

Stables Thompson & Briscoe  
Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors  
Lower House  
Lower Street  
Kendal  
Cumbria  
LA9 4DX

Stramongate School  
(A company limited by guarantee)  
Annual Report and Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

## Stramongate School

### Contents

1 to 2	Reference and Administrative Details
3 to 15	Trustees' Report
16 to 21	Governance Statement
22	Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
23	Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
24 to 26	Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Stramongate School
27 to 28	Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Stramongate School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency
29 to 30	Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2021 (including Income and Expenditure Account)
31	Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021
32	Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021
33 to 52	Notes to the Financial Statements

## Stramongate School

### Reference and Administrative Details

<b>Members</b>	John Dyer (resigned 31 October 2020) Denise Noble (appointed 12 November 2020) The Reverend Jean Radley Julie Armitstead
<b>Governors</b>	Paul Atherton, Parent (appointed 22 March 2021) David Avis, Parent Mathew Beresford, Headteacher (appointed 7 September 2020) Sharon Butler, Staff Michael Donnelly, Community (appointed 16 November 2020) Elaine Gilpin, Staff (resigned 21 November 2020) Shirley King, Parent (resigned 21 November 2020) Stephen Lester (appointed 22 March 2021) Jenny Mason, Staff Clive Natrass, Community Victoria Pimblett, Chair Michael Poole, Headteacher (resigned 7 September 2020) The Reverend Jean Radley, Vice-Chair (resigned 5 July 2021) Kate Skellern (appointed 22 March 2021) Robert Timms, Parent
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Elaine Gilpin
<b>Head Teacher</b>	Mathew Beresford
<b>Senior Management Team</b>	Michael Poole, Headteacher (until 31 October 2020) Mathew Beresford, Deputy Headteacher (until 31 October 2020) Mathew Beresford, Headteacher (from 1 November 2020) Elaine Gilpin, School Business Leader Karen Alston-Hewitt, Inclusion Manager Kate Skellern, FS/KS1 Phase Leader Chris Chew, KS2 Phase Leader
<b>Principal and Registered Office</b>	Blackhall Road Kendal Cumbria LA9 4BT
<b>Company Registration Number</b>	07992440

**Stramongate School**

**Reference and Administrative Details (continued)**

<b>Auditors</b>	Sables Thompson & Briscoe Chartered Accountants & Registered Auditors Lowther House Lowther Street Kendal Cumbria LA9 4DX 10 August 2018
<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank 5-6 King Street Pentill Cumbria CA11 7AP
<b>Solicitors</b>	Thomson Hayton Winkley 114-116 Stricklandgate Kendal Cumbria LA9 4PU

## **Stramongate School**

### **Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in central Kendal. It has a pupil capacity of 420 and had a roll of 291 in the school census on 7 October 2021.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### **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 company registration number is 07992440.

The governors of Stramongate School (collectively known as the Governing Board) act as the Trustees for the charitable activities of Stramongate School and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Hereafter, a reference to governors refers also to trustees and vice versa.

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

##### **Members' liability**

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

##### **Trustees' indemnities**

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

##### **Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees**

The management of the Academy Trust is the responsibility of the Governing Board, under the terms of the Articles of Association. The Board comprises up to four community governors; four staff governors (including the, ex officio, Headteacher), provided that the total number of staff governors employed by the Academy Trust does not exceed one third of the total number of governors; four parent governors and up to two co-opted governors. A 'co-opted governor' means a person who is appointed to be a governor by being co-opted by the Members in order to fulfil a particular role/project on the Board.

Parent, community and staff governors are recruited by the Members, with regard to skill set needed by the Board.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### *Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees*

All new governors have an induction meeting, usually with the Chair of Governors, Clerk to the Governors and Headteacher, with the full training and induction process depending on their existing experiences.

Details of governor training courses are made available to all governors; the Academy Trust subscribes to both the National Governance Association and the Confederation of School Trusts, these organisations provide governors and trustees training which all governors are encouraged to undertake; additional training courses are available locally, through both the Local Authority and third party providers. The Trust also works with the Academy Ambassadors Programme and one governor has completed, and shared the learning from, additional training on the role and responsibilities of trustees. In-house training occurs annually; the content of such training is determined by any areas of weakness identified by an annual skills audit. In February 2021, the National Governance Association held a workshop on Financial Oversight which all governors were encouraged to attend.

Governors have access to all policies, improvement plans, minutes and other relevant documentation that they need to undertake their role. For a minimum of the first twelve months, new governors are also requested to attend all meetings, or all committees, to allow them to develop a full understanding of the Governing Board's working practices.

#### *Organisational structure*

The Academy Trust's management structure consists of three levels: Members, Governing Board and the Senior Leadership Team.

The Members ensure that the Academy Trust meets with its stated aims and expected standards, appoint members to the Governing Board and ensure that the audited accounts are logged with Companies House annually.

The Governing Board is responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual School Development Plan and budget, monitoring the performance of the Academy Trust by use of budgets and key performance data and making major, strategic decisions about the direction of the Academy Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The Senior Leadership Team controls the day-to-day running of the business of the Academy Trust, implementing the policies laid down by the Governing Board and reporting back to them.

The Headteacher undertakes the role of Accounting Officer.

#### *Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel*

Headteacher pay and performance is reviewed annually by an external consultant who, in turn, advises and makes recommendations to the Governing Board Pay and Performance Management Committee regarding performance targets and pay progression.

Senior Leadership pay and performance is managed by the Headteacher, under advice from specialist advisors, Capita HR, using School Teachers Pay and Conditions guidelines. Pay and progression is recommended by the Headteacher and approved by the Governing Board Pay and Performance Committee.

The Governing Board benchmark spend on management personnel to comparable schools using the DfE's benchmarking tools.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### *Connected organisations, including related party relationships*

No related parties control or hold significant influence over the decisions or operations of the Academy Trust. The Academy Trust has no sponsors.

The Headteacher, one governor and one member of Stramongate School act as three out of four trustees of Stramongate Nursery, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which leases premises and purchases meals and services from Stramongate School.

The lease between Stramongate School and Stramongate Nursery has received approval from the Secretary of State for Education and been reported as a related party transaction to the Educational and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

Stramongate Nursery provides nursery education to children aged between 3 months and 4 years old as well as wrap-around childcare, in the form of an afterschool club, for pupils of Stramongate School.

The Nursery pays rent and donates its profits to Stramongate School, it also purchases meals and other supplies and services from the School. Income received from Stramongate Nursery during the year to 31 August 2021 totalled £18,010 and therefore did not meet the threshold set by the Education and Skills Funding Agency for approval, of £20,000.

#### Objectives and activities

##### *Objects and aims*

The principle object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of Stramongate School, to provide education for pupils aged 4 to 11.

