

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 08020467 (England and Wales)

**Report of the Trustees and**  
**Financial Statements**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**  
**for**  
**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

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for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

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**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Reference and Administrative Details  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

<b>MEMBERS:</b>	K J Ernest R A Jago R Edwards T D o B Academies Company
<b>TRUSTEES</b>	J Cross C Davies – resigned 23.09.23 D A Henshall R A Jago - Chair of Governors A M Kanagaratnam – resigned 27.11.23 M C Lowe D J New E Gilbertson S A Wren – resigned 14.04.24 C Parrott N Nicholas – appointed 24.09.23 M Sylvester – appointed 05.12.23 L Nicolson – appointed 18.01.24
<b>COMPANY SECRETARY</b>	M Hocking
<b>REGISTERED OFFICE</b>	By Brook Valley C of E Primary School The Street Yatton Keynell Chippenham Wiltshire SN14 7BA
<b>REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER</b>	08020467 (England and Wales)
<b>AUDITORS</b>	Sumer AuditCo Limited 30 Gay Street Bath BA1 2PA
<b>SOLICITORS</b>	Blake Morgan LLP Seacourt Tower West Way Oxford OX2 0FB

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust (Registered number: 08020467)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates a single academy, By Brook Valley C of E Primary School, for pupils aged 4 to 11, serving a catchment area which includes the villages of Biddestone, Nettleton and Burton, Castle Combe and Yatton Keynell.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives and aims**

The principal object and activity of the Charitable Company, as outlined in the Trusts' Articles of Association, is the operation of the By Brook Valley C of E Primary School to advance, for the Public Benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a school with a designated Church of England religious character offering a broad and balanced curriculum conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship (as required by the Funding Agreement) and in having regard to the advice of the Diocesan Board of Education.

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**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Objectives, strategies and activities**

**School organisation**

In 2023-2024 the school continued to operate with seven classes, with 181 on roll for the Autumn census and 187 on roll at the end of term 6. We welcomed some new pupils across the school joining, with a number of other pupils joining the school in Year 1 – 6 starting in September 2023.

Three new ECT teachers (M1) joined the teaching team in 2023 – 2024. One is a maternity cover and the other two positions are fixed term for 1 year.

One of our teachers (UP3) started her maternity post in October 2023 and returned to school in July 2024.

We recruited one Specific Named Pupil TA in September to work with a child joining our EYFS class. One named pupil 1:1 TA left her post in July 2023 to join a different school. They were replaced mid- way through the autumn term by a TA. Both were recruited following successful external recruitment.

In term 2 a new member of the office team started and was responsible for Health and safety and maintaining the Single central record.

In term 3 our Finance Officer resigned and left her post. After a successful recruitment process our new Finance Officer took up post in March 2024

**Leadership:**

Our leadership team consisted of Deborah Henshall (Interim Headteacher), Ben Summers (Interim Deputy Headteacher and SENDco & Inclusion Manager). The time for this was increased from 3 days 4 days to ensure there was time to fulfil the role of Deputy alongside SEND needs across the school. Some of this time was also spent leading our forest schools provision.

In March 2024 Deborah Henshall was appointed as the substantive Head.

The school continued to be part of WOMBATT (a group of Stand alone Church academy schools).

The school also worked with our local schools, to formalise the partnership as part of the Wiltshire hub model for school improvement in 2023- 2024. This HUB model allowed the school as a whole the opportunities to access other CPD, engaging with Deep Dive training in preparation for Ofsted, Cluster writing moderation, and for the Headteacher to work collaboratively with other Heads as part of her ongoing CPD.

Whilst on maternity leave, Carrie Davies completed her NPQSL.

Middle leaders continued to build their leadership skills to support and develop the curriculum and improve the quality of teaching. The additional Training Days and release time meant that a structured Subject Leadership programme was able to be fully implemented. This meant that the Curriculum was under constant review and improvement.

**Achievements**

The school continues to enrich the core curriculum and school experience for the children. Enrichment opportunities included:

- Year 6 pupils participated in a successful residential to PGL
- Bike ability and road safety sessions
- Experience Church for all Key Stage 2 classes
- Rev, Marc Terry, Trevor Ranger and the Church Open the book team came in to lead whole school worship throughout the school year
- Church services at Harvest, Christmas, Easter and Leavers' at Castle Combe, Biddestone and Yatton Keynell Churches
- A range of whole school sporting activities including a 'Santa Run', 'Colour run' and Sports day.
- Curriculum Forest Schools provision for all classes. After- school forest schools club for Year 1 & 2
- Yoga sessions for all pupils across the school
- Dance club for all year groups
- Tag Rugby club for Years 5 & 6 and Years 3 & 4
- Netball club for Years 5 & 6
- A range of after- school sports clubs for Key Stage 2 through PH sports
- Swimming lessons for Year 4
- The children supported charities including the foodbank and doorway
- Opportunities to apply for various roles across the school including: Worship Leaders, sports leaders, eco warriors and librarians and the setting up of the School Council.

