

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Company Registration Number: 09646093 (England and Wales)

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Members Diocese of Shrewsbury Education Trust
Canon David Roberts
Canon Jonathan Mitchell
Simon Geary
Philip White

Academy Trustees John O'Sullivan (Chair)
Mark Cotton
Damian Cunningham
Carol Lawrence
Hanif Lula
Canon David Roberts

St Augustines Catholic Primary School

Executive Head Teacher Kevin Doogan (to 31 August 2017)
Acting Head of School Nicola Turner (to 31 August 2017)
Nedra Sothern (From 1 September)

Principal Registered Office Diocese of Shrewsbury Curial Offices
2 Park Road South
Prenton
Wirral
Merseyside
CH43 4UX

Company Registration Number 09646093 (England and Wales)

Independent Auditor haysmacintyre
26 Red Lion Square
London
WC1R 4AG

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc
Horsemarket Street
Warrington
Cheshire
WA1 1TP

Solicitors Browne Jacobson LLP
Ground Floor
3 Piccadilly Place
Manchester
M1 3BN

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2017. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The charitable company was incorporated on 18 June 2015 and took over the trade and assets of St Augustine Catholic Primary School from Halton Local Authority from 29 June 2015.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The trustees of Salopia Catholic Schools Trust are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the period are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees, governors and officers from claims arising due to negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. See note 10 for further details.

Principal activities

To advance, for the public benefit, education in the UK.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The Foundation Governors of each School shall be formally appointed by the Diocese following recommendations from the Diocese Education Service on behalf of the diocesan Bishop. In carrying out this duty, the Diocesan Education Service shall consult with the Parish Priest who will liaise with the Academy Principal/Head teacher regarding appropriate appointments.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

All Trustees and Governors are provided with copies of procedures, minutes, accounts, budget plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as trustees and governors.

Organisational structure

The Trustees have overall responsibility and ultimate decision making authority for all the work of the Academy and in order to discharge these responsibilities appoint people who are more locally based to serve on a board (each being a 'Local Governing Body') which has been established to ensure good governance of the Academy. The Directors have delegated various functions to the Local Governing Body through a formal scheme of delegation.

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Subject to the provisions of the Scheme of Delegation the Trustees are responsible for setting strategic policy, adopting an annual budget plan, monitoring the Academy by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointment.

The Senior Managers to 31 August 2017 were Kevin Doogan who was the Executive Head Teacher and Nicola Turner who was the Acting Head Teacher at the School. Both Mr Doogan and Miss Turner are employed by Christ the King Catholic Primary School and a memorandum of understanding exists between St Augustine Primary School and Christ the King Primary School. From 1 September 2017, Nedra Sothern took on the role as Acting Head of School. Mrs Sothern is employed by Our Lady Mother of the Saviour School in Halton and again a memorandum of understanding exists between that School and St Augustine Primary School.

These managers control the Academy at an executive level, implement the policies laid down by the Trustees and reporting back to them. As a group the Senior Managers are responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff.

The above are also the Key Management Personnel and their pay settlements are dealt with in accordance with the Whole School Pay Policy and Appraisal Policy.

Pay ranges are set and increments are only processed within these pay ranges once the Governors are satisfied that the policy has been subjected to rigger.

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

The Academy Trust is part of a wider network of Diocesan multi academy trusts which have in common Foundation Directors and one or more members.

The Academy is also part of the network of Diocesan schools who support and assist each other in their mission.

Objectives and Activities

Objects and aims

The Academy Trust's principle object is to advance, for public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Catholic schools which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum and shall be conducted as Catholic schools in accordance with the code of Canon Law of the Latin Church from time to time and the doctrinal, social and moral teachings of the Catholic Church from time to time and following the directives and policies issued by the Diocesan Bishop to ensure that the formation, governance and education of the Academy is based on the principles of Catholic doctrine, and at all times serving as a witness to the Catholic faith in Our Lord Jesus Christ.

To promote for the benefit of individuals living in Wirral and the surrounding area the provision of facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said individuals.

The aim of the Academy is to provide a quality education in a caring and disciplined community in line with our ethos.

