

Company Registration No. 08484553 (England and Wales)

**ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021**

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

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ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

Mrs R L Garner
Mr M R J Trett

Governors

Mrs J Forkner (Academy Business Manager)
Mrs S M George
Mrs L James (Accounting Officer)
Miss G V Ward
Mrs N J Tunbridge
Mr M R J Trett (Resigned 8 February 2021)
Mrs R M Steel
Mrs K A Jago
Mrs R L Garner (Chair of Governors)
Mrs E A Brown (Resigned 26 November 2020)
Mrs S Derrick (Appointed 15 June 2021)
Mrs Z Gisby (Appointed 15 June 2021)

Senior management team

- Headteacher	Mrs L James
- Deputy Headteacher responsible for KS2	Mr J Arnold
- Deputy Headteacher responsible for KS1	Mr S Holmes
- Academy Business Manager	Mrs J Forkner

Company secretary

Mrs J Forkner

Company registration number

08484553 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office

Abbotts Drive
Stanford-Le-Hope
Essex
SS17 7BW
United Kingdom

Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services
1 Nelson Street
Southend-On-Sea
Essex
SS1 1EG
United Kingdom

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
Leicester
Leicestershire
LE87 2BB
United Kingdom

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Lloyds Bank PLC
34 High Street
Grays
Essex
RM17 6LX
United Kingdom

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The governors present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in Stanford-Le-Hope, Essex. It has a pupil capacity of 210 and had a roll of 254 pupils in the Summer School Census on 20th May 2021.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

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

The charitable company is known as Abbots Hall Primary Academy.

The governors are the trustees of Abbots Hall Primary Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the governors who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Abbots Hall Primary Academy was incorporated on 12th April 2013 and obtained Academy status from 1st May 2013.

Members' liability

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

Governors' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 in any one period.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors

The members of the Academy Trust shall comprise the signatories to the Memorandum, 1 person appointed by the Secretary of State, in the event that the Secretary of State appoints a person for this purpose, the Chairman of the Governors and any person appointed under Article 16.

The number of Governors shall not be less than 3, but shall not be subject to a maximum. The first Governors were those named in the initial Memorandum. The Abbots Hall Primary Academy Trust shall have the following Governors;

- up to 9 Governors and 1 Associate member
- 3 Co-opted Governors;
- 1 Partnership Governor;
- 4 Parent Governors;
- 1 Staff Governor;
- the Headteacher, any additional Governors if appointed under Article 62,62A or 68A; and any further Governors if appointed under Article 63 or Article 68A.

A Co-opted Governor can be appointed as a Governor by being co-opted by Governors who themselves are not co-opted. The Governors may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Governor if the number of Governors who are employed by the Academy Trust would thereby exceed one third of the total number of Governors (including the Head Teacher).

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Each of the persons entitled to appoint members above shall have the right, from time to time by written notice delivered to the Office, to remove any Member appointed by them and to appoint a replacement member to fill a vacancy whether resulting from such removal or otherwise.

The term of office for any Governor shall be 4 years, save that this time limit shall not apply to the Headteacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any Governor may be re-appointed or re-elected.

When a vacancy occurs on the Governing Board an advert will be placed on the school's website, and if applicable, www.governorsforschools.org.uk, www.inspiringgovernance.org and/or other volunteer bureaux and governor recruitment agencies, professional, trade or community organisations (or any such other relevant body that might be thought suitable), or by personal contact to an individual. Adverts will be distributed to parents, staff and alumnae.

The Governor role description, skills specification and induction summary will be published on the vacancies page of the school website together with the governor meeting dates for the academic year. Applicants will be invited to complete a short application form and submit a brief CV and Skills Audit.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The training and induction provided for new Governors depends on their existing experience. All new Governors are given a tour of the School and the chance to meet with staff and pupils. All Governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Governors. Induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

During their terms of office all Governors receive additional training, including from external training providers. Governors also undertake Governor visits to the School and meet with staff on a regular basis to keep themselves informed and updated.

Organisational structure

The Structure consists of three levels: the Governors, the Senior Leadership Team, and the Curriculum Leaders. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting a School Improvement Plan and budget, monitoring the Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. During the year under review the Governors held 6 Full Governing Board Meetings. These meetings are held every six weeks with one scheduled each half term. The items for business are scheduled so that all aspects of the school's work can be reviewed and overseen by the academies Governing Board. However, where appropriate the Governing Board will appoint sub-committees for focused work i.e. Policy review and other specific tasks. The Governing Board has also appointed a Clerk who attends Governing Board meetings and who assists and advises Governors as appropriate.

The Senior Leadership Team comprises the Headteacher (The Accounting Officer), two Deputy Headteachers and the Academy Business Manager. These leaders control the Academy at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Governors and reporting back to them. As a group, the Senior Leadership Team is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, though appointment panels for senior leader posts will contain at least one Governor. Some spending control is devolved to Curriculum Team Leaders, which a Senior Leader must countersign.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Key management personnel are those persons having authority and responsibility for planning, directing and controlling the activities of a reporting entity, directly or indirectly, including any director. This definition includes Academy trustees and those staff who are the senior management personnel to whom the trustees have delegated significant authority or responsibility in the day to day running of the Academy trust.

The Academy has a rigorous appraisal system in place which is monitored by the trustees. The Academy adheres to the national School Teachers Pay and Conditions document and Local Government pay scales.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Abbots Hall Primary Academy is part of a collaborative working group known as the Inspirational Learning Trust (ILT). This trust includes Graham James Primary Academy and Giffards Primary School. The three schools serve the community of Corringham and Stanford-Le-Hope.