The main objectives of the Academy Trust are to:

• Ensure well-being is at our core, enabling children and staff to thrive;

• Provide a safe, balanced and purposeful curriculum with opportunities for all;

• Embrace diversity and be an inclusive community;

• Celebrate our position in the heart of Kendal;

• Continue to develop the school, providing an excellent learning environment;

• Provide value for money; and

• Operate adhering to the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

The strategies and activities implemented to enable the Academy Trust to achieve these objectives, are:

• The use of high quality teaching processes, which are transparent and inform all subsequent actions;

• The secure use of data and tracking, to measure progress and inform actions and interventions;

• Monitoring and management of school attendance;

• Offering a variety of inclusive extra-curricular opportunities;

• Use of external, independent third-party experts to validate/challenge the Trust's own assessment of key performance indicators; and

• Use of benchmarking the Trust's performance against those nationally and against comparable schools in terms of a range of key areas including: Standards, Structure and Finance.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

The Academy Trust applies the following criteria to measure its success. Ensuring that:

- Pupils are well cared for and know how to manage risks and make good decisions for their own and others' well-being;
- Pupil cohort attainment in the Early Years, Year 1 Phonics and KS1 & KS2 SATs are at least in line with national averages;
- Pupil progress is at least in line with Analyse School Performance (ASP) averages and Fischer Family Trust (FFT) estimates;
- Positive outcomes are gained from Ofsted inspections; and
- Feedback on the Trust's effectiveness is sought from stakeholders, both informally and through bi-annual attitudinal surveys generated, collated and benchmarked against national datasets via an independent third party.

#### *Objectives, strategies and activities*

The main objectives for the year to 31 August 2021 were:

- To ensure staff and pupil wellbeing are at the heart of what we do.
- Adapt and refine our teaching and learning to ensure mixed age classes were embedded and progressed, sharing successful strategies.
- To endeavour to maintain high standards in all we do and develop responses to our OFSTED report.
- Work within our Covid-19 Guidelines and to adapt as and when things change.

The strategies and activities implemented to enable the Academy Trust to achieve these objectives, were to:

*To ensure staff and pupil wellbeing are at the heart of what we do*

- Establish clear communication channels through regular Senior Leadership Team meetings, morning briefings and staff meetings as well as including staff in more frequent parent newsletters;
- Provide key stage leaders with additional non-teaching time to enable them to actively engage, listen to and react to challenges across their areas of responsibility;
- Ensure that there is early communication of large scale change initiatives; and
- Provide well-being time for children as part of the class curriculum to address individual and small group concerns as well as offering additional support through the inclusion team.

*Adapt and refine our teaching and learning to ensure mixed age classes were embedded and progressed, sharing successful strategies*

- Use joint Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time and designated staff meeting time to reflect and share successful strategies; and
- Closely monitor performance and standards through regular class visits from the Senior Leadership Team, including discussions with pupils and staff; termly pupil progress meetings between class teachers, support staff, the Headteacher and Inclusion Manager and termly analysis of tracking data with classroom focus adjusted, in response, as needed.

*To endeavour to maintain high standards in all we do and develop responses to our OFSTED report*

- Provide learning activities which build upon what pupils already know;
- Ensure consistency in the approach to the teaching of phonics and that reading books are closely matched to pupil's phonics ability;
- Improve assessment activities to ensure that these are effective in measuring the effectiveness of the curriculum; and
- Improve attendance of pupils with regular absences.



## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

*Work within our Covid-19 Guidelines and to adapt as and when things change*

- Keep to up to date and respond quickly to guidance from the Department for Education, NHS, Health and Safety Executive as well as professional advisors, including Kym Allan, and Unions;
- Communicate and monitor adherence to relevant risk assessments;
- Provide staff with regular opportunities to feed into reviews of the risk assessment;
- Liaise with Track and Trace procedures;
- Ensure all stakeholders are kept informed of key developments; and
- Develop and refine remote education systems, through the use of DB Primary and other live stream options.

To ensure that:

- Children make the Speaking and Listening and Phonics Phase milestones, with at least 86% of Year 1 pupils meeting the Phonics Screening Score target, in line with national averages.
- An increased number of children are working at Age Related Expectations, with at least 75% of pupils in Key Stage 1 and 85% of children in Key Stage 2 meeting expectations;
- There are no gaps in terms of rate of pupil progress or achievement between non-SEND disadvantaged groups and others;
- Children demonstrate, through their social interactions, attitudes to learning and actions, that they can confidently take on new challenges; exploring boundaries, understanding and ideas to progressively build leadership, organisation, resilience, initiative and communication skills; and
- Attendance levels exceed 96% for all children and School persistent absence levels are below the national average.

#### **Public benefit**

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with their duties under Section 4 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit provided by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The Academy Trust provides educational services to children in the local area.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### Strategic Report

##### Achievements and performance

The Academy Trust's main strategic objective is to raise standards of achievement and progress through an unrelenting focus on continuous improvement in all aspects of the organisation. The core purpose of the Academy Trust is teaching and learning and therefore its key focus is on the progress made and standards achieved by its pupils.

##### Key performance indicators

##### *Ofsted inspections*

In its most recent inspection (January 2020), Ofsted concluded that Stramongate School continues to be a 'Good' school where leaders make sure that pupils enjoy school, reflecting the School motto 'learning is fun'; staff provide a wide range of interesting experiences for pupils and pupils learn the importance of keeping healthy and say that staff listen to them and help them with any worries. Pupils make a significant contribution to School life and, in 2019, at the end of key stage 2, pupil's achievement in reading, writing and mathematics was higher than pupils nationally; leaders have developed the wider curriculum to help pupils achieve well across different subjects.

This follows Ofsted judgements as a 'Good' school in June 2016 and February 2011.

##### *Examination results*

Results for the 2020-21 academic year were very pleasing on a number of measures, as indicated below.

Please note that, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the 2020-21 national curriculum assessments did not take place. The following results are based on teacher assessments.

Key	
GLD – Good level of Development;	GD – Greater Depth;
EXS – Expected;	
RWM – Reading, Writing and Maths combined;	EGS – English Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling;

EYFS	Number in Cohort	School	National average	Not available
		42	36%	
		% GLD		

KS1	No. in Cohort	subject				National average	Not available
		Reading	Writing	Mathematics	% EXS		
		60	67	65	13	2	13
		Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
		School	School	School	School	National average	National average

Stramongate School

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report

Subject	EKS		GD	
	School	National average	School	National average
KS2	No. in Cohort	83	Not available	Not available
	Reading	83	Not available	Not available
	Writing	83	Not available	Not available
	Mathematics	92	Not available	Not available
47	EGPS	77	Not available	Not available
	Mathematics	92	Not available	Not available
	Writing	83	Not available	Not available

*Commentary on Standards on Outturn*

Key Stage 2 teacher assessments for the 2021 Year 6 cohort show that pupils' achievement was just below the 85% target, which in light of the Pandemic is still an excellent outcome and shows the school has good capacity going forward. There are no national figures to compare to, but, we are confident in our teacher assessments with our experienced team of Y6 teachers. Key Stage One and EYFS have borne the brunt of national lockdowns as these pupils are less able to learn key skills at home. This is shown through poor engagement figures with Home Learning amongst the younger learners. We are disappointed with the teacher assessment results, but they were as expected. This now provides a clear focus for the next academic year.