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives of the Academy during the year ended 31 August 2017 are summarised below:

- To ensure that every student enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care
- To raise the standard of educational achievement of all students
- To improve the effectiveness of the Academy by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review
- To provide value for money for the funds expanded
- To comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements
- To conduct the Academy business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

Public benefit

The Trustees have considered the Charity Commission's guidance on Public Benefit. The key Public Benefit delivered by the Salopia Catholic Schools Trust is the maintenance and development of the high quality Catholic Education provided by the schools, for over 50 years, to the young people of our parishes.

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievements and Performance

St Augustines Catholic Primary School aims to share with the children the richness and depth of the Catholic Family and provide every opportunity to enhance the development of a sense of belonging to the family of God, where each person is valued for who they are and treated with love and dignity. The School offers a welcoming, friendly and loving environment which provides the best possible education and pastoral care for each of the pupils. The School also aims to develop Christian working relationships based upon loyalty, co-operation and mutual respect. It serves the families and parishioners of those living within the boundary of St Augustine's parish, which is part of the Parish of The Divine Saviour, as well as the wider community.

It is a smaller-than-average-sized primary school where the majority of pupils are of White British heritage. The proportion of pupils from minority ethnic backgrounds is below that seen nationally and very few pupils speak English as an additional language. The proportion of disadvantaged pupils is extremely high as the school is in the top percentile nationally in relation to each of the deprivation indicator, the percentage of children known to be eligible for free school meals and pupils with special educational needs and/or disabilities.

Historically, the attainment of pupils at the end of KS2 is below other schools nationally. Children typically enter school with skills that are less developed than their peers nationally and it school is pleased to report that at KS2 attainment in reading is broadly average although attainment in maths and writing was below average. In 2017 the progress achieved at Key Stage one and Key Stage two was significant. At Key Stage One the pupils attained much improved levels of reading, writing and mathematics. There is still some improvement required to achieve national average however the scores achieved of 56%, 56%, and 63% in reading, writing and mathematics respectively represents improvement. At Key Stage Two the pupils achieved 72%, 81% and 81% in reading, writing and mathematics, which is higher than most schools in Halton and is above national average, which is a significant improvement on the previous year. The School Improvement Plan reflects the work that needs to be continued in sustaining improvement.

The last Ofsted inspection in 2014 designated the School as 'Requires Improvement' which showed progress as the School had previously been rated as 'Inadequate'. The Trustees and Senior Leadership are continually monitoring the school's improvement.

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Going Concern

The Board of trustees has an expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Financial Review

The Statement of Financial Activities ('SOFA') summarises the financial performance of the trust and the balance sheet on page 15 summarises the assets and liabilities of the trust at 31 August 2017.

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Government in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted for particular purposes. The grants received during the period ended 31 August 2017 and associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The Academy has taken on the deficit in the Local Government Pension Schemes in respect of its non-teaching staff transferred on conversion as detailed in the accounts. The Academy share of the deficit represents the amount the Academy would have to contribute if the fund were wound up and its liabilities had to be met at that point. This is reflected in the provisions, and the deficit arising in the year is shown in the Statement of Financial Activities, however at this time there is no intention to wind up the scheme and therefore the Academy does not expect to have to fund this liability. The Academy takes advice on funding levels and would increase contributions if advised to do so.

For the August 2016 Financial Statements the Trustees had reviewed the accounting policy for the building assets used in the operations of the Academy in the Trust and concluded that the lease arrangements with the Diocese do not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the land and buildings to the Academy Trust. The school's land and buildings owned by the Diocese are therefore not recognised in the balance sheet as a fixed asset.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks to the Trust are documented and managed using a risk management policy and a risk register which is regularly reviewed.

The Trust has carried out a careful review of the risks and uncertainties it faces in the forthcoming year.

In summary these are viewed as:

- Pressures on growth emanating from Government policy direction for multi academy Trusts to take on additional schools
- Potential loss of reputation and community confidence arising from any drop in standards and academic performance leading to falling rolls
- Budgetary pressures brought about by reduced public sector education spending and funding formula changes
- Impact of changes to school performance measures in terms of curriculum structures
- Failure on high profile school to school support commissions
- Downgrading of the current OFSTED report for the Trust academy following inspection
- Inability to sufficiently increase pupil numbers at due to local demographic position for the Academy within the Trust
- Sufficiency of accommodation to meet major growth in demand for places
- Erosion of reserves to balance budgets in the short to medium term
- Succession planning within Trust governance and leadership

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Key controls in place to mitigate these risks include:

- Forensic data and annual examination performance analysis
- Annual school improvement plans at all Academy of the Trust
- Robust self-evaluation procedures and careful monitoring of teaching and learning.
- An organisational structure with clearly defined roles, responsibilities and authorisation levels
- Documented terms of reference and policies for the governance of the Trust,
- Financial planning, budgeting and regular financial reporting to Governors, Sub Committee and detailed scrutiny of financial risk
- Robust due diligence procedures in place for growth of the Trust

Reserves policy

Trustees review the level of reserves on an annual basis. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments (including future commitments) and the type of reserves. The trust currently does not hold any free reserves.