In the academic year 2020/21 the group's work was limited due to Covid-19 restrictions and the difficulties working beyond virtual meetings. Partnership work normally includes:

- Peer to Peer monitoring across the Academies.
- Moderated meeting to review teacher assessments for accuracy.
- Shared professional development opportunities.
- joint procurement of goods and services ensuring best financial values are upheld.
- Financial Benchmarking

Covid-19 has continued to present the academy with a number of unprecedented challenges and the ILT was able to provide its academies with support with risk assessing, setting up remote learning policies as well as support for day to day management of the school through the crisis.

Over the past year Abbots Hall Primary has increased its work within the Independent Primary Academies Group in Thurrock. This group is made up of nine primary academies serving communities across Thurrock. Over the upcoming academic year plans are in place to strengthen cross school partnerships to include moderation, seek joint procurement opportunities and opportunities shared for CPD.

Abbots Hall Primary Academy works together with parents to provide children with resources and experiences that will enrich their education and enjoyment of learning. The Abbots Hall Primary Academy PTA is a charitable group who organise fund raising opportunities for the whole school community. Last year these included; Christmas Fairs and Discos however, due to the pandemic many fundraising events were cancelled and this has led to a drop in revenue for the school.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Abbots Hall Primary Academy is currently a one-form entry Primary School with pupil admission numbers of 210 pupils organised in seven classes. In 2019/20, the school agreed with the Local Authority to take on an additional class in the EYFS, temporarily increasing our intake number to 60. This follows a decision taken in 2016-17, to take an additional class, therefore in 2020/21, the school had two classes in Year 1 and Year 4. From September 2021, the school pupil admission numbers have increased to 60. This will increase the school to a maximum of 420.

The principal activity of the Academy is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

Our vision

We are all academically, socially and emotionally prepared for our own unique journey.

Our main curriculum aims are:

- Provide equal opportunities for all children, regardless of their background and starting points, to gain knowledge, skills and character and make significant progress across the range of concepts taught in the School Curriculum.
- Encourage children to develop a sense of personal growth through character development, enabling them to become global citizens and socially responsible. They will develop key characteristics through the celebration of our values.
- Develop children's application of knowledge through carefully planned, high quality questioning and activities where a wide range of thinking skills are required. These skills are accessed by the Abbots Hall 'Thinking Skills'.
- Prepare children for their own unique journey by encouraging them, through the curriculum, to become reflective, effective learners.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives of Abbots Hall Primary Academy during the year ending 31st August 2021 –

Quality of Education:

Objective: There is a well-judged recovery curriculum in place underpinned by accurate assessment which provides clear direction for teachers to address pupils' learning gaps alongside delivering new learning, so progress and attainment are good.

- Ensure teachers assess and address learning gaps alongside introducing new learning – this information will be used to establish new targets for pupils from accurate baselines in the autumn. The skilled use of AfL, establishing success criteria linked to self-review, will be fundamental to supporting good progress.
- Implement short-term adaptations to the curriculum and learning (blended learning including catch-up and online as well – *Class Dojo*) to support the successful return of all groups of pupils to school.
- Support SEND and under-performing pupils and groups:
 - Continue to focus on providing challenge for more able pupils so they achieve well
 - Narrow the attainment gap for disadvantaged and vulnerable pupils in core subjects
 - Establish clear protocols for children who will receive nurture provision – outline what success looks like and how children will receive their entitled curriculum as well as how progress and success will be measured. Link this to SEN procedures and IPP/ECHP targets

Leadership and Management:

Objective: The Headteacher can provide evidence that Leadership and the Quality of Education across the school are of a high quality especially as the school grows.

- The school continues to provide a safe environment in line with Covid-19 government advice
- The attainment gap for underperforming, disadvantaged and SEND pupils is narrowed as part of a three-year plan.
- Continue to provide individual and whole school training and development, for all staff, informed by effective monitoring processes.
- The leadership structure is sustainable and secure as the school grows to two-form of entry. Build a succession model across leadership and management structures.

Personal Development:

Objective: There is high quality provision, underpinned trust and school values, to ensure that staff and pupils' emotional health and wellbeing are fully supported.

- Support pupils, staff and parents to be mentally healthy.
- Implement RSE framework

Behaviour and Attitudes:

Objective: Pupils behave with consistently high levels of respect for others. They consistently demonstrate high levels of self-control and consistently positive attitudes to their education.

- Clear plan underpinned by a risk assessment for vulnerable pupils and those with SEND to support them returning to school (link to home school agreement)
- Reinforce learning attitudes with pupils as they return to school especially those who are most vulnerable
- Improving the attendance of identified groups (partnership approaches with EWS)
- Build in pupil voice to all monitoring activities to ensure evidence of teaching over time is fully informed

Early Years:

Objective: The quality of early years education provided is exceptional.

- Effective transition into school and into Y1 and analysis of learning gaps with effective planning to address these.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Future Growth Planning:

In this academic year, the academy has secured two significant growth opportunities:

1. Increase in the published admission number, requested by the Local Authority. This increase will now allow for 60 admissions each academic year. This increase will also coincide with a significant infrastructure investment from the LA to build new learning spaces and improve existing areas.
2. This period also saw the final agreement for the transfer of Homesteads Preschool, situated on school site, to the control of Abbots Hall Academy. The Preschool will be part of the new Abbots Hall EYFS Unit. This is a fabulous opportunity for the school to support its community providing high quality provision for families in our catchment and beyond.