*Performance against Fischer Family Trust estimates*

Pupils' achievement has been consistent over time, and is well above Fischer Family Trust (Top 50%) estimates and frequently breaking into FFT (Top 25%). However this year, we are unable to make a comparison.

To ensure that standards are continually raised, the academy trust, Governing Board and Senior Leadership Team operate a robust quality assurance calendar which monitors the quality of teaching and learning and undertake rigorous reviews of attainment. Utilising School Performance (ASP) and Fischer Family Trust (FFT) data, rates of pupil progress are analysed, paying particular regard to achievement on-entry and levels of progress secured against those achieved nationally and locally.

*COVID-19 Impact*

The ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and the national lockdowns, including associated school closures (to all but the children of vulnerable families and essential workers), implemented in response to this, has had a significant impact on the whole school.

The majority of pupils did not attend School from 23 March 2020 until 3 September 2020 and from 4 January 2021 to 5 March 2021. Instead, class teachers provided online learning opportunities via the School's website and Virtual Learning Environment (VLE).

Additional COVID-19 control measures have also impacted in-school learning throughout the academic year.

The Governing Board, Senior Leadership Team and class teachers are aware of the significant impact such a long period of disruption to formal education can have on both a child's wellbeing and education. The School is working hard with parents and carers to sensitively support children through these difficult times but expects to see an impact on the results achieved by some pupils in subsequent years; strategies are being developed and implemented to minimise this impact, including additional investment in small-group support and counselling for the trust's most disadvantaged both using COVID Catch-Up monies and funded from the trust's reserves.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### Strategic Report

##### *Pupil attendance data*

Pupil attendance for the year to 31 August 2021 was 95.2%, which is in line with those achieved by primary schools nationally and the Trust's own target of 96%.

COVID-19 has had a significant impact on attendance as pupils displaying potential symptoms were absent awaiting test results, pupils who had been in close contact with confirmed cases in the school community were absent due to self-isolation and a small number of pupils were absent as a result of confirmed infection. This had the biggest impact during summer term 2021 when large bubbles of children had to repeatedly isolate for 10 days on each occurrence, for example KS1 missed another 3 weeks of schooling.

The Governing Board review attendance termly and the Trust's Inclusion Manager works closely with the families of pupils with low attendance to help them overcome any obstacles to attending school regularly.

##### *Financial Performance*

The Governing Board are committed to achieving financial sustainability and offering value for money. Key financial performance indicators are set annually, based on guidance received from the ESFA and financial advisors, and performance against these is reviewed termly. Areas of focus include:

- Teaching staff costs as a percentage of total expenditure
- Average teacher cost
- Teacher contact ratio
- Pupil to teacher ratio
- Leadership staff costs as a percentage of total teaching staff costs
- Educational support staff costs as a percentage of total expenditure
- Administrative and clerical staff costs as a percentage of total expenditure
- Other staff costs as a percentage of total expenditure
- Premises costs as a percentage of total expenditure
- Capital expenditure per pupil
- Cash inflow/outflow

##### *Going concern*

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governing Board 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 Principles.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### Strategic Report

##### Financial review

The majority of the academy trust's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year to 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. During the year ended 31 August 2021, expenditure on the restricted fund exceeded income by £30,715, before transfers and pension movement.

The academy trust generates additional income through the hire of facilities, sale of meals and other items and running a Breakfast Club as well as receiving donations. This income is shown as unrestricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities and is used to support the trust's core educational provision as well as provide pupils with additional educational opportunities and experiences. During the year ended 31 August 2021, unrestricted income exceeded expenditure by £36,245, before transfers.

During the year to 31 August 2021, the academy trust generated an in-year surplus of £5,530 and, as at 31 August 2021, the Academy Trust had restricted general funds plus unrestricted funds, excluding capital and pension reserves, of £219,832.

The trust also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Report by Charities (SORP 2019)', such grants are shown, prior to being spent, ring-fenced within the restricted general fund or, after being spent, in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned.

On 23 June 2021, Stramongate School was informed that our application to the Conditional Improvement Fund (CIF) for grant funding to allow the academy trust to undertake a series of roof refurbishments and fire remediation works had been successful. These works commenced on 25 July 2021 and are expected to be completed by 30 April 2022.

At 31 August 2021, the net book value of fixed assets was £2,484,985. The fixed assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the academy trust.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### Strategic Report

##### Reserves policy

As at 31 August 2021 the Academy Trust had reserves of £1,404,817, this comprised of:

- The Restricted Income Fund of £43,789. This figure represents the amount of restricted funding received, including the General Annual Grant, less the amount spent;
- The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund of £2,484,985. This is the cost of the tangible and intangible assets held by the academy, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. These funds could only be realised for use by the Academy through the sale of such assets;
- The Restricted Pension Fund of -£1,300,000. This is the pension deficit relating to the academy trust. The academy trust will continue to make pension contributions, as advised by the scheme actuary and expects that this deficit will be addressed through increased employers' pension contributions in future periods, which will impact the academy trust's future cash flow; and
- The Unrestricted Income Fund of £176,043. This is the excess of unrestricted income generated by the Academy over expenditure relating to unrestricted activities.

The Governing Board review the current and projected level of reserves on an annual basis, ensuring that it is adequate for the continued operation of the academy trust, based on current and projected funding levels and educational policies. The current level of reserves is considered adequate by the Governing Board to meet short-term emergencies; and for cash-flow management, to ensure employees and suppliers can be paid.

The objective of the Governing Board in recent periods has been to achieve a total level of restricted and unrestricted reserves sufficient to enable the Academy Trust to meet one month's salaries and services costs. The Governing Board now believes it has reached this target.

##### Investment policy

The Governing Board ensures all monies are in the appropriate investment accounts at the bank. These are used to maintain good cash flow over the year. The Board does not consider it necessary to have a formal investment policy at this time.

##### Fluctuations in Pupil Numbers

The majority of the academy trust's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants calculated on the basis of pupil numbers. The key risk to the trust is, therefore, fluctuation in pupil numbers. The number of pupils on roll has declined in recent years: the School had 335 pupils on roll in the school census on 3 October 2019, 306 pupils in the school census on the 1 October 2020 and 291 pupils in the school census on the 7 October 2021 census. The Governing Board are monitoring pupil numbers, and budgets, closely and have taken early actions to ensure that the trust is able to achieve a balanced budget in future periods.

