

**The Three Saints Academy Trust**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**Annual Report and Consolidated Financial Statements**  
**Year ended 31 August 2023**

Company Registration Number:  
09626002 (England and Wales)



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

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# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Reference and Administrative Details

### Members

S Harrison  
E Rose  
B Matthews  
A Brooks (appointed 1<sup>st</sup> September 2022)  
C Harris (appointed 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2023)

### Trustees

A Bradley (Chair of Directors)  
L Hughes  
G Martindale  
K Woodward  
I Young (resigned 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022)  
J Kenyon (appointed 7<sup>th</sup> October 2022)

### Company Secretary

K Sawe

### Senior Management Team:

- CEO/Accounting Officer
- Finance Director (CFO)
- Director of School Improvement
- Headteacher
- Headteacher
- Headteacher
- Director of Wellbeing

K Tennyson  
K Sawe  
L Bradshaw  
L Lewis  
M Slingsby  
L Rynn  
L Smith

### Company Name

The Three Saints Academy Trust

### Principal and Registered Office

St Mary & St Thomas' CE Primary School  
Barton Close, St Helens, WA10 2HS

### Company Registration Number

09626002 (England and Wales)

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

Independent Auditor

Azets Audit Services Ltd  
Fleet House,  
New Road, Lancaster, LA1 1EZ

Bankers

Lloyds Bank PLC  
2-12 Lord Street  
Liverpool, L2 1TS

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson LLP  
No. 1 Spinningfields,  
1 Hardman Square,  
Spinningfields, Manchester, M3 3EB

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates three primary academies in Merseyside. Its academies have a combined FTE pupil capacity of 866 (including nursery) and had an FTE roll of 825 in the school census October 2023. Two of the academies converted and were incorporated into the Trust on 1 August 2015 and the third converted and joined on 1 August 2019.

## 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 trustees of The Three Saints Academy Trust Limited are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 3.

### 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.

### Trustees' Indemnities

Qualifying third party indemnity provision has been obtained by the Trust for the benefit of trustees.

### Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The articles stipulate that the members should appoint up to 12 Trustees.

In circumstances where the trustees have not appointed local governing bodies in respect of the academies there shall be a minimum of two parent trustees.

The trustees with the consent of the Diocesan Member may appoint up to two co-opted trustees for a term not exceeding four years. The trustees may not co-opt an employee of the company as a trustee.

### Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

On appointment all trustees have undertaken induction by the Chair and CEO. The trustees and members of the local governing bodies have access to regular CPD courses provided by ECM and access to the online training provided by The Key for Governance.

Trustees have been provided with copies of policies and procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets and other documents in order to fulfil their roles.

### Organisational Structure

The management structure of the Trust has 4 levels governed by a scheme of delegation:

- The Board of Trustees
- School Committees
- Trust Executive Management Team
- Academy Senior Leadership Teams

The role of the Board of Trustees is to support the Executive Management Team at a strategic level to achieve the Trust's stated objectives.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

The Board of Trustees are responsible for agreeing the vision and aims of the Trust, and for agreeing the strategic plan and relevant trust wide policies and procedures. They are also responsible for reviewing and approving the Trust's budget and financial statements and for authorising decisions concerning major capital expenditure and staffing structure.

In addition to the Board of Trustees the Trust operates a Finance and Audit Committee and a Standards Committee.

The School Committees act as advisory bodies to the Board of Trustees on matters concerning the individual academies including health and safety and estates, staffing, curriculum and budgeting.

The Executive Management Team consists of the CEO, the Headteachers of the member academies, the Finance Director, the Director of School Improvement and the Director of Wellbeing.

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

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel, which includes all members of the Executive Management Team and the Academy Senior Leadership Teams is set by the Trustees. The Trust has adopted teacher's standard pay and conditions. Where required advice is sought by the Trustees from the Trust's HR advisors Browne Jacobson LLP.

### Trade Union Facility Time

No employees of the Trust were a Trade Union representative during the year.

### Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance is considered to have significant control of the Trust.

## Objectives and Activities

### Objectives and Aims

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Trust's objective is:

To advance for the public benefit education in the UK, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Academies which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and which shall include:

- Church of England schools designated as such which shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship, and having regard to any advice issues by the Diocesan Board of Education; and
- Other academies whether with or without a designated religious character; but in relation to each of the academies to recognise and support their individual ethos, whether or not designated Church of England

### Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The key objectives of the Trust for the year to 31 August 2023 have been:

- To ensure that all groups of pupils make a sustained level of progress
- To ensure the highest quality of teaching, learning and assessment
- To ensure the financial health of the Trust and provide value for money
- To ensure effective links with parents and the local community
- To ensure that our Christian values permeate the work of the Trust
- Implement and evaluate a broad and balanced curriculum which impacts upon pupil outcomes and personal development
- To ensure the highest quality of staff recruitment, development and training
- To ensure that leadership and management creates a culture of excellence

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

### **Public Benefit**

In exercising its powers and duties the Trust has complied with its duty to have due regards to the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. The main public benefit delivered by the Trust is the provision of a high quality education to its students.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

### Strategic Report

#### Achievements and Performance and Key Performance Indicators

##### Attendance

There is an increasing spotlight on attendance nationally. With the demographic of families at The Three Saints Academy Trust we have always understood the importance of good attendance for children, recognising not only the impact missed school days have on a their education, but also the impact it has on their wellbeing and social skills. We also understand that poor attendance is often an early indicator for other safeguarding concerns. With this in mind, we have grown attendance and pastoral teams in all our schools who are linked to both the SLT in the schools and Trust leadership. We have robust process and procedures in place to monitor and manage the attendance of our pupils which includes regular scrutiny by the Standards and Curriculum committee of the Board. The impact of this was shown in our attendance % and PA% in 2022-23, every school in the Trust was better than local and national figures in both aspects of attendance monitoring.