The Trustees have decided to adopt a prudent approach and aim to hold reserves of at least 5% of income. These reserves will help to buy for unforeseen business interruptions, assist budgetary pressures over the medium term, provide funds for capital improvements or developments, assist cash flow where payments of the ESFA funding are retrospective and support short-term emergency requirements. This is sound commercial practice designed to safeguard the trust business interests and quality of education at all of its Academy.

The net liability of the Trust in the Local Government Pension Scheme and (LGPS) amounts to £117k. It should however be noted that an immediate liability for this amount is not crystallised at the financial year end. 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 18th of July 2013. This guarantee provides comfort to the Trustees in the event of an academy closure.

Investment Policy

The Academy operates an investment policy that seeks to maximise returns, minimise risk and maintain flexibility and access to funds.

Plans for future period

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

The Trust will continue to work to raise both the aspirations and outcomes of all its students at whatever age, closing gaps between the performance of different groups, where this is needed, and ensuring that they are able to proceed successfully to the next stage of their education.

Auditor

haysmacintyre has indicated its willingness to continue in office.

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

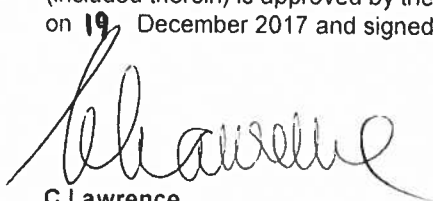
TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Statement as to disclosure of information to auditors

The Trustees have confirmed that, as far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the auditors are unaware. Each of the Trustees have confirmed that they have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as Trustees in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that it has been communicated to the auditor.

The Trustees' Annual Report is approved by order of the board of trustees and the Strategic Report (included therein) is approved by the board of trustees in their capacity as the directors at a meeting on 19 December 2017 and signed in its behalf by:



C Lawrence
Director

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

Scope of responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Executive Head Teacher, 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 Salopia Catholic Schools Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

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

| Trustee | Meetings attended | Out of possible |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------|
| Mark Cotton | 4 | 4 |
| Damian Cunningham | 4 | 4 |
| Carol Lawrence | 4 | 4 |
| Hanif Lula | 4 | 4 |
| Canon David Roberts | 3 | 4 |
| John O'Sullivan | 4 | 4 |

Governance reviews:

The Board of Trustees carried out a review of governance during the year. The Board is aware that it currently has only one school within the MAT of a modest size and feels that it holds the relevant skills in primary education and school improvement, as well as legal and financial expertise to ensure that the Academy is run in an appropriate manner delivering positive outcomes for the pupils. The Board also regularly discusses the likelihood of further schools joining the MAT including a local secondary school. The Board is looking to recruit further members with relevant skills including broader business experience and has approached Academy Ambassadors amongst others for assistance in this to ensure that the Board maintains good governance as the MAT grows and diversifies.

Review of Value for Money

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

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

- Using funds to drive improvements at each key stage, for example by investing in additional support for teaching phonics which has provided improved results and outcomes in Reception and Key Stage 1
- Provided additional training for staff in Maths and in other areas to improve teaching in all years within the school and again this has shown improved outcomes
- Provided resources to improve physical activity. It is well known that there are health benefits and improvements to learning where children are more physically active.

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the Salopia Catholic Schools Trust for the year ended 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ending 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function. No major weaknesses were identified and appropriate action is being taken on the areas that were. This year detailed work was carried out on all the financial systems in the school. During the year we will be carrying out a risk assessment and creating a multi-year internal audit review plan.