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**Report of the Trustees  
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- The eco-warriors continued to develop outside spaces and Year 5 & 6 pupils planted and maintained their outdoor learning area.
- Christmas and end of year productions; all year groups holding assemblies for parents to showcase their learning
- Science explorer dome
- Year 6 Junior Good Citizen Award
- A range of enrichment visits and visitors, including visits to Westonbirt, REME Museum, Lower More Farm, Marwell Zoo
- FoBBVs ran a number of fun raising/ community events throughout the year, including a disco, caving experience and a family BBQ and Cycle event at Castle Combe Race track. This money was used to support developing the outside area for the pupils and provide additional resources for lunchtime play.

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

Our whole school priorities for 2023-2024 were:

Priority 1: Raise attainment to be above National expectations

Priority 2: Continue to develop an ambitious curriculum for all pupils

Priority 3: Increase pupil voice so the impact of school improvements can be monitored.

Priority 4: All subject leaders to have a clear understanding of the strengths and weaknesses in their subject areas.

Priority 5: In EYFS to ensure that pupils gaining a Good Level of Development is about National expectations.

**Leadership supporting, monitoring and evaluating continuous improvement**

We began the academic year with a Supportive review led by Steve Wigley and Laura Bromberg from Wiltshire LA. This enabled the leadership team to identify key priorities for the year and structured the supportive visits from the SIA for the academic year.

Developmental drop-ins linked to BBV principles of best practice continued throughout the year. Alongside these drop-ins by member of the Senior Leadership team, work sampling, pupil conferencing and learning walks were completed by all senior and middle leaders to monitor standards and achievement across the school. Teachers also moderated writing internally and externally, with teachers from other schools and the Y6 teacher attending a writing moderation workshop.

As part of the Supportive Review the Phonics lead was able to observe phonics and identify areas for improvement. She was able to put in specific training for both teachers and support staff to ensure there was best practice across the school.

Pupil progress meetings took place at three key points of the school year with class teachers meeting with reading, writing, maths and SEN leads. These meetings focused on the progress of identified pupils who had barriers to learning/ needed to make accelerated progress to ensure they were making at least expected progress from their starting points. Teachers and leaders used INSIGHT assessment to support analysis of school, group and individual performance.

Overall, The Year 6 pupils were well prepared for their transition to secondary school. Pupils with additional needs had a package of enhanced transition supported by our SENDco, the class teacher and teaching assistants.

Pupils in all other year groups spent three 'turnaround' days in their new classroom with their new teacher and Teaching assistant in preparation for the new academic year. Our new intake of reception pupils had a full induction programme before they started school. The process was reviewed and refined in line with feedback from parents.

Attainment and progress in writing and phonics was an area for continued improvement in 2023- 2024.

3 ECTS were mentored by Natahsa Nicholas. They had a detailed programme of CPD and all successfully passed their ECT year and are well prepared to take up a Subject Leader role in 2023-2024.

Overall attendance for the academic year was 96%, which was higher than the National average 95%

The attendance of SEND pupils was: 93% which was slightly lower than the National average 94%

The attendance of PP pupils was: 94% which was in line with the National average.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust (Registered number: 08020467)**

**Report of the Trustees**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

**Public benefit**

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Charities Commission in defining the strategic direction of the academy.

**Fundraising**

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fund raising undertaken through the year was monitored by the Trustees. The academy occasionally applies for grants. FoBBVs, a separate organisation raises funds from the school community which are donated to the academy. Additionally, the school receives donations from the Village post office and other local organisations, such as local festivals. The academy has not received any complaints regarding the fundraising of FoBBVs

**ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE**

**Achievements and performance and key performance indicators**

Overall

EYFS - 80% of the EYFS achieved GLD (Good Level of Development)

Phonics Screening

Year 1 – 86% of the cohort passed the phonics screening

Year 2 – 92% of the cohort passed the phonics screening check in total (Only 52% of the cohort had by the end of Year 1). Both children who did not pass made significant personal progress from Year 1 to Year 2.

KS1 SATs are now optional and are used for internal monitoring purposes only.

Year 4 Multiplication Check – mean average was 19.4.

End of KS2 SATs:

- Reading – 95 % achieved the expected standard, with 50 % at Greater depth. The average scaled score was
- Writing – 82 % achieved the expected standard, with 18 % at Greater depth.
- Maths -82 % achieved the expected standard, with 26 % at Greater depth. The average scaled score was 106.6
- SPaG – 100 % achieved the expected standard, with 41 % at Greater depth. The average scaled score was 107.5
- RWM combined – 73 % achieved the expected standard, with 5 % at Greater depth
- Science- 25% achieved the expected standard

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Financial review**

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2024 are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

In the year, total income of £1,112,000 was received and £1,165,000 expenditure incurred.

The academy made an in-year deficit of £53,000 (being the change in balance of restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus unrestricted funds).

Financial Objectives

The Academy's financial objectives are

- o To ensure best value in respect of financial decisions; and
- o To ensure that all resources are used to promote pupil achievement

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust (Registered number: 08020467)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

**Investment policy and objectives**

The school's investment policy requires that the Finance Officer monitors cash flow and the current account balance to ensure immediate financial commitments can be met (payroll and payments runs) and that the current account has adequate balances to meet forthcoming commitments. In practice a working balance of between £50,000 and £90,000 is likely to be maintained and the school will normally seek to avoid its current account going overdrawn. During the period under review, this policy was followed. Any change in Policy requires the approval of Governors via the Finance, Premises, Staffing & HR Committee.