## Strategic Report

### *Changes in Government Policy*

Changes in government policy on school funding and allocations, such as the cessation of the Educational Services Grant (ESG), introduction of the National Funding Formula, or teachers' pay and remuneration, including changes in National Insurance and pension contribution rates, also pose potential risks to the Trust. The Government announcement to changes in National Insurance rates in September 2021 will have a detrimental impact on the academy's trusts finances.

The outcome of the NJC pay review for 2021 is still awaited at the time of the publication of these accounts as are details on the Teachers Pay Scales for 2021-22.

The Board keep themselves apprised of proposed changes to educational funding, policy and procedures, through subscribing to relevant publications and working with specialist advisors. Budgets and cash flows are monitored closely and early, prudent financial planning and continual management of the workforce is essential to ensure the Trust remains sustainable.

### *Principal risks and uncertainties*

#### *Coronavirus (COVID-19)*

The ongoing Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic has had a significant impact on all areas of the academy trust during the year to 31 August 2021, including finances.

Whilst schools have continued to receive their core funding allocations, as normal, as well as additional COVID related grants to contribute towards the cost of providing meals to pupils eligible for Free School Meals during periods of national lockdown and providing additional 'catch-up' support to pupils from disadvantaged backgrounds who have missed learning due to COVID, the Coronavirus has had a significant financial impact as a result of:

- Loss of income from the sale of meals to parents and other educational establishments, particularly during periods of national lockdown;
- Loss of income from the restriction of Breakfast Club services;
- Reduction in income from the profit share arrangement with Stramongate Nursery, who have likewise been self-isolation requirements;
- Inability to run fundraising events, such as an annual summer fair;
- Additional costs incurred in relation to increased cleaning routines and provision of additional hygiene facilities and Personal Protective Equipment;
- Additional costs incurred in relation to supporting children back into school, with demand for pastoral services increasing;
- Additional costs covering COVID-related staff absences.

This has been offset, in part, by a reduction in costs in areas such as utilities and school trips.

Further Recovery Premium grants have been announced for the 2021-22 academic year. However, the long-term effects of the pandemic on children's well-being and learning are still being determined and additional support may be required for a number of years.

## Stramongate School

### Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### Strategic Report

##### Fundraising

Friends of Stramongate School (FOSS), a registered charity which comprises staff, parents and carers of pupils at Stramongate School, undertake fundraising activities on behalf of the academy trust; these include the sale of tea-towels, cake sales, pupil discos and a summer fair. These activities are run in conjunction with and overseen by the trustees who, following Charities Commission guidance, ensure compliance with relevant data protection and licensing legislation as well as the protection of the public and vulnerable people from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches or undue pressure to donate.

However, all fundraising activities were put on hold during the year to 31 August 2021, due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19).

The Academy Trust does not, nor have any current plans to, work with any commercial partners or professional fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

##### *Plans for future periods*

The academy trust's key objectives for the forthcoming year are to:

- Have strong academic outcomes, further closing the attainment gap;
- Have a well-balanced, rich and evolving curriculum where children's voices and opinions are heard;
- Have happy, healthy, ambitious children;
- Further involve parents and carers in their child's education;
- Support our staff and provide development opportunities;
- Increase our school roll; and
- Have invested in outdoor and indoor learning spaces.

The School Development Plan outlines our plans to achieve these objectives (available from our website, [www.stramongate.co.uk](http://www.stramongate.co.uk)).

The academy trust is currently exploring the possibility of installing a Multi-Use Games Area to improve its all-weather sporting provision. Longer-term plans are also to develop a dance and drama studio in a building recently returned to the trust, at the cessation of a lease arrangement.

The Trustees are satisfied with the schools objectives and plans for the current year and were closely involved in setting the 5 year vision for the school. Trustees are aware of the commitment of the school in responding to the Pandemic and the need to be flexible in this ever changing educational landscape.

The School Leadership Team and Trustees are beginning to investigate the benefits of joining a multi academy trust and see this as a long term strategic plan to help ensure the best education for the children at Stramongate.



**Stramongate School**

**Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)**

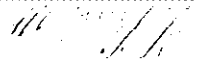
**Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others**  
No funds are held by the Academy as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

**Auditor**

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Governing Board on 15 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Victoria Finblett  
Chair of Trustees

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
David Avis	5	6
Jenny Mason	5	5
Sharon Butler	5	5
Clive Nattrass	6	6
Shirley King	0	1
Elaine Gilpin	5	6
The Reverend Jean Radley	5	5
Robert Timms	5	6
Victoria Pimblett	6	6
Kate Skellern	2	3
Michael Donnelly	6	6
Paul Atherton	5	5
Stephen Lester	5	5

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Governing Board was as follows:

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Governing Board has formally met 6 times during the year.

**Governance**

The Governing Board has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to Matthew Beresford, 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 Stramongate School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Governing Board any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

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

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

**Governance Statement**

**Stramongate School**

## Stramongate School

### Governance Statement (continued)

Work of the Governing Board included:

- Approval of statutory policies;
- Agreement on all constitutional and compliance matters;
- Determining committee structures as well as appointing governors to committees and special functions;
- Approval of the academy trust's accounts and budget;
- Performance management of the Headteacher and staff structure and performance overview;
- Ensuring actions required following Ofsted inspections are taken;
- Input into, approve and monitor progress of the School Development Plan; and
- Monitor overall standards in terms of outcomes for children's learning and wider experiences across the school.

The Governing Board also directed and oversaw the trust's response to COVID-19.

The Governing Board uses a wide range of third-party data to validate the information supplied by the Headteacher, e.g. Analyse School Performance (ASP), Fischer Family Trust, independent auditors, health and safety consultants and a Headteacher consultant as well as the Benchmarking Report Card and the Schools Resource Management Self-Assessment Tool produced by Department for Education. The Governing Board has found information to be timely and accurate, and has questioned as relevant.

The Planning Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Board, its purpose is to:

- In conjunction with the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team, identify key issues and needs and ensure their incorporation into the School Development Plan;
  - Oversee and approve the School Development Plan for approval by the Full Governing Body;
  - Agree any Ofsted actions at the appropriate time, for approval by the Full Governing Body;
  - Identify and consider external issues affecting the School's long-term strategic development and to take appropriate action. This may include demographic or staffing issues, local development and initiatives from the Local Authority and DfE; and
  - Consider the strategic issues concerning budgetary matters beyond the current financial year and to ensure that the School upholds best value principles.
- Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Planning meetings attended	Out of a possible
David Avis	3	3
Sharon Butler	3	3
Elaine Gilpin	3	3
Shirley King	0	1
Jenny Mason	2	3
Clive Natrass	3	3
The Reverend Jean Radley	3	3
Victoria Pimblett	3	3
Robert Timms	3	3
Mathew Beresford	3	3
Michael Donnelly	2	3
Paul Atherton	2	2

## Stramongate School

### Governance Statement (continued)

The Monitoring Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Board, its purpose is to review, monitor, evaluate and take appropriate action to deliver effective implementation of the School's aims in the current financial and academic year.

Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Monitoring meetings attended	Out of a possible
David Avis	3	3
Sharon Butler	2	3
Elaine Gilpin	3	3
Shirley King	1	1
Victoria Pimblett	3	3
Mathew Beresford	3	3
The Reverend Jean Radley	3	3
Robert Timms	3	3
Clive Natrass	3	3
Jenny Mason	3	3
Michael Donnelly	2	3
Paul Atherton	2	2
Stephen Lester	2	2
Kate Skellern	1	1

## Stramongate School

### Governance Statement (continued)

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Board, its purpose is to assist the Governing Board in meeting its obligations under the Academies Financial Handbook by directing the trust's programme of internal scrutiny and ensuring that risks are being addressed appropriately through internal scrutiny, and reporting to the Governing Board on the adequacy of the trust's internal control framework, including financial and non-financial controls and management of risks.

The Pay and Performance Management Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Board and is responsible for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel. The committee met once during the period and was attended by the Chair of Governors, Vice-Chair of Governors and the Chairs of the Planning and Monitoring Committees.

The Health and Safety Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Board and is responsible for overseeing the Academy Trust's compliance with its Health and Safety requirements. The Committee will review, monitor, evaluate and take appropriate action to deliver effective implementation of the School Health & Safety policy and any associated Health & Safety policy, to ensure compliance with legislation, good practice and mitigate against risks.

During the year, the membership of this committee was widened. Previously, these meetings were attended by the Headteacher, School Business Manager, Staff Health and Safety Representative and one Governor, with a Health and Safety quorum of 50%.

### Statement on governance and internal control

The Governing Board performed a self-evaluation of its effectiveness in November 2020, using the Cumbria County Council Learning Improvement Service Governing Body Health Check. The outcomes of this review were positive, with the Governing Body considering itself as operating effectively in all areas, but with some individual governors identifying opportunities for further development. Going forward this is going to be completed annually in June, using the NGA template, in conjunction with the annual skills audit, completed September 2021, this will be used to direct future governor training and recruitment. This review will be repeated annually.

### 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 social outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the academy 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 or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

## Stramongate School

### Governance Statement (continued)

- Generating additional income from Outreach meals provision by satisfying a demand for good quality meals and benefiting from the associated economies of scale;
- Using online systems to collect income from parents, including by Direct Debit, to improve cash flow by allowing bills to be settled outside of the school day and during holidays; and
- Assisting in the restructure of the on-site nursery provision, to extend its operational hours and weeks as well as expand to take children from as young as 3 months, with effect from 1 January 2021. It is hoped that this will help increase the future viability and profitability of the entity. The Trust will benefit from this via a profit-share arrangement;
- Robustly challenging spending, to ensure the reduction of duplication and waste and the realisation of any cost savings available. During the year under review, to this effect, the Trust has:
- Further development of a robust system of financial oversight and governance through the continued development of the trust's internal scrutiny procedures, including the appointment of a new internal audit firm, and adaptation of the Audit and Risk Committee to meet the trust's needs;
- Undertaking a full review of the School's Financial Delegation Policy and purchasing procedures and authorisation levels;
- Utilised government procurement frameworks and nationally negotiated deals, including the Energy for Schools framework operated by Crown Commercial Services and the CPC, as well as joining the DfE Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA);
- Used public sector procurement organisations for the purchasing of classroom supplies;
- Undertook a restricted tender process in relation to the Trust's absence insurance and HR and payroll, and
- Increased its work with the Schools' Buying Hub North West to receive guidance and advice on best practice. A review of the School's Contract Register was completed by the Buying Hub in June 2021 to assist the trustees in identifying potential areas of focus for achieving cost savings in future periods and a new tender process has commenced in relation to telecoms and broadband provision;
- Continued use of benchmarking tools to review performance and identify further efficiency opportunities.

### 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 Stramongate School for the year ended 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

### Capacity to handle risk

The Governing Board 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 Governing Board is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Governing Board.

### Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;

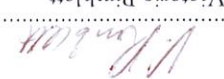
Stramongate School

Governance Statement (continued)

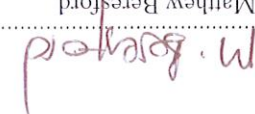
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool; and
  - the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Monitoring 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 Governing Board on 15 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Victoria Pimblett  
 Trustee



Mathew Beresford  
 Head Teacher



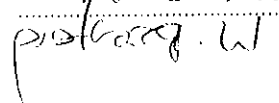
**Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance**

**Stramongate School**

As Accounting Officer of Stramongate School I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust 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 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust (Governing Board) 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 2021.

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 Governing Board and ESFA.



Matthew Beresford  
Accounting officer

15 November 2021



## Stramongate School

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

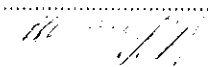
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards 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 ESF/A/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 15 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

  
Victoria Pimblett  
Chair of Trustees

**Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Stramongate School**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Stramongate School (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, 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'.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy trust's affairs as at 31 August 2021 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; and

- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

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

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

**Other information (covers the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance Statement)**

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the 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.

## Stramongate School

### Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Stramongate School (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 Strategic Report and Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
  - the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Trustees' 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 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 set out on page 23, the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgement and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than one resulting from error, as fraud may include collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

## Stramongate School

### Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Stramongate School (continued)

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the academy's internal control.

- Evaluation the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the trustees.

- Conclude on the appropriateness of the trustees use of going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the academy's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a materiality uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the academy to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the academy's activities to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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

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

#### Use of our report

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



Chloe Chapman-Hastwell ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and on behalf of Stables Thompson & Briscoe, Statutory Auditor

Lowther House  
Lowther Street  
Kendal  
Cumbria  
LA9 4DX

15 November 2021

## Stramongate School

### Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Stramongate School and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 10 August 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Stramongate School during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Stramongate School and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to Stramongate School 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 Stramongate School and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### Respective responsibilities of the Governing Body's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Governing Board's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. 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 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:


- We obtained information on the Academy's control environment and activities and considered whether these have complied with the Academies Accounts Direction and whether the activities conformed to the Academy Trusts' framework of authorities.
- When testing expenditure, the authorisation was checked and the nature of the activity was confirmed as permissible within the Academy Trusts' framework of authorities. A review was made of related parties and the register of business interests, which was used to identify any related party transactions.
- Formal representations were obtained from the governing body and the accounting officer, acknowledging their responsibilities, including disclosing all non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the authorising framework, access to accounting records, provision of information and explanations, and other matters where direct evidence was not available.

