REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 10377160 (England and Wales)

Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

for

Concordia Multi Academy Trust

UHY Hacker Young St John's Chambers Love Street Chester Cheshire CH1 1QN

	Page
Reference and Administrative Details	1 to 2
Report of the Trustees	3 to 11
Governance Statement	12 to 14
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	15
Statement of Trustees Responsibilities	16
Report of the Independent Auditors	17 to 19
Independent Accountant's Report on Regularity	20 to 21
Statement of Financial Activities	22
Balance Sheet	23
Cash Flow Statement	24
Notes to the Financial Statements	25 to 48

MEMBERS

D Teggin K Bailey

P Jenkins A Rogan S Grove

TRUSTEES

A J Claydon (Vice Chair)

R Flanders (Teacher)

S I Gordon (Company Director) (resigned 31.8.18)

S L Grove (Bank Manager) * L J Harris (Company Director)

P D Jenkins (Chair)

D Kehoe (Assistant Practitioner In Cardiology)

P Maxwell (Family Case Worker)

J Murphy (Headteacher) S Raynor (Headteacher) T L Webb (Headteacher)

J Williams (Senior Probation Officer)

SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM

S L Grove (Trustee)

P D Jenkins (Chair of trustees)

A Rogan (Member)
D Teggin (Member)
R Flanders (Head Teacher)
T L Webb (Head Teacher)
S Raynor (Head Teacher)
J Murphy (Head Teacher)

REGISTERED OFFICE

Wolverham Primary School

Milton Road Ellesmere Port Cheshire CH65 5AT

REGISTERED COMPANY

10377160 (England and Wales)

NUMBER

^{*} members of the finance and general purpose committee

Reference and Administrative Details for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

AUDITORS

UHY Hacker Young

St John's Chambers

Love Street Chester Cheshire CH1 1QN

BANKERS

Lloyds Bank plc 8 Foregate Street

Chester CH1 1XP

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

The trustees who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31st August 2018. The trustees have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2015) and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

The trust operates 3 primary academies in Cheshire and 1 infant academy in Wirral. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 928 (658 in the primaries and 270 in the infants) and had a roll of 914 in the school census on 4th October 2018. In addition the academies have over 180 2-3 year olds on roll.

INCORPORATION

The charitable company was incorporated on 15th September 2016.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and aims

The overarching objectives of Concordia Multi Academy Trust are to:

- enable autonomous, outstanding academies within the MAT framework with a commitment to providing a high-quality education for all children,
- develop systems of monitoring attainment and progress to identify, escalate and tackle problems quickly,
- recruit and retain powerful and authoritative leaders, with a clear vision for bringing about higher standards,
- develop succession planning across the Trust structure, giving a high priority to leadership development in order to secure a pipeline of future talent,
- invest in professional development and the sharing of knowledge and expertise across the Trust,
- provide stability in governance and leadership,
- achieve a clear framework of governance, accountability and delegation to ensure absolute clarity of roles and responsibilities,
- develop financial systems that ensure best value and financial probity,
- have a cautious and considered approach to expansion.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Significant activities

Conversion to academy status took place during the Summer Term of 2018 (May 1st for the three Cheshire schools and June 1st for Town Lane) hence the period ending August 31st 2018 is a highly truncated period as it also included the main summer holidays. Leading up to the 1st May and 1st June this year the conversion process was excessively lengthy (started late 2015) due to complex legal issues involving a PFI contract covering three of the schools.

As planned several new providers began supplying services to the Trust as of the conversion dates, replacing previous SLAs in some key areas.

- o HR is supplied by Cooks Lawyers. Cooks worked with the leadership team of the Trust leading up to conversion (TUPE, etc.) and has since provided much needed advice on working with the various unions, contracts and other elements of HR services.
- o Cook Lawyers also act as the Trust's DPO and provides ongoing advice on GDPR issues and training.
- o APS Global provides Payroll to the Trust and has managed the move from the Local Authorities with minimal disruption.
- o A new accounting system from PS Financial is being employed. It has widespread use across Academies and MATs.