Pupils' Outcomes

Due to the impact of the pandemic, the academy does not have examination outcomes to share from 2021. Pupils' outcomes across the curriculum have been affected by the ongoing disruption caused by requirements for individual isolation, 'bubble' closures as well as the national lockdowns. As a result of this the government again suspended national examinations.

Personal Development

Despite the interruption, the academy continued to promote the school's new Relationship Education (part of the PSHE provision) and this provision has now been launched to all stakeholders and is being delivered as part of the curriculum. The academy also continued to champion good mental health and wellbeing, teaching pupils the important of, 'It's OK not to be OK' and how to seek help, if required.

Behaviour and Attitudes

Children's behaviours and attitudes to learning continue to be good despite the impact of the disruption caused by the ongoing pandemic. This is because the school continues to prioritise 'Back to Best' and high expectations. Following the reopening after Spring Term 'lockdown' the academy worked to support pupils back into school routines and expectations. This went well, with many pupils reintegrating well back into school with ease.

Covid-19

The pandemic, now in its second year, has had a significant impact on the ability of the academy to achieve its objectives for 2020/21. Initiatives introduced in the Autumn term have all been impacted and much of the work started will need to either restart or heavily focused on in the next financial year to ensure any progress made at the beginning of the year is not lost.

Equal Opportunities

The Governors believe that equality at our school should permeate all aspects of school life and is the responsibility of every member of the school and wider community. Every member of the school community should feel safe, secure, valued and of equal worth. At Abbots Hall Primary Academy equality is a key principle for treating all people the same irrespective of their gender, ethnicity, disability, religious beliefs/faith tradition, sexual orientation, age or any other of the protected characteristics.

Public benefit

The Governors confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit when reviewing the charity's aim and objectives and in planning future activities. In particular, the Trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set. The Academy admits 30 pupils in to 1 Reception class on the basis of the following criteria in priority order:

1. SEND (pupils with EHC Plans) and Looked After Children- automatically offered a place
2. Exceptional medical grounds
3. Siblings in catchment - automatically offered a place
4. Siblings
5. Catchment
6. Parental preference

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Charitable activities -

Ongoing Covid-19 focus

Following the outbreak of Covid-19 the Academy's first priority during this pandemic has been the safety and well-being of all students, staff and visitors to our premises. In order to achieve this the following actions were put into place:

DfE Guidance

We used the 'Guidance to the full opening of schools' from the DfE to complete an ongoing risk assessment. This has been continuously reviewed to ensure we are fully compliant.

Enhanced Cleaning

Increasing the provision for cleaning and ensuring antibacterial (especially those proven to remove coronavirus) were available in all areas.

Keyworker Provision

From the 3rd January, the academy was closed to all pupils other than vulnerable students, students with additional needs) and the children of key workers.

Remote Learning

All pupils teaching and learning moved online, for years EYFS to Year 5, ClassDojo and Microsoft Teams for Year 6. Children were taught the academy's curriculum using online materials. Pupils used these learning platforms to receive tasks and input from teachers. Completed work was submitted securely and then children were provided with ongoing feedback.

Family Support

All through the pandemic, the academy prioritised effective communication with families and using our learning platforms were able to identify families requiring further support. All pupils with additional needs were contacted weekly by the school's Family Support Officer or SENCO. In addition to this, families with linked social workers were also provided with weekly 'door step' visits to ensure these families were further safeguarded.

Mental Health and Wellbeing Support

the school has continued to prioritise the mental health and well-being of our pupils and their families. This has been in partnership with the Thurrock Council's School Wellbeing Service and the NHS' Mental Health Support Teams. This work has been co-ordinated by the academy's internal Mental Health and Wellbeing Team.

Catch Up Support

Following the Spring 'lockdown', the school have prioritised closing learning gaps caused by ongoing bubble and school closures. This has been a multi-pronged approach with the aim of ensuring as many pupils as possible accessed tuition or catch-up support.

- We redesigned our curriculum timetables to include dedicated core skills catch-up with the focus on component skills in English and Maths.
- Using baseline assessments, we identified pupils for after-school small group tuition. These 30 minutes sessions were led by members of staff twice a week. 97 pupils were identified and able to access at least 12 hours of tuition, with many accessing more.
- We also provided online tuition for a further 34 pupils. This tuition was led by a qualified teacher.

Play Curriculum

During the period, the academy reviewed it's play arrangements. The aim being to address the social and emotional deficits caused by long periods of social isolation. Following detailed research, the academy decided to sign up to the Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) Project. Initial planning and partner building work began in this financial period. The initiative will fully launch from September 2021. Our expectation of this project is that through enhanced play opportunities, our pupils will have the opportunity to develop life-long skills that will ultimately support them into adulthood.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Key performance indicators

The main Key Performance Indicators (KPI) is the Ofsted Framework for Inspection and the Academy evaluates each area on a regular basis.

Inspectors use key judgements. These are the:

- Quality of education.
- Behaviour and attitudes.
- Personal development.
- Leadership and management.

In addition, inspectors must also consider:

- the spiritual, moral, social and cultural development of pupils at the school (this includes British Values);
- the extent to which the education provided by the school meets the needs of the range of pupils at the school, and in particular the needs of:
- pupils who have a disability for the purposes of the Equality Act 2010;
- pupils who have special educational needs.

