

Company registration number 07730940 (England and Wales)

**CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

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CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

I D Hall
Professor C Davenport
C Johnson
K D McLean (resigned 31 December 2023)
N Hurn
L Heatley (appointed 31 December 2023)

Governors

Professor C Davenport (Chair until 10 October 2024)
I J Wintringham (Chair from 10 October 2024)
J McCartney (Resigned 3 September 2024)
K Swann
P Clayton
P Gordon
T Buck
J Bird (Accounting Officer)
K Irving
I D Hall
L Breach (Appointed 1 September 2024)
C Swift- Hunter (Appointed 1 September 2024)

Senior management team

- Co Headteacher	J Bird
- Co Headteacher	K Irving
- Deputy Headteacher	K Brechin
- Deputy Headteacher	D Clark
- Deputy Headteacher	D Bell
- Director of Finance and Operations	L Doyle (appointed 25 March 2024)

Company registration number

07730940 (England and Wales)

Principal and registered office

Cramlington Learning Village
Highburn
Northumberland
NE23 6BN

Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services
Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
32 The Gosforth Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne And Wear
NE3 1JZ
United Kingdom

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Solicitors

Muckle LLP
Time Central
32 Gallowgate
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne And Wear
NE1 4BF
United Kingdom

Ward Hadaway LLP
Sandgate House
102 Quayside
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne And Wear
NE1 3DX
United Kingdom

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The governors present their annual report together with the accounts 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 and strategic report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 11-18 serving a catchment area in Northumberland. It has a pupil capacity of 2,218 and had a roll of 2,041 in the school census on 1 October 2023.

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 company was incorporated on 5 August 2011 and converted to Academy status on 1 September 2011. The charitable company is known as Cramlington Learning Village.

The charitable company operates as Cramlington Learning Village.

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

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

Companies Act 2006 s236 requires disclosure concerning qualifying third party indemnity provisions. As required in the Academy's Articles of Association indemnity insurance has been taken out with Zurich International plc to cover the liability of governors which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy. Provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the governors knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the governors in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the governors in their capacity as governors.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors

The Secretary of State may give a warning notice to the governors where he is satisfied:

- that the standards of performance of pupils at the Academy are unacceptably low, or
- that there has been a serious breakdown in the way the Academy is managed or governed, or
- that the safety of pupils or staff of the Academy is threatened (whether by a breakdown of discipline or otherwise).

For the purposes of Article 60 a 'warning notice' is a notice in writing by the Secretary of State to the Academy delivered to the Office setting out:

- the matters referred to in Article 60;
 - the action which he requires the governors to take in order to remedy those matters; and
 - the year within which that action is to be taken by the governors ('the compliance year').
- The Secretary of State may appoint such additional governors as he thinks fit if the Secretary of State has:
- given the governors a warning notice in accordance with Article 60; and
 - the governors have failed to comply, or secure compliance, with the notice to the Secretary of State's satisfaction within the compliance year.

The Secretary of State may also appoint such additional governors where following an Inspection by the Chief Inspector in accordance with the Education Act 2005 (an "Inspection") the Academy receives an Ofsted grading (being a grade referred to in The Framework for School Inspection or any modification or replacement of that document for the time being in force) which amounts to a drop, either from one Inspection to the next Inspection or between any two Inspections carried out within a 5 Year period of two Ofsted grades. For the purposes of the foregoing the grade received by Cramlington Learning Village shall be regarded as the grade received by the Academy.

Recruitment of governors

Parent governors

Parent governors are elected by parents of students in the school. When there is a vacancy a letter is sent out to parents asking for nominations. If more nominations are received than vacancies a letter with accompanying statements are distributed to all parents with a response sheet and deadline. Once the response sheets are received the parents with the largest number of nominations are appointed.

Staff governors

Staff governors are elected by staff members. Teacher governors are elected by the teaching staff. Support staff governors are elected by support staff.

