

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2017
for
St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust**

Hardings
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
6 Marsh Parade
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1DU

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

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St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Members	Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education Gillian Porter Johnny Anderson Glynn Lowe Claire Shaw
Trustees	Christopher Brislen (Chief Executive Officer) Colin Hopkins (Lichfield Diocese Director of Education) Johnny Anderson (Chairperson from 21/09/16) Melanie Simmonds (appointed 21/09/16) Robert Knight (appointed 21/09/16) Gillian Latos (appointed 21/09/16) Tony Earle (appointed 10/02/17, resigned 20/09/17)
Chair of Governors	Sue Molloy, St Nathaniel's Academy Molly Stone, St Michael's Community Academy Jennie Steed, Cranberry Academy Glynn Lowe, Nantwich Primary Academy Rob Knight, Knutton St Mary's Ron Cope, Park Hall Primary Academy Julian Spencer, Meir Heath Primary Academy Pauline Carter, Offley Primary Academy Marina Weller, St Saviour's Primary Academy
Principals	Sean Thomson, St Nathaniel's Academy David Jobling, St Michael's Community Academy Helen Morris, Cranberry Academy Sue Spence, Nantwich Primary Academy Anna Weaver, Knutton St Mary's C of E Academy Georgina Frost, Park Hall Primary Academy Julia Luke (retired 31/08/17), Meir Heath Primary Academy Mel Southern (appointed 01/09/17), Meir Heath Primary Academy Jill Robertson, Offley Primary Academy Lynn Davies, St Saviour's Primary Academy
Registered Office	Sussex Place Longton Stoke on Trent ST3 4TP
Company Registration Number	08735454 (England and Wales)
Auditors	Hardings Chartered Accountants 6 Marsh Parade Newcastle-under-Lyme ST5 1DU
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Fountain Square Hanley ST1 1LE
Solicitors	Stone King 16 St. Johns Lane London EC1M 4BS



The trustees of St Bart's Multi Academy Trust (the "Trust") present their report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year period 1st September 2016 to the 31st August 2017. The annual report serves the purpose of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates 9 primary academies in Stoke on Trent, Cheshire East and Staffordshire. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 3,106 and had a roll of 2,767 in the October 2016 school census for all 9 academies.

Objectives and activities

The main objectives of the Trust during the period up to the 31 August 2017 are summarised below:

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

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

Objectives and activities

Significant activities

The Trust has the following five strategic priorities / ambitions:

- 1 Every pupil will have the knowledge, understanding and skills to equip them for secondary education and the world of work beyond. In particular pupils will be able to read fluently and with understanding, be numerate and have independent learning skills, underpinned by a resilient and flexible approach to lifelong learning.
- 2 We will develop communities that are part of a supportive and caring network of "an extended family of schools"; where care of the vulnerable will be a priority and all fulfil their potential.
- 3 We will develop great leaders at all levels, who will lead their own community and the communities in the city and play an active role in public life.
- 4 We will develop high quality teaching and learning through a high quality programme of career long CPD, with the aim of becoming the best of the best.
- 5 We will collaborate with other great schools and academy chains in the UK and abroad to develop educational practice that connects learners world-wide. Through this we will strengthen the notion of citizenship on a national and international scale, helping young people make sense of the rapidly changing world they inhabit.

We will focus on these five strategic priorities that have been developed from our core values, vision and aims. Each priority area sets out what the St Bart's Academy Trust will do to achieve these priorities and the reciprocal contribution from each academy, each of whom play an important role in securing the improvements we have prioritised

Each academy sets out an annual development plan, detailing actions and timescales and intended impact required to deliver the whole school priorities. Each academy has an action plan for developing practice in the four Ofsted areas -

- Achievement of pupils
- Quality of teaching
- Behaviour and safety
- Leadership and management

Each curriculum leader formulates their own action plan to identify three key areas for development for their subject during the period. These cover the key areas of -

- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Curriculum
- Creative Arts
- PE and Sport Development
- SEND
- ICT
- Foundation Stage

Public benefit

The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. The key public benefit delivered by the Trust is the provision of a high quality of education to its students.

Beyond this, the school aims to offer an education for the whole individual providing exceptional opportunities for personal as well as academic success. In this the school seeks to provide for the cultural, physical, spiritual as well as academic development of students. The wide range of extra-curricular activities, educational trips and visits and partnership projects offered to - and taken up by - our students contribute to academies which are happy and in which students thrive.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Objectives and activities

Social investments

Equal opportunities policy

The trustees recognise that equal opportunities should be an integral part of good practice within the workplace. The Trust aims to establish equal opportunity in all areas of its activities including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued.

Disabled persons

Ramps and disabled toilets are installed and door widths are adequate to enable wheelchair access to all our academies. The policy of the Trust is to support the employment of disabled persons both in the recruitment and by retention of employees who become disabled whilst in the employment of the Trust, as well as generally through training and career development. The academies are also set up to receive disabled children and adapted equipment is in place for that purpose. Assessment of the available resources is done on a case by case basis.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Strategic report

Achievement and performance

Charitable activities

The 2017 results for the nine academies are shown below.

Foundation Stage, Phonics and Key stage 1 Results

Subject	Cranberry	Knutton	Nantwich	St Michael's	St Nathaniel's	Meir Heath	Offley	Park Hall	St Saviour's	National
FS – GLD	78	59	63	69	75	77	81	92	80	69
Y1 Phonics	86	78	90	80	74	94	96	85	81	81
KS1 Reading	77	65	72	67	65	94	77	75	74	74
KS1 Writing	70	54	72	73	61	96	68	67	61	65
KS1 Maths	77	68	72	81	72	89	68	75	68	73
KS1 RWM C	63	54	67	66	58	85	63	63	57	64

KS2 Results

Subject	Cranberry	Knutton	Nantwich	St Michael's	St Nathaniel's	Meir Heath	Offley	Park Hall	St Saviour's	National
KS2 Reading	66	63	48	59	43	92	76	64	67	71
KS2 Writing	72	56	57	67	67	92	83	81	53	76
KS2 SPAG	81	59	57	78	58	94	81	76	80	77
KS1 Maths	75	56	52	74	49	94	66	66	80	75
KS2 RWM	66	44	38	50	33	88	56	54	53	61

The Foundation stage, phonics and key stage 1 data show an improving trend since the schools converted to academy status. In some cases, there remains a legacy of low attainment at Key Stage 2, however in all cases progress measures are more positive than the previous year. The Multi-Academy Trust recognises the continued challenges faced by its schools and has implemented a number of strategies to accelerate progress and has robust performance management processes in place. All academies meet at least floor targets for 2017.