##### Curriculum Development

For a number of years, we have been developing our own Trust curriculum, the LUNAR curriculum. Leaders and staff across the Trust have worked together and with external experts to develop a high-quality curriculum and resources that gives our pupils access to a broad and balanced range of subjects. Complementing the curriculum, the schools also provide a range of cultural and educational experiences to enrich the children school lives and widen their life experiences, which is of particular importance for our disadvantaged pupils. Throughout the year the schools have continued to work together to embed the curriculum and refine documentation and resources. In July the LUNAR curriculum was tested out during the Ofsted inspection at St Michael with St Thomas, where it was highly praised; "Teachers have a secure knowledge of the subjects that they teach. From the early years onwards, they design activities that are well-matched to the curriculum."

##### School performance – 2022-23

All schools in the Trust have good or better Ofsted reports. All schools in the Trust are judged outstanding for behaviour and attitudes and Personal Development.

##### Context

St Ann's is an OFSTED **outstanding** primary school serving 412 pupils aged 4-11. 12% of all pupils are eligible for pupil premium, 13% of pupils have special educational needs and 4% have English as an additional language. During the year it has achieved 96.4% attendance. —

St Mary's is an OFSTED **outstanding** primary school serving 229 pupils aged 3-11. 49% of all pupils are eligible for pupil premium, 33% of pupils have special educational needs and 12% have English as an additional language. During the year it has achieved 95.1% attendance.

St Michael's is an OFSTED **good** primary school serving 185 pupils aged 4-11. 39% of all pupils are eligible for pupil premium, 31% of pupils have special educational needs and 3% have English as an additional language. During the year it has achieved 95.8% attendance.



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

	St Ann's	St Mary & St Thomas	St Michael with St Thomas	National Average
Pupils achieving a good level of development	77%	70%	75%	67.2%
Pupils meeting the expected standard in the phonics screening Y1	97%	77%	91%	79%
KS1 pupils achieving expected standard in reading, writing and maths	RWM 73% Reading 82% Writing 80% Maths 80%	RWM 67% Reading 70% Writing 70% Maths 70%	RWM 52% Reading 70% Writing 70% Maths 74%	RWM 59% Reading 68% Writing 60% Maths 70%
KS2 pupils achieving expected standard in reading, writing and maths	RWM 78% Reading 88% Writing 81% Maths 92%	RWM 83% Reading 93% Writing 87% Maths 97%	RWM 55% Reading 65% Writing 79% Maths 76%	RWM 59% Reading 73% Writing 71% Maths 73%
Progress scores	Reading +1.7 Writing +0.8 Maths +1.4	Reading +3.2 Writing +3.1 Maths +7.5	Reading +1.2 Writing +1.5 Maths -0.7	

### Civic responsibilities

One of the real success stories of TTSAT to date is just how many external partners we are working with, we see this as our civic responsibility. As well as all our schools collaborating locally, we have developed MAT-to-MAT working partnerships that have improved our work in areas such as Curriculum Design and CPD practices.

We are also privileged to be the lead entity of the NWLP, the NW3 Maths Hub and our ITT Programme which trains teachers. Through the work of the former, we have over one hundred partners and work across several local authorities. This work focusses on improving teaching and learning and enhancing provision in all schools (within and outside of the MAT).

Our work in maths education is nationally renowned, with over a 200 partner schools (and counting)! The NW3 Maths Hub serves a specific region that spans several local authorities.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

### Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future based on the following:

- Schools will continue to receive full funding from the ESFA with respect to GAG, pupil premium, supplementary grants, free school meals and UIFSM; and from the local authority for nursery children based on enrolment irrespective of closure
- The government has increased per pupil funding for 2023-24, provided supplementary grants and funded the teacher payrise
- The pupil numbers in our schools are consistently at or close to capacity and we have performed sensitivity analysis in our budgeting based on pupil number projections
- The DfE have confirmed our status as a National Maths Hub until at least the end of 2023-24 academic year
- North West Learning Partnership (NWLP) continues to offer CPD courses to schools and their staff, and for 2023-24 membership has once again increased. Schools are still being sign posted to NWLP for training from all local Teaching School Hubs
- Our CEO is still operating as an NLE and is providing funded school to school support
- Over 2023-26 the Trust will receive almost a further £120,000 from the Shine Trust for our 'Are You Really Reading?' programme and a maths project 'pre building firm foundations'.
- All publicly announced pay rises have been included in budget projections
- 3 year budgets for the Trust have included significant increases for energy costs to reflect the current climate

For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

### Financial Review

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the ESFA and DfE in the form of recurring grants, the use of which of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA and DfE for the year ended 31 August 2023 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

St Mary & St Thomas' is a designated Maths Hub and as such, during the year, received grant funding from the DfE of £636,000 which was used to run school based projects such as the Teaching for Mastery programme, and to provide primary and secondary maths CPD to schools.