Co-opted governors

Co-opted governors are sought and approached following consultation with the Co-Headteacher and Chair of governors. Governors are sought from the local community and businesses. All co-opted governors are given a 4 year term of office and can be re-elected for a further term by the governing body.

The Academy takes its responsibility to train new governors very seriously and therefore have developed a procedure to follow.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of governors

The Secretary of State may also appoint such further governors as he thinks fit if a Special Measures Termination Event (as defined in the Funding Agreement) occurs in respect of the Academy.

Within 5 days of the Secretary of State appointing any additional or further governors in accordance with Articles 62, 62A or 63, any governors appointed under Article 50 and holding office immediately preceding the appointment of such governors, shall resign immediately and the members' power to appoint governors under Article 50 shall remain suspended until the Secretary of State removes one or more of the additional or further governors.

The induction includes:

- Welcome to new governors.
- Meet the Co-Headteachers, staff and students.
- An explanation of the partnership between the Co-Headteacher and the governing body.
- The role and responsibilities of governors.
- Background information on the Academy and current issues.
- An explanation of how the governing body works.

The governing body also has a service level agreement with Education Personnel Management (EPM) services which includes bespoke induction training for new governors.

Safeguarding training is given for new governors and annual training is provided for all governors.

Documentation supplied to Governors will include:

- Governor Induction Policy
- School Improvement Plan
- Governance Handbook
- School Self Evaluation Form (SEF)
- Governor contact details
- Copies of approved governing body minutes
- IDSR
- Dates of governor meetings
- Site map
- Website information

Organisational structure

Jon Bird, one of the Academy's Co-Headteachers, is the Accounting Officer. His main task is to execute the policies agreed by the Academy in relation to its education functions and to bring forward for approval, proposals for further improving the quality of the educational experience of the Academy's students. The Academy's governing body has delegated the Co-Headteachers extensive powers to make decisions quickly and efficiently. The Senior Leadership Team consists of:

2 Co-Headteachers

3 Deputy Headteachers

1 Director of Finance and Operations

7 Assistant Headteachers

The governing body ensures good governance of the Academy and sets policy. It can also question implementation of policy where relevant. The governing body has a Finance & Resources Committee and a Standards & Outcomes Committee with specific duties relating to their function. The Committees have delegated powers so that action can be taken quickly whenever necessary. Further ad hoc committees are set up from time to time to advise the governing body on very specific matters. These have advisory powers only.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel are consistent with all staff at the Academy. The arrangements are covered by the Department for Education, Teachers Pay and Conditions document 2022, which is publicly available.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	1
Full-time equivalent employee number	1.00

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	11,337,933
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	-
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Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There are no formal related party transactions however the Academy would like to inform based on principles of transparency the following:

Nick Hurn (Member) - is a Director of Bishop Wilkinson Commercial Services Limited, which runs Education Commercial Services. The Academy engaged ECS during 23/24 to assist with procurement; contract management and procurement compliance. Mr Hurn was not part of that award process and is not connected with any operational decisions.

Leah Hartley (former Governor) - is employed at Muckle LLP. She is not involved in any contractual or operational items of business.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Academy's object is specifically restricted to the following:

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

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Our core principles

The school continues to use evidence-based practice to evaluate systems and strategies that have had a positive impact on our students - all with a view to firmly embedding these across the school.

Our core principles will infuse throughout our culture, pervade our classrooms and become a key part of our everyday language.

'This is a school built on respect, developing resilient learners, expert readers, knowledge explorers and responsible citizens'

Developing resilience has been part of our school ethos for a number of years, but as we look to support our students with their mental health and wellbeing, developing this key disposition has become increasingly important post pandemic. Research and evidence from the EEF (Education Endowment Fund) emphasise the potential impact on disadvantaged students of developing metacognition and self-regulation strategies, therefore our teachers will promote these resilience-building approaches through student reflection and evaluation.