In December 2019, the Academy was inspected by Ofsted as part of its section 8 evaluation schedule. The key outcomes included:

- Leaders have made well-thought-out changes to the curriculum in many subjects. Teachers deliver the curriculum skilfully. They know what needs to be taught and the best order in which to teach it.
- Pupils pick up and discuss new knowledge with confidence.
- Teachers use assessment well. They quickly spot when pupils need extra help. Pupils respond with enthusiasm to their teachers' guidance.
- Pupils' work is of good quality, and they achieve well.
- Reading is central to pupils' learning. Children learn to read from the start of Reception.
- Pupils who fall behind get the help that they need to become more confident readers.
- Adults adapt learning so that pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND) have access to the full curriculum. Staff have high expectations for all pupils. Work is suitably demanding. Pupils with SEND make strong progress.
- Pupils enjoy their lessons and each other's company. This means that learning takes place in calm, happy classrooms.
- Pupils understand the diverse nature of British society. They are respectful of different beliefs and cultures.
- Leaders and governors work effectively together. They know where the school's strengths are and what could be better.

Next steps for the Academy Leaders and Governors should ensure that:

1. Leaders need to further review the school's processes to establish what pupils know and can do when they join the school so that these pupils make the best possible start.
2. Leaders now need to put into practice their plans to develop the curriculum in languages so that it is as carefully sequenced and capably delivered as learning in other subjects.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of governors has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the board of governors continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, some of which are restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2021 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2019), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the year ended 31 August 2021, total expenditure of £1,535k (2020: £1,446k) was met by recurrent grant funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources. The deficit of expenditure over income for the year (excluding restricted fixed asset funds and transfers to restricted fixed asset funds) was £132k (2020: £63k).

At 31 August 2021 the net book value of fixed assets was £2,672k (2020: £2,329k) Movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 11 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

The Pension Fund, in which the Academy participates, shows the Academy's share of the fund's assets and liabilities shows a deficit of £1,067k (2020: £957k) at 31 August 2021. Of this sum, £360k was inherited by Abbots Hall Primary Academy from Thurrock Council on 1 May 2013 the date the local authority's staff transferred to employment with the Academy.

Significant events such as Covid-19 had an effect on the financial performance and position of the Academy in the period under review and as evident from the primary statements included. Whilst there were some reductions in some areas of expenditure during the Academy closure periods, the Academy experienced reductions in Wraparound Care and Catering Income, resulting in an in-year budget deficit to the sum of £31k (pre pension and depreciation).

The Academy has seen a strong return to these usual activities and services offered and is confident of building up reserves in these areas over the coming year, in anticipation of any further closure periods. The Academy's principle risks and uncertainties will be managed by keeping them under continuous review, as recovering from the pandemic is one of the key factors that may affect the Academy's financial position going forward.

The Academy can report that it's five year budget plan is healthy and, due to its continuing LA requested expansion, each year reports a surplus balance that will add to the Academy's current reserves.

Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The financial risks to which Abbots Hall Primary Academy is exposed to relate primarily to a shortfall in pupil numbers, cash flow, government funding changes and policy.

A risk arises in relation to the defined benefit pension scheme, due to the fact that there is a deficit of £1,067k (2020 - £957k).

Reserves policy

The Governors review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. The Academy's current level of free reserves is £16k (2020: £42k) (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds). The Academy will review the reserves policy on an annual basis.

The Academy has set surplus budgets for the 5 year forecasts which will increase reserves year on year.

The Academy held fund balances at 31 August 2021 of £1,635k (2020: £1,434k) comprising £1,619k (2020: £1,392k) of restricted funds and £16k (2020: £42k) of unrestricted general funds. Of the restricted funds, £2,672k (2020: £2,329k) is represented by tangible fixed assets. The pension reserve which is considered part of restricted funds was £1,067k (2020: £957k) in deficit.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Investment policy

Under the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Academy has the power to invest in the name of the Academy Trust such part of the funds as they may see fit. The Academy aims to have a positive cash balance to cover eventualities and unforeseen expenses not budgeted for and hence not included in the cash flow. It is the responsibility of the School Management to generate as much bank interest as possible from any cash balances that the school may have. Investments though must guarantee complete integrity of funds and be consistent with the ethos, aims and objectives of the school. Investments other than bank deposits must be approved by the Governing Board before being entered into.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties that Abbots Hall Primary Academy faces are mitigated by the risk management process that the Academy Trust has in place reviewing the school's risk register on a regular basis.

The Governors have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy, and its finances. By creating and maintaining a Risk Register that covers operations, governance, reputation, finance, IT and staffing risk, the Governors have introduced systems including operational procedures and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Academy has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement on page 14.

Key Areas of Risk Identified:

Financial Impact of Covid-19

- The impact of the vast reduction of the school's Catering Services led to a significant deficit. This meant that the service that normally ran at just break-even was running at a significant loss and the overspend had to be paid using money from other budget areas.
- The academy 'wrap around care' provision was closed during lockdown leaving the academy to cover the cost of Breakfast and Afterschool Club hours. These provisions normally are cost neutral or raise a small profit which meant that the existing school budget had to cover the loss of earnings due to the closure of these services.
- Edenred were given the task of providing vouchers to cover FSM; however due to the lateness of receiving these vouchers, students of Abbots Hall Academy who were entitled to FSM were provided with food parcels collected from the school site and, in some cases, delivered for clinically vulnerable families. For each holiday this past year, families also received a financial payment equivalent to the FSM value. These actions ensured that students and their families who rely on FSMs were able to have continuity and did not have the extra burden of having to find food which would normally be provided by the school.
- Extra cleaning of the Academy past, present and future has and will continue to become expensive. The cost of disinfecting materials has, in some circumstances, doubled and although we remain committed to finding the best price, it is also a question of where stock is available.
- Photocopying/postage increased as during lockdown learning materials were posted to all students so that continuity of learning could be continued on all levels;
- Mental health training for members of staff relating to school issues and Covid-19.
- Staffing post covid lockdown has been closely monitored and procedures put in place for potential closures of classes in the instance of rising covid cases.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Raising Funds

The majority of fundraising for the Trust is undertaken by the Parent School Association, this is a separate body to the Trust but is subject to the same provisions of the Charities Act 2016. All events following lockdown were unable to go ahead this meant fundraising activities were not able to proceed.