St Mary & St Thomas' is also a provider of the school direct program delivered by Liverpool John Moores University. During the year the school received £106,000 from Liverpool John Moores for this program, a proportion of which was distributed to the schools providing placements and mentoring for the school direct students.

At the 31 August 2023 the Trust holds restricted fixed asset funds of £627,000.

The Trust also operated a subsidiary company, North West Learning Partnership Ltd, which delivers CPD to schools and school staff in addition to bespoke school support. For the year ended 31 August 2023 the subsidiary company made a profit of £107,000 which was gift aided to the Trust.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

### Reserves Policy

The Trustees consider it to be prudent to establish an adequate level of free reserves for the following reasons:

- The build up a contingency for unforeseen events
- To allow for delays in funding receipts

The desired level of reserves considers the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them with commitments, including future capital projects, and the nature of reserves. The Trustees will keep this level of reserves under review and aim to build and maintain the reserves level whilst in keeping with the principle object of the academy.

The Trustees have assessed that the desired level of free reserves would be an amount equivalent to approximately 1 months operating expenses, £491,000. The Trust's current free reserves (total funds less those held in fixed assets and restricted reserves) are £205,000 (2022: £339,000). The Trust will principally use its unrestricted trading activity to continue to build its free reserves over the coming year.

In addition to free reserves the Trust also holds restricted fixed asset funds of £627,000. The Trust also has a pension liability of £621,000 which is detailed in note 21.

### Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching and the provision of facilities and finances. The key risks have been determined as:

- Failure of the Trust and the Directors to have procedures in place to cover the absence of CEO, Headteacher or other members of executive team
- Risk that a pupil, staff member, volunteer, student or visitor is injured at an academy
- Trust employee, Director, or Member is accused or convicted of a criminal offence or sanctionable offence from a supervisory body
- The risk of recruiting someone unsuitable to work with children
- The risk that legislative requirements are not complied with
- The uncertainty regarding future funding

The Trustees have put in place a risk register which is reviewed at least annually and have put in place systems and controls in all areas to minimise the potential risk. For example, a health and safety consultant is engaged to perform regular reviews at the academies, DBS records and safeguarding procedures are kept up to date, and regular reviews of budget and financial performance are reviewed. The Trustees are satisfied that where significant financial risk still exists there is adequate insurance cover.

### Investment Policy

Any investment or deposit must guarantee complete integrity of funds and be consistent with the ethos, aims and objectives of the Academy and within the terms and conditions of the Funding Agreement and the investment policy as agreed by the Board of Trustees.

### Fundraising

At a school level the Trust has carried out a small amount of fundraising activity in the year. The Trust has not worked with any professional fundraisers and the Trust has not received any fundraising complaints in the year.

### Plans for Future Periods

The Trust plans to grow over the next 12 months welcoming both sponsored and convertor academies to join the Trust. The Diocese of Liverpool has recently published its Academy Strategy and Policy, with the intention for all schools within the diocese to be part of one of the existing Church of England multi-academy trusts of which we are one. It will continue to develop its offer to member academies, further developing the Trust school development and CPD programmes that are already in place.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Trustees' Report (continued)

On 1 December 2023 Blackmoor Park Infant School, which is a three form entry infant school with a nursery provision from birth to four, joined the Trust as a sponsored conversion.

The Trust aims to continue to provide the highest possible outcomes for all its existing and future pupils, and through its work with the teaching school to continue to produce and develop outstanding teachers and leaders. Catch up for lost learning of all pupils, but in particular disadvantaged pupils, will continue to be focus for the next academic year.

The Trust will continue to develop and embed its curriculum in all schools.

### Auditor

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 22 December 2023 and signed on the board's behalf by:



**K Tennyson**  
CEO/Accounting Officer

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Governance Statement

### Scope of Responsibility

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

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

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

### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Bradley (Chair)	4	4
K Tennyson (CEO observer)	4	4
K Sawe (CFO observer)	3	4
L Hughes	4	4
G Martindale	4	4
I Young	0	1
K Woodward	4	4
J Kenyon	2	3

The finance committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to review financial performance and budgets and report to the Trustees and to review and approve financial policies and procedures. The finance committee is quorate for the board of trustees, therefore, although the full board meets less than 6 times per year financial information is review by the board or it's sub-committee 8 times per year.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Governance Statement (continued)

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
A Bradley	4	4
K Tennyson (CEO- non-voting)	4	4
K Sawe (CFO – non-voting)	4	4
G Martindale (Chair)	4	4
K Woodward	4	4
L Hughes	4	4

### Review of Value for Money

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

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

- Using the teaching school's network of SLEs, LLEs, NLEs and educational consultants to deliver the best quality CPD to our teaching staff to ensure all our teachers are good or outstanding
- Worked collaboratively within the Trust and with schools in the North West Learning Partnership to share teaching best practice
- Continuing to roll out the Maths Mastery programme to both academies and increasing the number of Maths Masters year on year
- Reviewing and re-negotiating service level agreements we have been able to make significant cost savings and increase the quality of the services in areas such as school meals, HR and equipment leasing releasing income to be spent on teaching and learning
- Engaging with the North West Buying Hub and DfE procurement for new services and equipment
- Carrying out school teaching and learning reviews led by educational consultants, alongside the CEO, Director of School Improvement and headteachers, to identify areas for continuous improvement which have informed the Trust objectives and the academies school improvement plans