The emphasis on developing expert readers reflects our key priority of developing literacy. Students with good literacy skills are proven to benefit not just in examinations, but across a range of areas when they leave school, including health and wellbeing, employment and finance. To facilitate this for all students, reading must become "every teacher's business" with students regularly engaging with age-appropriate texts and deliberate attention being paid to active vocabulary instruction.

Explicit non-fiction reading lessons are a feature of the curriculum for year 7 students, with a tried and tested package being used to ensure students make progress. There is a high emphasis on identification and support at key stage 3; where students need support with their reading, a range of strategies will be implemented.

The core principle of developing knowledge explorers is reflected in ongoing work on the curriculum which will help students to construct, develop and retain a core body of academic knowledge and skills. Departmental curriculum plans detail how student knowledge will be built up over time, how students' prior knowledge will be teased out and established, how misconceptions have been anticipated and strategies in place to overcome these. Effective forms of assessment are layered throughout plans to help make student progress visible over time.

As a school it has long been our aim to develop our students as responsible citizens, so that they move on to their chosen destinations with the cultural competence and confidence they need to thrive. Our students embrace opportunities to be respectful, responsible members of our community. Through our classroom teaching, pastoral, enrichment and wellbeing programmes, we aim to raise the aspirations of our students, engender a strong sense of British values and celebrate and embrace the different backgrounds, heritage, language and traditions of all the people living and working in this country.

Bringing the core principles to life through the curriculum

The curriculum at Cramlington Learning Village is a key lever for bringing the core principles to life for our students, so they are made meaningful and real and have an impact. To this end, the school has produced a statement of intent for the curriculum:

The curriculum intent

At Cramlington Learning Village, our curriculum has been designed to provide our young people with both the academic knowledge and skills and the broader contextual knowledge that they need to make successful transitions to the next stage of their life. We believe that the curriculum, coupled with high quality enrichment experiences and timely careers guidance helps to broaden horizons, challenge stereotypes and raise aspirations. It also provides a clear pathway to jobs and careers which are not only engaging and rewarding, but relevant in the current global and local labour market.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Core principles of the curriculum:

The curriculum should:

- help students to construct, develop and retain a core body of academic knowledge and skills;
- coupled with effective well-being and enrichment activities help students to develop broad contextual knowledge which will help them become confident scholars and citizens;
- help to develop reading comprehension and fluency skills so that student's reading age develops apace with their chronological age;
- provide smooth progression routes to help them pursue their academic passions and interests
- be broad, balanced, inclusive and personalised for our students; and
- develop key learner skills and attributes consistent with our core values

Objectives, strategies and activities

Public benefit

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the governors consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The Academy has provided a fully comprehensive education to all students in its care. It fully complies with all statutory guidance and seeks to support its wider educational objectives via a strong community role.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

In 2024 students sat GCSE and A-Level examinations.

GCSE

69% of students achieved a grade 4 and above in English and Maths (Basics). The Basics figure at 5+ was 44%. 79% of students achieved grade 4 and above in English and 59% a grade 5 and above. 78% of students achieved a grade 4 and above in Maths and 51% a grade 5 and above. Progress 8 was -0.14 and was in the Average statistical band.

The performance of disadvantaged students remains a key area of work for the school. 45% achieved a grade 4 and above in English and Maths, with 58% achieving a grade 4 or above in English and 58% achieving a grade 4 in Maths. The 4+ Basics gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged was -33%, the English 4+ gap was -27% and the Maths 4+ gap was -26%. The 5+ Basics figure for disadvantaged students was 24%.

33% of the SEND K cohort achieved a 4+ in English and Maths. English grade 4 and above was 40% and Maths was 57%. 66% of the SEND E cohort achieved English grade 4 and above and 33% achieved grade 4 and above in Maths.

Post 16

The Average Point Score (APS) per entry for best 3 A Levels was 36.02 (B-). The Average Point Score per entry for Vocational qualifications remained high at 32.8 (Distinction-).