Ofsted

	Cranberry	Knutton	Nantwich	St Michael's	St Nathaniel's	Meir Heath	Offley	Park Hall	St Saviour's
OFSTED Grading	Good	RI	RI	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good	Good

All St Bart's academies have improved at least one OFSTED grade when inspected post conversion.

Attendance

	Cranberry	Knutton	Nantwich	St Michael's	St Nathaniel's	Meir Heath	Offley	Park Hall	St Saviour's
Whole School Attendance	95.9%	94.1%	96.1%	94.5%	94.7%	96.8%	96.8%	96.4%	96%
Number of Persistent Absentees	2	44	14	59	71	4	2	18	2

Improving pupil attendance is a key priority for all academies. The Trust has carried out a significant review of attendance monitoring arrangements in all academies as part of its annual review process and clear action plans for improvement are in place.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Strategic report Achievement and performance *Charitable activities*

The Trust carefully monitored the implementation of the individual academies 2016/17 annual plans. Evaluation of the plan included analysis of the impact of the work completed and the progress of the each academy measured against its targets. Based on the regular monitoring and the Trust annual review it is clear that nearly all academies delivered their improvement plans and made at least expected progress. This judgement was also supported by the each academy's comprehensive self-evaluation and where appropriate independent audit. The Trust Raising Achievement Plan is fully focused on improving outcomes and supporting the academies whose performance is yet to reach expected levels.

To ensure that standards are continually raised the Trust and each academy operates a rigorous monitoring and evaluation schedule which focuses on lesson observations, book and planning scrutiny and discussions with pupils. The vast majority of teachers have good subject knowledge & experience which is continually being refined through focused CPD and weekly professional development meetings; this enthuses and challenges most pupils and contributes to their progress. NQTs are provided with strong mentoring and support in the first of their teaching career.

All of the Academy staff had a performance management meeting to set targets and a review to complete the cycle and inform any pay progression decisions. An impact statement was completed against the two whole school targets and one individual target. The new cycle has begun and all staff have met with their performance manager reviewer to discuss the whole school targets and to set a personal target for the year.

Key financial performance indicators

The main performance indicators are:

- Ofsted inspection outcome
- Trust annual reviews
- Key Stage results
- Attendance data
- Pupil recruitment data

The main financial performance indicators are as follows:

- as the bulk of finding is based in pupils numbers, NOR is a key performance indicator
- staffing costs as a percentage of total income
- levels of cash held and projected to be held.

Analysis of pupil data, test results, NOR and the academies' Ofsted grades confirm that the Governing Bodies have appropriately utilised their financial resources, including the Pupil Premium Grant.

Financial review

Principal funding sources and summary

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the DfE in the form of recurrent grants or grants for capital/maintenance projects, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31st August 2017 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also received income from the Local Authorities of Stoke on Trent and Cheshire East for supporting pupils with Special Educational needs with associated funding and also the funding relating to the Early Years Grant.

During the period ended 31st August 2017, total expenditure of £12,906,203 against income of £25,981,985 showed an in year surplus of £13,075,782.

Included in incoming resources was £13,311,886 in respect of fixed assets, budget surplus and pension deficit of the two new Academies which joined the Trust.

Overall LGPS costs for the year included an actuarial gain of £1,133,000 along with a charge of £434,000.

At the balance sheet date the Trust held £1,561,829 of unrestricted funds, £439,511 of restricted funds before a deficit on the LGPS of £4,737,000 and £29,771,281 of restricted fixed asset funds.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Strategic report

Financial review

Investment policy and objectives

The trust continues to review the level of cash held at bank and has begun investing some of these monies into accounts yielding higher rates of return.

Reserves policy

The trust holds reserves to ensure that it can continue to operate and meets its objectives throughout the year. The trustees consider the level of reserves appropriate for this purpose and review them regularly.

Going concern

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

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, including provision of facilities and operational areas of the Trust and its finances including the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Trust faces, especially in operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health & safety, bullying, school trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedure (e.g. vetting new staff, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where significant risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls.

A risk register which is maintained is reviewed at least annually by the Finance and Audit Committee and more frequently where necessary. The risk register identifies the key risks, the likelihood of those risks occurring, their potential impact on the Academy and the actions being taken to reduce and mitigate the risks. Risks are prioritised using a consistent scoring system

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Academy has continued to embed the system of internal control, including financial, operational and risk management which is designed to protect the Academy's assets and reputation.

The Finance and Audit Committee undertakes a comprehensive review of the risks to which the Academy is exposed, including the Local Government Pension Scheme. They identify systems and procedures, including specific preventable actions which should mitigate any potential impact on the Academy. The internal controls are then implemented and the subsequent year's appraisal will review their effectiveness and progress against risk mitigation actions. In addition to the annual review, the Finance and Audit Committee will also consider any risks which may arise as a result of a new area of work being undertaken by the Academy. The Trust has engaged a responsible officer to carry out checks on the financial systems of each Academy as outlined in the Financial Handbook.

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

Strategic report

Plans for future periods

The Trust will continue striving to provide the best possible education for all its students and to enable all children to achieve their potential. The Trust's core purpose is to deliver its strategic vision of providing exceptional opportunities for personal and academic success for its students and community. The Trust's plans (set out above) will ensure that its quality of provision of education and results both continue to improve in the next few years.

4 more schools are choosing to join the trust taking the total to 13 school by January 2018, with three more starting the process to join in 2018. The Board have no aspirations currently to expand the Trust beyond its current proposed cap of 20 academies. All further expansion will take account of the SBAT Protocol when we form a judgment about a potential new partner. All decisions related to the constitution of the Trust must be agreed and approved by the Board of Directors. The Protocol is based on the following key questions:

- What will be the benefit to current SBAT pupils of a new academy joining St. Bart's?
- In view of our moral imperative to improve outcomes for pupils is there a compelling reason for us to consider the application based on need? (e.g. the school is in a category and needs urgent support).
- Is the rationale for the new joiner based on the following:
 - a) Do they share our values as an organisation?
 - b) Are they a school we have an existing relationship with?
 - c) Is it close enough for our staff to travel there easily to support improvement?
 - d) Do they offer skills and expertise that would benefit the SBAT?
 - e) Has an appropriate risk assessment and due diligence been carried out by the CEO and Executive Board.
 - f) Do we have sufficient capacity to help them improve in the first three years after joining?
 - g) Does the prospective new partner understand and accept the value of collaborative practice?

