

Company Registration Number: 08667123 (England & Wales)

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST

Members	R Fuller J Stanley Rev M Walford J Dodd
Trustees	R Fuller, Chairman I Hockey, Headteacher and Accounting Officer ¹ N Bainbridge O Bandele (appointed 20 July 2023) J Dodd ¹ L Drummond N Harrison N Ounzain J Stanley ¹ Rev M Walford M White ¹ G Close (resigned 17 July 2023) ¹ Member of the Finance, Premises and Audit Committee
Company registered number	08667123
Company name	Cornelius Vermuyden School
Principal and registered office	Dinant Avenue Canvey Island Essex SS8 9QS
Company secretary	A Wilson
Senior management team	I Hockey, Headteacher D Halpin, Deputy Headteacher N Ounzain, Deputy Headteacher J Sands, Deputy Headteacher A Wilson, Business Manager
Independent auditors	Hillier Hopkins LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor Radius House 51 Clarendon Road Watford Herts WD17 1HP

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc 211 London Road Hadleigh Benfleet Essex SS7 2RD
Solicitors	Michelmores LLP 48 Chancery Lane London WC2A 1JF

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates an academy for pupils aged 11 to 16 serving a catchment area of Canvey Island. It has a published admission number of 900 and had 825 students on roll as at 6th October 2022, the day of the Autumn census.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of Cornelius Vermuyden School are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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

b. 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.

c. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The management of the Academy Trust is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Trust deed.

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The Academy Trust subscribes to Juniper Educational Governors' Services and has appointed a Governor with responsibility for training.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees has agreed a scheme of delegation, based upon a standard model for academies, dividing the functions of the school between itself, sub-committees and the Headteacher. The main policy and financial control decisions are reserved for the Board of Trustees, monitoring of policies and performance are delegated to various sub-committees and day to day management operations rest with the Headteacher. He discharges some of those responsibilities through the senior leadership team.

Mr I Hockey was promoted to Headteacher in January 2019 and assumed the role of Accounting Officer. The school's core leadership team is made up of the Headteacher, one Deputy Headteacher, four Assistant Headteachers and the Business Manager.

f. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Pay & Performance Management committee meet every term and approve the salary ranges for teaching and local government employees as part of the annual pay policy. Pay & Performance Management sets all remuneration for key management personnel as part of this function.

g. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	1
Full-time equivalent employee number	-

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	-
1%-50%	1
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

	£	
Total cost of facility time	500	
Total pay bill	4,251,195	
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	-	%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	-	%
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Objectives and activities

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Objectives and activities (continued)

a. Objects and aims

The Academy Trust and School are named after the Dutch engineer, Cornelius Vermuyden, who in the 17th century masterminded the construction of the sea wall together with a system of dykes to drain the land, leading to the creation of the modern Canvey Island.

The objectives and activities of Cornelius Vermuyden School are primarily to provide secondary education for pupils aged 11 – 16 in the catchment area of Canvey Island and to create close links with the local community.

At Cornelius Vermuyden School, we aim to be a caring and orderly community where individuals are able to learn, contribute and develop. In order to achieve these aims, we seek to provide a disciplined and purposeful environment where traditional values of mutual care, consideration and acceptance flourish.

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

As a learning community, we seek to provide an education that is exciting, challenging and prepares each child for life and learning beyond school, a broad based education in which achievement is celebrated and children succeed. We believe that parents may entrust their children to Cornelius Vermuyden School, safe in the knowledge that they are being cared for by an able and conscientious staff; a staff committed to achieving the very best outcomes for those given to their care.

Our primary aim is to encourage each student to be a self-confident, inquiring, tolerant, positive and successful young man or woman, an individual who respects the differences of others. By the time the student leaves the school, we want each student to have that true sense of self-worth which will enable them to stand up for themselves and to be of value to society.

c. Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and confirm that they have complied with their duty as detailed in the Charities Act. The school facilities are made available for community use, although this has been severely impacted by the pandemic. Lettings have recommenced with three local football teams using the school's pitches at weekends, the sports hall is used by a number of boys' & girls' junior teams local football teams as well as an indoor bowls club.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Financial key performance indicators

From a financial perspective, the Trust's key performance indicators are its incoming resources for the year, its net surplus/ deficit for the year and the level of funds carried forward as at the balance sheet date.