School Rebuilding Programme

A contractor was appointed to the project in July 2024, design for the rebuild have been made and will be submitted to Northumberland County Council planning approval in late 2024. Construction is expected to start in July 2025 and students will use the new building from September 2027.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Key performance indicators

The average number of FTE staff (including the Senior Leadership Team) employed by the Academy during the year ended 31 August 2024 was as follows:

111 Teachers

63 Administration and support.

10 Management

The unrestricted fund figure is £2,268,556 (2023: £1,734,023)

The restricted general fund figure is £138,725 (excluding the pension deficit)

Total free reserves are £2,268,556 (2023: £1,734,023).

The OFSTED report in March 2022 rated the school as Good.

The attendance figure was still impacted by the Covid-19 pandemic and for 2023/24 was 91.3%

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, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the ESFA 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 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

During the year ended 31 August 2024 total expenditure, including depreciation, of £14,951,079 (2023: £13,939,877) exceeded recurrent grant funding from the ESFA together with other incoming resources. The excess of expenditure over income for the year was £409,266 (2023: £210,595) before other recognised gains/losses. Excluding the restricted fixed asset funds movement there is a surplus of £311,570 (2023: £540,405) before the actuarial gain and fund transfers. This includes net FRS102 income of £106,000 (2023: £115,000) which relates to the pension surplus. The closing funds excluding the fixed asset fund and the pension fund are therefore £2,407,281 (2023: £2,217,489).

At 31 August 2024, the net book value of fixed assets was £36,878,593 and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 12 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy. The fixed asset register has been reviewed in full and items no longer in use have been removed.

Reserves policy

The governors review the reserve levels of the Academy on a half termly basis when examining the management accounts at the Finance and Resources Committee meetings. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The governors have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be £925,000. The reason for this is to provide a sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to cover the basic costs of one month's payroll costs. The Academy's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £2,268,556 (2023: £1,734,023). In future years the level of free reserves (per financial forecasts) are expected to be maintained around the target level of £875,000.

The Academy held fund balances at 31 August 2024 of £39,285,874 comprising of £138,725 of restricted general reserves (including a pension reserve deficit of £nil), £36,878,593 of restricted fixed asset funds and £2,268,556 unrestricted funds.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Investment policy

The objectives of this policy are to ensure that the Academy:

- maintains sufficient cash balances in its current account to meet its day to day commitments;
- invests surplus cash to earn an acceptable rate of return without undue risk;
- considers spreading risk between differing types of investment and institutions to reduce credit risk.

The Academy will operate an interest bearing account with a bank approved by the governing body (Lloyds) and maintain sufficient balances to ensure there are adequate liquid funds to cover all immediate and forthcoming financial commitments, including maintaining a sufficient contingency for unexpected payments.

Monies surplus to the working requirements shall be invested in term deposits not exceeding six months with Lloyds. This is only agreed when the cash flow patterns have been established and reported upon.

Principal risks and uncertainties

A review identifying the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, as identified by the governors, is undertaken regularly, and systems or procedures established to manage those risks.

The Academy's policy is to adopt best practice in the identification, evaluation and effective control of risks to ensure they are managed to an acceptable level. It is acknowledged that some risks will always exist and will never be eliminated.

The governing body is responsible for making a statement on risk management in the annual accounts of the Academy. In order to be able to make the required statement with reasonable confidence, the governors ensure that:

- the identification, assessment and mitigation of risk is linked to the achievement of the Academy's vision and strategic goals as set out in the Academy's Improvement Plan;
- the process covers all areas of risk e.g. governance and management, operational, financial, reputational and external factors and is focused primarily on major risks;
- the process produces a risk exposure profile that reflects the governors views as to levels of acceptable risk;
- the principal results of risk identification are reviewed, evaluated and managed; and
- ensure that the risk management is on-going and embedded in management and operational procedures.