The Trust undertakes a few fundraising activities each year, these include both Summer and Christmas fetes, discos, non-uniform days (although these funds are raised for other nominated charities) and various raffles. These activities are closely monitored and set up in line with accepted fundraising practice. Due to Covid-19 restrictions, these activities were restricted after March 2020 and have continued to be holden to local residents.

No complaints have ever been received for any fundraising activities at the school. The Trust only ever asks for voluntary contributions towards its fundraising and would never discriminate against any student or parent who did not want to contribute towards any activity. Fundraising requests tend to be made via letter and not face to face so we do not place undue pressure on individuals to donate.

Plans for future periods

Abbots Hall Primary Academy will continue striving to improve the levels of performance of its pupils at all levels and will continue its efforts to ensure its pupils are well prepared for secondary school when they leave the Academy.

Abbots Hall Primary Academy has a very clear understanding of its strengths and areas for development based on rigorous analysis of data and monitoring of teaching and learning combined with working with external advisors.

The School Improvement Plan (SIP) has all the correct areas identified for improvement and is based on regular analysis of data which is carefully analysed by the Head Teacher and the senior staff with the support of external advisors and experienced Governors. The SDP is regularly monitored and amended annually by the SLT and Governors. It is underpinned by appropriate budget links.

In 2020/21, the academy increased its age-range from 4-11 year-olds to 2-11 year-olds and from January 2022 will run two Nursery classes (2 year-old provision and 3-4 year-old provision). From September 2021, in response to the rise in primary pupil numbers, we have increased our PAN from 30 to 60.

Auditor

In so far as the governors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the governors 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.

A resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of governors, as the company directors, on 29 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs R L Garner
Chair of Governors

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 Abbots Hall Primary Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of governors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

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

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs J Forkner (Academy Business Manager)	5	6
Mrs S M George	5	6
Mrs L James (Accounting Officer)	6	6
Miss G V Ward	5	6
Mrs N J Tunbridge	6	6
Mr M R J Trett (Resigned 8 February 2021)	2	2
Mrs R M Steel	6	6
Mrs K A Jago	5	6
Mrs R L Garner (Chair of Governors)	6	6
Mrs E A Brown (Resigned 26 November 2020)	1	1
Mrs S Derrick (Appointed 15 June 2021)	1	1
Mrs Z Gisby (Appointed 15 June 2021)	0	1

Due to the national lockdown and the continued restraint due to Covid-19, the GB were unable to carry out its functions in the typical method of strategic overview. However, the chair of governors attended SLT meetings, and this allowed governors to be kept updated between meetings. All GB meetings took place remotely via Teams: this enabled Leaders to keep governors fully informed and gave governors the opportunity to ask questions and hold leaders to account.

Following a parent governor recruitment campaign: two parents are in place; however, the school still requires an additional co-opted governor, which will be addressed in the spring term.

The audit and internal control committee is a sub-committee of the main board of governors. Its purpose is to oversee all systems, controls and processes that may have an impact on the trust's abilities to meet its objectives. The committee has formally met three times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the committee was as follows:

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs N J Tunbridge	3	3
Mrs K A Jago	3	3
Mrs R L Garner (Chair of Governors)	3	3

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Review of value for money

I accept that as Accounting Officer of Abbots Hall Academy, I am responsible and accountable for ensuring that the Academy delivers good value in the use of public resources. I understand that Value for Money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

I have considered how the Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during the academic year and have reported to the Board of Governors where value of money including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate.

Value for Money Report

Over the last financial period 2020-21, Abbots Hall Primary Academy has continued to take a wide range of steps to ensure that the education standards and levels of attainment for all pupils have continued to improve.

- Pandemic Risk - Strict control of Covid-19 reporting and monitoring procedures and adherence to Government guidelines. Regular Staffing update on procedures regarding isolation periods. Ensure there is adequate cover available in the first instance before decisions to close bubbles. Ensure balances are settled on a regular basis for all Income Generating activities. Closer scrutiny of emails/ requests for payment and ensuring that all Financial procedures are adhered to regarding any monetary settlements made.
- Lack of funding results in the trust being unsustainable – Commenced the expansion of both the academy PAN and age-range to provide Nursery Provision. Active marketing and promotion at key events to ensure maximum take up. Robust Admissions Policy.

The Academy has internal controls in place to ensure strict financial procedures are followed. A Responsible Governor is appointed to make independent checks against a detailed schedule of checks. In addition to this, the Academy receives periodic monitoring visits from independent accountants. All reports are scrutinised by the newly formed Audit and Internal Control Committee. The management team (including Governors) receives regular budget reports which are analysed to identify areas of overspend and underspend. Regular monitoring ensures the best use of resources and prevents waste. Bank balances are carefully monitored.