**Reserves policy**

The governors aim to maintain free reserves of £35,000 to ensure that there is sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance. As at 31 August 2024, the Academy had free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) of £140,000. The reserves held are in excess of the £35,000 required.

The total balance at 31 August 2024 on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds, was £2.8m.

In total at 31 August 2024, the funds of the academy were £2.9m which is represented by £2.78m of restricted funds and £140,000 unrestricted funds. £2.6m of the restricted funds can only be realised by disposing of tangible fixed assets.

The governors acknowledge the pension reserve asset of £180,000 (2023: £132,000) and continue to monitor the contributions made.

**FUTURE PLANS**

Priority 1 - To ensure that high quality teaching results in attainment continuing to be above national levels at all statutory assessment points, with good progress for our most vulnerable learners.

Priority 2 - Ensure that our ambitious curriculum has key knowledge and vocabulary identified for the remaining two terms in history and geography, and that children are knowing and remembering more across the curriculum.

Priority 3 - Assessment is used effectively to determine what pupils know and remember over time and learning is adapted in the light of this information.

Priority 4 - To strengthen subject leadership teams to have a clear understanding of the strengths and priorities in their subjects to be able to continuously improve teaching and learning.

Priority 5 - To secure high levels of communication language and literacy in EYFS for this cohort of children born during the pandemic.

**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 By Brook Valley Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as By Brook Valley Academy Trust.

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 3.

**Members' liability**

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

**Trustees' Indemnities**

The academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring while on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000.



**By Brook Valley Academy Trust (Registered number: 08020467)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

**Recruitment and appointment of new trustees**

Governors are subject to retirement by rotation but are eligible for re-election at the meeting at which they retire.

The Chair and Vice Chair are elected by the Governing Body, annually, at the first meeting of the year, from within their own number.

The Governors who were in office at 31 August 2023 and served throughout the period, except where shown, are listed in the Reference and Administrative Details section.

**Organisational structure**

The organisational structure of the Academy Trust consists of four levels:

- o Full Governing Body (Directors & Trustees)
- o Members
- o Senior Leadership Team
- o School Staff

The aim of this structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the school by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the strategic direction of the school, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The senior leadership team consists of the Interim Headteacher, an Interim Deputy Head teacher who is also the SENDco & Inclusion Manager. These leaders control the school at an executive level, implementing the policies ratified by the governing body. The Interim Headteacher is responsible for the appointment of staff, though all senior appointments also require the approval of the governing body. The Head teacher assisted by the Finance Officer and office staff is responsible for the authorisation of expenditure within agreed budgets.

**Induction and training of new trustees**

The training and induction provided for new Governors is dependent on their existing experience. Where necessary induction training is provided on charity and educational, legal and financial matters.

All new Governors are given a tour of the school and the opportunity to meet staff and pupils. All Governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, Budget, plans, and other documents that they will require to undertake their role as Governors. Induction tends to be informal and is tailored specifically to the individual. Governors also complete safeguarding training.

**Key management remuneration**

The Governing Body delegates (in accordance with its scheme of delegation) to its Pay Panel the responsibility for reviewing and determining staff salaries and for making recommendations to the Governing Body for the annual budget needed for pay. All teachers employed at By Brook Valley Academy Trust are paid in accordance with the statutory provisions of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD). All pay-related decisions are made taking full account of the school improvement plan and teachers and unions have been consulted on this policy.

The pay ranges for the Headteacher and deputy Headteacher are determined in accordance with the criteria specified in the STPCD 2022 (Section 2, Part 2 - leadership group pay).

The academy adheres to Local Government pay arrangements for support staff, and rates are based upon the pay range determined within the National Joint Council for Local Government Services.

**Related parties and other connected charities and organisations**

The Church of England via the Diocese of Bristol Academies Company is a foundation member of the academy trust.

The school is a member of the Chippenham Partnership of Schools and WOMBATT (a group of stand- alone primary academies in Wiltshire).

This year the school has also begun to work as part of a group of schools supported by Wiltshire council. This has become known as The Village Hub and includes Kington St Michael, Langley Fitzurse, Stanton St Quentin, Derry Hill and Lacock.

**FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN FOR OTHERS**

There are currently no funds held as Custodian Trustee or on behalf of others.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust (Registered number: 08020467)**

**Report of the Trustees  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES**

The Governors understand and have complied with their duty and have identified and reviewed the risks to which the Academy is likely to be exposed. They have ensured that appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error.

The Major Risks to which the Academy is likely to be exposed have been assessed, in particular those relating to teaching and learning, the provision of facilities, and all other operational aspects of the school and its finances. The Governors continue to monitor internal systems to assess risk faced by the school, both in operational (e.g. Health and Safety, Teaching and Learning, Behaviour and School Trips) and in relation to the control of Finances.

A Risk Register is in place, which is subject to an annual review. In addition, a Business Continuity Plan has been developed. The highest risk items are identified and control procedures agreed by the Governing Body.