Structure, governance and management

Governing document

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity with no share capital (registration no. 08735454). The Multi Academy Trust's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of St Bart's Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as St Bart's Multi Academy Trust. Details of the trustees who served throughout the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

Each academy has its insurance through the RPA scheme and has unlimited employers, third party and professional indemnity insurance.

Principal activities

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of St Bart's Multi Academy Trust to provide education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 3 and 11. In accordance with the Articles of Association the charitable company has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Secretary of State for Education.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

Members of the Trust are nominated by either the Secretary of State for Education or the Multi Academy Trust. The articles of association require the members of the trust to appoint at least three trustees to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs of the charitable company and the management of the Academy.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Structure, governance and management

Organisational structure

The Chief Executive Officer of the Trust works closely with the leadership teams in each Academy. Each Academy has a principal, and vice principal/assistant principals with key areas of responsibility. The aim of the leadership structure is to devolve responsibility, increase accountability and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels. The Chief Executive of the Trust is the Accounting Officer.

The Finance and Audit Committee is responsible for finance, operations and sustainability and risk management related to the Trust. It also carries out tasks delegated down by the full Board of Trustees on strategic and capital expenditure projects.

The Central Leadership Team for the Trust (CLT) is responsible for monitoring and evaluating the performance of the academies in terms of Ofsted and trust gradings and data, people and leadership and trust governance.

The Senior Leadership Team of each Academy is responsible for the day to day management of the Academy, for acting on strategic decisions taken by the Board and subcommittees, ensuring an annual development plan is set out, monitored and carried out successfully.

Induction and training of new trustees

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

Key management remuneration

The pay structure for the senior leadership teams of the academies are set within the agreed pay policy for teachers. All senior leaders are paid within the leadership scale for the academy and within the ISR for the academy size and the role that is undertaken. Trustees are not paid for any work that they carry out as trustees. The Chief Executive of the Trust's pay is set in line with national benchmarking information and has been agreed following annual appraisal with the Chair of the multi-academy trust. The trust now has a remuneration committee which will recommend CEO remuneration for approval to the board.

Connected Organisations including Related Party Relationships

St Bart's Multi Academy trust has nine academies within the Multi Academy Trust. The St Bart's academies are working closely together with Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy as the sponsor to develop a shared ethos and curriculum. Belgrave St Bartholomew's is the lead school for Britannia Teaching School Alliance and the majority of the teaching school work is organised and delivered on site and BTSA provides training and support to all sponsored academies. This is a fulfilment of a vision built around the idea of a locally based network of schools, taking responsibility for the quality of education in our local area and being a school led system of schools supporting and challenging themselves to improve outcomes for young people.

Auditors

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware
- 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 auditors, Hardings Chartered Accountants, are willing to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 14th December 2017 and signed on the board's behalf by:



J Anderson - Chair of Trustees

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

Scope of Responsibility

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

We are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the Trust and enable us to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act. We also acknowledge responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:-

- The Trust is operating efficiently and effectively;
- Its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition;
- The proper records are maintained and financial information used within the Trust or for publication is reliable;
- The Trust complies with relevant laws and regulations.

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

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meeting attended	Out of a possible
Johnny Anderson (chair)	5	5
Christopher Brislen	5	5
Colin Hopkins	5	5
Melanie Simmonds	3	5
Robert Knight	3	5
Gillian Latos	5	5
Tony Earle	0	2

Audit Committee

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Johnny Anderson (Chair)	2	3
Christopher Brislen - in attendance	3	3
Colin Hopkins	1	1
Melanie Simmonds	2	2

Remuneration Committee

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Johnny Anderson (Chair)	1	1
Christopher Brislen - in attendance	1	1
Colin Hopkins	1	1

The St Bart's Academy Trust Board of Directors are accountable to the Department for Education (DfE) for the success of the work of the Trust and the achievement of its charitable goals. As such they have ultimate decision making rights. The Board of Directors delegates its management of the interests of the Trust to its CEO and Executive Board (EB) on a day to day basis and they are responsible for the success of the academies. The role of the EB is to oversee the strategic direction of the academies on behalf of the Directors of the Trust, to manage the day to day running of the academies through its scheme of delegation and to anticipate, manage and mitigate risk. The CEO acts as a bridge between the two boards.

**Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

The Trust Board has a scheme of delegation to its academies. Each academy has a Local Governing Body (LGB) that are accountable for standards, health and safety (safeguarding) and the effective leadership and management of the academies. The LGB delegates these responsibilities on a day to day basis to the Principal of the academy, who has operational control and responsibility for ensuring that all legal and statutory obligations are met. The Trust Board understands its responsibilities to the wider community and seeks to ensure that the Trust systems and processes are robust and transparent and able to demonstrate to external scrutiny that the SBAT is a responsible and accountable organisation of the highest quality.

The Governing Body in each Academy has completed the National Governors' Association Governing Body skills audit to assess the skills, knowledge and experience of the governing body to enable them to deliver the functions of the governing body effectively. The Trust board has also measured itself against the inductors of high performing Mats and looked at areas in which we need to develop. The board of trustees intends to carry out a further review of its governance during the academic year 2017-2018.

The role of the Central Leadership Team

The CLT is a fascinating blend of strategic and operational, containing vision and delivery, shared responsibility alongside accountability and communication with a wide range of stakeholder groups.

The CLT operates in the following ways, but these are not exclusive:

- The CLT meets as an executive team every month and ensures that the Trust strategy and performance is regularly monitored and updated.
- CLT members lead the Executive Management Principals Group, which meets half-termly.
- CLT members lead the Chair of Governors meetings once a term.
- Meet one to one with Principals at least every month to review self-evaluation and priorities and provide support and challenge.
- Collect and analyse performance data every term to track progress against targets.
- Commission leadership training, coaching and mentoring as appropriate.
- Observe lessons and scrutinise work samples with members of the academy leadership teams to develop consistency of standards and co-ordinate the academy annual review and Principal's Performance Management Reviews.
- Plan and deliver SBAT INSET Days.
- Ensure that the Trust Board has the information they need to make judgements about how best they can carry out their roles and responsibilities.