The principal risks facing the school are as follows:

- failing to maintain the current Ofsted grade of 'Good';
- cyber-attack;
- succession planning;
- drop in pupil numbers; and
- increase in LGPS deficit contributions.

The strategies for managing these risks can be found in the risk register which is discussed at the Finance and Resources Committee meetings.

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the trustees.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Plans for future periods

The Academy continues to embrace the notion of continuous improvement through its School Improvement Plan. Over the course of the next twelve months this will take the form of:

- Ensuring high quality leadership at all levels across the organisation in order to deliver positive progress 8 across all elements at Key Stage 4 and positive value added at post 16 in academic and vocational subjects;
- Ensuring good levels of attendance, especially for disadvantaged students.
- Ensuring the school develops its curriculum and assessment processes.
- Ensuring a clear focus on literacy across the school with a focus on reading, vocabulary and oracy
- Ensuring good levels of behaviour and safety across the school in lessons and at social times are maintained
- Ensuring teaching over time and at all Key Stages, triangulated by lesson observations, book scrutinies and evaluation of progress data is highly effective such that all groups of students, in particular disadvantaged, SEND and high attaining students make progress.
- The academy has aspirations to convert to a multi-academy trust in the future.

The school is part of the School Rebuilding Programme. We will continue to work with the Department for Education to implement plans for the rebuilding of our facilities.

Auditor

In so far as the governors are aware:

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

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 18 December 2024 signed on its behalf by:

I Wintringham

Ivan Wintringham 18 Dec 2024 09:40:21 GMT (UTC +0)

I J Wintringham

Chair from 10 October 2024

J Bird

Jonathan Bird 17 Dec 2024 15:30:56 GMT (UTC +0)

J Bird

Accounting Officer

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the 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 Cramlington Learning Village and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is 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 5 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Professor C Davenport (Chair until 10 October 2024)	5	5
I J Wintringham (Chair from 10 October 2024)	5	5
J McCartney (Resigned 3 September 2024)	5	5
K Swann	4	5
P Clayton	5	5
P Gordon	4	5
T Buck	4	5
J Bird (Accounting Officer)	5	5
K Irving	5	5
I D Hall	5	5
L Breach (Appointed 1 September 2024)		
C Swift- Hunter (Appointed 1 September 2024)		

Two trustees resigned during the year, Donna Gibson and Leah Heatley. A process to replace them as trustees is ongoing.

Trustees have received academic performance data for the school on a termly basis, this includes predicted grades and pastoral information for example, attendance, persistent absence, and safeguarding records. Trustees have joined senior staff in checkpoint meetings where they have held leaders to account on key areas of school performance such as: Assessment,
Disadvantaged pupils,
SEND,
Literacy,
Numeracy,
Anti-bullying,
Well-being and mental health

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Board Performance

The board undertook a Self-evaluation ahead of the Strategy Day in January 2023, this is a recommended practice from the Governance handbook. The Governors completed questionnaires and the results and suggested actions were reported and discussed at the strategy day. Such actions include:

- The creation of a succession plan for Governance lead roles; to allow smooth transitions and cover unexpected periods of change. Ensuring there are a number of viable candidates ready for each vote.
- To undertake work on collaboration and to build upon the communication of the collaborative work back to the wider board.
- Establishing a programme of external review punctuated with self assessment.

The board utilises numerous data sources such as management accounts; pastoral reports; census detail and appraisal information. There is significant challenge given to the Academy and requests for amendments; format changes or increased detail are given where relevant and if possible the information will be provided at the next meeting. The board also takes assurance of quality and accuracy from the internal audit reports carried out throughout the year.

Conflicts of interest

The academy has robust procedures for managing conflicts of interest. A register of interests is kept for all staff and governors. Governors are asked to declare conflicts of interest in any item discussed in meetings they attend. The Code of Conduct policy requires staff to inform the Co-Headteachers when they believe there is a potential conflict of interest. The academy has no subsidiaries, joint ventures or associates.