During this short period the Trust had the one key objective:

That was to ensure that the move from maintained to academy status and the start-up of the new services did not impinge on the education of the pupils in all four academies. To that end Schools Business Services (SBS) has been employed from April 2018 to March 2019 to provide management services for the Trust's finances and also to train existing administrative personnel in the new reporting and financial responsibilities required by Academy status.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

Where possible Concordia supports any and all aspects of the advancement of education within the local area. The Academies within the Trust provide various programmes of educational and recreational activity - all designed to contribute to the overall education of our students in areas such as academic distinction, languages, music, the arts and sport. For example the one or more of the academies work with:

- specialist language teachers (eg. Spanish)
- music, dance and arts specialists
- links with local churches supporting them at Christmas and summer events and with local clergy supporting the RE curriculum.
- sports coaches to enhancement sports during term time, clubs and during the holidays

All the Academies are involved in fundraising with various charities including: Children in Need, Sport Relief, Comic Relief, Red Nose Day, Diabetes Awareness, Unicef Shoe Share, Save the Children, Alzheimer Research, Shelter, Starlight, Claire House, Seeds for Africa, Macmillan, NSPCC, Chester Zoo, WWF, and food bank collections. Staff and pupils are encouraged to understand the causes and to volunteer. Each academy raises over £2,000 for charity each year.

Concordia makes available its experienced staff to support other local schools, for example:

- Childer Thornton is a National Support School; the HT is a National Leader in Education (NLE); the Deputy HT is a Specialist Leader in Education (SLE) in Maths and teaches for the North West Maths Hub. The school has been designated an English Hub. The Head is an Associate School Improvement Advisor for CWaC. Between these leaders eight schools are supported.
- Parkland's Becky Naylor is an SLE providing support to other schools. Lisa Carey worked with UCEA to support their project on evaluating the curriculum with a focus on Year 7 transition. Laura Sprowson supports LA SEN board to evaluate applications for additional funding. Becky Naylor and the HT are also members of the local UCEA School Sports Partnership Steering Group. Becky Naylor has moderated for the LA for the past three years and is due to do this again in 2018/19. She also undertakes additional work for an external consultancy The Literacy Company.
- Wolverham is a National Support School, the HT is an NLE as well as a Local Authority Improvement Advisor for CWaC. Three additional SLEs at Wolverham support other schools in English, Early Years and Special Needs. One SLE also volunteers for the LA SEN board to assess applications for additional funding.
- Town Lane is a centre for good practice, schools visiting to watch outstanding practice. It is the local lead for Forest Schools, a part of the Maths Mastery Project and is the Maths cluster lead. The school provides ITT training for the Primary Hub and also two local universities. It also supports local nurseries on expected outcomes.

Wherever possible the trust aims to contribute to the benefit of the wider public, by making available the premises to third parties for the provision of educational and other opportunities. For example:

- Nursery facilities provided by SY4C at Parklands
- After school and holiday activities at some of the Academies including Firbobs, SY4C, Art club, Fencing, History, Eco Explorers,
- Parklands Children's Centre is used by CWP to provide space for midwife consultations, nursery etc.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Trustees believe that the Academy Trust's aims, together with the activities outlined above, are demonstrably to the public benefit.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Public benefit

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

Key Stage 1 Pupils who achieved the expected level:

Childer Thornton - Reading 93%, Writing 90%, Maths 90%, combined RWM 90% Parklands - Reading 67%, Writing 60%, Maths 73%, combined RWM 57% Town Lane - Reading 81%, Writing 77%, Maths 81%, combined RWM 70% Wolverham - Reading 71%, Writing 72%, Maths 79%, combined RWM 64%

Key Stage 1 Pupils who achieved greater depth:

Childer Thornton - Reading 40%, Writing 30%, Maths 37%, combined RWM 20% Parklands - Reading 30%, Writing 10%, Maths 17%, combined RWM 7% Town Lane - Reading 40%, Writing 20%, Maths 24%, combined RWM 12% Wolverham - Reading 24%, Writing 16%, Maths 22%, combined RWM 12%

Key Stage 2 Pupils who achieved the expected level:

Childer Thornton - Reading 86%, Writing 90%, Maths 86%, combined RWM 69%, GPAS 93% Parklands - Reading 57%, Writing 43%, Maths 47%, combined RWM 30%, GPAS 50% Wolverham - Reading 81%, Writing 88%, Maths 88%, combined RWM 75%, GPAS 100%

Key Stage 2 Pupils who achieved the higher level:

Childer Thornton- Reading 35%, Writing 28%, Maths 21%, combined RWM 14%, GPAS 52% Parklands - Reading 17%, Writing 10%, Maths 0%, combined RWM 0 %, GPAS 10% Wolverham - Reading 38%, Writing 19%, Maths 44%, combined RWM 19%, GPAS 81%

Parklands: Parklands - Primary Science Quality Mark attained July 2018. Eco Schools Silver Award attained summer 2018 - school has been asked to contribute a case study regarding engagement in the national Pollination project. Rights Respecting Schools Award Level 2 assessment due December 2018.1 staff ELSA trained with further staff member undertaking training.