Review of Value for Money

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

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

- The ultimate consideration of value for money is the achievement of the pupils when matched against a balanced budget. Each Academy has regularly reviewed staff deployment to ensure that staff are working effectively to ensure the best possible outcomes for the children. Effective and efficient re-deployment of staff and resources enabled us to support all children.
- All avenues are considered when making purchases or entering into Service Level Agreements (SLA). SLAs are reviewed annually and alternatives sought to ensure that we obtain best value. Competitive tenders are sought where appropriate and these are chosen on the basis of best value. We carry out regular benchmarking activities to compare our expenditure against that of similar schools to help assess our performance.
- As the St Bart's Multi Academy grows, it is likely that contracts will be renegotiated on economies of scale and some services will be brought in house. During the year 2016-2017 we have appointed a facilities manager and accountant to support the work within the academies and the Trust.
- The Trust explores all opportunities to generate additional income including the hire of academy facilities, offering support to other schools and academies and the submission of appropriate grant applications. Surplus monies have begun to be actively managed and invested in term deposits.

**Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

Review of Value for Money

- The Trust has a dedicated Audit Committee that maintains an oversight of its risk management, value for money framework and governance arrangements. The Audit Committee consider the strategic risks facing the academy including how these risks are managed via a review of the Risk Register.

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 be reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 St Bart's Multi Academy Trust for the year ended 31st August 2017 and up to date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the schools face, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The trust has an effective system of internal financial controls. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ending 31st August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However the trustees have appointed Hardings, the external auditor, to perform additional checks. The auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. The auditors completed additional checks on the payroll system alongside work undertaken for the Teachers' Pension Scheme audit completed in the summer term. St Bart's was subject to a full FMGS review in the Spring term 2017 and received confirmation from ESFA/DfE that there were no concerns in relation to financial management and governance.

Review of Effectiveness

As accounting officer, the CEO of St Bart's has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility of the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

**Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

Review of Effectiveness

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of the review of the system of internal control by the Audit Committee and a plan to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 14th December 2017 and signed on its behalf by:



J Anderson - Chair of Trustees



C Brislen - Accounting Officer

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

**Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

As accounting officer of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

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



C Brislen - Accounting Officer

14th December 2017

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees Responsibilities for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

The trustees of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust 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 Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards [FRS 102] have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 14th December 2017 and signed on it's behalf by:



J Anderson - Chair of Trustees

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31st August 2017 on pages nineteen to forty five. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2015 to 2016 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31st August 2017 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

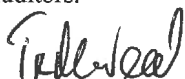
As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees Responsibilities set out on page fifteen, the trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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



TIMOTHY McNEAL FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Hardings
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
6 Marsh Parade
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1DU

14th December 2017

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust during the period 1st September 2016 to 31st August 2017 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2016, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1st September 2016 to 31st August 2017 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1st September 2016 to 31st August 2017 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Hardings
Chartered Accountants
6 Marsh Parade
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1DU

14th December 2017

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

				31/8/17	31/8/16
	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from					
Donations and capital grants	2	-	958,748	83,458	1,042,206
Transfer from Local Authority on conversion	24	680,852	14,560,034	(1,929,000)	13,311,886
Charitable activities					
Funding for the academy's educational operations	3	-	-	11,078,201	11,078,201
Other trading activities	4	281,430	-	267,222	548,652
Investment income	5	1,040	-	-	1,040
Total		<u>963,322</u>	<u>15,518,782</u>	<u>9,499,881</u>	<u>25,981,985</u>
Expenditure on					
Raising funds	7	-	-	89,079	89,079
Charitable activities					
Academy's educational operations		-	1,089,519	11,727,605	12,817,124
Total	6	<u>-</u>	<u>1,089,519</u>	<u>11,816,684</u>	<u>12,906,203</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		<u>963,322</u>	<u>14,429,263</u>	<u>(2,316,803)</u>	<u>13,075,782</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit schemes		-	-	1,133,000	1,133,000
Net movement in funds		<u>963,322</u>	<u>14,429,263</u>	<u>(1,183,803)</u>	<u>14,208,782</u>
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		<u>598,507</u>	<u>15,342,018</u>	<u>(3,113,687)</u>	<u>12,826,838</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,561,829</u>	<u>29,771,281</u>	<u>(4,297,490)</u>	<u>12,826,838</u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust (Registered number: 8735454)

**Balance Sheet
At 31st August 2017**

				31/8/17	31/8/16
	Notes	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	-	29,771,281	-	29,771,281
Current assets					
Stocks	15	-	-	12,945	12,945
Debtors	16	-	-	1,099,834	1,099,834
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>1,561,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>881,462</u>	<u>2,443,291</u>
		1,561,829	-	1,994,241	3,556,070
Creditors					
Amounts falling due within one year	17	-	-	(1,519,840)	(1,519,840)
Net current assets		<u>1,561,829</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>474,401</u>	<u>2,036,230</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		1,561,829	29,771,281	474,401	31,807,511
Creditors					
Amounts falling due after more than one year	18	-	-	(34,891)	(34,891)
Pension liability	22	-	-	(4,737,000)	(4,737,000)
Net assets		<u>1,561,829</u>	<u>29,771,281</u>	<u>(4,297,490)</u>	<u>27,035,620</u>
Funds	21				
Unrestricted funds				1,561,829	598,507
Restricted funds				<u>25,473,791</u>	<u>12,228,331</u>
Total funds				<u>27,035,620</u>	<u>12,826,838</u>

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees on 14th December 2017 and were signed on its behalf by:



J Anderson -Chair of Trustees

The notes form part of these financial statements

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

	Notes	31/8/17 £	31/8/16 £
Cash flows from operating activities:			
Cash generated from operations	25	<u>642,704</u>	<u>684,645</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities		<u>642,704</u>	<u>684,645</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(519,753)	(188,780)
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA		81,413	32,640
CIF for capitalised assets		877,335	80,343
Interest received		<u>1,040</u>	<u>1,016</u>
Net cash provided by (used in) investing activities		<u>440,035</u>	<u>(74,781)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			
		1,082,739	609,864
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>1,360,552</u>	<u>750,688</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>2,443,291</u></u>	<u><u>1,360,552</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern. The trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

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'.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

1. Accounting policies - continued

Expenditure

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the academy trust to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

Raising funds

Raising funds 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

Costs of charitable activities are 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.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

Tangible fixed assets

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

Freehold land and buildings	- over the expected useful economic life*
Leasehold land and buildings	- over the expected useful economic life*
Improvements to property	- over the expected useful economic life
Fixtures and fittings	- 25% on reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 33% on cost

*Note that no depreciation is charged on any land included above.