Governance reviews

Governors are clear about their roles and a governor's handbook is updated annually to provide important reference information.

The current governance committee structure introduced in 2016 continues to be fit for purpose. The committee structure consists of the full governing body, a Finance and Resources Committee and a Standards and Outcomes Committee.

During the year ended 31 August 2024 the governance structure has allowed governors to hold senior management rigorously to account in relation to school finances, student achievement, the quality of teaching and student safety, with committee minutes appropriately reflecting the degree of challenge by governors to issues under consideration. In the past year the governing body commissioned Education Personnel Management to complete both an analysis of our governors' skills audit and a self-evaluation report of governance arrangements. These reports helped inform our governor training and development programme.

The outcomes of this review helped to inform areas of development for the governing body which included Finance and Funding and Self Evaluation and Setting Targets.

Standard Committee

This Committee reviews, monitors and evaluates the curriculum offer; reviews and takes account of pupil progress and attainment; promotes the care, well being and personal development of all students; ensures the requirements of children with special needs and disabilities are met; establishes and oversees the operation of the school's Appraisal Policy and performance management arrangements. Focus on school improvement priorities, reporting to meetings of the Standards Committee, to which all governors are invited. There is also a link governor for Safeguarding and a link governor for SEND.

Finance and Resources Committee

This is a sub-committee of the main governing body. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the governing body, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the governing body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the Academy's finances. This includes proper planning, monitoring and probity and to make appropriate comments and recommendations on such matters to the governing body on a regular basis. It has incorporated the previous Audit Committee terms of reference. Major issues will be referred to the full governing body for ratification.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Professor C Davenport (Chair until 10 October 2024)	5	7
J McCartney (Resigned 3 September 2024)	6	7
P Clayton	6	7
T Buck	6	7
I D Hall	7	7

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the co-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, as well as estates safety and management, 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 or by using a framework where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

Better purchasing

Contracts and services are competitively priced, continually reviewed, appraised and renegotiated to provide best value and value for money. The quality of goods and services meet the needs of the Academy as they are measured against alternative providers. The Academy appointed Education Commercial Services (ECS) to assist in running procurement activities and ensuring appropriate compliance with purchasing legislation. Tenders undertaken in 23/24 academic year were: New Payroll Provider; Cleaning Provider (finalised in 23/24); Office solutions partner, and Uniforms (finalised 24/25). Areas planned for review/tender during 24/25 include potential catering options, adjustments to Waste Management and IT.

Benchmarking

The Academy has benchmarked specific areas of income and expenditure against similar identified indicators, metrics and other Academies to highlight areas of potential savings.

Future improvements

The Academy continues to work collaboratively with local businesses to improve community facilities through the shared use of sports facilities for hire and access by the local community.

Examples of the Academy achieving value for money include:

- Looking at achieving Social Value from all new contracts from 24/25 such as; employability sessions; placements for learners and environmental projects.
- the continued provision of Chromebook to students;
- improved contract management regimes for large value contracts through the support of ECS
- using a single supplier form where appropriate and reviewing relevant agreements;
- continue to monitor the single supplier arrangement for office solutions (ongoing throughout 23/24) to reduce both transactional spend in terms of staff times and efficiencies and to secure best prices overall.
- finance working with staff organising supply cover to ensure that cover costs are not overcharged
- carefully reviewing maintenance needs to ensure the major investment is made in buildings not covered by the School Rebuilding Programme, whilst ensuring quality of the estate.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Cramlington Learning Village for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of trustees has decided:

- to employ JGT as internal auditor.