The Academy has an effective and robust system of internal controls in place working to the guidance of the Academies Financial Handbook including the following policies:

- o Finance Manual (containing all policies relating to control of income and expenditure and procurement)
- o Debtor Management Policy and Procedures

The Finance Committee meets at least once per term to discuss the school's financial position in depth and, in turn, the Finance Committee briefs the Full Governing Body at the subsequent Trustees Meeting. The Governing Body has appointed a Responsible Officer, whose role is described in the Risk and Control Framework below.

A backup procedure that allows for data to be stored securely offsite is in place for backing up school data on a daily basis. There is also a Fixed Asset Register and separate inventory for non-capital assets. These are reviewed on a regular basis.

Health and Safety inspections are carried out termly, and Health & Safety risk assessments are carried out annually and reviewed regularly. Reports are submitted to the Finance, Premises, Staffing & HR Committee regularly.

The Governing Body strives to ensure that all Academy financial transactions and educational responsibilities are managed within stringent guidelines as set by all relevant authorities (e.g. DFE, ESFA).

**AUDITORS**

The auditors, Sumer AuditCo Limited, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

19/12/2024

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:  
  
 .....7CD3035C8E454B2.....  
 R A Jago - Trustee

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY**

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that By Brook Valley Academy Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement of 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 Principal, 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 By Brook Valley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**GOVERNANCE**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
J Cross	6	6
C Davies (resigned 23.09.24)	-	-
E Gilbertson	6	6
D Henshall (Headteachers and Accounting Officer)	6	6
R Jago	4	6
A Kanagaratnam (resigned 27.11.23)	1	2
M Lowe	4	6
D New	5	6
C Parrott	6	6
S Wren	-	4
N Nicolas (appointed 24.09.23)	5	6
M Sylvester (appointed 05.12.23)	4	4
L Nicolson (appointed 18.01.24)	2	3

The Finance, Premises, Staffing and HR Committee is a subcommittee of the main board of trustees. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<b>Governors and Trustees</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>
D Henshall (Headteacher and Accounting Officer presents to committee)	5/5
E Gilbertson	5/5
R Jago	5/5
M Lowe	2/5
C Parrott	5/5

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Governance Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

The Curriculum, Teaching and Learning Committee is a subcommittee of the main board of trustees. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<b>Governors and Trustees</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>
D Henshall (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)	4/4
C Davies (resigned 23.09.24)	0/0
A Kanagaratnam (resigned 27.11.23)	0/2
D New	4/4
S Wren	0/2
N Nicolas (appointed 24.09.23)	4/4
L Nicolson (appointed 18.01.24)	1/2
J Cross	4/4

The Foundation and Ethos Committee is a subcommittee of the main board of trustees. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<b>Governors and Trustees</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>
J Cross	6/6
D Henshall (Headteacher and Accounting Officer)	6/6
A Kanagaratnam (resigned 27.11.23)	1/2
S Wren	3/4
M Sylvester (appointed 05.12.23)	6/6

The governors continue to monitor their own performance during the year, one such way this is measured is the continued inclusion of a standing item at the end of each sub-committee meeting requesting that the committee reviews and records the impact of the meeting and how the meeting has "added value". These discussions are included in minutes and fed back to Full Governing Body meetings. The impact of this has been to ensure a constant process of self-evaluation, challenge and an improvement in the formal documentation of this process and the way in which it is fed back to the board.

The governors manage conflicts of interest by maintaining an up-to-date register of interests and these are confirmed at the start of each meeting. The governing body does not deal with any companies connected to any of its members.

**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 or improved value for money during the year as follows:

The school invested in CPD for some Tas working in KS1 for Sounds Write, our chosen phonics programme.

The school continued to invest in books to promote the love of reading across the school and encourage continued use of the school library.

School sports premium was used to ensure there was a wide range of sports, activities and experiences offered to all children, including a greater number of whole school competitive and participation events, some which involved the whole school community including parents. Provision was also enhanced through the Up and Under coaching and mentoring. Additionally, the school employed a specialist yoga teacher for all year groups. Forest schools was provided for all year groups across the school from Reception through to and including Year 6.

In terms of IT, there were new Ipads in the school and additionally we have Chromebooks set up to be used that the school had acquired during one of the periods of Covid lockdown.

INSIGHT assessment supported data analysis across the school and also supported the submission of statutory information. INSIGHT was also used to provide end of year reports for parents, including EYFS, End of Key Stage, End of year, Phonics and MTC. School Cloud was used to organise and book parent- teacher consultations. Both platforms help track progress and achievement over time. In addition, they support the reduction of teacher workload and an increase in efficiency.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Governance Statement  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

The school continued to subscribe to a membership of the National College and NationalOnlineSafety platforms. Both platforms have been used to provide a range of training courses and webinars linked to leadership, safeguarding, health & safety, the curriculum, and teaching and learning. All staff and governors have access to both platforms and they have been used to provide extensive CPD. This year parents have also had access to NationalOnlineSafety and pupil digital leaders have also used some of the resources to develop the online safety pages for parents and pupils on the school website. Teachers also use the platform to support online safety progressions of knowledge and skills. However this will no longer be used from December in the 2024-2025 academic year.