Wolverham: Achieved School Games Award Silver and Eco Bronze. Working towards the Rainbow Flag Award (to raise awareness of LGBT and to eliminate gender stereotypes within schools and the wider community) 4 of 6 elements achieved outstanding, two to go before the end of the year. Wellbeing Award Accreditation (staff and students) completed - awaiting verification. Trained three staff as ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant). 1 pupil (Y6) passed to grammar school. 1 pupil won writing competition. 4 Y6 pupils had their English stories published in a book that they completed independently for a story writing competition. Y6 children came 3rd in a local Big Maths competition.

Childer Thornton: Six children went to grammar schools. One pupil is the Junior World Taekwondo Champion. Three pupils play for top ranking junior football academies.

Town Lane: SMSC Gold Award 2018 and Arts Mark Gold 2018. Three accredited Forest School Practioners. Mental Health First Aider. HLTA training to become child counsellor.

Wolverham is oversubscribed: Received 101 applications (53 first choice) for 30 places in Reception. 5 appealed unsuccessfully, there are currently 29 on the waiting list. Childer Thornton is oversubscribed by approximately 10 (2 appeals were unsuccessful). Town Lane is also oversubscribed - (2 unsuccessful appeals in 2018).

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievement and performance

Key financial performance indicators

The Trustees consider that the following are key performance indicators for the Academy Trust during this short period since conversion (May 1st / June 1st to August 31st):

- Pupils numbers (leading directly to ESFA funding level): Three of the four Academies are oversubscribed (with waiting lists and appeals). Reception classes in all four schools are currently at capacity.
- General financial stability: Income matches expenditure
- Expenditure on total staff costs as a percentage of income during the period: 77%
- Income per pupil (AWPU Cheshire West): £2808.77
- Ofsted inspection results: No inspections during the period. Three schools are Outstanding and one school is Good with Outstanding features.
- Capital expenditure per pupil: No capital expenditure since conversion. Grant applications are in progress during the Autumn 2018 term.

The Trustees are satisfied that expectations for all key performance indicators listed have been successfully met during the period.

Financial review

Financial position

During the period ended 31 August 2018, total expenditure of £2,042,000 was covered by recurrent grant funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources and reserve brought forward. The excess of expenditure over income for the period (excluding restricted fixed asset funds and funds transferred on conversion) was £118,000.

At 31 August 2018, the net book value of fixed assets was £3,536,000 and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in the notes to the financial statements. During the period the assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

Investment policy and objectives

The Trust aims to manage its cash balances to provide for the day-to-day working capital requirements of its operations. Although the investment of funds is not a primary activity and there have been no investments made to date, the Trustees are open to investment opportunities if and when appropriate free reserves have been accumulated - always bearing in mind the restrictions described in the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

STRATEGIC REPORT

Financial review

Reserves policy

The trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust 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 will always try to match income with expenditure in the current year (set and manage a balanced budget), will only carry forward reserves that it considers necessary and will have a clear plan for how it will be used to benefit the pupils.

The trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to one month's cost. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grant income and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance or long term sickness where unforeseen costs are incurred.

The trustees will monitor the level of reserves to ensure that they are maintained at the required level. In the event that they are partly used the trust will strive to rebuild free reserves up to the level needed.

At the end of the financial year the trust held unrestricted funds amounting to £171,000 and restricted funds (excluding pension and fixed asset funds) of £693,000.

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.

Fundraising

Concordia Multi Academy Trust has, to date, made no material efforts to raise funds and has relied on the statutory funding supplied through the grant systems of the ESFA and the Local Authorities to provide the funding needed to achieve its educational goals.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks that the Academy is exposed to are summarised below. For each of these risks the probability, impact and seriousness have been considered together with appropriate action and management plans:

Operational and reputational - this covers risks to the running of the Academy (including the capacity of staff and buildings to meet the needs of pupils) and its performance in delivering the curriculum.

Financial - covering risks to the Academy Trust's financial position, including revenue streams, cost control and cash management.

The risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed arise both internally and externally. External risks include those in respect of future funding levels, competition, changes to rules and regulations.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

STRATEGIC REPORT

Future plans

Conversion to academy status took place during the Summer Term of 2018 hence the academic year beginning in September 2018 is essentially the first full year of operation for Concordia. This first year will be used to ensure that the Trust has a solid foundation from which to achieve the objectives set out above (see Objectives, strategies and activities):

- Education standards of all four academies will be monitored with a view to making improvements wherever required.
- Leadership is key to the development of the Trust. To this end Tracy Webb, Head of Wolverham, has been assign by the Trustees as CEO of the Trust as of the 1st September 2018.
- -The current Head of Parklands is planning to move to a new position so recruiting of a new Head Teacher is in process and will be completed during the Autumn Term.
- Succession planning for all key positions in the Trust and each Academy becomes key and will be developed over the year.
- With conversion to academy status comes significant additional administrative work and many new processes. 2018 19 will be a year to ensure that all of these processes are handled efficiently, training staff where necessary and contracting services when required. Schools Business Services (SBS) has been contracted to provide managed financial services up to April 2019 to ensure sufficient expertise whilst training current staff. SBS are also contracted over the same period to train staff in the new financial processes and requirements.
- The Executive Board will be tasked with the day-to-day management of the changes in leadership, succession planning and training of administrative staff.
- There are no current plans for expansion of the Trust during 2018 19. However, during this year the Trust will strengthen its internal systems so that should the need arise expansion can be at least considered.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Charity constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of Concordia Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law. The charitable company is known as Concordia Multi Academy Trust.

Details of the trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

The Trust is a member of the DfE Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which provides Members and Trustees with cover from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business.

Qualifying third party indemnity provisions (as defined by section 234 of the Companies Act 2006) were in force during the period and remain in force, in relation to certain losses and liabilities which the Trustees or other officers may incur to third parties in the course of acting as Trustees or officers of the Trust.

Details of the insurance cover are provided in the notes to the financial statements.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Under the terms of its Articles:

- The Members may appoint by ordinary resolution up to 15 Trustees
- The total number of Trustees including the Chief Executive Officer (if they so choose to act as Trustee) who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.
- In circumstance where the Trustees have not appointed Local Governing Bodies in respect of Academies, there shall be a minimum of two Parent Trustees.
- Parent Trustees and Parent Local Governors shall be elected or, if the number of parents or individuals exercising parental responsibility, standing for election is less than the number of vacancies, appointed.
- The Trustees may appoint Co-opted Trustees. The Trustee may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Trustee if thereby the number of Trustees who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

Organisational structure

The organisational structure consists of two levels: the Trustees (and its associated Executive Board) and the Academies (along with their Local Governing Bodies). The aim of the management structure is to remain as 'flat' as possible and devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The Trustees are accountable to the Members of the Trust. The Executive Board controls and manages the Trust on a day to day basis implementing the policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them.

The Executive Board currently comprises of the Headteachers from of each Academy and three or four Trustees / Members. The Headteachers provide input from all parts of the Trust and ensure equitable use of resources; the other places provide diverse skills and experience. As a group the Executive Board is responsible for the authorisation of spending up to a level delegated to them within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, although appointment boards for senior posts will always contain a Trustee and the CEO. Budgets are allocated to each individual academy and control devolved to the respective LGB.

The Academy Head Teachers along with their Senior Management Teams and respective LGBs and are responsible for the day to day operation of each Academy, in particular organising the teaching staff, facilities and students.

Induction and training of new trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their previous experience. All new Trustees will be given a tour of the Academies and the chance to meet with staff and pupils. 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 Trustee. New Trustees will attend an Induction and will have access to a full programme of courses which they will choose to attend, based on their role and experience.

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Key management remuneration

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprises of the trustees and executive board as disclosed on the Reference and Administrative page..

The current remuneration policy setting the terms and conditions for the key management personnel, has been rolled over from the respective Local Authorities on conversion of each Academy. A trust-wide remuneration policy will be approved by the board of trustees after taking advice from the Headteachers, Local Authority policies and following guidance from relevant professional pay review bodies.

Only staff trustees, including the Headteachers, are remunerated, and these individuals only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. Specific disclosures concerning staff trustees' remuneration is included in notes to the financial statements. The Headteacher is not involved in setting their own remuneration package.

The day to day running of the remuneration policy is delegated to the Headteacher and monitored by the Executive Board who report to, and are accountable to the Trustees. All details for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel are set out in the pay policy and appraisal policy which are reviewed annually by the board of trustees.

Remuneration of key management personnel is set at an individual level, and where possible the Trustees have taken external professional advice which includes benchmarking, market trends and advice on structuring of incentives. Senior management salaries are linked to pay spines, helping trustees conclude that each individual is remunerated at an appropriate level. As such salaries are linked to factors such as ability, experience and performance. Total remuneration packages include employer pension contribution rates at approved rates.

The board always bear in mind the charitable status of the academy trust and recognise that the trust receives funding under an agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, and therefore ensure the remuneration paid to senior management personnel never exceeds an amount that provides value for money to the trust. The performance of senior management personnel is reviewed on a regular basis to ensure continuing value for money. Three named personnel have been appointed to the Pay Committee to monitor performance off the CEO.