Assets costing £250 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the academy trust's depreciation policy.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Leasing

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

Stocks

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value, after making due allowance for obsolete and slow moving items.

1. Accounting policies - continued

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.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Further explanation of the nature and purpose of each fund is included in the notes to the financial statements.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The academy trust makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31st March 2013 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31st August 2017. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

1. Accounting policies - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in note 22, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised where 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.

2. Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/17 Total funds £	31/8/16 Total funds £
Donations	-	21,129	21,129	6,784
Grants	-	958,748	958,748	680,957
Educational trips	-	62,329	62,329	46,305
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,042,206</u>	<u>1,042,206</u>	<u>734,046</u>

Grants received, included in the above, are as follows:

	31/8/17 £	31/8/16 £
Capital grant	81,413	32,640
CIF	<u>877,335</u>	<u>648,317</u>
	<u>958,748</u>	<u>680,957</u>

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

3. Funding for the academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/17 Total funds £	31/8/16 Total funds £
DfE/ESFA revenue grant				
General Annual Grant(GAG)	-	8,693,545	8,693,545	4,982,664
Start-up grant	-	100,000	100,000	165,000
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	1,504,401	1,504,401	871,172
	-	10,297,946	10,297,946	6,018,836
Other government grant				
Local Authority grants	-	780,255	780,255	489,259
	-	11,078,201	11,078,201	6,508,095

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/17 Total funds £	31/8/16 Total funds £
Hire of facilities	14,411	-	14,411	4,074
Catering income	-	150,351	150,351	86,339
Staff absence insurance receipts	-	17,050	17,050	8,427
Other generated income	267,019	99,821	366,840	152,712
	281,430	267,222	548,652	251,552

Other generated income includes the following:

- Uniform income
- Breakfast club income
- First Aid course income
- Staff recharges
- and other miscellaneous income

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/17 Total funds £	31/8/16 Total funds £
Deposit account interest	1,040	-	1,040	1,016

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

6. Expenditure

				31/8/17	31/8/16
	Staff costs	Non-pay expenditure		Total	Total
	£	Premises	Other costs	£	£
		£	£		
Raising funds					
Costs of fundraising	-	-	68,862	68,862	51,397
Costs incurred by trading for a fundraising purpose	-	-	20,217	20,217	16,353
Charitable activities					
Academies educational operations					
Direct costs	7,865,080	-	656,986	8,522,066	4,929,765
Allocated support costs	<u>1,503,034</u>	<u>1,402,905</u>	<u>1,389,118</u>	<u>4,295,057</u>	<u>2,590,809</u>
	<u>9,368,114</u>	<u>1,402,905</u>	<u>2,135,183</u>	<u>12,906,202</u>	<u>7,588,324</u>

Net resources are stated after charging:

	Year Ended	Year Ended
	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Auditor's remuneration	10,000	9,000
Depreciation - owned assets	346,045	216,298
Depreciation - leasehold assets	<u>304,479</u>	<u>189,297</u>

7. Raising funds

Costs of fundraising

			31/8/17	31/8/16
	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total funds	Total funds
	£	£	£	£
Educational trips	<u>-</u>	<u>68,862</u>	<u>68,862</u>	<u>51,397</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

7. Raising funds - continued

Costs incurred by trading for a fundraising purpose

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/17 Total funds £	31/8/16 Total funds £
Purchases	-	20,217	20,217	16,353
Aggregate amounts	-	89,079	89,079	67,750

8. Charitable activities - academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/17 Total funds £	31/8/16 Total funds £
Direct costs	-	8,522,066	8,522,066	4,929,765
Support costs	-	4,295,057	4,295,057	2,590,809
	-	12,817,123	12,817,123	7,520,574

	31/8/17 Total £	31/8/16 Total £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	1,069,034	582,060
Depreciation	654,275	405,595
Technology costs	116,943	76,014
Premises costs	1,268,004	991,381
Other support costs	617,900	333,829
Governance costs	568,901	201,930
Total support costs	4,295,057	2,590,809

9. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st August 2017 nor for the year ended 31st August 2016. The trustee and CEO, C Brislen, and the trustee G Latos are employees of Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy and as such, all disclosures in connection with their remuneration packages are disclosed in the financial statements of Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy. A re-charge is made from Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy to St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust in respect of C Brislen. See note 10 for further details.

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st August 2017 nor for the year ended 31st August 2016.

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

10. Staff costs

	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Wages and salaries	6,979,044	4,002,418
Social security costs	594,729	299,937
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	<u>1,231,056</u>	<u>714,804</u>
	8,804,829	5,017,159
Supply teacher costs	77,409	47,281
Compensation payments	<u>51,876</u>	<u>21,938</u>
	<u>8,934,114</u>	<u>5,086,378</u>

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

	31/8/17	31/8/16
Teachers	123	68
Administration and support	241	162
Management	<u>28</u>	<u>23</u>
	<u>392</u>	<u>253</u>

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

	31/8/17	31/8/16
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>4</u>	<u>3</u>

The above three employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme.

Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy employs the management of St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust. The staff costs and numbers are represented accordingly within the financial statements of Belgrave St Bartholomew's Academy as the employer following advice from the ESFA. Recharges are made to St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust for the costs attributed to the management on a monthly basis and these are recognised under the appropriate heading in St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust's financial statements.

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £315,364 (2016: £319,697).