Review of effectiveness


As Accounting Officer, the Executive Head Teacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the period in question the review has been informed by:

- The work of the Operations Manager,
- The work of the external auditor,
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process,
- The work of the Operations Manager within the Academy Trust who has responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place via each Academy Finance Committee.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 19 December 2017 and signed on its behalf by


C Lawrence
Director

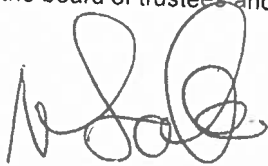

N Sothern
Accounting Officer

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST
STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

As Accounting Officer of Salopia Catholic Schools Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify and material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

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



N Sothern
Accounting Officer
Date: 19/12/2017

SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 August 2017

The Trustees (who act as trustees for charitable activities of Salopia Catholic Schools Trust and are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report) and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

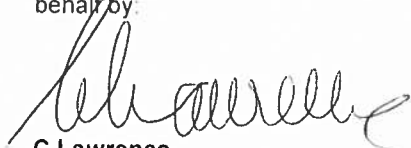
- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards (FRS102) have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 19 December 2017 and signed on its behalf by:



C Lawrence
Director

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS OF SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

We have audited the financial statements of Salopia Catholic Schools Trust for the year ended 31 August 2017 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, 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 FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

This report is made solely to the academy'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'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 and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis of opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the 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

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

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

Other information

The Governors are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT

TO THE MEMBERS SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST

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 Governors' Report for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Governors' 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 and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Governors' 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 Governors' remunerations specified by law 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 Governors' Responsibilities, the Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors are responsible for assessing the academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Governors either intend to liquidate the academy's or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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. The description forms part of our Auditor's report.



Samantha Coutinho (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of haysmacintyre, Statutory Auditor
Date: 19/12/2017

26 Red Lion Square
London WC1R 4AG

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO
SALOPIA CATHOLIC SCHOOLS TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Salopia Catholic Schools Trust during the year ended 31 August 2017 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of The Salopia Catholic Schools Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Salopia Catholic Schools Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 June 2015 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2016, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Enquiry
- Inspection and review
- Observation and re-performance

Conclusion

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

haysmacintyre

haysmacintyre
Reporting Accountant
Date: 19/12/2017

26 Red Lion Square
London WC1R 4AG

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Statement of Financial Activities
For the year ended 31 August 2017
(including Income and Expenditure Account)

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2017 £000 | Total Period-ended 2016 £000 |
|---|------|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | | |
| Donations and capital grants | 2 | - | - | 5 | 5 | 12 |
| Voluntary income | | | | | | |
| Other trading activities | 3 | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | | |
| Funding for the academy trust's educational operations | 4 | - | 637 | - | 637 | 736 |
| Total | | <u>-</u> | <u>637</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>642</u> | <u>749</u> |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | | |
| Charitable activities | | | | | | |
| Academy trust educational operations | 6 | - | 593 | 7 | 600 | 723 |
| Transfer from local authority on conversion | | - | - | - | - | 47 |
| Total | 5 | <u>-</u> | <u>593</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>600</u> | <u>770</u> |
| Net income/(expenditure) before transfers | | - | 44 | (2) | 42 | (21) |
| Gross transfers between funds | 14 | - | - | - | - | - |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | - | 44 | (2) | 42 | (21) |
| Other recognised gains and losses | | | | | | |
| Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes | 20 | - | 68 | - | 68 | (59) |
| Net movement in funds | | - | 112 | (2) | 110 | (60) |
| Reconciliation of funds | | | | | | |
| Total funds brought forward | 14 | - | (84) | 4 | (80) | - |
| Total funds carried forward | 14 | <u>-</u> | <u>28</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>30</u> | <u>(80)</u> |

All of the Academy trust's activities derive from continuing operations during the financial periods.

The accompanying notes form part of these accounts.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Balance Sheet
As at 31 August 2017