To support teaching and learning, the school continued to use White Rose Maths and Literacy Shed to support teachers in planning and delivering a Maths and English curriculum. The Kapow curriculum was used for Design and Technology, Computing and Music, to ensure the school was delivering a full curriculum in these subjects.

**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 charitable company 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 By Brook Valley Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 charitable company 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 charitable company's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

**THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK**

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance, Premises, Staffing and HR 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 and
- identification and management of risks

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

To not appoint an internal auditor but to appoint a Wiltshire Council Accounting Technician to undertake additional checks.

The external reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Payroll and HR
- Financial Administration, Planning and Monitoring
- Procurement, Purchases and Payments

On a quarterly basis, the external reviewer reports to the board of trustees, through filing a report with the Finance, Premises, Staffing and HR Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. The external reviewer was able to deliver their full schedule of work as planned for the period.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**  
**Governance Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**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 independent external reviewer provided by Wiltshire Council.
- the work of the external auditor
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool
- the work of the school business manager/finance officer within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance, Premises, Staffing & HR Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

**CONCLUSION**

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the charity has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

19/12/2024

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

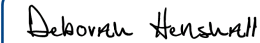
Signed by:



.....7CD3085C8E454B2.....

R A Jago - Trustee

Signed by:



.....26D504E206F34AF.....

D Henshall - Accounting Officer

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

As accounting officer of By Brook Valley Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the charitable company board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the charitable company and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the charitable company board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the charitable company, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the charitable company's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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.

Signed by:

*Deborah Henshall*

Deborah Henshall Accounting Officer

19/12/2024

Date: .....

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

The trustees (who act as governors of By Brook Valley Academy Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Report of the Trustees and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies 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 the incoming resources and application of resources, including the income and expenditure, of the charitable company for that period. In preparing those financial statements, the trustees are required to

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- 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 to 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 the ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

19/12/2024

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:  


.....7GD3095C0E454B2.....  
R A Jago - Trustee



**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of**  
**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of By Brook Valley Academy Trust (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, 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) and the Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.

**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 charitable company in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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 charitable company'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.

**Other information**

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

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, 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 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.

**Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

**Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit; or
- the trustees were not entitled to take advantage of the small companies exemption from the requirement to prepare a Strategic Report or in preparing the Report of the Trustees.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of**  
**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Responsibilities of trustees**

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

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

**Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

**Explanation as to what extent the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

The objectives of our audit in respect of fraud, are; to identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud; to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud, through designing and implementing appropriate responses to those assessed risks; and to respond appropriately to instances of fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit. However, the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both management and those charged with governance of the company.

Our approach was as follows:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory requirements applicable to the company and considered that the most significant are the Companies Act 2006, UK Financial Reporting Standards, the Charity SORP and the Academy Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.

We obtained an understanding of how the company complies with these requirements by discussions with management and those charged with governance.

We assessed the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements, including the risk of material misstatement due to fraud and how it might occur, by holding discussions with management and those charged with governance.

We inquired of management and those charged with governance as to any known instances of non-compliance or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations.

Based on this understanding, we designed specific appropriate audit procedures to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included making enquiries of management and those charged with governance and obtaining additional corroborative evidence as required.

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](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Report of the Independent Auditors.

**Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of**  
**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Use of our report**

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

Signed by:



F0A99E34870F421...

Simon Cunningham (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Sumer AuditCo Limited

30 Gay Street

Bath

BA1 2PA

20/12/2024

Date: .....

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to  
By Brook Valley Academy Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by By Brook Valley Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 By Brook Valley Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to By Brook Valley Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than By Brook Valley Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of By Brook Valley Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of By Brook Valley Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, 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 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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 2023 to 2024 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 charitable company's income and expenditure.

**Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Signed by:  
  
FOA09E34870FA21  
Sumner Audit Co Limited  
Reporting Accountant  
30 Gay Street  
Bath  
BA1 2PA

20/12/2024

Date: .....

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Statement of Financial Activities  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

					2024	2023
	Notes	Unrestricted fund £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total funds £'000	Total funds £'000
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>						
Donations and capital grants	2	3	-	6	9	33
<b>Charitable activities</b>						
Funding for the academy's educational operations	3	-	1,014	-	1,014	1,016
Other trading activities	4	79	10	(1)	88	80
Investment income	5	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Total</b>		<u>83</u>	<u>1,024</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>1,112</u>	<u>1,129</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON Charitable activities</b>						
Academy's educational operations	7	93	1,003	69	1,165	1,118
<b>Total</b>		<u>93</u>	<u>1,003</u>	<u>69</u>	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,118</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>		(10)	21	(64)	(53)	11
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes		<u>-</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>103</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		(10)	48	(64)	(26)	114
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
Total funds brought forward		150	132	2,662	2,944	2,830
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>		<u>140</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>2,598</u>	<u>2,918</u>	<u>2,944</u>

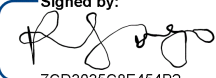
**By Brook Valley Academy Trust (Registered number: 08020467)**