The internal auditor'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:

- Governance Arrangements
- Financial Planning
- Budgetary Control
- Income Transactions & Controls
- Expenditure Transactions & Controls
- Monthly Financial Closedown
- Risk register
- Monthly management reporting and KPIs
- GAG and other income
- Data/IT Security

On a termly basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees through the Finance and Resources committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of trustees. On an annual basis, the auditor prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the work of the external auditor
- correspondence from ESFA, eg financial notice to improve/notice to improve (FNtl/Ntl) and 'minded to' letters.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the audit and risk 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 academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on ^{18 December 2024} and signed on its behalf by:

I Wintringham

Ivan Wintringham 18 Dec 2024 09:40:21 GMT (UTC +0)

I J Wintringham
Chair from 10 October 2024

J Bird

Jonathan Bird 17 Dec 2024 15:30:56 GMT (UTC +0)

J Bird
Accounting Officer

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

As Accounting Officer of Cramlington Learning Village, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

J Bird

Jonathan Bird 17 Dec 2024 15:30:56 GMT (UTC +0)

J Bird
Accounting Officer

18 December 2024
.....

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The governors (who act as trustees for Cramlington Learning Village and are also the directors of Cramlington Learning Village for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 18 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:

I Wintringham

Ivan Wintringham 18 Dec 2024 09:40:21 GMT (UTC +0)

I J Wintringham
Chair from 10 October 2024

J Bird

Jonathan Bird 17 Dec 2024 15:30:56 GMT (UTC +0)

J Bird
Accounting Officer

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Cramlington Learning Village for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 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 the 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 'Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Emphasis of matter

We draw your attention to the key judgements made in relation to the accounting treatment and assumptions regarding the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). The key judgements are disclosed at note 2 includes the relevant pension scheme disclosures. It should be noted that for sector-wide comparability users of these financial statements should take into consideration differing sector judgements relating to asset ceiling calculations, where appropriate. Our Auditor's Report is unmodified in this respect.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The governors are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the accounts or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the accounts 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.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the accounts are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of governors

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the governors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the governors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the governors are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the governors either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

- enquiries of management about any actual or potential litigation and claims;
- enquiries of management about any known or suspected instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates;
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias;
- reading correspondence with regulators including the OFSTED; and
- reviewing minutes of those charged with governance;
- reviewing internal assurance reports; and
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing support documentation.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

We identified the following areas as those most likely to have a material impact on the financial statements: Health and Safety; employment law (including the Working Time Directive); and compliance with the Charities Act 2011 and UK Companies Act.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that some material misstatements in the financial statements may not be detected, even though the audit is properly planned and performed in accordance with the ISAs (UK). For instance, the further removed non-compliance is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the auditor is to become aware of it or to recognise the non-compliance.

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

Use of our report

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

Azets Audit Services

Brian Laidlaw 18 Dec 2024 14:05:16 GMT (UTC +0)

**Brian Laidlaw BA CA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services**

18 December 2024
.....

**Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor**

Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 11 December 2023 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 Cramlington Learning Village 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 Cramlington Learning Village and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Cramlington Learning Village and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Cramlington Learning Village and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Cramlington Learning Village's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Cramlington Learning Village's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 September 2021 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 Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review of Governing body and committee minutes;
- Review of available internal assurance reports;
- Completion of self assessment questionnaire by the Accounting Officer;
- Discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team;
- Review documentation provided to Governors and Accounting Officer setting our responsibilities;
- Obtained a formal letter of representation detailing the responsibilities of governors;
- Review of payroll, purchases and expense claims on a sample basis;
- Confirmation that the lines of delegation and limits set have been adhered to;
- Evaluation of internal control procedures and reporting lines;
- Review of cash payments for unusual transactions;
- Review of credit card transactions;
- Review of register of interests;
- Review of related party transactions;
- Review of borrowing arrangements;
- Review of land and building transactions;
- Review of potential and actual bad debts;
- Review of gifts and hospitality on a sample basis to ensure in line with policy; and
- Consideration of governance issues.

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.