The Trust has incoming resources for the year of £6,492,922 (2022: £6,185,797) and a net deficit of £426,954 (2022: £1,127,511 surplus). The net deficit for the year excluding the LGPS defined benefit pension movement and depreciation was £242,232 (2022: £332,288 deficit).

As at the balance sheet date the Trust had unrestricted funds of £680,959, restricted funds (excluding LGPS defined benefit pension deficit of £9,000) of £nil and restricted fixed asset funds of £17,334,661. Total funds carried forward as at the balance sheet date were £18,006,620 (2022: £18,433,574).

Our Mission

Our mission is to provide high quality education in a safe, respectful and inclusive environment that builds a foundation for life-long learning.

Performance

The main performance headlines for the school in 2023 were:

- Attainment 8 of 36.85
- 55% 4+ in English (best of literature/language)
- 51% 4+ in mathematics
- 24% 5+ in English (best of literature/language)
- 30% 5+ in mathematics
- 44% achieving a 'standard pass' (4+) in English and maths
- 24% achieving a 'strong pass' (5+) in English and maths
- 12 % achieved the EBacc 5+ (49% entered for EBacc)
- 17% achieved the EBacc 4+ (49% entered for EBacc)
- EBacc APS 3.13

b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason they continue 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 accounting policies.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review

a. Reserves policy

For the financial year ending 31 August 2024, the school has budgeted a deficit of £148,069. The budgeted reserves (excluding restricted fixed asset fund and pension deficit) carried forward as at August 2024 are £532,890 which are reserved for contingencies.

The Governors recognise that the defined benefit pension deficit (Local Government Pension Scheme), which is set out in the notes to the financial statements, represents a significant potential liability. However, as the Governors consider that the Academy is able to meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, the risk from this liability is minimised.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to 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 pension deficit as at 31 August 2023 was £9,000 (2022: £259,000).

b. Treasury management policy

The Academy Trust adopts a risk averse policy and deposits monies in financial institutions which are recognised as high quality investment counterparties and as approved by the Governing Body on an annual basis.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Chancellor has announced an additional £2.3 billion of funding in 2023-24 and £2.3 billion in 2024-25 for school budgets in England as part of his autumn statement this week, a rise from £53.8 billion this year to £58.8 billion by 2025.

The increase means that the amount of funding schools receive per pupil will rise on average by over £1000 by 2024-25, compared to 2021-22, restoring per-pupil funding to the level it was in 2010.

Capital funding, which goes towards improving school building and infrastructure, will increase from £6.3 billion this year to £7 billion in 2023-24, before reducing to £6.1 billion in 2024-25.

However, the detail behind the Chancellor's announcement will need to be studied more closely before judging the extent to which the additional funding will help balance budgets and to continue our school to be financially sustainable in a difficult economic climate.

Fundraising

The school does not approach the parents of our students to contribute towards the day-to-day running costs of the school. The school does not envisage this changing in the future. However, additional funds are generated by the school through regular letting of the facilities to local community groups.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Plans for future periods

To continue to provide secondary education for the children of Canvey Island and the surrounding districts.

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

Neither the trust nor any of its directors hold any assets as custodian Trustee on behalf of other charities.