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Governance Statement (continued)

### 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 The Three Saints Academy Trust for the year to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

### Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

### The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- to engage a number of specialist external organisations to perform internal controls testing on a rolling basis
  - Governance and risk – Browne Jacobson
  - Safeguarding – The Safeguarding Association
  - Health and Safety – MEH Consultants
  - GDPR – Data Protection Education
  - Curriculum and teaching – Kathy Hall
  - Estates management - WAND

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on their specialist area and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's policies and procedures. In particular the checks to be carried out in the current year included:

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Governance Statement (continued)

- Estates management
- health and safety reviews
- GDPR reviews
- Curriculum and teaching reviews

### Review of Effectiveness

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

- the internal controls reviewers
- the work of the external auditor
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 22 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



**Kirsty Tennyson**  
Accounting Officer



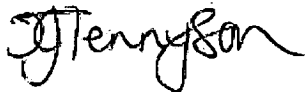
# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As accounting officer of The Three Saints Academy Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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



**K Tennyson**  
Accounting Officer

Date: 22 December 2023

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The trustees (who act as directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (including the strategic report and directors report) and the consolidated financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction published by the Education Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 22 December 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



**K Tennyson**  
CEO

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of the Three Saints Academy Trust

### Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Three Saints Academy Trust (the 'parent academy trust') and its subsidiaries (the 'group') for the year ended 31 August 2023 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 (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), 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 2022-23 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable and company's affairs as at 31 August 2023 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 2022 to 2023.

### 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 trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the academy 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 trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of the Three Saints Academy Trust (continued)

### Other information

The trustees 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.

### 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 trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report have 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 trustees' 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 parent academy trust accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of the Three Saints Academy Trust (continued)

### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 trustees 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the group and parent academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at <https://www.frc.org.uk/Our-Work/Audit/Audit-and-assurance/Standards-and-guidance-for-auditors/Auditors-responsibilities-for-audit/description-of-auditors-responsibilities-for-audit.aspx>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

### Extent to which the audit is 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;

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Independent Auditor's Report to the Members and Trustees of the Three Saints Academy Trust (continued)

- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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.

### 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.

*Azets Audit Services*

Susanna Cassey (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
For and behalf of Azets Audit Services

Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor

Date: 22 December 2023

Fleet House  
New Road  
Lancaster  
LA1 1EZ

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Three Saints Academy Trust and the Education Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 3 November 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Three Saints Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

### **Respective responsibilities of Three Saints Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Three Saints Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 27 March 2014 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2019, 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 2022 to 2023. 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 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.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Three Saints Academy Trust and the Education Funding Agency (continued)

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer
- discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team
- review of trustee and committee meeting minutes
- review of finance and other relevant policies
- review of purchases, expenses and expense claims on a sample basis including the application of controls and tendering processes where applicable
- review of gifts and hospitality transactions including the application of controls
- review of credit and debit card transactions including the application of controls
- review of payroll transactions on a sample bases including the application of controls
- review of potential special payments to staff
- review of leases and consideration of areas where borrowing may have been incurred
- consideration of transactions with related and connected parties
- review of register of business interests for completeness and compliance with regulations
- enquiries into transactions that may require disclosure under ESFA delegated authority rules

### 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 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

*Azets Audit Services*

Susanna Cassey  
Reporting Accountant  
Azets Audit Services

Dated: 22 December 2023



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Consolidated Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2023

(including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	2	-	383	68	451	404
Other trading activities		238	-	-	238	296
Transferred from a local authority on conversion						-
<b>Charitable activities:</b>						
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	3	423	5,449	-	5,872	5,562
<b>Total</b>		<b>661</b>	<b>5,832</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>6,561</b>	<b>6,262</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
<b>Charitable activities:</b>						
Academy trust educational operations	5	351	6,327	49	6,727	6,257
Other	5	126	-	-	126	191
<b>Total</b>		<b>477</b>	<b>6,327</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>6,853</b>	<b>6,448</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>184</b>	<b>(495)</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>(292)</b>	<b>(186)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	13	<b>(378)</b>	<b>378</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Other recognised gains / (losses):</b>						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	13,21	-	572	-	572	2,761
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(194)</b>	<b>455</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>280</b>	<b>2,575</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		399	(1,076)	608	(69)	(2,644)
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>205</b>	<b>(621)</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>211</b>	<b>(69)</b>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Consolidated Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Company Number 09626002

	Notes	2023 £000	2023 £000	2022 £000	2022 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	9		593		608
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	10	360		348	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>165</u>		<u>459</u>	
		525		807	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	<u>(267)</u>		<u>(297)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u>258</u>		<u>510</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>851</b>		<b>1,118</b>
Creditors: amounts due in greater than one year	12		(19)		(19)
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>			<u>832</u>		<u>1,099</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	21		<u>(621)</u>		<u>(1,168)</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u>211</u>		<u>(69)</u>
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
. Fixed asset fund	13	627		608	
. Restricted income fund	13	-		92	
. Pension reserve	13	<u>(621)</u>		<u>(1,168)</u>	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			<b>6</b>		<b>(468)</b>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	13		<u>205</u>		<u>399</u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<u>211</u>		<u>(69)</u>

The financial statements on pages 24-56 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by



**Kirsty Tennyson**  
Accounting Officer

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Company Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2023