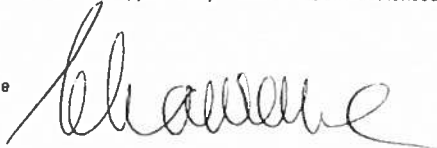
Company Registration No. 09646093

| | Notes | 2017 £000 | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|---|-------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|
| Fixed assets | | | | | |
| Tangible assets | 11 | | 2 | | 4 |
| Current assets | | | | | |
| Debtors | 12 | 55 | | 18 | |
| Cash at bank and in hand | | <u>181</u> | | <u>112</u> | |
| | | 236 | | 130 | |
| Liabilities | | | | | |
| Creditors amounts falling due within one year | 13 | <u>(91)</u> | | <u>(44)</u> | |
| Net current assets | | | 145 | | 86 |
| Total assets less current liabilities | | | 147 | | 90 |
| Pension scheme liability | 20 | | (117) | | (170) |
| Net assets including pension liability | | | <u>30</u> | | <u>(80)</u> |
| Funds of the academy trust: | | | | | |
| Restricted income funds | | | | | |
| Fixed asset fund | 14 | 2 | | 4 | |
| General fund | 14 | 145 | | 86 | |
| Pension reserve | 14 | <u>(117)</u> | | <u>(170)</u> | |
| Total restricted funds | | | 30 | | (80) |
| Unrestricted income funds | | | | | |
| General fund | 14 | | | | |
| Total unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| Total funds | | | <u>30</u> | | <u>(80)</u> |

The financial statements were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 19 December 2017 and are signed on their behalf by

Carol Lawrence

Trustee



The accompanying notes form part of these accounts

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Cash Flow Statement
For the year ended 31 August 2017

| | Notes | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|---|-------|--------------|--------------|
| Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operating activities | 16 | 64 | 100 |
| Cash flow from investing activities | 17 | 5 | 12 |
| Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period | 18 | <u>69</u> | <u>112</u> |
| Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2016 | | 112 | - |
| Cash and cash equivalents as at the 31 August 2017 | | <u>181</u> | <u>112</u> |

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements
For the year ended 31 August 2017

1 Statement of Accounting Policies

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS102), 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 (FRS102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2014 to 2015 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going Concern

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

Income

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

• Grants Receivable

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

• Donations

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

• Other Income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

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.

• Expenditure on Raising Funds

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

• Charitable Activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

Assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------------|
| Fixtures, fittings and equipment | 33% Straight line |
| Computer equipment | 33% Straight line |

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

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.

Debtors

Debtors are recognised at the settlement amount due after any discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

Liabilities

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

Financial Instruments

The School only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value.

Leased assets

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

Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

1 Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

Pensions Benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 20, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

Fund Accounting

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and local authorities where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 21, will impact the carrying amount of the pensions liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2013 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2015. 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.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

| 2 Donations and capital grants | | | | | |
|---|--|--|--|--------------------------------|---|
| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2017 £000 | Total Period-ended 2016 £000 |
| Capital Grants | - | - | 5 | 5 | 12 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>12</u> |
| 3 Other trading activities | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2017 £000 | Total Period-ended 2016 £000 |
| Hire of facilities | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>1</u> |
| 4 Funding for the Academy Trust's Educational Operations | | | | | |
| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2017 £000 | Total Period-ended 2016 £000 |
| DfE / ESFA grants | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant (GAG) | - | 514 | - | 514 | 609 |
| Other DfE/ESFA grants | - | 85 | - | 85 | 96 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>599</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>599</u> | <u>704</u> |
| Other income | | | | | |
| | - | 38 | - | 38 | 32 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>38</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>38</u> | <u>32</u> |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>637</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>637</u> | <u>736</u> |

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

5 Expenditure

| | Staff Costs £000 | Non Pay Premises £000 | Expenditure Other £000 | Total 2017 £000 | Total Period-ended 2016 £000 |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Academy's educational operations | | | | | |
| Direct costs | 450 | - | 85 | 535 | 645 |
| Allocated support costs | - | 11 | 54 | 65 | 78 |
| | <u>450</u> | <u>11</u> | <u>139</u> | <u>600</u> | <u>723</u> |

Net income/(expenditure) for the year include:

| | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Operating leases | | |
| Other | | |
| Fees payable to auditor | | |
| Audit | - | - |
| Non-audit services | 12 | 12 |
| | <u>4</u> | <u>-</u> |

6 Charitable Activities

| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2017 £000 | Total Period-ended 2016 £000 |
|--|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Direct costs - educational operations | | | | | |
| Teaching and educational support staff costs | - | 450 | - | 450 | 527 |
| Depreciation | - | - | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| Educational supplies | - | 7 | - | 7 | 36 |
| Other direct costs | - | 76 | - | 76 | 80 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>533</u> | <u>2</u> | <u>535</u> | <u>645</u> |
| Support costs - educational operations | | | | | |
| Maintenance of premises and equipment | - | 6 | 5 | 11 | 24 |
| Rent & rates | - | - | - | - | 1 |
| Energy costs | - | 20 | - | 20 | 19 |
| Insurance | - | 5 | - | 5 | 6 |
| Other support costs | - | 10 | - | 10 | 11 |
| Pension finance cost | - | 3 | - | 3 | 5 |
| Governance costs | - | 16 | - | 16 | 12 |
| | <u>-</u> | <u>60</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>65</u> | <u>78</u> |
| Total direct and support costs | <u>-</u> | <u>593</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>600</u> | <u>723</u> |