Principal funding

The Academy Trust uses Education Software Solutions FMS as the system for financial management and control. Funding is almost exclusively received by way of grant monies with additional income generated from the community use of the facilities. Funds are expended for the sole purpose of providing education for the school.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 15-12-2023 | 12:42 GMT and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:



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R Fuller
Trustee

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Cornelius Vermuyden School 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
R Fuller, Chairman	3	4
I Hockey, Headteacher and Accounting Officer	4	4
N Bainbridge	3	4
O Bandele	0	0
J Dodd	2	4
L Drummond	2	4
N Harrison	2	4
N Ounzain	4	4
J Stanley	3	4
Rev M Walford	4	4
M White	4	4
G Close	2	4

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities. The Governing Body delegate finance responsibility to the Finance committee so with those meetings taken into account the Full Governing Body believe they have met 8 times last year and have full oversight into the finances of the school.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

The following 4 principles of best value will be applied:-

1. Challenge
2. Compare
3. Consult
4. Complete

These principles will be used when making decisions about the allocation of resources to best promote the aims and values of the school; targeting the resources to best improve standards and the quality of provision; and the use of resources to best support the various educational needs of all students. They will be applied in particular to:-

1. Staffing
2. Use of premises
3. Use of resources
4. Quality of teaching
5. Quality of learning
6. Purchasing
7. Students' welfare
8. Health and safety

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 Cornelius Vermuyden School for the year 1 September 2022 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 ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2022 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.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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, Premises 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;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ Juniper Educational as internal auditor.

Following changes to the ethical standards applicable to accountants, the external auditors can no longer act as internal auditors from the year to 31 August 2021. The Academy Trust appointed Juniper Education as the internal auditors with effect from 1 September 2020 to undertake additional checks. On a termly basis, internal auditors report to the Board of Trustees through the Finance, Premises and Audit Committee on the operation of the systems of control, and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial obligations.

The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems.

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the Board of Trustees through the Finance, Premises and Audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)


Review of effectiveness


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

- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance, Premises and Audit 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 and signed on their behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

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R Fuller
Chair of Trustees
Date: 15-12-2023 | 12:42 GMT

DocuSigned by:

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I Hockey
Accounting Officer

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Cornelius Vermuyden School I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 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 Academies Financial 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.

DocuSigned by:



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I Hockey

Accounting Officer

Date: 08-12-2023 | 13:50 GMT

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

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

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial . 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:

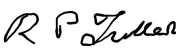
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting 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 and signed on its behalf by:

DocuSigned by:

DEFFE10BE6AD4B8...
R Fuller
Trustee

Date: 15-12-2023 | 12:42 GMT

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Cornelius Vermuyden School (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure, the Balance sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council'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.

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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of 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 this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy Trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' 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 financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

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

- the control environment and performance of the academy, including the remuneration incentives and pressures of key management;
- the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management. We considered the results of our enquiries of management and internal audit about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
 - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override, including testing journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the academy operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We focused on laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements, including, but not limited to, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 and relevant tax legislation.

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 is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.


CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

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

Use of our report

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

DocuSigned by:

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Alexander Bottom ACA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

Date: 18-12-2023 | 16:21 GMT

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 1 November 2013 and further to the requirements of the Education and 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 Cornelius Vermuyden School during the year 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 Cornelius Vermuyden School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Cornelius Vermuyden School 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 Cornelius Vermuyden School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Cornelius Vermuyden School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Cornelius Vermuyden School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 25 October 2013 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, 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 year 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.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material misstatement and irregularity across the Academy Trust's activities;
- Testing and review of areas identified through risk assessment including enquiry, observation, inspection and review of supporting evidence;
- Review of system controls, policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the regularity regime;
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work performed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 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.

DocuSigned by:

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Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

Date: 18-12-2023 | 16:21 GMT

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	938	-	54,597	55,535	18,881
Investments	5	18,161	-	-	18,161	1,609
Charitable activities		301,874	6,117,352	-	6,419,226	6,165,307
Total income		320,973	6,117,352	54,597	6,492,922	6,185,797
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	416,175	6,281,084	501,617	7,198,876	7,016,286
Total expenditure		416,175	6,281,084	501,617	7,198,876	7,016,286
Net expenditure		(95,202)	(163,732)	(447,020)	(705,954)	(830,489)
Transfers between funds	16	(41,869)	3,974	37,895	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains		(137,071)	(159,758)	(409,125)	(705,954)	(830,489)
Other recognised gains:						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	279,000	-	279,000	1,958,000
Net movement in funds		(137,071)	119,242	(409,125)	(426,954)	1,127,511
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		818,030	(128,242)	17,743,786	18,433,574	17,306,063
Net movement in funds		(137,071)	119,242	(409,125)	(426,954)	1,127,511
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward		680,959	(9,000)	17,334,661	18,006,620	18,433,574