Company Number 09626002

	Notes	2023 £000	2023 £000	2022 £000	2022 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	9		593		608
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	10	325		325	
Cash at bank and in hand		154		413	
			479		738
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	11	(289)		(299)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			190		439
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			783		1,047
Creditors: amounts due in greater than one year	12		(19)		(19)
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>			764		1,028
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	21		(621)		(1,168)
<b>Total net assets</b>			143		(140)
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
. Fixed asset fund	13	627		608	
. Restricted income fund	13	-		87	
. Pension reserve	13	(621)		(1,168)	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			6		(473)
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	13		137		333
<b>Total funds</b>			143		(140)

The financial statements on pages 24-56 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 22 December 2023 and are signed on their behalf by



Kirsty Tennyson  
Accounting Officer

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2023

	Notes	2023 £000	2022 £000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	16	(342)	1
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	17	48	(6)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>		-	-
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		<u>294</u>	<u>(5)</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2022</b>		459	464
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2023</b>	18	<u>165</u>	<u>459</u>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023

### 1 Statement of accounting policies

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

#### Basis of Preparation

The Three Saints Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated in England. The address registered office is given in the Reference and Administrative Details given on page 3 of these financial statements. The nature of the academy trusts operations and principal activities are set out in the Trustees' Report on page 5.

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102) 2019), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The Statement of Financial Activities (SOFA) and Balance Sheet consolidate the financial statements of the company and its subsidiary undertaking. The results of the subsidiary are consolidated on a line-by-line basis. The subsidiary company, North West Learning Partnership, has prepared its financial statements under FRS 102.

No separate statement of financial activities has been presented for The Three Saints Academy Trust alone, as permitted by section 408 of the Companies Act 2006.

#### Going Concern

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

#### Income

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

- **Grants**

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

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 1 Statement of accounting policies (continued)

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

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

- **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.

- **Donated goods, facilities and services**

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

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

### **Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 1 Statement of accounting policies (continued)

- **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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Assets costing £1,500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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:

- Freehold buildings 50 years
- Fixtures, fittings and equipment 5 years
- Computer hardware 3 years

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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

Tangible fixed assets, other than investment properties, are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values, where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. In re-assessing asset lives, factors such as technological innovation, product life cycles and maintenance programmes are taken into account. Residual value assessments consider issues such as future market conditions, the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 1 Statement of accounting policies (continued)

#### Liabilities

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

#### Provisions

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

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

#### Leased Assets

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

#### Investments

The academy's shareholding in the wholly owned subsidiary, North West Learning Partnership, is included in the balance sheet at the cost of the share capital owned less any impairment. There is no readily available market value and the cost of valuation exceeds the benefit derived.

#### Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 10. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due from the charities wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 11. 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 no obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 1 Statement of accounting policies (continued)

financial instrument. Amounts due to the charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

#### Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

#### 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.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 21, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

#### Fund Accounting

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

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 1 Statement of accounting policies (continued)

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.

#### **Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

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

#### *Critical accounting estimates and assumptions*

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 21, 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 2023. 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 accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

The Trust's land and buildings are occupied by agreement with the Site Trustees under the terms of the Church Supplemental Agreement including a 2 year period of notice. The Directors believe the 2 year notice period to be indicative of an operating lease and therefore do not recognise the land and buildings in the balance sheet.

The nominal rent value for the use of the Land & Building is calculated using yield percentages. The yield value is taken from independent RICS reports and is applied to the value of the Land & Building. Yields taken are based on the school fitting the category 'Industrial' within the Merseyside area.

A notional rent charge is shown as an expense in the SOFA. An equivalent donation back to the Trust is recognised at the same time. The Directors believe the rent expense and therefore the related donation is only accrued on a daily basis and that this arrangement has no impact on the balance sheet.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Assets Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Capital grants	-	-	68	68	21
Donations	-	383	-	383	383
	-	383	68	451	404
<b>2022 Total</b>	-	383	21	404	

### 3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
<b>DfE / EFA grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,754	3,754	3,730
Other DfE/ESFA Grants:				
UJFSM	-	103	103	93
Pupil premium	-	321	321	308
Maths Hub	-	636	636	636
Others	-	393	393	236
	-	5,207	5,207	5,003
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	218	218	175
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations	423	24	447	384
	423	5,449	5,872	5,562
<b>2022 Total</b>	384	5,178	5,562	

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 4 Expenditure

	Staff Costs £000	Non Pay Expenditure		Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
		Premises £000	Other £000		
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	4,177	13	396	4,586	4,158
Allocated support costs	791	187	1,163	2,141	2,099
	<u>4,968</u>	<u>200</u>	<u>1,559</u>	<u>6,727</u>	<u>6,257</u>

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

	Staff Costs £000	Non Pay Expenditure		Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
		Premises £000	Other £000		
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	3,775	12	371	4,158	3,941
Allocated support costs	663	162	1,274	2,099	1,916
	<u>4,438</u>	<u>174</u>	<u>1,645</u>	<u>6,257</u>	<u>5,857</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Operating lease rentals	384	388
Depreciation	35	30
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- audit	19	16
- other services	1	1
	<u>439</u>	<u>435</u>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 5 Charitable activities

	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Direct costs - educational operations	4,586	4,158
Support costs - educational operations	2,141	2,099
Direct costs – Other	60	143
Support costs – Other	66	48
	<u>6,853</u>	<u>6,448</u>

Analysis of support costs	Other £000	Educational operations £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Support staff costs	-	791	791	663
Technology costs	-	(1)	(1)	4
Premises costs	-	204	204	182
Other support costs	66	1,114	1,180	1,266
Governance costs	-	33	33	32
<b>Total support costs</b>	<u>66</u>	<u>2,141</u>	<u>2,207</u>	<u>2,147</u>

### 6 Staff

#### a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Wages and salaries	3,333	2,953
Social security costs	287	278
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	740	884
	<u>4,360</u>	<u>4,115</u>
Supply staff costs	196	214
	<u>4,556</u>	<u>4,329</u>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 6 Staff (cont.)