**Balance Sheet**  
**31 August 2024**

					2024	2023
		Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted	Total	Total
	Notes	fund	funds	fixed	funds	funds
		£'000	£'000	asset	£'000	£'000
				funds		
				£'000		
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>						
Tangible assets	12	-	-	2,592	2,592	2,662
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>						
Stocks	13	1	-	-	1	2
Debtors	14	1	28	-	29	39
Cash at bank		<u>195</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>201</u>	<u>171</u>
		197	28	6	231	212
<b>CREDITORS</b>						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(57)</u>	<u>(28)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(85)</u>	<u>(62)</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>		<u>140</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>146</u>	<u>150</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>		140	-	2,598	2,738	2,812
<b>PENSION ASSET</b>	17	<u>-</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>132</u>
<b>NET ASSETS</b>		<u>140</u>	<u>180</u>	<u>2,598</u>	<u>2,918</u>	<u>2,944</u>
<b>FUNDS</b>	16					
Restricted funds:						
DfE Group Capital Grants					432	449
Fixed assets on conversion					2,151	2,191
Fixed assets purchased from GAG					15	22
Pension fund					<u>180</u>	<u>132</u>
					<u>2,778</u>	<u>2,794</u>
Unrestricted funds:						
General fund					<u>140</u>	<u>150</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					<u>2,918</u>	<u>2,944</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to charitable companies subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 19/12/2024 and were signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:  
  
 .....7GD3035C8E454B2.....  
 R A Jago - Trustee

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Cash Flow Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

	Notes	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Cash generated from operations	1	<u>22</u>	<u>41</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>22</u>	<u>41</u>
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-	(21)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA		<u>8</u>	<u>20</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		<u>8</u>	<u>(1)</u>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			
		30	40
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period</b>			
		<u>171</u>	<u>131</u>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period</b>			
		<u>201</u>	<u>171</u>

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Cash Flow Statement**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**1. RECONCILIATION OF NET (EXPENDITURE)/INCOME TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
<b>Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)</b>	(53)	11
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation charges	70	71
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(8)	(20)
Decrease in stocks	1	1
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	10	(11)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	23	(12)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>(21)</u>	<u>1</u>
<b>Net cash provided by operations</b>	<u><u>22</u></u>	<u><u>41</u></u>

**2. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	At 1.9.23 £'000	Cash flow £'000	At 31.8.24 £'000
<b>Net cash</b>			
Cash at bank	<u>171</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>201</u>
	<u>171</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>201</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>171</u></u>	<u><u>30</u></u>	<u><u>201</u></u>



**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES****Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements of the charitable company, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

By Brook Valley Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the academy and rounded to the nearest thousand pound.

**Going concern**

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

The school's main source of income, the General Annual Grant is secured through the funding agreement with the ESFA. The trustees have approved budgets for 23/24 and beyond showing surplus funds for at least 12 months from the date of approving these financial statements, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**Critical accounting judgements and key sources of estimation uncertainty**

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 17, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. 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.

There are no critical areas of judgement.

**Income**

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

**Grants**

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

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

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

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Donations**

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

**Other income**

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

**Expenditure**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**Charitable activities**

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

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its useful expected lives. Where an asset comprises of two or more components which have substantially different lives each component is depreciated over its useful economic life. The expected useful lives are as follows:

Long leasehold buildings	15 to 100 years
Property improvements	10 to 100 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	3 years
ICT equipment	3 years

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

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

The leasehold land and buildings (being the school buildings) were transferred to the Academy on a 125 year lease from Wiltshire Council. The property is included at the insurance valuation upon conversion. Other assets on transfer have been valued at cost when purchased shortly prior to the formation of the academy.

**Financial instruments**

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Financial instruments**

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 14 and 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.

**Stocks**

Stock consists of purchased goods for resale including uniforms as well as other items held for future use. Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

**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.

**Fund accounting**

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

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

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

**Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. 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 net income/(expenditure) are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

**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.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued****Provisions**

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

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

**2. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS**

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Donations	3	13
Grants	<u>6</u>	<u>20</u>
	<u>9</u>	<u>33</u>

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

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
DfE/ESFA capital grants	<u>6</u>	<u>20</u>

**3. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000	2023 Total funds £'000
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	879	879	888
Other DfE/ESFA grant	<u>-</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>94</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>982</u>	<u>982</u>	<u>982</u>
<b>Other Government grant</b>				
Local Authority revenue grant	<u>-</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>34</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,014</u>	<u>1,014</u>	<u>1,016</u>

**4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trips and residentials	12	14
Other income	<u>76</u>	<u>66</u>
	<u>88</u>	<u>80</u>

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****5. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Rents received	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

**6. EXPENDITURE**

	Non-pay expenditure			2024	2023
	Staff costs £'000	Premises £'000	Other costs £'000	Total £'000	Total £'000
<b>Charitable activities</b>					
<b>Academy's educational operations</b>					
Direct costs	764	39	107	910	852
Allocated support costs	<u>93</u>	<u>106</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>255</u>	<u>266</u>
	<u>857</u>	<u>145</u>	<u>163</u>	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,118</u>

Net income/(expenditure) is stated after charging/(crediting):

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Auditors' remuneration	13	13
Depreciation - owned assets	<u>70</u>	<u>72</u>

**7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	2024 Total funds £'000	2023 Total funds £'000
Direct costs	86	824	910	852
Support costs	<u>7</u>	<u>248</u>	<u>255</u>	<u>266</u>
	<u>93</u>	<u>1,072</u>	<u>1,165</u>	<u>1,118</u>