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08667123

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	17,334,661	17,725,020
Current assets			
Debtors	14	148,294	96,747
Cash at bank and in hand		1,046,670	1,257,963
		<u>1,194,964</u>	<u>1,354,710</u>
Creditors: falling due within one year	15	(514,005)	(387,156)
Net current assets		680,959	967,554
Total assets less current liabilities		18,015,620	18,692,574
Net assets excluding pension liability		18,015,620	18,692,574
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(9,000)	(259,000)
Total net assets		18,006,620	18,433,574

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08667123

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Restricted fixed asset funds	16	17,334,661	17,743,786
Restricted income funds	16	-	130,758
		<u>17,334,661</u>	<u>17,874,544</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension liability	16	17,334,661	17,874,544
Pension reserve	16	(9,000)	(259,000)
Total restricted funds	16	17,325,661	17,615,544
Unrestricted income funds	16	680,959	818,030
Total funds		18,006,620	18,433,574

The financial statements on pages 21 to 53 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

DocuSigned by:



0EFEE10BE6AD4B8...

R Fuller

Trustee

Date: 15-12-2023 | 12:42 GMT

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

	Note	2023 £	<i>2022</i> £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	18	(172,793)	35,909
Cash flows from investing activities	19	(38,500)	20,375
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(211,293)	56,284
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,257,963	1,201,679
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	20, 21	1,046,670	1,257,963

The notes on pages 25 to 53 from part of these financial statements

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

1.2 Company status

The Academy is a company limited by guarantee. The members of the company are the Trustees named on page 1. In the event of the Academy being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Academy.

1.3 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 Academy Trust 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.

1.4 Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Academy Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

• **Sponsorship income**

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure in the year in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions) where receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

• **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 year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

1.6 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.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Expenditure (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.

1.7 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy Trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.8 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.

1.9 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Tangible fixed assets are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Depreciation is not charged on freehold land. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Freehold property	- 2% straight line
Furniture and equipment	- 10% straight line
Computer equipment	- 33% straight line

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 incorporating Income and Expenditure account.

1.10 PFI arrangement and donated assets

The buildings used by Cornelius Vermuyden School were constructed under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) contract between Essex County Council and a private contractor, Skanska UK Plc. The project was completed prior to the school's conversion to academy status. On conversion, the Academy Trust entered into an arrangement with Essex County Council which stipulates that the Academy Trust will pay an annual amount known as the Affordability Gap as a contribution towards the County Council's PFI payments and facilities management contract with Skanska UK Plc. The PFI arrangement is due to end on 31 December 2036.

PFI Affordability Gap payments

The payments made to Essex County Council in respect of the PFI arrangement Affordability Gap charge is therefore expensed in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which they relate.

The Academy Trust is fully funded for these payments via its grant funding from the ESFA, and this income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period to which it relates.

The trustees take the view that the substance of the arrangement is such that the principal rights and obligations under the contract remain with Essex County Council, thus the future payments are disclosed as commitments and not recognised as a liability.

Land and buildings

As the Academy Trust takes on the risks and rewards associated with the land and buildings, including the long term maintenance of the property once the PFI contract has ended, the land and buildings are capitalised within fixed assets on the Academy Trust's balance sheet at valuation on conversion. The Freehold Property is depreciated as disclosed in note 1.9.

1.11 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Cash at bank and in hand

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

1.13 Liabilities

Liabilities and provisions 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 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 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.