11. 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.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

12. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted fund £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Restricted funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from				
Donations and capital grants	-	32,640	701,406	734,046
Transfer from Local Authority on conversion	488,202	3,352,902	(817,000)	3,024,104
Charitable activities				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	-	-	6,508,095	6,508,095
Other trading activities	56,546	-	195,006	251,552
Investment income	1,016	-	-	1,016
Total	<u>545,764</u>	<u>3,385,542</u>	<u>6,587,507</u>	<u>10,518,813</u>
Expenditure on				
Raising funds	-	-	67,750	67,750
Charitable activities				
Academy's educational operations	-	405,595	7,114,979	7,520,574
Total	<u>-</u>	<u>405,595</u>	<u>7,182,729</u>	<u>7,588,324</u>
Net income/(expenditure)	545,764	2,979,947	(595,222)	2,930,489
Transfers between funds	<u>-</u>	<u>156,140</u>	<u>(156,140)</u>	<u>-</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Actuarial gains/losses on defined benefit schemes	-	-	(864,000)	(864,000)
Net movement in funds	545,764	3,136,087	(1,615,362)	2,066,489
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	<u>52,743</u>	<u>12,205,931</u>	<u>(1,498,325)</u>	<u>10,760,349</u>
Total funds carried forward	<u><u>598,507</u></u>	<u><u>15,342,018</u></u>	<u><u>(3,113,687)</u></u>	<u><u>12,826,838</u></u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

13. Central services

Top-Slice Charging Policy

A top-slice is charged for the purpose of running the central function of the St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust and also to provide support for the schools within the Trust and provide the service outlined below.

The top-slice charged to academies joining the St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust is charged at a percentage of the academy GAG funding only. Specifically the pupil premium, early years, high needs and any other directed specific funding will not be included within the top slice calculation. The applicable percentage is variable between 5 and 6% dependent on risk.

The top slice is used to pay the salaries of the central team of St Bart's. This includes the CEO, CFO, Operation Manager, Assets Manager, Head of School Effectiveness and PA. The services provided by the top slice include the following:

- HR Services
- Payroll services
- Financial support services
- Finance package licensing
- Strategic financial consultancy
- Legal Services
- Health & safety advice and support
- School improvement support
- CPD for Teachers and TA's
- Other educational support services
- Others as arising

These services were agreed by the Trust Board upon creation of the Multi-Academy Trust and are subject to review on an annual basis. Any amendments made to the top slice charge must be approved by the Trust Board.

The actual amounts charged during the period were as follows:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Cranberry Academy	38,736	42,474
St Michael's Community Academy	127,265	105,039
St Nathaniel's Academy	107,404	99,968
Nantwich Primary Academy	43,039	41,295
Knutton St Marys CofE Academy	60,972	10,138
Meir Heath Primary Academy	28,000	-
St Saviour's Primary Academy	6,775	-
Offley Primary Academy	27,802	-
Park Hall Primary Academy	64,294	-
	<u>504,287</u>	<u>298,914</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Leasehold land and buildings £	Improv'ts to Freehold property £
Cost			
Transfer on conversion	-	13,936,250	-
At 1st September 2016	3,720,000	11,260,500	386,416
Additions	-	-	412,986
At 31st August 2017	<u>3,720,000</u>	<u>25,196,750</u>	<u>799,402</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st September 2016	147,016	324,597	7,313
Charge for year	<u>73,507</u>	<u>304,479</u>	<u>11,302</u>
At 31st August 2017	<u>220,523</u>	<u>629,076</u>	<u>18,615</u>
Net book value			
At 31st August 2017	<u>3,499,477</u>	<u>24,567,674</u>	<u>780,787</u>
At 31st August 2016	<u>3,572,984</u>	<u>10,935,903</u>	<u>379,103</u>
	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
Cost			
Transfer on conversion	424,087	199,697	14,560,034
At 1st September 2016	481,153	285,999	16,134,068
Additions	<u>68,626</u>	<u>38,141</u>	<u>519,753</u>
At 31st August 2017	<u>973,866</u>	<u>523,837</u>	<u>31,213,855</u>
Depreciation			
At 1st September 2016	166,896	146,228	792,050
Charge for year	<u>142,859</u>	<u>118,377</u>	<u>650,524</u>
At 31st August 2017	<u>309,755</u>	<u>264,605</u>	<u>1,442,574</u>
Net book value			
At 31st August 2017	<u>664,111</u>	<u>259,232</u>	<u>29,771,281</u>
At 31st August 2016	<u>314,257</u>	<u>139,771</u>	<u>15,342,018</u>

The land and buildings from which Knutton St. Mary's CofE Academy and St Saviour's CofE Academy operate are largely owned by the Lichfield Diocese with the playing fields owned by Staffordshire County Council.

Following a review of the lease agreements and discussion with the Diocese, it has been agreed that the risks and rewards of ownership in respect of the land and buildings owned by the Diocese, have not been substantially transferred to the Academy Trust and therefore not capitalised on the balance sheet.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

14. Tangible fixed assets - continued

The above is in line with advice provided by the Diocese but is contrary to advice from the ESFA. Whilst the Diocese are in discussion with the ESFA to agree how such assets should be treated and disclosed, the Trust has determined that they should be accounted for in accordance with the instructions of the Diocese.

During the previous year, the Trust commissioned a professional valuation of the land and buildings owned by the Diocese. The land and buildings were valued at £3,225,000.

15. Stocks

	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Stocks	<u>12,945</u>	<u>5,233</u>

16. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Trade debtors	48,182	19,072
Other debtors	411,463	-
VAT	350,927	302,535
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>289,262</u>	<u>484,013</u>
	<u>1,099,834</u>	<u>805,620</u>

17. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Trade creditors	815,310	766,998
Social security and other taxes	167,667	91,751
Other creditors	188,667	4,305
Accruals and deferred income	<u>348,196</u>	<u>251,951</u>
	<u>1,519,840</u>	<u>1,115,005</u>

Deferred Income

	£
Deferred income as at 1st September 2016	154,743
Resources deferred in the year	235,467
Resources released from previous years	<u>(154,743)</u>
Deferred income as at 31st August 2017	<u>235,467</u>

At the balance sheet date, the Trust was holding funds received in advance from the ESFA in respect of the Universal Infant Free School Meals commencing in September 2017. Additionally, a small amount of Early Years funding was held which related to 2017/18, and trip monies received were held in respect of trips due to take place in 2017/18.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

18. Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Other creditors	<u>34,891</u>	<u>64,580</u>

Included within other creditors for year ended 31/08/17, is a credit balance in respect of a Salix loan as part of the Condition Improvement Fund Grant received during this and the previous the year. The total amount of the loan is £40,259 and is repayable over 7.5 years. £5,368 within one year and then £5,368 annually thereafter.