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

7 Staff

a. Staff costs

| Staff costs during the period were | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| Wages and salaries | 272 | 260 |
| Social security costs | 23 | 17 |
| Pension costs | 53 | 40 |
| Supply staff costs | 348 | 317 |
| | 102 | 210 |
| | <u>460</u> | <u>627</u> |

b. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the academy during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

| Charitable Activities | 2017 No. | 2016 No. |
|----------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| Teachers | 3 | 3 |
| Administration and support | 14 | 13 |
| | <u>17</u> | <u>16</u> |

c. Higher paid staff

No member of staff earned more than £60,000 in the period

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the senior leadership team as listed on Page 1. The total amount of employee benefits received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £77,664 (2016: £60,207)

8 Central Services

No central services were provided by the trust to its academies during the period and no central charges arose.

9 Related Party Transactions - Trustees' Remuneration & Expenses

No trustees received remuneration in respect of services they provide. The Executive Head Teacher and the Acting Head of School are not trustees of the academy trust

No trustees claimed reimbursed expenses for their role as trustees

10 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. It is not possible to split out the costs of this insurance from the premium.

11 Tangible Fixed Assets

| Cost | Computer Equipment £000 | Furniture and Equipment £000 | Total £000 |
|------------------------|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------|
| At 1 September 2016 | 5 | 1 | 6 |
| At 31 August 2017 | <u>5</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>6</u> |
| Depreciation | | | |
| At 1 September 2016 | 2 | - | 2 |
| Charged in year | 2 | - | 2 |
| At 31 August 2017 | <u>4</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>4</u> |
| Net book values | | | |
| At 31 August 2017 | <u>1</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>2</u> |
| At 31 August 2016 | <u>3</u> | <u>1</u> | <u>4</u> |

The Trustees of Shrewsbury Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust own the majority of the land and buildings from which the academy operates. The academy trust has entered into an agreement with the Trustees whereby the Trustees have agreed to make available the land and buildings for the academy trust until the funding agreements of the academies is terminated. The remainder of the land has been demised to the academy trust from Halton Borough Council via a 125 year lease.

The Trustees consider that the diocese agreement does not transfer substantially all the risks and rewards of ownership of the land and buildings to the academy trust and consequently these land and buildings have not been capitalised on conversion.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

| 12 Debtors | | 2017 | 2016 |
|--------------------------------|--|-----------|-----------|
| | | £000 | £000 |
| VAT recoverable | | | |
| Prepayments and accrued income | | 26 | 17 |
| | | 29 | 1 |
| | | <u>55</u> | <u>18</u> |

| 13 Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year | | 2017 | 2016 |
|---|--|-----------|-----------|
| | | £000 | £000 |
| Trade creditors | | 79 | 32 |
| Accruals and deferred income | | 12 | 12 |
| | | <u>91</u> | <u>44</u> |

| 14 Funds | Balance at 1 September 2016 £000 | Income £000 | Expenditure £000 | Gains, Losses & Transfers £000 | Balance at 31 August 2017 £000 |
|---|---|----------------|---------------------|---|---|
| Restricted general funds | | | | | |
| General Annual Grant (GAG) | 75 | 514 | (444) | - | 145 |
| Other income | 11 | 38 | (49) | - | - |
| Other DfE/ESFA grants | - | 85 | (85) | - | - |
| Pension reserve | (170) | - | (15) | 68 | (117) |
| | <u>(84)</u> | <u>637</u> | <u>(593)</u> | <u>68</u> | <u>28</u> |
| Restricted fixed asset funds | | | | | |
| Devolved capital grants | - | 5 | (5) | - | - |
| Transfer from Local Authority on conversion | 4 | - | (2) | - | 2 |
| | <u>4</u> | <u>5</u> | <u>(7)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>2</u> |
| Total restricted funds | <u>(80)</u> | <u>642</u> | <u>(600)</u> | <u>68</u> | <u>30</u> |
| Unrestricted funds | | | | | |
| Unrestricted funds | - | - | - | - | - |
| Total unrestricted funds | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>-</u> |
| Total funds | <u>(80)</u> | <u>642</u> | <u>(600)</u> | <u>68</u> | <u>30</u> |

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

General annual grant

This includes all monies received from the ESFA to carry out the objectives of the academy. It includes the School Budget Share, LACSEG (Local Authority Central Spend Equivalent Grant), insurance and rates grants.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2017.

