from other funds	348,310	-	(34,964)	356,506	669,852
Other grants	72,280	-	(8,372)	-	63,908
	2,319,210	764,862	(190,084)	356,506	3,250,494
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Reserve	(417,000)	-	(114,000)	284,000	(247,000)
Total restricted funds	2,098,091	3,724,480	(3,250,840)	485,583	3,057,314
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	349,781	444,373	(270,498)	(193,060)	330,596
Total funds	2,447,872	4,168,853	(3,521,338)	292,523	3,387,910

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

General Annual Grant (GAG) income must be used for the normal running costs for the Academy.

Local Authority Statement funding is provided for the provision of services for children with special educational needs.

Pupil Premium Grant may be spent for the educational benefit of pupils registered at that school, or for the benefit of pupils registered at other schools; and on community facilities i.e. services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of pupils at the school or their families, or people who live or work in the locality in which the school is situated. The grant does not have to be completely spent by schools in the financial year.

Devolved capital allocated directlt by the DfE must be spent on capital purposes.

Capital expenditure from other funds is made up of any fixed assets purchased during the year and the expense is the depreciation relating to these additions.

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,864,176	2,864,176
Investments	246,871	-	-	246,871
Current assets	83,725	144,498	413,598	641,821
Current liabilities	-	(90,678)	(5,456)	(96,134)
Creditors over 1 year	-	-	(21,824)	(21,824)
Pension scheme liability	-	(247,000)	-	(247,000)
Total net assets	330,596	(193,180)	3,250,494	3,387,910

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,419,676	2,419,676
Investments	238,909	-	-	238,909
Current assets	231,786	98,830	69,435	400,051
Current liabilities	-	(34,681)	(5,456)	(40,137)
Creditors over 1 year	-	-	(27,280)	(27,280)
Pension scheme liability	-	(294,000)	-	(294,000)
Total net assets	470,695	(229,851)	2,456,375	2,697,219

19 Capital commitments

	2018 £
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	373,039

20 Financial commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2018 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2018 £	2017 £
Amounts due within one year	1,178	1,178
Amounts due between one and five years	-	1,178
	1,178	2,356

21 Reconciliation of net income to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2018 £	2017 £
Net income	576,691	79,347
Depreciation	86,347	62,417
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(413,326)	(62,559)
Interest receivable	(8,646)	(22,682)
Defined benefit scheme cost less contributions payable	59,000	38,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	8,000	9,000
Increase in stocks	(332)	(134)
Increase in debtors	(260,693)	(16,053)
Increase in creditors	50,541	2,548
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(40)	-
Profit on disposal of investments	(6,369)	(1,738)
Loss on revaluation of investments	(1,720)	1,304
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	89,453	89,450

22 Cash flows from investing activities

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	8,646	22,682
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(530,847)	(162,883)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	40	-
Purchase of investments	(65,223)	(54,037)
Proceeds from sale of investments	65,350	37,538
Capital grants from DfE Group	413,326	62,559
Net cash used in investing activities	(108,708)	(94,141)

23 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2018 £	2017 £
Cash at bank and in hand	296,907	316,162
Total cash and cash equivalents	296,907	316,162

24 Members' liability

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

25 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 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £100,467 (2017: £92,237).
A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

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

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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 2018 was £101,000 (2017 - £99,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £82,000 (2017 - £81,000) and employees' contributions totalled £19,000 (2017 - £18,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25 per cent for employers and 5 - 7 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 academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2018 %	2017 %
Rate of increase in salaries	2.60	2.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.40	2.40
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.80	2.50

Sensitivity analysis

	2018 £	2017 £
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	141,000.00	125,000.00
0.5% increase in Salary Increase Rate	19,000.00	20,000.00
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	33,000.00	39,000.00
0.5% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	121,000.00	104,000.00

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

	2018	2017
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	21.70	21.70
Females retiring today	24.20	24.20
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	23.70	23.70
Females retiring in 20 years	26.40	26.40

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

	2018 £	2017 £
Equities	592,000	485,000
Corporate bonds	107,000	89,000
Property	99,000	75,000
Cash and other liquid assets	24,000	34,000
Total market value of assets	822,000	683,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £49,000 (2017 - £169,000).

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
Current service cost	141,000	119,000
Interest income	(18,000)	(9,000)
Interest cost	26,000	18,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	149,000	128,000

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

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
At start of period	977,000	838,000
Current service cost	141,000	119,000
Interest cost	26,000	18,000
Employee contributions	19,000	18,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(83,000)	(10,000)
Benefits paid	(11,000)	(6,000)
At 31 August	1,069,000	977,000

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

	2017/18 £	2016/17 £
At start of period	683,000	421,000
Interest income	18,000	9,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	31,000	160,000
Employer contributions	82,000	81,000
Employee contributions	19,000	18,000
Benefits paid	(11,000)	(6,000)
At 31 August	822,000	683,000

26 Related party transactions

K Stewart, a close family member of G Stewart, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust. K Stewart's appointment was made in open competition and G Stewart was not involved in the decision making process regarding appointment. K Stewart is paid within the normal pay scale for her role and receives no special treatment as a result of her relationship to the trustee.

During the year ended 31 August 2017, Signhills Academy Limited paid Tribeck Ltd £250 plus VAT for health and safety consultancy. G Stewart, a trustee, is a director of the company. There were no amounts due to Tribeck Ltd at the balance sheet date. The transaction was in compliance with the conditions set out in the Academies Financial Handbook. There were no such transactions during the year ended 31 August 2018.