1.14 Financial instruments

The Academy Trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy Trust and their measurement bases 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 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

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 15. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.15 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.16 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy Trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS"). These are defined benefit schemes.

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

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

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

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

Estimates and judgments 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 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 or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2020 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 areas of judgment:

Valuation of tangible fixed assets:

Directors have considered the value of tangible fixed assets. Changes in the circumstances of expectations of future performance of an individual asset may be an indicator that the asset is impaired, which would require the book value to be written down to its recoverable amount. Impairments are reversed if conditions for impairment are no longer present, Due to their nature, evaluating whether an asset is impaired requires a significant degree of judgment and may to a large extent depend on the assumptions made in its evaluation. The directors have concluded that the valuation of the tangible fixed assets at the year end are appropriate.

Depreciation and residual values:

The Directors have reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes and have concluded that asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	938	-	938
ESFA Capital grants	-	54,597	54,597
	<u>938</u>	<u>54,597</u>	<u>55,535</u>
	<u><u>938</u></u>	<u><u>54,597</u></u>	<u><u>55,535</u></u>
		<i>Restricted</i>	
	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>fixed asset</i>	<i>Total</i>
	<i>funds</i>	<i>funds</i>	<i>funds</i>
	<i>2022</i>	<i>2022</i>	<i>2022</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
Donations	115	-	115
ESFA Capital grants	-	18,766	18,766
	<u>115</u>	<u>18,766</u>	<u>18,881</u>
	<u><u>115</u></u>	<u><u>18,766</u></u>	<u><u>18,881</u></u>

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational Activities			
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,398,119	5,398,119
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Pupil premium	-	274,071	274,071
Rates relief	-	40,681	40,681
	-	-	5,712,871
Other Government grants			
SEN funding	-	46,675	46,675
Other government grants	-	263,295	263,295
	-	309,970	309,970
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational activities	301,874	-	301,874
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	94,511	94,511
	-	94,511	94,511
	301,874	6,117,352	6,419,226
	301,874	6,117,352	6,419,226

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's charitable activities (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Educational Activities			
DfE/ESFA grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,476,280	5,476,280
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Pupil premium	-	247,606	247,606
Rates relief	-	42,691	42,691
	-	-	5,766,577
Other Government grants			
SEN funding	-	38,345	38,345
Other government grants	-	68,284	68,284
	-	106,629	106,629
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational activities	258,500	-	258,500
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Catch-up Premium	-	33,601	33,601
	-	33,601	33,601
	258,500	5,906,807	6,165,307
	258,500	5,906,807	6,165,307

The academy trust received £94,511 (2022: £33,601) of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totaled £94,511 (2022: £64,351). No remaining amount unspent to be carried forward to spend in the 23/24 financial year.

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Investment income	18,161	18,161

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

5. Investment income (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Investment income	1,609	1,609

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Educational Activities:				
Direct costs	3,555,116	-	364,234	3,919,350
Allocated support costs	696,079	1,588,268	995,179	3,279,526
Total 2023	4,251,195	1,588,268	1,359,413	7,198,876

	<i>Staff Costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Premises 2022 £</i>	<i>Other 2022 £</i>	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Educational Activities:				
Direct costs	3,694,798	-	386,254	4,081,052
Allocated support costs	697,437	1,285,914	951,883	2,935,234
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>4,392,235</i>	<i>1,285,914</i>	<i>1,338,137</i>	<i>7,016,286</i>

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7. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities

Summary by fund type

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total 2023 £
Educational Activities	416,175	6,782,701	7,198,876

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total 2022 £</i>
Educational Activities	325,754	6,690,532	7,016,286

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational Activities	3,919,350	3,279,526	7,198,876

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2022 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Educational Activities	4,081,052	2,935,234	7,016,286