Other DfE/ESFA grants

This represents revenue grants received from the ESFA for specific purposes, for example to support individual pupils with a SEN statement

Other restricted funds

This represents revenue grants received from the Local Education Authorities and Education and Skills Funding Agency for specific purposes

Pension reserve

This represents the negative reserve in respect of the liability on the LGPS defined benefit pension scheme.

Fixed asset fund

The fund includes the value of the tangible fixed assets of the academy on conversion, and monies transferred from the GAG or other restricted funds specifically for expenditure on tangible fixed assets, and the annual charges for depreciation of these assets.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

14 Funds (continued)

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows

| | Total £000 |
|--|------------------|
| St Augustine's Catholic Primary School | |
| Total before fixed assets and pension reserve | <u>145</u> |
| Restricted fixed asset fund | <u>145</u> |
| Pension reserve | |
| Total | <u>2</u> |
| | <u>(117)</u> |
| | <u><u>30</u></u> |

Analysis of academies by cost

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

| | Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £000 | Other Support Staff Costs £000 | Educational Supplies £000 | Other Costs (excluding depreciation) £000 | Total £000 |
|--|--|---|---------------------------------|--|---------------|
| St Augustine's Catholic Primary School | | | | | |
| Academy Trust | 450 | - | 7 | 125 | 582 |
| | <u>450</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>7</u> | <u>125</u> | <u>582</u> |

15 Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 are represented by:

| | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total Funds £000 |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|--|---|------------------------|
| Tangible fixed assets | | | | |
| Net current assets | - | - | 2 | 2 |
| Pension scheme liability | - | 145 | - | 145 |
| Total net assets | <u>-</u> | <u>(117)</u> | <u>-</u> | <u>(117)</u> |
| | <u><u>28</u></u> | <u><u>2</u></u> | <u><u>30</u></u> | <u><u>30</u></u> |

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

| 16 Reconciliation of Net (Expenditure)/Income to Net Cash from Operating Activities | | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|---|--|--------------|--------------|
| Net income/(expenditure) | | | |
| Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited | | 42 | (21) |
| Fixed assets transferred on conversion | | - | 102 |
| Depreciation | | - | (6) |
| Capital grants from DfE and others | | 2 | 2 |
| Defined benefit pension cost less contributions payable | | (5) | (12) |
| Defined benefit pension finance costs | | 12 | 4 |
| (Increase)/decrease in debtors | | 3 | 5 |
| Increase/(decrease) in creditors | | (37) | (18) |
| | | 47 | 44 |
| Net Cash (Outflow)/Inflow from Operating Activities | | <u>64</u> | <u>100</u> |
| 17 Capital Expenditure and Financial Investment | | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
| Capital grants from DfE/ESFA | | 5 | 12 |
| Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial investment | | <u>5</u> | <u>12</u> |
| 18 Analysis of Cash and Cash Equivalents | | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
| Cash in hand and at bank | | 181 | 112 |
| Members' Liability | | <u>181</u> | <u>112</u> |

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.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

20 Pension and Similar Obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £Nil (2016: £993) was payable to schemes at 31 August 2017 and included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge).
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191.500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176.600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14.900 million.
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations.
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

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

The pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £14k (2016: £10k).

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

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

Local Government Pension Schemes

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2017 was £29,000 (2016: £28,000) of which employer's contributions totalled £23,000 (2016: £22,000) and employees' contributions totalled £6,000 (2016: £6,000).

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.