Total remuneration paid to senior management personnel is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Related parties

Concordia Multi Academy Trust is not connected with any other Charities or Organisations.

The Trust has no relevant Trade Union Officials during the year.

AUDITORS

The auditors, UHY Hacker Young, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 13th December 2018 and signed on the board's behalf by:

P D Jenkins - Chair

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

Scope of Responsibility

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

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 2 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
P D Jenkins	2	2
S L Grove	2	2
T L Webb	2	2
S Raynor	2	2
R Flanders	2	2
J Murphy	2	2
A J Claydon	1	2
S I Gordon	1	2
L J Harris	1	2
D Kehoe	1	2

P Maxwell attended 2 meetings out of a possible 2 and J Williams attended 1 meeting out of a possible 2.

The composition of the Board of Trustees has remain the same throughout the period (1st May to 31st August). Mr Stuart Gordon resigned on the 31st August 2018.

No external review of the Board of Trustees has taken place during this period. The Board is fully aware that a review is important and following the auditor's report of this period will begin a self-evaluation review and skills audit, the result to be discussed at the first meeting in 2019 (February 12th 2019). At that meeting the need for an external review will be assessed.

Review of Value for Money

As accounting officer the chief executive 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:

- New service providers have been brought in HR and Payroll to provide improved value for money.

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

Review of Value for Money

- Training in finance systems and reporting is being provided to some existing administrative staff rather than add new staff, with the aim of disseminating this further to all administrative staff.
- The skills of current Members and Trustees are being utilised wherever it makes sense.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of charitable company 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 Concordia Multi Academy Trust for the period 1st September 2017 to 31st 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 charitable company 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 on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the charitable company's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1st September 2017 to 31st 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 General Purposes Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has not yet decided on who to appoint.

As most schools in the trust only converted in May, no internal audit was accomplished during the period. The Board of Trustees will decide on which option will be used for the upcoming year.

Review of Effectiveness

The accounting officer 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 executive within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

Review of Effectiveness

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review and implementation of the system of internal control by the Audit committee/Finance and General Purposes Committee and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 13th December 2018 and signed on its behalf by:

P D Jenkins - Chair

Mr D Teggin - Accounting Officer

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

As accounting officer of Concordia Multi Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the charitable company 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 received by the charitable company, under the funding agreement in place between the charitable company 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 charitable company board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the charitable company, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the charitable company'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.

Mr D Teggin - Accounting Officer

13th December 2018

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

The trustees (who act as governors of Concordia Multi Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards [FRS 102] have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and to 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.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are 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 auditors are aware of that information.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 13th December 2018 and signed on it's behalf by:

P D Jenkins - Chair

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Concordia Multi Academy Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31st August 2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement 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, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31st 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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018.

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 Auditors responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the charitable company 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 charitable company'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 annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors 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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

- the information given in the Report of the Trustees for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Report of the Trustees has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Report of the Trustees.

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 trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable company'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 charitable company's members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable company and the charitable company's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of

Concordia Multi Academy Trust

Nicolaus Stuart Jenkins (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of UHY Hacker Young

St John's Chambers

Love Street

Chester

Cheshire

CH1 1QN

13th December 2018

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and 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 Concordia Multi Academy Trust during the period 1st September 2017 to 31st 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 Concordia Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Concordia Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Concordia Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Concordia Multi Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Concordia Multi Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1st 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 period 1st September 2017 to 31st 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 charitable company's income and expenditure.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1st September 2017 to 31st August 2018 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

UHY Hacker Young

St John's Chambers

Love Street Chester

Cheshire

CH1 1QN

13th December 2018

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

	ĭ ĭr	nrestricted	Restricted	Fixed Asset	Total
		fund	funds	Funds	funds
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM					
Donations and capital grants	3	7	(1)	7	13
Transfer from Local Authority on conversion	21	84	(461)	3,548	3,171
Charitable activities					
Funding for the academy's educational					
operations	4	57	1,821	-	1,878
Other trading activities	5	24	_	-	24
S		·			
Total		172	1,359	3,555	5,086
EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities Academy's educational operations NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		 172	2,026 (667)	3,539	2,042 3,044
Transfers between funds	17		3	(3)	
Other recognised gains/(losses) Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit schemes			12		12
Net movement in funds		172	(652)	3,536	3,056
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD		172	(652)	3,536	3,056

All of the charitable company's activities derive from acquisitions in the current year.