There is a constant desire within the Academy to improve through better systems that lead to better outcomes for pupils. Value for Money is a key part of ensuring we are able to do this.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 Abbots Hall Primary Academy for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of governors has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of governors is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of governors.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 governors;
- regular reviews by the audit committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.

With regards to Internal Scrutiny, the Governing Board can confirm the following programme of assurance has been applied:

- The formation of a separate Audit and Internal Control Committee
- The engagement of an external, independent qualified professional (S Garland) to carry out a strategic overview of the Finance functions on a termly basis for the Board of Governors within an established reporting structure to the Audit and Internal Control Committee. This review has included all income, expenditure, budget, bank, payroll and compliance.
- The trustees have also appointed K Jago, a trustee, to perform monitoring and peer review on a regular basis.

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy trusts' systems (that includes testing payroll, purchasing, control and bank accounts). At least three times per year, the reviewer reports to the board of trustees, via the Audit and Internal Control Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. Of the planned work carried out, no material control issues were discovered. However, due to the restrictions of Covid19, there were some delays in the completion of original scope of works.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal reviewer;
- 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 for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the Resources Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the board of governors on 29 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs L James
Accounting Officer

Mrs R L Garner
Chair of Governors

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

As accounting officer of Abbots Hall Primary Academy, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of governors and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of governors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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 governors and ESFA.

Mrs L James
Accounting Officer

29 November 2021

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The governors (who act as trustees for Abbots Hall Primary Academy and are also the directors of Abbots Hall Primary Academy for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the governors' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the governors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the governors must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, the governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The governors 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 accounts 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 governors 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 that grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The governors 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 accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of governors on 29 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mrs R L Garner
Chair of Governors

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Abbots Hall Primary Academy for the year ended 31 August 2021 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The governors are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the accounts, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the accounts or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinions 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 governors' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the governors' report including the incorporated strategic report 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 governors' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which 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 accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the statement of governors' responsibilities, the governors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the accounts, the governors 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 governors either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Directionn 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Use of our report

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

**Catherine Cooper (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services**

15 December 2021

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

1 Nelson Street
Southend-On-Sea
Essex
United Kingdom
SS1 1EG

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 September 2020 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Abbots Hall Primary Academy during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Abbots Hall Primary Academy and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Abbots Hall Primary Academy and 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 Abbots Hall Primary Academy and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Abbots Hall Primary Academy's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Abbots Hall Primary Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 May 2013 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant

Azets Audit Services
1 Nelson Street
Southend-On-Sea
Essex
SS1 1EG
United Kingdom

Dated: 15 December 2021

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General Fixed asset £'000 £'000		Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	2	-	421	423	469
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	1,253	-	1,253	1,203
Other trading activities	5	71	-	-	71	109
Total		<u>73</u>	<u>1,253</u>	<u>421</u>	<u>1,747</u>	<u>1,781</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	69	1,389	77	1,535	1,446
Total	6	<u>69</u>	<u>1,389</u>	<u>77</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,446</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		4	(136)	344	212	335
Transfers between funds	15	(30)	31	(1)	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	17	-	(11)	-	(11)	(120)
Net movement in funds		<u>(26)</u>	<u>(116)</u>	<u>343</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>215</u>
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>42</u>	<u>(937)</u>	<u>2,329</u>	<u>1,434</u>	<u>1,219</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>16</u>	<u>(1,053)</u>	<u>2,672</u>	<u>1,635</u>	<u>1,434</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2020	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General Fixed asset £'000 £'000		Total 2020 £'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	4	-	465	469
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	1,203	-	1,203
Other trading activities	5	109	-	-	109
Total		<u>113</u>	<u>1,203</u>	<u>465</u>	<u>1,781</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	60	1,319	67	1,446
Total	6	<u>60</u>	<u>1,319</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>1,446</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		53	(116)	398	335
Transfers between funds	15	(42)	43	(1)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	17	-	(120)	-	(120)
Net movement in funds		11	(193)	397	215
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		31	(744)	1,932	1,219
Total funds carried forward		<u>42</u>	<u>(937)</u>	<u>2,329</u>	<u>1,434</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

		2021		2020	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		2,672		2,329
Current assets					
Debtors	12	95		188	
Cash at bank and in hand		39		119	
		<u>134</u>		<u>307</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(104)		(245)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			30		62
Net assets excluding pension liability			<u>2,702</u>		<u>2,391</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	17		(1,067)		(957)
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total net assets			<u>1,635</u>		<u>1,434</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	15				
- Fixed asset funds			2,672		2,329
- Restricted income funds			14		20
- Pension reserve			(1,067)		(957)
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total restricted funds			1,619		1,392
Unrestricted income funds	15		16		42
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total funds			<u>1,635</u>		<u>1,434</u>

The accounts on pages 25 to 47 were approved by the governors and authorised for issue on 29 November 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Mrs R L Garner
Chair of Governors

Company Number 08484553

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £'000	£'000	2020 £'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	18		(193)		176
Cash flows from investing activities					
Capital grants from DfE Group		523		353	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(410)		(497)	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			113		(144)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(80)		32
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			119		87
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			39		119

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

Abbots Hall Primary Academy is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the governors' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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 accounts until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £750 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Land and buildings	2% Straight Line
Assets under construction	Not depreciated until in use
Computer equipment	33% Straight Line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	20% Straight Line

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

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.9 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.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 Pensions 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 to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions are recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Accounting 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.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

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 or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 17, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgement

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 11 for the carrying amount of the property plant and equipment, and note 1.5 for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Trips	-	-	-	1
Donated fixed assets	-	10	10	-
Capital grants	-	411	411	465
Other donations	2	-	2	3
	<u>2</u>	<u>421</u>	<u>423</u>	<u>469</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	995	995	917
Other DfE / ESFA grants:				
UIFSM	-	39	39	34
Pupil premium	-	73	73	66
Teachers pension grants	-	34	34	32
Teachers pay grants	-	12	12	11
PE and sports premium	-	18	18	18
Rates	-	4	4	4
Others	-	-	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,175</u>	<u>1,175</u>	<u>1,083</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	58	58	112
	<u>-</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>112</u>
Exceptional government funding				
Coronavirus exceptional support	-	-	-	8
Other Coronavirus funding	-	20	20	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>8</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>1,253</u>	<u>1,253</u>	<u>1,203</u>

The academy trust has been eligible to claim additional funding in year from government support schemes in response to the coronavirus outbreak. The funding received is shown above under "exceptional government funding".

The academy received £20k of funding for catch-up premium in the year. Costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £20k in relation to additional staffing requirements as well as for cleaning and protective measures. No funding is carried forward as at 31st August 2021.

The funding received for coronavirus exceptional support in 2020 covers £8k of additional cleaning and premises costs.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Lettings income	11	-	11	12
Catering income	43	-	43	42
Other income	17	-	17	55
	<u>71</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>109</u>

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure Premises £'000	Other £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	925	59	55	1,039	1,001
- Allocated support costs	288	81	127	496	445
	<u>1,213</u>	<u>140</u>	<u>182</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,446</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	5	5
- Other services	1	1
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	77	67
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	15	14
	<u>108</u>	<u>97</u>

7 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2021 £'000	Total 2020 £'000
Direct costs				
Educational operations	13	1,026	1,039	1,001
Support costs				
Educational operations	56	440	496	445
	<u>69</u>	<u>1,466</u>	<u>1,535</u>	<u>1,446</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

7 Charitable activities (Continued)

Analysis of costs	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Direct costs		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	925	881
Depreciation	59	47
Technology costs	5	3
Educational supplies and services	50	70
	<u>1,039</u>	<u>1,001</u>
Support costs		
Support staff costs	288	246
Depreciation	18	20
Technology costs	16	13
Maintenance of premises and equipment	18	22
Cleaning	11	10
Energy costs	16	17
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	8	7
Insurance	8	9
Security and transport	2	4
Catering	56	47
Finance costs	15	14
Other support costs	34	30
Governance costs	6	6
	<u>496</u>	<u>445</u>

8 Staff

Staff costs	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	883	840
Social security costs	73	69
Pension costs	257	218
	<u>1,213</u>	<u>1,127</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Staff

(Continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	11	11
Administration and support	39	37
Management	4	4
	<u>54</u>	<u>52</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£70,000 - £75,000	1	1
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £300k (2020: £285k).

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

9 Governors' remuneration and expenses

The Headteacher and staff Governors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Headteacher and staff and not in respect of their services as Governors. Other Governors did not receive any payments. The Governors who received remuneration are:

L James (Headteacher)

Remuneration £70,000 - £75,000 (2020: £65,000 - 70,000)

Employer's pension contributions £15,000 - £20,000 (2020: £15,000 - £20,000)

S George

Remuneration £15,000 - £20,000 (2020: £15,000 - £20,000)

Employer's pension contributions £0 - £5,000 (2020: £0 - £5,000)

J Forkner

Remuneration £45,000 - £50,000 (2020: £40,000 - £45,000)

Employer's pension contributions £10,000 - £15,000 (2020: £5,000 - £10,000)

G Ward

Remuneration £15,000 - £20,000 (2020: £10,000 - £15,000)

Employer's pension contributions £0 - £5,000 (2020: £0 - £5,000)

Governors' expenses

There were no governors' expenses paid for the year ended 31 August 2021 nor for the year ended 31 August 2020.

10 Governors' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £265 (2020: £265). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Assets under construction	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2020	2,530	162	124	245	3,061
Transfer to land and buildings	567	(567)	-	-	-
Additions	-	405	12	3	420
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2021	3,097	-	136	248	3,481
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2020	382	-	116	234	732
Charge for the year	59	-	11	7	77
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2021	441	-	127	241	809
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2021	2,656	-	9	7	2,672
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2020	2,148	162	8	11	2,329
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The transfer of assets under construction to land and buildings is to recognise the completed electrical and fire safety improvement works in the year.

Included in Land & Buildings at original cost/valuation are:

- Freehold land £28k

12 Debtors

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Trade debtors	7	18
VAT recoverable	36	7
Prepayments and accrued income	52	163
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	95	188
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Other taxation and social security	19	19
Other creditors	34	18
Accruals and deferred income	51	208
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	104	245
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

14 Deferred income

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	19	18
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	18	17
Released from previous years	(18)	(17)
Resources deferred in the year	19	18
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for UIFSM received in advance.

15 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2021 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	995	(1,026)	31	-
UIFSM	-	39	(39)	-	-
Pupil premium	12	73	(81)	-	4
Teachers pension grants	-	34	(34)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	12	(12)	-	-
PE and sports premium	8	18	(16)	-	10
Rates	-	4	(4)	-	-
Other government grants	-	58	(58)	-	-
Covid funding	-	20	(20)	-	-
Pension reserve	(957)	-	(99)	(11)	(1,067)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	(937)	1,253	(1,389)	20	(1,053)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	-	411	-	(411)	-
General Fixed Assets	2,329	10	(77)	410	2,672
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	2,329	421	(77)	(1)	2,672
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total restricted funds	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1,392	1,674	(1,466)	19	1,619
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	42	73	(69)	(30)	16
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1,434	1,747	(1,535)	(11)	1,635
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

15 Funds

(Continued)

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

General Annual Grant: Income received from the ESFA to cover the normal running costs of the Academy. Under the amended 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 2021.