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

20 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Schemes (continued)

Cheshire Pension Fund

Principal Actuarial Assumptions

| | At 31 August 2017 | At 31 August 2016 |
|--|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Rate of increase in salaries | 2.70% | 3.10% |
| Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation | 2.40% | 2.10% |
| Discount rate for scheme liabilities | 2.50% | 2.00% |

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

| | At 31 August 2017 | At 31 August 2016 |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| <i>Retiring today</i> | | |
| Males | 22.3 | 22.3 |
| Females | 24.5 | 24.4 |
| <i>Retiring in 20 years</i> | | |
| Males | 23.9 | 24.1 |
| Females | 26.5 | 26.7 |

Sensitivity analysis on obligation

| | As at 31 August 2017 £'000 | As at 31 August 2016 £'000 |
|--|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Discount rate -0.5% | 419 | 447 |
| Mortality assumption - 1 year increase | 386 | 418 |
| Pay growth +0.5% | 382 | 418 |
| Pension rate +0.5% | 408 | 434 |

The academy's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme and the expected rates of return were:

| | Fair value at 31 August 2017 £000 | Fair value at 31 August 2016 £000 |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Equities | 127 | 125 |
| Government bonds | 104 | 92 |
| Other bonds | - | - |
| Property | 18 | 17 |
| Cash/liquidity | 5 | 2 |
| Other | - | - |
| Total market value of assets | 254 | 236 |

The actual return on scheme assets was £28,000.

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

| | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|--|--------------|--------------|
| Current service cost (net of employee contributions) | 35 | 26 |
| Net interest cost | 3 | 5 |
| Administration expenses | - | - |
| Total operating charge | 38 | 31 |

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

20 Pension and Similar Obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Schemes (Continued)

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

| | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|------------------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| At conversion | | |
| At 1 September 2016 | - | 274 |
| Current service cost | 406 | - |
| Interest cost | 35 | 26 |
| Employee contributions | 8 | 13 |
| Benefits paid | 6 | 6 |
| Changes in demographic assumptions | (4) | - |
| Other experience | 5 | - |
| Actuarial loss/(gain) | (51) | - |
| | (34) | 87 |
| At 31 August 2017 | 371 | 406 |

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

| | 2017 £000 | 2016 £000 |
|---------------------------|--------------|--------------|
| At conversion | | |
| At 1 September 2016 | - | 172 |
| Expected return on assets | 236 | - |
| Actuarial gain | 5 | 8 |
| Administration expenses | (12) | 28 |
| Benefits paid | - | - |
| Employer contributions | (4) | - |
| Employee contributions | 23 | 22 |
| | 6 | 6 |
| At 31 August 2017 | 254 | 236 |

Salopia Catholic Schools Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements (continued)
For the year ended 31 August 2017

21 Related Party Transactions

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

The Diocese of Shrewsbury is a related party as the land from which the academy operates is owned by the Diocese and a Memorandum of Understanding is also in place between the two entities. During the period the Diocese of Shrewsbury paid the academy £Nil (2016: £57,480) for Outreach work. No balance was outstanding at the year end (2016: £Nil).

25 Comparative SOFA

| | Note | Unrestricted Funds £000 | Restricted General Funds £000 | Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000 | Total 2016 £000 |
|---|------|-------------------------------|--|--|-----------------------|
| Income from: | | | | | |
| Donations and capital grants | 2 | - | - | 12 | 12 |
| Voluntary income | | | | | |
| Other trading activities | 3 | 1 | - | - | 1 |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | |
| <i>Funding for the academy trust's educational operations</i> | 4 | - | 736 | - | 736 |
| Total | | <u>1</u> | <u>736</u> | <u>12</u> | <u>749</u> |
| Expenditure on: | | | | | |
| Raising funds | | - | - | - | - |
| Charitable activities: | | | | | |
| <i>Academy trust educational operations</i> | 6 | 50 | 659 | 14 | 723 |
| <i>Transfer from local authority on conversion</i> | 22 | (49) | 102 | (6) | 47 |
| Total | 5 | <u>1</u> | <u>761</u> | <u>8</u> | <u>770</u> |
| Net income/(expenditure) before transfers | | - | (25) | 4 | (21) |
| Gross transfers between funds | 14 | - | - | - | - |
| Net income/(expenditure) | | - | (25) | 4 | (21) |
| Other recognised gains and losses | | | | | |
| Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes | 20 | - | (59) | - | (59) |
| Net movement in funds | | - | (84) | 4 | (80) |
| Total funds carried forward | 14 | <u>-</u> | <u>(84)</u> | <u>4</u> | <u>(80)</u> |

All of the Academy trust's activities derive from continuing operations during the financial periods.