**Stramongate School**

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Stramongate School and the Education and 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 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Chloe Chapman-Haswell ACA

For and on behalf of Stables Thompson & Briscoe, Chartered Accountants

Lowther House  
Lowther Street  
Kendal  
Cumbria  
LA9 4DX

15 November 2021

Stramongate School

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021  
(Including Income and Expenditure Account)

	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21	2020/21
	£	£	£	£
	Total	Restricted	General	Unrestricted
	2020/21	Fixed Asset	Funds	Funds
	£	Funds	Funds	Funds
	Total	Restricted	General	Unrestricted
	2020/21	Fixed Asset	Funds	Funds
	£	Funds	Funds	Funds
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>				
2 Donations and capital grants	247,710	240,683	4,104	2,923
4 Other trading activities	50,151	-	-	50,151
5 Investments	32	-	-	32
<i>Charitable activities:</i>				
3 Funding for the Academy trusts' educational operations	1,567,927	-	1,553,225	14,702
Total	1,865,820	240,683	1,557,329	67,808
<b>Expenditure on:</b>				
6 Raising funds	20,334	-	-	20,334
<i>Charitable activities:</i>				
7 Academy trust educational operations	1,398,578	(200,695)	1,588,044	11,229
Total	1,418,912	(200,695)	1,588,044	31,563
Net income/(expenditure)	446,908	441,378	(30,715)	36,245
Transfers between funds	-	21,640	(21,640)	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	(94,000)	-	(94,000)	-
23 Gains/losses on revaluation of fixed assets	385,000	385,000	-	-
Net movement in funds/(deficit)	737,908	848,018	(146,355)	36,245
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>				
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2020	666,909	1,636,967	(1,109,856)	139,798
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2021	1,404,817	2,484,985	(1,256,211)	176,043

Stramongate School

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2020  
(including Income and Expenditure Account)

	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
	£	£	£	£	£
	Total	Restricted	General	Unrestricted	Total
	2019/20	Fixed Asset	Funds	Funds	2019/20
	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20	2019/20
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
2 Donations and capital grants	19,798	8,095	6,260	5,443	19,798
4 Other trading activities	67,932	-	-	67,932	67,932
5 Investments	118	-	-	118	118
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
3 Funding for the Academy trusts educational operations	1,604,222	-	1,590,588	13,634	1,604,222
Total	1,692,070	8,095	1,596,848	87,127	1,692,070
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
6 Raising funds	1,194	-	-	1,194	1,194
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
7 Academy trust educational operations	1,757,727	81,682	1,633,006	43,039	1,757,727
Total	1,758,921	81,682	1,633,006	44,233	1,758,921
Net income/(expenditure)	(66,851)	(73,587)	(36,158)	42,894	(66,851)
Transfers between funds	-	48,968	(6,733)	(42,235)	-
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	(53,000)	-	(53,000)	-	(53,000)
Net movement in funds/(deficit)	(119,851)	(24,619)	(95,891)	659	(119,851)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2019	786,761	1,661,586	(1,013,964)	139,139	786,761
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2020	666,910	1,636,967	(1,109,855)	139,798	666,910

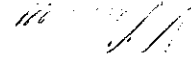


Stramongate School

(Registration number: 07992440)  
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	2021	2020
<b>Fixed assets</b>		
Intangible assets	1,393	2,118
Tangible assets	2,483,592	1,634,849
	<u>2,484,985</u>	<u>1,636,967</u>
<b>Current assets</b>		
Debtors	165,941	105,852
Cash at bank and in hand	415,676	247,733
	<u>581,617</u>	<u>353,585</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	(361,785)	(172,642)
	<u>219,832</u>	<u>180,943</u>
Net current assets	2,704,817	1,817,910
Total assets less current liabilities	2,704,817	1,817,910
Net assets excluding pension liability	2,704,817	1,817,910
Pension scheme liability	(1,300,000)	(1,151,000)
Net assets including pension liability	<u>1,404,817</u>	<u>666,910</u>
<b>Funds of the Academy:</b>		
Restricted general fund	43,789	41,145
Restricted fixed asset fund	2,484,985	1,636,967
Restricted pension fund	(1,300,000)	(1,151,000)
	<u>1,228,774</u>	<u>527,112</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>		
Unrestricted general fund	176,043	139,798
	<u>1,404,817</u>	<u>666,910</u>

The financial statements on pages 29 to 52 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:

  
Victoria Pimblett  
Chair of Trustees

Stramongate School

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021

	2021	2020	
	£	£	Note
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	188,145	90,259	19
Cash flows from investing activities	(20,202)	(48,850)	20
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year	167,943	41,409	
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September	247,733	206,324	
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	415,676	247,733	21

## Stramongate School

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

#### 1 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 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The impact from the Covid-19 pandemic can be found in detail within the Strategic Report.

##### **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.

##### **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 fund. Capital grants are spent on capital projects in line with the terms and conditions of the grant. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

##### **Donations**

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

1 Accounting policies (continued)

*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.

*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'.

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 academy trust's accounting policies.

*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 academy trust's accounting policies.

*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.

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

**Intangible fixed assets**

Intangible assets costing £750 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment. Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation rate
Computer software	20%

**Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing £750 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, the cost of the fixed asset is transferred from the unrestricted fund to the fixed asset fund.

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

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 rate
Leasehold land and buildings	2%
Building improvements	6.6 - 20%
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	10 - 20%
Computer equipment	20%

**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.

1 Accounting policies (continued)

*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 lease term.

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

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

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

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 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 23, 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 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31/08/2021. 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 funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total
Educational trips and visits	-	4,104	-	4,104
Capital grants	-	-	240,683	240,683
Other donations	2,923	-	-	2,923
	<u>2,923</u>	<u>4,104</u>	<u>240,683</u>	<u>247,710</u>
				<u>19,798</u>
				<u>6,260</u>
				<u>8,095</u>
				<u>5,443</u>
				<u>2019/20 Total</u>
				<u>2020/21 Total</u>
				<u>£</u>
				<u>£</u>

The income from donations and capital grants was £247,710 (2020: £19,798) which was allocated between the funds as follows: £2,923 unrestricted funds (2020: £5,443), £4,104 restricted funds (2020: £6,260), £240,683 restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £8,095) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
DfE/ESFA revenue grants	-	1,263,758	1,263,758	1,327,215
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	236,144	236,144	235,751
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	1,499,902	1,499,902	1,562,966
<b>Other government grants</b>	-	53,323	53,323	27,622
Local authority grants	-	53,323	53,323	
<b>Non-government grants and other income</b>	14,702	-	14,702	13,634
Other trading income	14,702	-	14,702	
<b>Total grants</b>	14,702	1,553,225	1,567,927	1,604,222

The funding for educational operations was £1,567,927 (2020: £1,604,222) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £14,702 unrestricted funds (2020: £13,634), £1,553,225 restricted funds (2020: £1,590,588), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

Following the reclassification in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21 of some grants received from the Department for Education and ESFA, the academy trust's funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals and Pupil Premium is no longer reported under the Other DfE Group grants heading, but as separate lines under the Other DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total	Total
	£	£	£	£
Hire of facilities	10,950	10,950	10,950	13,001
Catering income	6,328	6,328	6,328	10,486
Other income	32,873	32,873	32,873	44,445
	50,151	50,151	50,151	67,932

The income from other trading activities was £50,151 (2020: £67,932) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £50,151 unrestricted funds (2020: £67,932), £Nil restricted funds (2020: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).



Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Bank Interest
2020/21	£ 32	£ 32	
2019/20	£ 118	£ 118	

The income from other trading activities was £32 (2020: £118) which was allocated between the funds as follows: £32 unrestricted funds (2020: £118), £Nil restricted funds (2020: £Nil), £Nil restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £Nil) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

6 Expenditure

Non Pay Expenditure				
	Staff costs	Premises	Other costs	Total
Expenditure on raising funds	£ 16,856	-	£ 3,479	£ 20,335
Direct costs Academy's educational operations	£ 974,964	-	£ 108,856	£ 1,141,561
Direct costs Allocated support costs	£ 295,908	£ (91,326)	£ 110,175	£ 314,757
	£ 1,287,728	£ (91,326)	£ 222,510	£ 1,418,912
	£ 616,166			£ 1,758,921

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

6 Expenditure (continued)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2020/21	2019/20
Operating lease rentals	7,064	7,875
Depreciation	87,410	80,957
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	725	725
Fees payable to auditor - audit	4,050	4,050
- other audit services	3,020	3,620
(Gain)/loss on disposal of fixed assets	703	-
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	2020/21	2019/20

7 Charitable activities

	2020/21	2019/20
Direct costs - educational operations	1,083,820	1,141,561
Support costs - educational operations	314,758	616,166
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
	Total	Total
	2020/21	2019/20

	Educational operations	
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	295,908	320,578
Depreciation	(210,032)	77,692
Premises costs	118,706	96,750
Other support costs	110,176	121,146
Total support costs	314,758	616,166

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

8 Staff

Staff costs	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	923,497	947,026
Social security costs	80,181	81,400
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	278,244	280,197
Supply staff costs	1,281,922	1,308,623
Staff restructuring costs	5,806	28,516
	-	21,840
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	-	21,840
Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments		
Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £Nil (2020: £21,840). The payment received prior approval from the ESFA and HM Treasury. Individually, the payments were:		
Non-contractual payments	£Nil	

Staff numbers

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	No	No
Teachers	12	17
Administration and support	32	32
Management	5	2
Higher paid staff	49	51

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 was:

	2020/21	2019/20
	No	No
	-	1

£70,001 - £80,000

## Stramongate School

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### 8 Staff (continued)

##### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £310,776 (2020: £271,487).

#### 9 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

Michael Poole (headteacher to 31 October 2020):	Remuneration: £10,000 - £15,000 (2020 - £75,000 - £80,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2020 - £40,000 - £45,000)	
Sharon Butler (staff trustee):	Remuneration: £40,000 (2020 - £45,000 - £45,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2020 - £5,000 - £10,000)	
Elaine Gillpin (staff trustee to 21 November 2020):	Remuneration: £5,000 - £10,000 (2020 - £35,000 - £40,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2020 - £10,000 - £10,000)	
Jenny Mason (staff trustee):	Remuneration: £40,000 (2020 - £45,000 - £20,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2020 - £5,000 - £5,000)	
Matthew Beresford (interim headteacher, 1st September to 31 October 2020 and headteacher from 1 November 2020):	Remuneration: £55,000 - £60,000 (2020 - )
Employer's pension contributions: £10,000 - £15,000 (2020 - )	
Kate Skellern (staff trustee from 22 March 2021):	Remuneration: £20,000 - £25,000 (2020 - )
Employer's pension contributions: £5,000 - £10,000 (2020 - )	
During the year ended 31 August 2021, expenses totalling £706 (2020 - £467) were reimbursed or paid directly to 3 trustees (2020 - 4).	
Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 24.	

#### 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 membership.

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

11 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software	Total
At 1 September 2020	14,438	14,438
At 31 August 2021	14,438	14,438
Amortisation		
At 1 September 2020	12,320	12,320
Charge for the year	725	725
At 31 August 2021	13,045	13,045
Net book value		
At 31 August 2021	1,393	1,393
At 31 August 2020	2,118	2,118

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings	Building improvements	Furniture and equipment	Computer equipment	Total
At 1 September 2020	1,720,000	327,182	158,890	131,237	2,337,309
Revaluations	385,000	-	-	-	385,000
Additions	-	243,042	2,112	17,169	262,323
Disposals	-	(18,557)	-	-	(18,557)
At 31 August 2021	2,105,000	551,667	161,002	148,406	2,966,075
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2020	289,533	165,728	133,114	114,085	702,460
Revaluations	(289,533)	-	-	-	(289,533)
Charge for the year	42,100	29,332	8,069	7,909	87,410
Eliminated on disposals	-	(17,854)	-	-	(17,854)
At 31 August 2021	42,100	177,206	141,183	121,994	482,483
Net book value					
At 31 August 2021	2,062,900	374,461	19,819	26,412	2,483,592
At 31 August 2020	1,430,467	161,454	25,776	17,152	1,634,849

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

12 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

In the year to 31 August 2021, Stramongate School leased a temporary building to Stramongate Nursery in return for rental income of £3,150 and its profits. This temporary building was disposed of over August 2021.

From 1 September 2021, Stramongate School has entered into a new lease arrangement with Stramongate Nursery. In return for an annual rent of £6,000 per year plus the nursery's profits, the trust has leased 3 rooms and adjoining playground to the nursery as well as rented out the Scout Hut for use by the nursery and afterschool club. This arrangement has received approval from the Secretary of State for Education. This arrangement runs for 5 years.

On 24 June 2021, Stramongate School was informed that it had been successful in obtaining a Conditional Improvement Fund ("CIF") grant to redress fire fragile, high priority, serious condition roofs and undertake critically urgent works to address fire compliance issues, including fire compartmentation, travel distances and the replacement of key internal fire doors.

The urgent fire remediation works commenced on 25 July 2021 and by 31 August 2021 the following works had been completed:

- The installation of a new external fire door in a building which previously only had one final exit on the ground floor;
- The replacement of an external fire door, to meet current building regulation requirements;
- The replacement of an external fire escape, to meet current building regulation requirements; and
- The replacement of 13 single and 4 double certified fire door sets, including surrounds, in key, higher-risk areas within the school, as identified by working with the school's Fire Officer and specialist advisors.

These works were completed in October 2021, with the installation of one further single and one further double fire door set.

The roofing element of the CIF works commenced September 2021 and will be completed during the 2021-22 period.