19. Leasing agreements

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

	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Within one year	82,623	24,949
Between one and five years	<u>170,568</u>	<u>29,158</u>
	<u>253,191</u>	<u>54,107</u>

20. Members' liability

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

21. Movement in funds

	At 1.9.16	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31.8.17
	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	598,507	963,321	-	1,561,828
Restricted funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	21,203	414,966	-	436,169
Other DfE / ESFA grants	372,110	(368,768)	-	3,342
Pension deficit	(3,507,000)	(1,230,000)	-	(4,737,000)
Restricted fixed asset funds	<u>15,342,018</u>	<u>14,429,263</u>	-	<u>29,771,281</u>
	12,228,331	13,245,461	-	25,473,792
	<u>12,826,838</u>	<u>14,208,782</u>	-	<u>27,035,620</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>12,826,838</u>	<u>14,208,782</u>	-	<u>27,035,620</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

21. Movement in funds - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Unrestricted funds				
Unrestricted fund	963,321	-	-	963,321
Restricted funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	8,693,545	(8,278,579)	-	414,966
Start-up grants	100,000	(100,000)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	1,504,401	(1,873,169)	-	(368,768)
Local Authority grants	780,255	(780,255)	-	-
Other	350,680	(350,680)	-	-
Pension deficit	(1,929,000)	(434,000)	1,133,000	(1,230,000)
Restricted fixed asset funds	<u>17,506,532</u>	<u>(1,089,519)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>14,429,263</u>
	<u>27,006,413</u>	<u>(12,906,202)</u>	<u>1,133,000</u>	<u>13,245,461</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>27,969,735</u>	<u>(12,906,202)</u>	<u>1,133,000</u>	<u>14,208,782</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

Included in unrestricted funds includes the surplus on conversion from a local authority school, income from outsourcing of staff and other income generated from the other small donations, etc. which carry no specific restrictions. These funds are available for the academy trust to use as deemed appropriate.

Purposes of restricted funds

The General Annual Grant represents the grant funding received from the ESFA in order to cover the on-going costs of the academy trust. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2017.

The start-up grant is funding received from the ESFA in connection with the new Academies joining the Trust.

Other DfE/ESFA grants received include amounts for Pupil Premium, UIFSM and from the Condition Improvement Fund.

Local Authority grants include nursery / early years funding as well as funding to support children with special education needs.

Purposes of restricted fixed assets funds

The restricted fixed assets funds reflects resources received by the academy trust to acquire assets for continuing use and furtherance of the trust's aims and objectives. Resources expended reflect the associated depreciation charges as set out on the accounting policies.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

21. Movement in funds - continued

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows:

	31/8/17 £	31/8/16 £
Cranberry Academy	32,637	12,785
St Michael's Community Academy	92,767	109,475
St Nathaniel's Academy	44,830	104,457
Nantwich Primary Academy	114,826	150,503
Knutton St Marys CofE Academy	341,823	333,708
Meir Heath Academy	97,609	-
Offley Primary Academy	444,285	-
Park Hall Academy	138,705	-
St Saviour's CofE Academy	5,396	-
Central	688,461	280,892
	<u>2,001,339</u>	<u>991,820</u>
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve		
	<u>2,001,339</u>	<u>991,820</u>
Restricted fixed assets funds	29,771,281	15,342,018
Pension reserve	(4,737,000)	(3,507,000)
	<u>27,035,620</u>	<u>12,826,838</u>
Total	<u>27,035,620</u>	<u>12,826,838</u>

Analysis of academies by cost

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the period was as follows:

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total £
Cranberry Academy	665,993	91,072	17,967	207,185	982,217
St Michael's Community Academy	1,469,243	180,843	71,097	431,911	2,153,094
St Nathaniel's Academy	1,633,250	142,532	75,691	469,850	2,321,323
Nantwich Primary Academy	685,158	110,316	13,817	199,376	1,008,667
Knutton St Mary's CofE	785,059	150,507	35,191	180,582	1,151,339
Meir Heath Academy	670,198	66,471	20,179	142,157	899,005
Offley Primary Academy	450,935	64,861	14,691	112,017	642,504
Park Hall Academy	1,082,834	114,567	26,447	319,235	1,543,083
St Saviours' CofE Academy	108,024	15,468	2,135	18,475	144,102
Central Services	305,024	141,760	382	963,175	1,410,341
	<u>7,855,718</u>	<u>1,078,397</u>	<u>277,597</u>	<u>3,043,963</u>	<u>12,255,675</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

22. Pension and similar obligations

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

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

Teachers' pension scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge (currently 14.1%))
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £663,197 (2016: £370,000).

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

22. Pension and similar obligations
- continued

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2017 was £669,000 (2016: £387,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £539,000 (2016: £310,000) and employees' contributions totalled £130,000 (2016: £77,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.2 per cent (Staffordshire) and 24.4/26.8% (Cheshire) for employers and the contribution for employees is dependent on salary banding.

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

As described in note 24 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

There are two defined benefit schemes in the academy trust run by two local authorities as follows:

Fund	Administering Authority	For:
Cheshire Pension Fund Investment Strategy A	Cheshire West and Chester Council	Cranberry Academy
		St Michael's Community Academy
		Nantwich Primary Academy
		Offley Primary Academy
Staffordshire Pension Fund	Staffordshire County Council	St Nathaniel's Academy
		Knutton St Mary's C of E Academy
		Park Hall Academy
		St Saviour's Primary Academy
		Meir Heath Primary Academy

The amounts recognised in the balance sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(9,254,000)	(6,072,000)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>4,517,000</u>	<u>2,565,000</u>
	<u>(4,737,000)</u>	<u>(3,507,000)</u>
Deficit	<u>(4,737,000)</u>	<u>(3,507,000)</u>
Liability	<u>(4,737,000)</u>	<u>(3,507,000)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

22. Pension and similar obligations
- continued

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Current service cost	862,000	366,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	<u>189,000</u>	<u>146,000</u>
	<u>1,051,000</u>	<u>512,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Defined benefit obligation	6,072,000	3,158,000
Current service cost	862,000	366,000
Contributions by scheme participants	130,000	77,000
Interest cost	189,000	146,000
Benefits paid	(74,000)	-
Business combinations	3,044,000	1,161,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	<u>(969,000)</u>	<u>1,164,000</u>
	<u>9,254,000</u>	<u>6,072,000</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Fair value of scheme assets	2,565,000	1,466,000
Contributions by employer	539,000	310,000
Contributions by scheme participants	130,000	77,000
Interest income on plan assets	78,000	68,000
Benefits paid	(74,000)	-
Business combinations	1,115,000	344,000
Return on plan assets (excluding interest income)	<u>164,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
	<u>4,517,000</u>	<u>2,565,000</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