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational Activities 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Pension cost	7,000	7,000
Staff costs	696,079	696,079
Depreciation	501,617	501,617
Teaching and educational supplies	26,714	26,714
Staff Development	9,738	9,738
Technology Costs	23,973	23,973
Travel and Subsistence	3,058	3,058
Maintenance of premises	18,486	18,486
Facilities managed service	987,000	987,000
Rent and Rates	46,254	46,254
Energy	326,644	326,644
Insurance	14,999	14,999
Affordability gap	259,215	259,215
Catering	208,254	208,254
Bank Interest and charges	1,930	1,930
Printing, postage & Stationary	100,559	100,559
Other costs	48,006	48,006
Total 2023	3,279,526	3,279,526

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs (continued)

	<i>Educational Activities 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Pension cost	32,000	32,000
Staff costs	697,437	697,437
Depreciation	498,201	498,201
Teaching and educational supplies	9,617	9,617
Staff Development	3,712	3,712
Technology Costs	15,184	15,184
Travel and Subsistence	5,332	5,332
Maintenance of premises	24,498	24,498
Facilities managed service	943,367	943,367
Cleaning	343	343
Rent and Rates	44,957	44,957
Energy	104,336	104,336
Insurance	16,875	16,875
Affordability gap	244,107	244,107
Catering	167,167	167,167
Bank Interest and charges	1,361	1,361
Printing, postage & Stationary	74,114	74,114
Other costs	52,626	52,626
	<u>2,935,234</u>	<u>2,935,234</u>

9. Net expenditure

Net expenditure for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	501,617	498,201
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	9,900	9,000
- other services	4,675	4,275
	<u>516,202</u>	<u>511,476</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	3,110,695	3,162,167
Social security costs	310,379	323,971
Pension costs	733,572	881,358
	<u>4,154,646</u>	<u>4,367,496</u>
Agency staff costs	96,549	24,739
	<u>4,251,195</u>	<u>4,392,235</u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teacher	62	62
Management	5	3
Non-teaching	51	41
	<u>118</u>	<u>106</u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	-
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	-	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	-	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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10. Staff (continued)

c. Higher paid staff (continued)

Of the above employees, two (2022: one) participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31 August 2023.

d. 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 and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £354,840 (2022 £257,972).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2023	2022
		£	£
I Hockey, Head Teacher	Remuneration	90,000 -	<i>85,000 -</i>
		95,000	<i>90,000</i>
N Ounzain	Remuneration	60,000 -	<i>55,000 -</i>
		65,000	<i>60,000</i>
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 -	<i>10,000 -</i>
		20,000	<i>15,000</i>
N Bainbridge	Remuneration		<i>25,000 -</i>
			<i>30,000</i>
	Pension contributions paid		<i>5,000 -</i>
			<i>10,000</i>

During the year, retirement benefits were accruing to 1 Trustees (2022 - 2) in respect of defined benefit pension schemes.

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £280 (2022: £280).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2022	21,000,000	875,301	701,419	22,576,720
Additions	-	-	111,258	111,258
At 31 August 2023	<u>21,000,000</u>	<u>875,301</u>	<u>812,677</u>	<u>22,687,978</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2022	3,420,000	744,426	687,274	4,851,700
Charge for the year	380,000	87,723	33,894	501,617
At 31 August 2023	<u>3,800,000</u>	<u>832,149</u>	<u>721,168</u>	<u>5,353,317</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2023	<u>17,200,000</u>	<u>43,152</u>	<u>91,509</u>	<u>17,334,661</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>17,580,000</u>	<u>130,875</u>	<u>14,145</u>	<u>17,725,020</u>

Included within Freehold Property is land held at a value of £2,000,000 which is not depreciated.