Balance Sheet At 31st August 2018

	Notes	£'000
FIXED ASSETS Tangible assets	11	3,536
CURRENT ASSETS Debtors Cash at bank	12	1,058 404
		1,462
CREDITORS Amounts falling due within one year	13	(598)
NET CURRENT ASSETS		864
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES		4,400
PENSION LIABILITY	17	(1,344)
NET ASSETS		3,056
FUNDS Unrestricted funds Restricted funds	16	171 2,885
TOTAL FUNDS		3,056

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 13th December 2018 and were signed on its behalf by:

P D Jenkins -Chair

The notes form part of these financial statements

Cash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

	Notes	£'000
Cash flaws from anarating activities	110000	
Cash flows from operating activities:	21	(501)
Cash generated from operations	21	(521)
Net cash provided by (used in) operating		
activities		(521)
ictivities		
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA		3
Net cash provided by (used in) investing		
ctivities		(2)
Cash transferred on conversion to an academy	20	927
Jash transferred on conversion to an academy	20	
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the		
reporting period		404
		101
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of		
he reporting period		
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the		
reporting period		404
chorung herion		

1. PRINCIPAL 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.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) '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) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

Concordia Multi Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

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.

Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty

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 the notes, 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. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Income

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants

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

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

Capital grants are recognised 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.

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the charity which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance related conditions), where it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Donated fixed assets

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the charity's accounting policies.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, 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 accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Charitable activities

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

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life.

Long leasehold - Straight line over 125 years

Fixtures and fittings - 10% on cost Computer equipment - 33% on cost

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.

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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in the notes. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

Cash at bank - is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

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

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.

Fund accounting

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees.

Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes.

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement 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.

Conversion to an academy

Where assets and liabilities are received by the academy trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within Donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

2. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued

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.

3. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS

Donations Grants	£'000 10 3
	13
Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:	
Capital Grants	£'000 3

4. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Total
	funds	funds	funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Other income from the academy trust's educational			
operations	57	-	57
Grants	-	1,821	1,821
			
	57	1,821	1,878

4. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS - continued

An analysis of grants received is given below:

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total funds £'000
DfE/ESFA revenue grant	2000	1,345	1,345
General Annual Grant	-	-	85
Start Up Grant	-	85	
Other DFE Group grants	-	168	168
Oller D. E. Group Braine			
	-	1,598	1,598
Other government grant			- L
Local authority grants	-	223	223
notes additionally granted			
	-	1,821	1,821

5. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES

	£'000
Hire of facilities	5
Catering income	4
Wages recharged	12
Insurance	1
Sales of Goods & Services	2
	24

6. EXPENDITURE

	Non-pay expenditure			
	Staff costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	Total £'000
Charitable activities Academies educational operations				
Direct costs	1,104	7	112	1,223
Allocated support costs	162	200	457	819
	1,266	<u>207</u>	569	2,042

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

6.	EXPENDITURE - continued Net income/(expenditure) is state	ed after charging/(crediting)) :		
	Auditors' remuneration Other non-audit services Depreciation - owned assets				£'000 7 5 16
7.	CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES	- ACADEMY'S EDUCA	ΓΙΟΝΑL OPERAT	IONS	
	Direct costs		Unrestricted funds £'000 (3)	Restricted funds £'000 1,226	Total funds £'000 1,223
	Support costs		4	815	819
			1	2,041	2,042
					Total £'000
	Analysis of support costs				162
	Support staff costs Technology costs				52
	Premises costs				200
	Other support costs				393
	Governance costs				12
	Total support costs				819

8. TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND BENEFITS

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.

J Murphy (Headteacher and trustee):

- Remuneration £70,000 £75,000
- Employer's pension contributions paid £10,000 £15,000

R Flanders (Headteacher and trustee):

- Remuneration £60,000 £65,000
- Employer's pension contributions paid £10,000 £15,000

S Raynor (Headteacher and trustee):

- Remuneration £60,000 £65,000
- Employer's pension contributions paid £10,000 £15,000

T Webb (Headteacher and trustee):

- Remuneration £15,000 £20,000
- Employer's pension contributions paid £NIL £5,000

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st August 2018.

9.	STA	FF	CO	STS

	£'000
	953
	77
	234
	1,264
	2
	1,266

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the charitable company during the year was as follows:

Teachers		51
Administration and support		120
Management		4
		175

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

£60,001 - £70,000	2
£70,001 - £80,000	1
	3

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on reference and administrative pate. 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 £275,088.

10. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

The charitable company 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

11.	TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS	Long leasehold £'000	Fixtures and fittings £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Totals £'000
	COST Additions Transfer on conversion	3,437	35	5 75	5 3,547
	At 31st August 2018	3,437	35	80	3,552
	DEPRECIATION Charge for year	7	2	7	16
	NET BOOK VALUE At 31st August 2018	3,430	33	73	3,536

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

All other properties (land & building) form part of a PFI agreement and have therefore not been included within the financial statements.

12. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	000°£
Trade debtors	6
VAT	63
Prepayments and accrued income	989
	1,058

⁻ the taking up of a leasehold with Cheshire West & Chester Council on the property at Town Lane Infant School over a term of 125 year.

13. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

		£'000
Trade creditors		154
Social security and other taxes		62
Other creditors		75
Accruals and deferred income		307
		598
		2018
		£000
Release from previous year		NIL
Resource deferred in year		110
Deferred Income at 31st August 2018		110
· ·		

At the balance sheet date the academy trust has deferred income in advance relating to Rates Relief and Universal Infant Free School Meals.

14. LEASING AGREEMENTS

Minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases fall due as follows:

					£'000
Within one year					8
Between one and five years					13
					21

15. 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.

TOTAL FUNDS

16.	ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUN	NDS			
	Ui Fixed assets Current assets	fund £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Fixed Asset Funds £'000 3,536	31.8.18 Total funds £'000 3,536 1,462
	Current liabilities Pension liability	-	(598) (1,344)	-	(598) (1,344)
		<u>171</u>	(651)	3,536	3,056
17.	MOVEMENT IN FUNDS				
			Net		
			movement in funds £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31.8.18 £'000
	Unrestricted funds General fund		171	-	171
	Restricted funds		500	2	602
	General Annual Grant Pension Fund		690 (1,344)	3 -	693 (1,344) 3,532
	Fixed Asset Fund - Transfer on conversion Fixed Asset Fund - DFE Group Capital Grants Fixed Asset Fund - Capital expenditure from GAG	ł	3,532 8 (1)	(8) 5	3,332 - 4
	1 mod 1 sport 1 mid Capital experience from Orio	-	2,885		2,885

3,056

3,056

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains and losses £'000	Movement in funds £'000
Unrestricted funds				
General fund	172	(1)	-	171
Restricted funds				
General Annual Grant	2,187	(1,497)	-	690
START UP GRANT	85	(85)	-	-
Pupil Premium	89	(89)	-	-
Other Grants	301	(301)	-	-
Pension Fund	(1,303)	(53)	12	(1,344)
Fixed Asset Fund - Transfer on conversion	3,548	(16)	-	3,532
Fixed Asset Fund - DFE Group Capital				
Grants	8	-	_	8
Fixed Asset Fund - Capital expenditure from				
GAG	(1)	-	-	(1)
	4,914	(2,041)	12	2,885
	4,514	(2,041)	12	2,003
TOTAL FUNDS	5,086	(2,042)	12	3,056

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

17. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2018 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2017
	£'000
Town Lane	185
Childer Thornton	210
Wolverham	418
Parklands	48
Central Services	3
Total before fixed asset and pension reserve	864
Restricted fixed asset fund	3,536
Pension reserve	(1,344)
Total	3,056

Total cost analysis by academy

	Teaching & Educational Support Staff Costs £'000	Other Support Staff Costs £'000	Direct & Educational Supplies £'000	Other Costs (Exc) Depreciation £'000	2018 £'000
Town Lane	223	37	11	101	372
Childer Thornton	222	26	56	173	477
Wolverham	389	46	23	195	653
Parkland	268	53	13	194	528
Central Services	-		-	(4)	(4)
	1,102	162	103	659	2,026

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

18. 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 The Cheshire Pension Fund and The Merseyside 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.

Contributions amounting to £67,000 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2018 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' pension scheme

Introduction

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

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

18. 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. 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 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £85,000.

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded 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.

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2018 was £123,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £99,000 and employees' contributions totalled £24,000. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 29.8 per cent for employers and 5.5% and 12.5% 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 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2018

18. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

- continued

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined
	benefit
	pension plans
	£'000
Present value of funded obligations	(2,949)
Fair value of plan assets	1,605
	(1,344)
Deficit	(1,344)
Liability	(1,344)

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities are as follows:

The amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities are as follows:	
	Defined benefit pension plans
	£'000
Current service cost	139
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	13
	<u>152</u>
Actual return on plan assets	38

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligation are as follows:

	Defined benefit
	pension plans
	£'000
Current service cost	139
Contributions by scheme participants	24
Interest cost	26
Transfer on conversion	2,748
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	12
	2,949

18. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

- continued

Changes in the fair value of scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined
	benefit
	pension plans
	£'000
Transfer on conversion	1,445
Contributions by employer	99
Contributions by scheme participants	24
Interest	13
Remeasurements:	
Return on plan assets (excluding interest income)	20
Assets other remeasurement	4
	1,605

The amounts recognised in other recognised gains and losses are as follows:

	Defined
	benefit
	pension plans
	£'000
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	(12)
Return on plan assets (excluding interest income)	20
Assets other remeasurement	4
	12

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	benefit pension plans
Equities	49%
Bonds	36%
Property	8%
Cash	2%
Other	5%

Defined

Principal actuarial assumptions at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages)

Discount rate	2.8%
Future salary increases	2.9%
Future pension increases	2.3%

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

18. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS

- continued

	2018
Retiring today	
Males	22.2
Females	24.6
Retiring in 20 years	
Males	24.2
Females	26.8
Sensitivity Analysis	
	2018
	£'000
Discount rate decrease -0.1%	84
Salary rate (CPI) increase +0.1%	30
Mortality assumption rate increase +0/1%	70

19. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES

One Trustee (Stuart Gordon) is a Director of Premier Sports that provides sports coaching and activities to one of the academies within the trust. All payments for these services were agreed and completed prior to conversion and therefore prior to CONCORDIA Multi Academy Trust taking control of the academy. As these services are planned to continue, Mr Gordon has stepped down as Trustee as of 31.8.18.

20. CENTRAL SERVICES

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

- human resources
- financial services
- legal services
- educational support services
- other as arising

The academy trust charges for these service on the following basis:

- fee basis

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	£'000
Town Lane	1
Childer Thornton	1
Wolverham	1
Parklands	1
	,
	4

2018

21. CONVERSION TO AN ACADEMY

On 1st May 2018, Parkland Primary School, Wolverham Primary School and Childer Thornton Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010. On 1st June Townlane Primary school also converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010. All the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Concordia Mulit Academy Trust from the Cheshire West and Chester Local Authority and Wirral local Authority (for Townlane) for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net loss in the Statement of Financial Activities as Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following tables set out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the SOFA.

It is noted that (with the exception of Townlane), all the schools are PFI schools and as such the land and building as well as the fixtures and fittings have not be transferred to the school but remain with the PFI company.

Parkland	Primary	School
-----------------	----------------	--------

•				
	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Assets Funds £'000	Total £'000
Tangible fixed assets Leasehold land and building Other tangible fixed assets	:		- 22	22
Current assets Cash - representing budget surplus on LA funds Cash - representing budget surplus on school funds Accrued Income	- - -	119 - 1	- - -	119 - 1
Current liabilities LGPS pension surplus / (deficit) Deferred Income	-	(302) (55)	-	(302)
Net assets / (liabilities)	_	(237)		(215)
Wolverham Primary School	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Assets Funds £'000	Total £'000
Tangible fixed assets Leasehold land and building Other tangible fixed assets	-		- 14	- 14
Current assets Cash - representing budget surplus on LA funds Cash - representing budget surplus on school funds Accrued Income	- 47 -	454 - 13	- - -	454 47 13
Current liabilities LGPS pension surplus / (deficit) Deferred Income	-	(297) (81)	-	(297) (81)
Net assets / (liabilities)	47	89	14	150

Childer Thornton Primary School				
	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Assets Funds £'000	Total £'000
Tangible fixed assets Leasehold land and building Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	- 18	18
Current assets Cash - representing budget surplus on LA funds	-	277	-	277
Cash - representing budget surplus on school funds Accrued Income	32	- 6	-	32 6
Current liabilities LGPS pension surplus / (deficit) Deferred Income	-	(90) (39)	-	(90) (39)
Net assets / (liabilities)	32	154	18	204
Townlane	UnrestrictedF unds £'000	Restricted General Funds £'000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £'000	Total £'000
Tangible Fixed Assets Leasehold land and building Other tangible fixed assets	- -	-	3,437 57	3,437 57
Current assets Cash - representing budget surplus on LA funds Cash - representing budget surplus on school funds Accrued Income	- 5 -	137 - 11	-	137 5 11
Current liabilities LGPS pension surplus / (deficit) Deferred Income	-	(615)	- -	(615)
Net assets / (liabilities)	5	(467)	3,494	3,032
TOTAL	84	(461)	3,548	3,171

22.	RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW OPERATING ACTIVITIES	FROM
		£'000
	Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	3,044
	Adjustments for:	
	Depreciation	16
	Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(3)
	Transfer from Local Authority on conversion	(3,171)
	Increase in debtors	(1,058)
	Increase in creditors	598
	Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	53
	Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	(521)