#### b. Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

There were no non statutory/non-contractual severance payments in the year.

#### c. Staff numbers

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

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
Teachers and teaching assistants	79	77
Administration and support	32	33
Management	7	7
	<u>118</u>	<u>117</u>

#### d. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was 6 (2022: 4).

	2023	2022
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	2	2
£70,001 - £80,000	3	1
£80,001 - £90,000	-	-
£90,001 - £100,000	-	-
£101,00 - £110,000	1	1

#### e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £609,000 (2022 - £578,000).

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### **7 Related Party Transactions - Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

No trustees have been paid remuneration or have received benefits from employment with the academy trust.

No trustees have been reimbursed expenses.

### **8 Trustees and officers insurance**

The Trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers' indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 9 Tangible fixed assets - Group and Company

	Leasehold Land and Buildings £000	Furniture and Equipment £000	Computer Hardware £000	Total £000
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 September 2022	609	35	112	756
Additions	-	13	7	20
Disposals				-
At 31 August 2023	<u>609</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>119</u>	<u>776</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2022	43	14	91	148
Charged in year	12	7	16	35
Disposals				-
At 31 August 2023	<u>55</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>107</u>	<u>183</u>
<b>Net book values</b>				
At 31 August 2022	<u>566</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>608</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>554</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>593</u>

### 10 Debtors

	Group 2023 £000	Company 2023 £000	Group 2022 £000	Company 2022 £000
Trade debtors	55	31	143	26
VAT recoverable	106	97	60	55
Other debtors	1	1	1	1
Intercompany debtors	-	-	-	6
Prepayments and accrued income	198	196	144	237
	<u>360</u>	<u>325</u>	<u>348</u>	<u>325</u>



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 12 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2023 £000	Company 2023 £000	Group 2022 £000	Company 2022 £000
Trade creditors	179	172	147	149
Other taxation and social security	79	79	68	68
Intercompany creditors	-	21	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	9	17	82	82
	<u>267</u>	<u>289</u>	<u>297</u>	<u>299</u>

### Amounts falling due in greater than one year

CIF loans	19	19	19	19
	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>	<u>19</u>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 13 Funds

#### Funds - Group

	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,754	(4,132)	378	-
UIFSM	-	103	(103)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	321	(321)	-	-
Maths Hub	61	636	(697)	-	-
Other grants and donations	31	1,018	(1,049)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,168)	-	(25)	572	(621)
	<b>(1,076)</b>	<b>5,832</b>	<b>(6,327)</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>(621)</b>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	131	-	-	-	131
DfE/EFA capital grants	477	68	(49)	-	496
	<b>608</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>(49)</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>627</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>(468)</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>(6,376)</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>661</b>	<b>(477)</b>	<b>(378)</b>	<b>205</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>(69)</b>	<b>6,646</b>	<b>(6,938)</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>211</b>

#### Funds - Company

	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,754	(4,132)	378	-
UIFSM	-	103	(103)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	321	(321)	-	-
Maths Hub	61	636	(697)	-	-
Other grants and donations	26	1,018	(1,044)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,168)	-	(25)	572	(621)
	<b>(1,081)</b>	<b>5,832</b>	<b>(6,322)</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>(621)</b>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	131	-	-	-	131
DfE/EFA capital grants	477	68	(49)	-	496
	<b>608</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>(49)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>627</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>(473)</b>	<b>5,900</b>	<b>(6,371)</b>	<b>950</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>533</b>	<b>(351)</b>	<b>(378)</b>	<b>137</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>(140)</b>	<b>6,433</b>	<b>(6,722)</b>	<b>572</b>	<b>143</b>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended

### 31 August 2023 (continued)

#### 13 Funds (continued)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State the Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

#### Restricted general funds

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and includes grants from the Department of Education. Material grants have been reported separately as follows:

UIFSM – grant funding received from the ESFA for the provision of free school meals to pupils in infant classes.

Pupil premium – grant funding provided by the ESFA to support the education of disadvantaged pupils

Maths Hub – grant funding provided by the DfE to operate a national maths hub which provides maths training and support for schools and their staff. The carried forward balance relates to activities which spanned the year end.

#### Restricted fixed asset funds

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

#### Unrestricted funds

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

#### Transfer between funds

The transfer between fund represents the transfer of unrestricted income to fund the educational operation of the trust and its academies.

#### Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
St Ann's CE Primary School	69	125
St Mary & St Thomas' CE Primary School	26	159
St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School	110	204
Central services	-	3
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	205	491
Restricted fixed asset fund	627	608
Pension reserve	(621)	(1,168)
Total	211	(69)

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 13 Funds (continued)

#### Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £000	Other Support Staff Costs £000	Educational Supplies £000	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
St Anns CE Primary School	1,389	366	162	609	2,526	2,356
St Mary & St Thomas' CE Primary School	1,286	645	97	119	2,147	2,426
St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School	632	263	70	403	1,368	1,239
Central services	-	-	37	574	611	266
<b>Academy Trust</b>	<b>3,307</b>	<b>1,274</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>1,705</b>	<b>6,652</b>	<b>6,287</b>

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

#### Funds - Group

	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,730	(3,823)	93	-
UIFSM	-	93	(93)	-	-
Pupil Premium	17	308	(325)	-	-
Maths Hub	113	636	(688)	-	61
Other grants and donations	31	794	(794)	-	31
Pension reserve	(3,647)	-	(282)	2,761	(1,168)
	<b>(3,486)</b>	<b>5,561</b>	<b>(6,005)</b>	<b>2,854</b>	<b>(1,076)</b>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	131	-	-	-	131
DfE/EFA capital grants	480	21	(55)	31	477
	<b>611</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(55)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>608</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>(2,875)</b>	<b>5,582</b>	<b>(6,060)</b>	<b>2,885</b>	<b>(468)</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>231</b>	<b>680</b>	<b>(388)</b>	<b>(124)</b>	<b>399</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>(2,644)</b>	<b>6,262</b>	<b>(6,448)</b>	<b>2,761</b>	<b>(69)</b>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 13 Funds (continued)

#### Funds - Company

	Balance at 31 August 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Gains, losses and transfers £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,730	(3,823)	93	-
UIFSM	-	93	(93)	-	-
Pupil Premium	17	308	(325)	-	-
Maths Hub	113	636	(688)	-	61
Other grants and donations	26	794	(794)	-	26
Pension reserve	(3,647)	-	(282)	2,761	(1,168)
	<b>(3,491)</b>	<b>5,561</b>	<b>(6,005)</b>	<b>2,854</b>	<b>(1,081)</b>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer on conversion	131	-	-	-	131
DfE/EFA capital grants	480	21	(55)	31	477
	<b>611</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>(55)</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>608</b>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>(2,880)</b>	<b>5,582</b>	<b>(6,060)</b>	<b>2,885</b>	<b>(473)</b>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<b>202</b>	<b>452</b>	<b>(197)</b>	<b>(124)</b>	<b>333</b>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>(2,678)</b>	<b>6,034</b>	<b>(6,257)</b>	<b>2,761</b>	<b>(140)</b>

#### Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during preceding year was as follows:

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £000	Other Support Staff Costs £000	Educational Supplies £000	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £000	Total 2022 £000	Total 2021 £000
St Anns CE Primary School	1,238	322	101	695	2,356	2,083
St Mary & St Thomas' CE Primary School	1,144	510	96	676	2,426	2,420
St Michael with St Thomas CE Primary School	588	179	62	410	1,239	1,119
Central services	87	46	44	89	266	244
<b>Academy Trust</b>	<b>3,057</b>	<b>1,057</b>	<b>303</b>	<b>1,870</b>	<b>6,287</b>	<b>5,866</b>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 14 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:

#### Group

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	593	593
Current assets	212	279	34	525
Current liabilities	(7)	(260)	-	(267)
Non-current liabilities	-	(19)	-	(19)
Pension scheme liability	-	(621)	-	(621)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>205</b>	<b>(621)</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>211</b>

#### Company

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	593	593
Current assets	148	297	34	479
Current liabilities	(11)	(278)	-	(289)
Non-current liabilities	-	(19)	-	(19)
Pension scheme liability	-	(621)	-	(621)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>(621)</b>	<b>627</b>	<b>143</b>

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

#### Group

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	608	608
Current assets	406	401	-	807
Current liabilities	(7)	(290)	-	(297)
Non-current liabilities	-	(19)	-	(19)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,168)	-	(1,168)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>399</b>	<b>(1,076)</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>(69)</b>

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 14 Analysis of net assets between funds (cont.)

#### Company

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	608	608
Current assets	333	405	-	738
Current liabilities	-	(299)	-	(299)
Non-current liabilities	-	(19)	-	(19)
Pension scheme liability	-	(1,168)	-	(1,168)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>333</b>	<b>(1,081)</b>	<b>608</b>	<b>(140)</b>

### 15 Commitments under operating leases

#### Operating leases

At 31 August 2023 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	Plant and Machinery £000	Land and Buildings £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Amounts due within one year	1	383	384	387
Amounts due between one and five years	-	383	383	384
Amounts due after five years	-	-	-	-
	<b>1</b>	<b>766</b>	<b>767</b>	<b>771</b>

The agreement under which the Trust occupies its land and buildings is deemed an operating lease with a two year notice period. Per the agreement there is a £nil charge due per annum. A notional rent charge therefore is provided each year for the use of the land and buildings with the corresponding donation recognised in the SoFA.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 16 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(292)	(186)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation [note 9]	35	30
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(68)	(21)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable [note 21]	26	215
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost [note 21]	25	67
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(35)	(89)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(33)	(15)
<b>Net cash provided by Operating Activities</b>	<b>(342)</b>	<b>1</b>

### 17 Cash flows from financing activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-	-
<b>Net cash flows from financing activities</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

### 17 Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(20)	(27)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA	68	21
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<b>48</b>	<b>(6)</b>

### 18 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	At 31 August 2023 £000	At 31 August 2022 £000
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>459</b>



# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 19 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £000	Cash flows £000	Acquisition/ disposal of subsidiaries £000	New finance leases £000	Other non- cash changes £000	At 31 August 2023 £000
Cash	459	(294)	-	-	-	165
Cash equivalents	-	-	-	-	-	-
Overdraft facility repayable on demand	-	-	-	-	-	-
	<b>459</b>	<b>(294)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>165</b>
Loans falling due within 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Loans falling due after more than 1 year	(19)	-	-	-	-	(19)
Finance lease obligations	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>440</b>	<b>(294)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>146</b>

### 20 Members liability

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

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 21 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to three principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Schemes (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which are managed by Merseyside Pension Fund and Cheshire Pension Fund. All are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

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

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the 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. assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £426,000 (2022 - £381,000).