	2024 Total £'000	2023 Total £'000
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	93	104
Technology costs	9	9
Premises costs	106	112
Other support costs	26	21
Governance costs	<u>21</u>	<u>20</u>
Total support costs	<u>255</u>	<u>266</u>

**8. STAFF COSTS**

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Wages and salaries	639	588
Social security costs	52	47
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	<u>154</u>	<u>145</u>
	845	780
Supply teacher costs	<u>12</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>857</u>	<u>790</u>

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****8. STAFF COSTS - continued**

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

	2024	2023
Teachers	9	9
Administration and support	17	16
Management	<u>2</u>	<u>2</u>
	<u>28</u>	<u>27</u>

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

	2024	2023
£60,001 - £70,000	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

**Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 3. 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 £185,041 (2023: £214,434).

**9. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES**

One or more trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The Headteacher and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Headteacher and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

D Henshall (Headteacher and trustee):

Remuneration £60,000 - £65,000 (2023: £50,000 - £55,000)  
Employer's pension contribution £10,000 - £15,000 (2023: £10,000 - £15,000)

C Davies (staff trustee):

Remuneration £30,000 - £35,000 (2023: £40,000 - £45,000)  
Employer's pension contribution £5,000 - £10,000 (2023: £10,000 - £15,000)

N Nicholas (staff trustee):

Remuneration £40,000 - £45,000 (2023: n/a)  
Employer's pension contribution £10,000 - £15,000 (2023: n/a)

**10. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE**

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

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****11. COMPARATIVES FOR THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted fund £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Restricted fixed asset funds £'000	Total funds £'000
<b>INCOME AND ENDOWMENTS FROM</b>				
Donations and capital grants	13	-	20	33
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	-	1,016	-	1,016
Other trading activities	<u>66</u>	<u>16</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>80</u>
<b>Total</b>	<u>79</u>	<u>1,032</u>	<u>18</u>	<u>1,129</u>
<b>EXPENDITURE ON</b>				
<b>Charitable activities</b>				
Academy's educational operations	1	1,046	71	1,118
<b>Total</b>	<u>1</u>	<u>1,046</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>1,118</u>
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)</b>	78	(14)	(53)	11
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	(2)	2	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>				
Actuarial gains on defined benefit schemes	<u>-</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>103</u>
<b>Net movement in funds</b>	76	91	(53)	114
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>				
Total funds brought forward	<u>74</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>2,726</u>	<u>2,830</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD</b>	<u>150</u>	<u>121</u>	<u>2,673</u>	<u>2,944</u>

**12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold property £'000	Short leasehold £'000	Fixtures and fittings £'000	Computer equipment £'000	Totals £'000
<b>COST</b>					
At 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024	<u>2,561</u>	<u>645</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>3,283</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
At 1 September 2023	370	196	27	28	621
Charge for year	<u>40</u>	<u>23</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>70</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>410</u>	<u>219</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>32</u>	<u>691</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>					
At 31 August 2024	<u>2,151</u>	<u>426</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>2,592</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>2,191</u>	<u>449</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>2,662</u>

Included in cost or valuation of land and buildings is freehold land of £601,000 (2023 - £601,000) which is not depreciated.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**13. STOCKS**

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Oil	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

**14. DEBTORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Other debtors	1	-
VAT	2	5
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>26</u>	<u>34</u>
	<u>29</u>	<u>39</u>

**15. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Trade creditors	(2)	11
Social security and other taxes	20	-
Accruals and deferred income	<u>67</u>	<u>51</u>
	<u>85</u>	<u>62</u>

Deferred income

	£'000
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	20
Resources deferred in the year	38
Released from previous years	<u>(20)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>38</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance, including Universal Infant Free School Meal income for the 23/24 school year; teachers' pension grant; wraparound care; and school trips arranged for the autumn term.

**16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS**

	At 1.9.23	Net movement	At
	£'000	in funds	31.8.24
		£'000	£'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>			
DfE Group Capital Grants	449	(17)	432
Fixed assets on conversion	2,191	(40)	2,151
Fixed assets purchased from GAG	22	(7)	15
Pension fund	<u>132</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>180</u>
	<u>2,794</u>	<u>(16)</u>	<u>2,778</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>			
General fund	150	(10)	140
	<u>150</u>	<u>(10)</u>	<u>140</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,944</u>	<u>(26)</u>	<u>2,918</u>



**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

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

	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains and losses £'000	Movement in funds £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
DfE Group grants	70	(70)	-	-
General Annual Grant	886	(886)	-	-
DfE Group - pupil premium	24	(24)	-	-
DfE Group Capital Grants	7	(24)	-	(17)
Fixed assets on conversion	(1)	(39)	-	(40)
Fixed assets purchased from GAG	(1)	(6)	-	(7)
Pension fund	-	21	27	48
Other government grants	32	(32)	-	-
Other restricted income	12	(12)	-	-
	<u>1,029</u>	<u>(1,072)</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>(16)</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	83	(93)	-	(10)
	<u>83</u>	<u>(93)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(10)</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,112</u>	<u>(1,165)</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>(26)</u>