UIFSM, Pupil Premium, Teachers Pension Grants, Teachers Pay Grants, PE & Sports premium, rates: Income received from the ESFA as described.

Other government grants: This includes SEN funding from Thurrock Council and pupil premium funding (LAC) from Essex County Council.

DfE/ ESFA capital grants include CIF and devolved formula capital grant .

The transfer of funds relate to movements in fixed assets and the use of academy reserves to cover the excess of restricted expenditure over restricted income.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2020 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	917	(960)	43	-
UIFSM	-	34	(34)	-	-
Pupil premium	17	66	(71)	-	12
Teachers pension grants	-	32	(32)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	11	(11)	-	-
PE and sports premium	7	18	(17)	-	8
Rates	-	4	(4)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	9	(9)	-	-
Other government grants	-	112	(112)	-	-
Pension reserve	(768)	-	(69)	(120)	(957)
	<u>(744)</u>	<u>1,203</u>	<u>(1,319)</u>	<u>(77)</u>	<u>(937)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	1,932	465	(67)	(1)	2,329
	<u>1,932</u>	<u>465</u>	<u>(67)</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>2,329</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>1,188</u>	<u>1,668</u>	<u>(1,386)</u>	<u>(78)</u>	<u>1,392</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	31	113	(60)	(42)	42
	<u>31</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>(60)</u>	<u>(42)</u>	<u>42</u>
Total funds	<u>1,219</u>	<u>1,781</u>	<u>(1,446)</u>	<u>(120)</u>	<u>1,434</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,672	2,672
Current assets	16	118	-	134
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(104)	-	(104)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(1,067)	-	(1,067)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total net assets	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u>

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,329	2,329
Current assets	287	20	-	307
Creditors falling due within one year	(245)	-	-	(245)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(957)	-	(957)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total net assets	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u>	<u> </u> <u> </u>

17 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 Essex County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £20k were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2021 (2020: £19k) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £107k (2020: £102k).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 24.2% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

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

Total contributions made	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Employer's contributions	66	61
Employees' contributions	17	17
Total contributions	<u>83</u>	<u>78</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.9	3.3
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9	2.3
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.65	1,6

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

	2021 Years	2020 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21.6	21.8
- Females	23.6	23.8
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.9	23.2
- Females	25.1	25.2

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	-48	-40
Discount rate - 0.1%	49	41
Mortality assumption + 1 year	84	65
Mortality assumption - 1 year	-81	-62

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2021 Fair value £'000	2020 Fair value £'000
Equities	655	472
Gilts	26	33
Other bonds	48	43
Cash	28	21
Property	71	59
Other assets	194	135
Total market value of assets	1,022	763

The actual return on scheme assets was £183,000 (2020: £70,000).

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Pension and similar obligations	(Continued)	
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	149	116
Interest income	(13)	(12)
Interest cost	28	26
Benefit changes, curtailments and settlements gains or losses	1	-
	<u>165</u>	<u>130</u>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
At 1 September 2020	1,720	1,390
Current service cost	149	116
Interest cost	28	26
Employee contributions	17	17
Actuarial loss	182	178
Benefits paid	(7)	(7)
	<u>2,089</u>	<u>1,720</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>2,089</u>	<u>1,720</u>
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2021	2020
	£'000	£'000
At 1 September 2020	763	622
Interest income	13	12
Actuarial gain	170	58
Employer contributions	66	61
Employee contributions	17	17
Benefits paid	(7)	(7)
	<u>1,022</u>	<u>763</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>1,022</u>	<u>763</u>

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

18 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	212	335
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(421)	(465)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	84	55
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	15	14
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	77	67
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(19)	172
(Decrease) in creditors	(141)	(2)
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(193)	176

19 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2020 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2021 £'000
Cash	119	(80)	39

20 Contingent liabilities

During the period of the Funding Agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a Government capital grant was received, the Academy is required either to re-invest the proceeds or to repay to the Secretary of State for Children, Schools and Families the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale of disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the secretary of state.

Upon termination of the Funding Agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the Academy serving notice, the Academy shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:

- the value at that time of the Academy's site and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Academy; and
- the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement.

As no such events occurred during the year nor are likely to occur in the foreseeable future, the accounts do not contain any provision against contingent liabilities.

ABBOTS HALL PRIMARY ACADEMY

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

21 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

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

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Amounts due within one year	2	2
Amounts due in two and five years	1	3
	<u>3</u>	<u>5</u>

22 Capital commitments

	2021 £'000	2020 £'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	-	362
	<u>-</u>	<u>362</u>

The academy was committed to a further £362k of costs in relation to the urgent electrical and fire safety improvement works that commenced in 2020.

The project was completed in the current year and therefore no commitment remains.

23 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. The following related party transactions took place in the period of account:

Mr P.A.Arnold - Company owned by P Arnold who is father to J Arnold (SLT member)

In 2020 the Academy used services (building repairs and maintenance) from P.A.Arnold totalling £700 in 2020, but did not use the company in the current period.

No related party transactions took place in the period.

24 Members' liability

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