22. Pension and similar obligations
- continued

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/17 £	31/8/16 £
Actuarial gains/(losses) from changes in financial assumptions	969,000	(1,164,000)
Return on plan assets (excluding interest income)	<u>164,000</u>	<u>300,000</u>
	<u>1,133,000</u>	<u>(864,000)</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as amounts of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/17 £	31/8/16 £
Equities	3,122,000	1,971,000
Bonds	898,000	345,000
Property	339,000	190,000
Cash	<u>158,000</u>	<u>59,000</u>
	<u>4,517,000</u>	<u>2,565,000</u>

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

	31/8/17	31/8/16
Discount rate	2.5%	2.1%
Future salary increases - Staffordshire	2.8%	2.5%
Future salary increases - Cheshire	2.7%	3.1%
Future pension increases	2.4%	2.1%

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

Staffordshire Pension Fund

	At 31/8/17	At 31/8/16
Retiring today		
Males	22.1	22.1
Females	24.4	24.4
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	24.1	24.1
Females	26.4	26.4

Cheshire Pension Fund

	At 31/8/17	At 31/8/16
Retiring today		
Males	22.3	22.3
Females	24.5	24.4

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

22. Pension and similar obligations
- continued

Retiring in 20 years		
Males	23.9	24.1
Females	26.5	26.7

Sensitivity Analysis

Change in assumption as at :	Approx. monetary amount	
	31/08/17 £	31/08/16 £
0.5% decrease in Real Discount Rate	1,231	821
0.5% increase in Salary Increase Rate	283	298
0.5% increase in Pension Increase Rate	922	499

The pension liability is split between the following pension funds as follows:

	At 31/08/17 £	At 31/08/16 £
Staffordshire Pension Fund	(3,228,000)	(1,408,000)
Cheshire Pension Fund Investment Strategy A	(1,509,000)	(2,099,000)

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

23. Related party disclosures

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public sector and private organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which a trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and procurement procedures.

Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy is closely connected to St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust, sharing a number of members and trustees. The central function of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust is based at Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy and staff and central services are recharged from Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy as required.

Belgrave St. Bartholomew's Academy is itself a member of St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust along with representation from the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education.

The following individuals are also trustees of both organisations:

Trustee	Position at Belgrave St. Bartholomew's	Position at St. Bart's MAT
Christopher Brislen	Executive Principal	Chief Executive Officer
Colin Hopkins	Lichfield Diocese Director of Education	Lichfield Diocese Director of Education
Gillian Porter	Chairperson/Foundation Governor	Member/Trustee

Transactions took place during the year as follows:

From Belgrave St. Bartholomew's to St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust	2017 Transaction Value	Due at 31/08/17	2016 Transaction Value	Due at 31/08/16
Services of the BTSA	£22,538	£3,088	£16,210	£500
DSG bid	-	-	£14,250	-
Recharge of central services	£236,184	-	£264,283	-
From St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust to Belgrave St. Bartholomew's	Transaction Value	Due at 31/08/17	Transaction Value	Due at 31/08/16
Services to the BTSA	£3,974	-	£13,036	-
Recharge of legal fees, salaries & other costs	£35,932	-	£1,557	£1,207

24. Conversion to an academy

On 1 November 2016 Park Hall Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust from the Council of the City of Stoke On Trent for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as "Transfer from Local Authority on Conversion".

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

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets				
- Leasehold land and buildings			4,315,000	4,315,000
- Other tangible fixed assets			188,686	188,686
Budget surplus on LA funds	-	(968,000)		(968,000)
LGPS pension deficit				
Net assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(986,000)</u>	<u>4,503,686</u>	<u>3,535,686</u>

On 1 January 2017 Meir Heath Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust from Staffordshire County Council for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as "Transfer from Local Authority on Conversion".

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets				
- Leasehold land and buildings			3,790,000	3,790,000
- Other tangible fixed assets			173,862	173,862
Budget surplus on LA funds	198,469			198,469
LGPS pension deficit		(333,000)		(333,000)
Net assets	<u>198,469</u>	<u>(333,000)</u>	<u>3,963,862</u>	<u>3,829,331</u>

On 1 April 2017 Offley Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust from the Cheshire East Borough Council for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as "Transfer from Local Authority on Conversion".

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

St. Bart's Multi-Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets				
- Leasehold land and buildings			5,714,000	5,714,000
- Other tangible fixed assets			163,506	163,506
Budget surplus on LA funds	482,383			482,383
LGPS pension deficit		(292,000)		(292,000)
Net assets	<u>482,383</u>	<u>(292,000)</u>	<u>5,877,506</u>	<u>6,067,889</u>

On 1 July 2017 St Saviour's Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to St Bart's Multi-Academy Trust from Staffordshire County Council for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as "Transfer from Local Authority on Conversion".

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets				
- Leasehold land and buildings			117,250	117,250
- Other tangible fixed assets			97,730	97,730
Budget surplus on LA funds	-			-
LGPS pension deficit		(336,000)		(336,000)
Net assets	<u>-</u>	<u>(336,000)</u>	<u>214,980</u>	<u>(121,020)</u>

The land and buildings from which St Saviour's CofE Academy operates is largely owned by the Lichfield Diocese with the playing fields owned by Staffordshire County Council.

Following a review of the lease agreements and discussion with the Diocese, it has been agreed that the risks and rewards of ownership in respect of the land and buildings owned by the Diocese, have not been substantially transferred to the Academy Trust and therefore not capitalised on the balance sheet.

The above is in line with advice provided by the Diocese but is contrary to advice from the ESFA. Whilst the Diocese are in discussion with the ESFA to agree how such assets should be treated and disclosed, the Trust has determined that they should be accounted for in accordance with the instructions of the Diocese.

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2017

25. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities	31/8/17	31/8/16
	£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	13,075,783	2,930,489
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	650,523	405,593
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(81,413)	(32,640)
Transfer from Local Authority on conversion	(13,311,886)	(3,024,104)
Interest received	(1,040)	(1,016)
CIF for capitalised assets	(877,335)	(80,343)
Cash from Local Authority Conversion	680,852	488,204
Increase in stocks	(7,712)	(2,871)
Increase in debtors	(294,214)	(526,881)
Increase in creditors	375,146	394,214
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	434,000	134,000
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	<u>642,704</u>	<u>684,645</u>