14. Debtors

	2023 £	2022 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	5,141	9,367
Other debtors	70,814	18,196
Prepayments and accrued income	72,339	69,184
	<u>148,294</u>	<u>96,747</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Trade creditors	264,568	<i>133,585</i>
Other taxation and social security	76,823	<i>79,573</i>
Other creditors	78,538	<i>86,204</i>
Accruals and deferred income	94,076	<i>87,794</i>
	514,005	<i>387,156</i>
	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Deferred income brought forward	15,145	<i>-</i>
Resources deferred during the year	27,591	<i>15,145</i>
Amounts released from previous periods	(15,145)	<i>-</i>
Deferred income carried forward	27,591	<i>15,145</i>

Deferred income relates to income received during the current financial year for trips which do not depart until the following financial year (or to be refunded) and government grants received in advance.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	818,030	320,973	(416,175)	(41,869)	-	680,959
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	130,758	5,478,019	(5,612,751)	3,974	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	274,071	(274,071)	-	-	-
Rates relief	-	34,853	(34,853)	-	-	-
SEN funding	-	46,675	(46,675)	-	-	-
Other Government Grants	-	263,295	(263,295)	-	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	20,439	(20,439)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(259,000)	-	(29,000)	-	279,000	(9,000)
	(128,242)	6,117,352	(6,281,084)	3,974	279,000	(9,000)

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted Fixed Asset fund	17,725,020	-	(501,617)	111,258	-	17,334,661
ESFA Capital Grants	18,766	54,597	-	(73,363)	-	-
	<u>17,743,786</u>	<u>54,597</u>	<u>(501,617)</u>	<u>37,895</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,334,661</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>17,615,544</u>	<u>6,171,949</u>	<u>(6,782,701)</u>	<u>41,869</u>	<u>279,000</u>	<u>17,325,661</u>
Total funds	<u><u>18,433,574</u></u>	<u><u>6,492,922</u></u>	<u><u>(7,198,876)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>279,000</u></u>	<u><u>18,006,620</u></u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the Academy that has been provided via the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) by the Department for Education. The GAG fund must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

The pension reserve represents the net deficit on the LGPS defined benefit pension scheme. The deficit arose because of the pension scheme deficit inherited upon conversion and future GAG funding agreed by the ESFA is expected to be sufficient to take the fund back into surplus.

The restricted fixed asset fund includes all significant items of fixed assets. Depreciation charged on the assets is allocated to the fund. The transfer of GAG funds to the fixed asset reserve fund represents the spending of GAG monies for fixed asset additions.

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

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
Unrestricted funds					
General Funds	883,560	260,224	(325,754)	-	818,030
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	175,532	5,366,082	(5,410,856)	-	130,758
Pupil Premium	-	247,606	(247,606)	-	-
Rates relief	-	42,691	(42,691)	-	-
SEN funding	-	26,850	(26,850)	-	-
Other Government Grants	-	189,977	(189,977)	-	-
Catch-up premium	30,750	33,601	(64,351)	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,007,000)	-	(210,000)	1,958,000	(259,000)
	<u>(1,800,718)</u>	<u>5,906,807</u>	<u>(6,192,331)</u>	<u>1,958,000</u>	<u>(128,242)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Restricted Fixed Asset fund	18,223,221	-	(498,201)	-	17,725,020
ESFA Capital Grants	-	18,766	-	-	18,766
	<u>18,223,221</u>	<u>18,766</u>	<u>(498,201)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>17,743,786</u>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2021 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2022 £</i>
Total Restricted funds	16,422,503	5,925,573	(6,690,532)	1,958,000	17,615,544
Total funds	17,306,063	6,185,797	(7,016,286)	1,958,000	18,433,574

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	17,334,661	17,334,661
Current assets	872,911	322,053	-	1,194,964
Creditors due within one year	(191,952)	(322,053)	-	(514,005)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(9,000)	-	(9,000)
Total	680,959	(9,000)	17,334,661	18,006,620

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2022 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	17,725,020	17,725,020
Current assets	1,006,952	328,992	18,766	1,354,710
Creditors due within one year	(188,922)	(198,234)	-	(387,156)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(259,000)	-	(259,000)
Total	818,030	(128,242)	17,743,786	18,433,574

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(705,954)	(830,489)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	501,617	498,201
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(54,597)	(18,766)
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	(18,161)	(1,609)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	22,000	178,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	7,000	32,000
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(51,547)	21,492
Increase in creditors	126,849	157,080
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(172,793)	35,909

19. Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	18,161	1,609
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(111,258)	-
Capital grants from DfE Group	54,597	18,766
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(38,500)	20,375

20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	37,070	186,375
Notice and fixed term deposits	1,009,600	1,071,588
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,046,670	1,257,963

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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21. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,257,963	(211,293)	1,046,670

22. Pension commitments

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £78,538 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £86,204) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time 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 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% 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 £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2026.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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22. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £512,098 (2022 - £558,455).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2023/10/valuation-result.aspx>).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £248,000 (2022 - £179,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £200,000 (2022 - £145,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 48,000 (2022 - £34,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.3 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% per cent for employees.

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

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.90	3.95
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.35	4.25

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.7	21
Females	23.2	23.5
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22	22.3
Females	24.6	24.9

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£000	<i>£000</i>
Discount rate +0.1%	46	<i>53</i>
Discount rate -0.1%	(44)	<i>(54)</i>
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	70	<i>67</i>
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(72)	<i>(65)</i>

Share of scheme assets

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31	<i>At 31 August</i>
	August	<i>2022</i>
	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Equities	1,470,000	<i>1,176,000</i>
Gilts	32,000	<i>40,000</i>
Corporate bonds	-	<i>92,000</i>
Property	198,000	<i>197,000</i>
Cash and other liquid assets	74,000	<i>62,000</i>
Alternative assets	400,000	<i>312,000</i>
Other managed funds	352,000	<i>207,000</i>
Total market value of assets	2,526,000	<i>2,086,000</i>

The actual return on scheme assets was £102,000 (2022 - £-33,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Current service cost	(222,000)	<i>(323,000)</i>
Interest income	93,000	<i>33,000</i>
Interest cost	(100,000)	<i>(65,000)</i>
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(229,000)	<i>(355,000)</i>

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	£
At 1 September	2,345,000	<i>3,947,000</i>
Current service cost	222,000	<i>323,000</i>
Interest cost	100,000	<i>65,000</i>
Employee contributions	48,000	<i>34,000</i>
Actuarial gains	(137,000)	<i>(1,986,000)</i>
Benefits paid	(43,000)	<i>(38,000)</i>
At 31 August	2,535,000	<i>2,345,000</i>

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2023	<i>2022</i>
	£	£
At 1 September	2,086,000	<i>1,940,000</i>
Interest income	93,000	<i>33,000</i>
Actuarial gains/(losses)	142,000	<i>(28,000)</i>
Employer contributions	200,000	<i>145,000</i>
Employee contributions	48,000	<i>34,000</i>
Benefits paid	(43,000)	<i>(38,000)</i>
At 31 August	2,526,000	<i>2,086,000</i>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

23. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
General leases		
Not later than 1 year	35,300	35,300
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	18,368	30,663
Total	<u>53,668</u>	<u>65,963</u>

As noted in accounting policy note 1.10, the Academy Trust was constructed under a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) agreement between Essex County Council and private contractor, Skanska UK Plc.

The PFI arrangement commitments as disclosed below relate to the amounts payable to Essex County Council as the school's contribution to the PFI contract payments known as the Affordability Gap payments.

The commitment under the agreement with Essex County Council is based on their monthly payments due in the financial year ended 31 August 2019. The payment will increase by RPI for the remainder of the PFI contract which expires on 31 December 2036.

The Trustees take the view that the substance of the arrangement is such that the principal rights and obligations under the contract remain with Essex County Council, thus the future payments are disclosed as commitments and not recognised as a liability.

	2023 £	2022 £
PFI arrangement		
Within 1 year	594,552	594,552
Between 1 and 5 years	2,378,208	2,378,208
After more than 5 years	4,954,600	5,549,152
Total	<u>7,927,360</u>	<u>8,521,912</u>

24. Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he/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.

CORNELIUS VERMUYDEN SCHOOL
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.