**Comparatives for movement in funds**

	At 1.9.22 £'000	Net movement in funds £'000	Transfers between funds £'000	At 31.8.23 £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
General Annual Grant	-	(2)	2	-
DfE Group Capital Grants	459	(10)	-	449
Fixed assets on conversion	2,230	(39)	-	2,191
Fixed assets purchased from GAG	37	(15)	-	22
Pension fund	30	102	-	132
	<u>2,756</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>2,794</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	74	78	(2)	150
	<u>74</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>150</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>2,830</u>	<u>114</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,944</u>

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****16. MOVEMENT IN FUNDS - continued**

Comparative net movement in funds, included in the above are as follows:

	Incoming resources £'000	Resources expended £'000	Gains and losses £'000	Movement in funds £'000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>				
DfE Group grants	61	(61)	-	-
General Annual Grant	894	(896)	-	(2)
DfE Group - pupil premium	29	(29)	-	-
DfE Group Capital Grants	19	(29)	-	(10)
Fixed assets on conversion	-	(39)	-	(39)
Fixed assets purchased from GAG	(1)	(14)	-	(15)
Pension fund	-	(1)	103	102
Other government grants	34	(34)	-	-
Other restricted income	14	(14)	-	-
	<u>1,050</u>	<u>(1,117)</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>36</u>
<b>Unrestricted fund</b>				
General fund	79	(1)	-	78
	<u>79</u>	<u>(1)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>78</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>	<u>1,129</u>	<u>(1,118)</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>114</u>

General Annual Grant (GAG) - is applied in strict accordance with the terms of the Model Funding Agreement. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

DfE Group grants - these include:

- PE grant to fund improvements to the provision of PE and sports for primary pupils
- the rates relief to contribute to the rates bill
- the grant towards the universal infant free school meals provision
- a grant as part of the school's National Support School status to pay for due diligence activity for deployments funded through the school-to-school support fund
- the grant towards teachers' pay

DfE Group grants - Pupil premium - the pupil premium is used to assist pupils from low income families.

Other government grants - that is the special education needs funding from Wiltshire County Council.

Other income - this is donations received that are restricted for various purposes.

Pension reserve - this deficit represents the net shortfall in funds in the Local Government Pension Scheme in relation to employees past and present.

DfE Group capital grants - this represents funding specifically provided to support capital expenditure on fixed assets.

Other capital grants/donations - this represents the donations received for the purchase of fixed assets.

Fixed assets on conversion - this represents the value of land, buildings and other assets transferred from the Local Authority to the academy on conversion less depreciation.

Capital expenditure from GAG - this represents the cost less depreciation of assets purchased from the GAG.

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS****Teachers' pension scheme**

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

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

**Valuation of the teachers' pension scheme**

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies 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 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. 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). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- 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 result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £93,000 (2023 - £89,000).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The charity is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the charity has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The charity 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 2024 was £74,000 (2023 - £64,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £61,000 (2023 - £53,000), and employees' contributions totalled £13,000 (2023 - £11,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23.70 per cent for employers and 6 per cent for employees.

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

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust****Notes to the Financial Statements - continued  
for the Year Ended 31 August 2024****17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued**

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	47	56
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	(7)	(2)
Past service cost	-	-
	<u>40</u>	<u>54</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>68</u>	<u>(2)</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Opening defined benefit obligation	613	669
Current service cost	47	56
Contributions by scheme participants	13	11
Interest cost	35	29
Benefits paid	52	(16)
Remeasurements:		
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in demographic assumptions	(2)	(4)
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	(22)	(199)
Oblig other remeasurement	<u>23</u>	<u>67</u>
	<u>759</u>	<u>613</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Opening fair value of scheme assets	745	699
Contributions by employer	61	53
Contributions by scheme participants	13	11
Expected return	42	31
Actuarial gains/(losses)	26	(33)
Benefits paid	<u>52</u>	<u>(16)</u>
	<u>939</u>	<u>745</u>

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**17. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS - continued**

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in demographic assumptions	2	4
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	22	199
Oblig other remeasurement	<u>(23)</u>	<u>(67)</u>
	<u>1</u>	<u>136</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	2024	2023
Equities	42%	55%
Bonds	29%	29%
Property	24%	14%
Cash	<u>5%</u>	<u>2%</u>
	<u>100%</u>	<u>100%</u>

Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	2024	2023
Discount rate	5.00%	5.20%
Future salary increases	3.15%	3.45%
Future pension increases	2.65%	2.95%
Inflation (CPI)	2.65%	2.95%

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

Retiring today		
Males	21.4	21.4
Females	24.4	24.4
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.5	22.6
Females	25.9	25.9

Sensitivity analysis

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate +0.1%	-	-
Discount rate -0.1%	20	17
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	30	25
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	-	-
CPI rate +0.1%	20	16
CPI rate -0.1%	-	-

**By Brook Valley Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued**  
**for the Year Ended 31 August 2024**

**18. RELATED PARTY DISCLOSURES**

No related party transactions took place in the period of account.

**19. LONG-TERM COMMITMENTS, INCLUDING OPERATING LEASES**

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

	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Within one year	2	2
Between one and five years	<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>
	<u><u>4</u></u>	<u><u>6</u></u>