13 Debtors

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade debtors	733	350
VAT recoverable	21,976	11,968
Other debtors	636	-
Prepayments	57,415	93,534
Accrued grant and other income	85,181	-
	<u>165,941</u>	<u>105,852</u>

Stranongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021	2020
	£	£
Trade creditors	84,542	24,790
Other taxation and social security	19,746	19,235
Other creditors	45	40
Accruals	180,592	63,277
Deferred income	55,333	42,173
Pension scheme creditor	21,527	23,127
	<u>361,785</u>	<u>172,642</u>

	2021	2020
	£	£
Deferred income	42,173	39,856
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	42,173	-
Resources deferred in the period	55,333	42,173
Amounts released from previous periods	(42,173)	(39,856)
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u>55,333</u>	<u>42,173</u>

Deferred income relates to income received for the 2021/22 academic year, money received in advance, monies collected on behalf of charities to be donated after the year end and monies to be refunded to parents in respect of cancelled trips.

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains, losses and transfers	Balance at 31 August 2021
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted general funds	41,144	1,557,329	(1,533,044)	(21,640)	43,789
Restricted fixed asset funds	1,636,967	240,683	200,695	406,640	2,484,985
Restricted pension funds	(1,151,000)	-	(55,000)	(94,000)	(1,300,000)
Total restricted funds	527,111	1,798,012	(1,387,349)	291,000	1,228,774
Unrestricted funds	139,798	67,808	(31,563)	-	176,043
Total funds	666,909	1,865,820	(1,418,912)	291,000	1,404,817

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019	Incoming resources	Resources expended	Gains, losses and transfers	Balance at 31 August 2020
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted general funds</b>	18,303	1,596,848	(1,574,006)	-	41,145
Restricted Funds	6,733	-	-	(6,733)	-
Restricted Capital Funding	25,036	1,596,848	(1,574,006)	(6,733)	41,145
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>	1,661,586	8,095	(81,682)	48,968	1,636,967
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	(1,039,000)	-	(59,000)	(53,000)	(1,151,000)
<b>Restricted pension funds</b>	647,622	1,604,943	(1,714,688)	(10,765)	527,112
Total restricted funds	139,139	87,127	(44,233)	(42,235)	139,798
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	786,761	1,692,070	(1,758,921)	(53,000)	666,910
Unrestricted general funds					
Total funds					

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

The restricted general funds represent grant and other monies received from local government, private sector and private sponsors for the Academy's operational activities and development.

The restricted fixed asset fund relates to funding received from the DfE, ESFA and private sectors to carry out works of a capital nature as part of the school improvement plan.

Unrestricted funds relate to monies received from the local government, private sector and private sponsors to carry out works of a revenue nature.

The Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on GAG carry-forward.



Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	1,393	1,393
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,483,592	2,483,592
Current assets	176,043	405,574	-	581,617
Current liabilities	-	(361,785)	-	(361,785)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,300,000)	-	(1,300,000)
Total net assets	176,043	(1,256,211)	2,484,985	1,404,817

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

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	2,118	2,118
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,634,849	1,634,849
Current assets	139,798	213,787	-	353,585
Current liabilities	-	(172,642)	-	(172,642)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,151,000)	-	(1,151,000)
Total net assets	139,798	(1,109,855)	1,636,967	666,910

17 Capital commitments

Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements

2021
£ 855,208

18 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trusts' future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

Amounts due within one year

2021	2020
£ 6,113	£ 4,606
6,414	1,989
12,527	6,595

Amounts due between one and five years

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

	2020/21	2019/20
19 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities	£	£
Net income/(expenditure)	446,908	(66,851)
Amortisation	725	724
Depreciation	(202,123)	80,957
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(240,683)	(8,095)
Interest receivable	(32)	(118)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	55,000	59,000
Increase in debtors	(60,089)	(28,353)
Increase in creditors	189,143	52,994
Profit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	(703)	-
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	188,146	90,258
20 Cash flows from investing activities	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	32	118
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(262,323)	(57,063)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	1,406	-
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	240,683	8,095
Net cash used in investing activities	(20,202)	(48,850)
21 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	415,676	247,733
Total cash and cash equivalents	415,676	247,733
22 Members' liability		
Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a member.		

**23 Pension and similar obligations**

The Academy Trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme (LGS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by . 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 LGS 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £21,527 (2020 - £23,127) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to 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 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the SCAPF rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPF rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI. Assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £133,204 (2020: £147,827).

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.

## Stramongate School

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

#### 23 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 2021 was £107,958 (2020 - £96,370), of which employer's contributions totalled £90,551 (2020 - £73,370) and employees' contributions totalled £17,407 (2020 - £23,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are per cent for employers and per cent for employees.

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

##### Principal actuarial assumptions

	2021	2020
Rate of increase in salaries	4.30	3.80
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	2.40
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.70	1.80
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	2.80	2.30

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

	2021	2020
<b>Retiring today</b>		
Males retiring today	22.70	22.60
Females retiring today	25.30	25.20
<b>Retiring in 20 years</b>		
Males retiring in 20 years	24.30	24.20
Females retiring in 20 years	27.20	27.10

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

	2021	2020
Equities	682,000	488,000
Government bonds	299,000	273,000
Other bonds	-	3,000
Property	132,000	77,000
Cash and other liquid assets	66,000	137,000
Other	560,000	431,000
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>1,739,000</b>	<b>1,409,000</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £244,000 (2020 - (£4,000)).

Stramongate School

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2020/21	2019/20
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	122,000	116,000
Interest cost	22,000	17,000
Admin expenses	2,000	2,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	146,000	135,000

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

	2020/21	2019/20
At start of period	2,560,000	2,325,000
Current service cost	122,000	116,000
Interest cost	48,000	41,000
Employee contributions	17,000	23,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	312,000	73,000
Benefits paid	(20,000)	(19,000)
Past service cost	-	1,000
At 31 August	3,039,000	2,560,000

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

	2020/21	2019/20
At start of period	1,409,000	1,286,000
Interest income	26,000	24,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	218,000	20,000
Employer contributions	91,000	77,000
Employee contributions	17,000	23,000
Benefits paid	(20,000)	(19,000)
Effect of non-routine settlements	(2,000)	(2,000)
At 31 August	1,739,000	1,409,000

24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

**Stramongate School**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)**

**24 Related party transactions (continued)**

**Income related party transactions**

During the year the academy made the following related party transactions:

**Stramongate Nursery CIO**

The Headteacher of Stramongate School acts as one of three Trustees of Stramongate Nursery, a Charitable Incorporated Organisation, which leases premises from Stramongate School in return for a monthly lease rental fee and a share of the Nursery profits. Mr M L Poole occupied this position until 31 October 2020 and Mr M Beresford was appointed as his successor in this role from 1 November 2020. During the year to 31 August 2021, the School received £8,011 in lease payments and supplies and services rendered combined, principally the provision of school meals, from Stramongate Nursery. These transactions were done at arm's length. For the year to 31st August 2021, the School also received £10,000 under the profit share agreement, relating to profits generated by the Nursery in the year to 31 August 2020..