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

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

#### Local Government Pension Scheme – Merseyside Pension Fund

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18/19.3 per cent for employers and 5.5-12.5 per cent for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
Rate of increase in salaries	4.3%	4.3%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.9%	2.9%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.3%	4.3%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.8%	2.8%

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.8	20.9
Females	23.3	24
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.1	22.4
Females	25.1	25.9

### Sensitivity Analysis

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
Discount rate + 0.5%/0.1%	296	(85)
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	696	84
CPI + 0.25%/0.1%	795	86

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2023 £000	Fair value at 31 August 2022 £000
Equity instruments	1,661	1,357
Debt instruments	239	360
Property	383	304
Other	910	794
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>3,193</b>	<b>2,815</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £107,000 (2022 – (£265,000)).

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	(176)	(342)
Past service cost	-	-
Net interest cost	(29)	(59)
<b>Total operating charge</b>	<b>(205)</b>	<b>(401)</b>

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

	2023 £000	2022 £000
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>4,029</b>	<b>6,103</b>
Current service cost	239	395
Interest cost	175	106
Employee contributions	63	53
Past service cost	-	-
Benefits paid	(22)	(21)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(670)	(2,607)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>3,814</b>	<b>4,029</b>

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

	2023 £000	2022 £000
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>2,815</b>	<b>2,673</b>
Interest income	128	47
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(53)	(166)
Employer contributions	268	233
Employee contributions	63	53
Benefits paid	(22)	(21)
Admin expense	(6)	(4)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>3,193</b>	<b>2,815</b>

### Local Government Pension Scheme – Cheshire Pension Fund

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 24.8 per cent for employers and 5.5-12.5 per cent for employees.

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

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
Rate of increase in salaries	3.65%	3.75%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.95%	3.05%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.20%	4.25%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.95%	3.05%

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

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.0	21.2
Females	23.9	23.8
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	18.5	22.1
Females	24.6	25.5

### Sensitivity Analysis

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
0.1% decrease in Real Discount Rate	9	11
0.1% increase in the Salary Increase Rate	1	1
0.1% increase in the Pension Increase Rate	9	10

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2023 £000	Fair value at 31 August 2022 £000
Equity instruments	285	228
Debt instruments	175	149
Property	71	60
Other	17	28
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>548</b>	<b>465</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £33,000 (2022 - £44,000).

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 21 Pension and similar obligations (continued) Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	(66)	(96)
Past service cost	-	-
Net interest cost	2	(4)
Total operating charge	<u>(64)</u>	<u>(100)</u>

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

	2023 £000	2022 £000
At 1 September	419	665
Current service cost	66	96
Interest cost	19	12
Employee contributions	15	10
Past service cost	-	-
Benefits paid	(1)	-
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(159)	(364)
At 31 August	<u>359</u>	<u>419</u>

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

	2023 £000	2022 £000
At 1 September	465	448
Interest income	21	8
Actuarial gain/(loss)	(15)	(44)
Employer contributions	63	43
Employee contributions	15	10
Benefits paid	(1)	-
Admin expense	-	-
At 31 August	<u>548</u>	<u>465</u>

The asset has been restricted to £nil as the future asset surplus cannot be recovered. The restriction has been changed in the OCI.

### 22 Related party transactions.

Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance is a charitable company deemed to be related (see page 5) to the Academy. During the year, the Academy incurred notional rent costs for the use of land and buildings of £382,941 (2022 - £382,941). The amount was matched with a donation from Liverpool Diocesan Board of Finance included in note 2.

There were no other related party transactions in the year.

# The Three Saints Academy Trust

## Notes to the Financial Statements for the year ended 31 August 2023 (continued)

### 24 Central Services

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

- finance services
- human resources
- health and safety
- audit and compliance
- staff CPD training
- central management costs

The Trust charges for these services on the based on actual costs incurred apportioned based on school size, staff numbers and OFSTED category.

The actual amounts charged in the year were as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
St Ann's	78	93
St Mary & St Thomas	73	71
St Michael with St Thomas	78	92
	<u>229</u>	<u>256</u>

### 25 Investment in Subsidiaries

Company Name	Country	Registered Number	Percentage Shareholding
North West Learning Partnership Ltd (previously St Helens Teaching School Alliance)	England	09646674	100%

North West Learning Partnership provides CPD courses for teachers, teaching assistants and school support staff. During the year ended 31 August 2023 the company generated £238,000 of income (2022 : £296,000) and profit of £107,000 (2022: £94,000) which was gift aided to The Three Saints Academy Trust. At 31 August 2023 the company had gross assets of £94,000 (2022: £167,000) and liabilities of £7,000 (2022: £7,000) excluding accruals to gift aid the profit for the year to the Trust.