Azets Audit Services

Brian Laidlaw 18 Dec 2024 14:05:16 GMT (UTC +0)

Reporting Accountant

Azets Audit Services
Bulman House
Regent Centre
Gosforth
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE3 3LS

Dated: 18 December 2024
.....

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	154,083	154,083	231,852
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	13,480,783	-	13,480,783	12,699,621
Other trading activities	5	887,609	-	-	887,609	797,456
Investments	6	19,338	-	-	19,338	353
Total		<u>906,947</u>	<u>13,480,783</u>	<u>154,083</u>	<u>14,541,813</u>	<u>13,729,282</u>
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	372,414	-	-	372,414	303,141
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	-	13,703,746	874,919	14,578,665	13,636,736
Total	7	<u>372,414</u>	<u>13,703,746</u>	<u>874,919</u>	<u>14,951,079</u>	<u>13,939,877</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		534,533	(222,963)	(720,836)	(409,266)	(210,595)
Transfers between funds	17	-	(15,778)	15,778	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	382,000	-	382,000	1,345,000
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	19	-	(32,000)	-	(32,000)	-
Net movement in funds		534,533	111,259	(705,058)	(59,266)	1,134,405
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>1,734,023</u>	<u>27,466</u>	<u>37,583,651</u>	<u>39,345,140</u>	<u>38,210,735</u>
Total funds carried forward		<u>2,268,556</u>	<u>138,725</u>	<u>36,878,593</u>	<u>39,285,874</u>	<u>39,345,140</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2023	Notes	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
		funds	General	Fixed asset	2023
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	116,616	115,236	231,852
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	12,699,621	-	12,699,621
Other trading activities	5	797,456	-	-	797,456
Investments	6	353	-	-	353
Total		<u>797,809</u>	<u>12,816,237</u>	<u>115,236</u>	<u>13,729,282</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	303,141	-	-	303,141
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	-	12,770,500	866,236	13,636,736
Total	7	<u>303,141</u>	<u>12,770,500</u>	<u>866,236</u>	<u>13,939,877</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		494,668	45,737	(751,000)	(210,595)
Transfers between funds	17	-	(149,022)	149,022	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	19	-	1,345,000	-	1,345,000
Net movement in funds		494,668	1,241,715	(601,978)	1,134,405
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,239,355	(1,214,249)	38,185,629	38,210,735
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,734,023</u>	<u>27,466</u>	<u>37,583,651</u>	<u>39,345,140</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024		2023	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		36,878,593		37,583,651
Current assets					
Debtors	13	469,358		343,024	
Cash at bank and in hand		2,998,711		4,433,033	
			3,468,069		4,776,057
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,013,503)		(2,478,731)	
Net current assets			2,454,566		2,297,326
Total assets less current liabilities			39,333,159		39,880,977
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	15		(47,285)		(79,837)
Net assets excluding pension liability			39,285,874		39,801,140
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	19		-		(456,000)
Total net assets			39,285,874		39,345,140
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	17				
- Fixed asset funds			36,878,593		37,583,651
- Restricted income funds			138,725		483,466
- Pension reserve			-		(456,000)
Total restricted funds			37,017,318		37,611,117
Unrestricted income funds	17		2,268,556		1,734,023
Total funds			39,285,874		39,345,140

The accounts on pages 24 to 47 were approved by the governors and authorised for issue on 18 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:

I Wintringham

Ivan Wintringham 18 Dec 2024 09:40:21 GMT (UTC +0)

I J Wintringham

Chair from 10 October 2024

J Bird

Jonathan Bird 17 Dec 2024 15:30:56 GMT (UTC +0)

J Bird

Accounting Officer

Company registration number 07730940 (England and Wales)

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	20	(1,409,553)		1,636,469	
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		19,338		353	
Capital grants from DfE Group		39,210		115,236	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		114,873		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(169,861)		(264,258)	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities			3,560		(148,669)
Cash flows from financing activities					
Repayment of other loan		(28,329)		(28,329)	
Net cash used in financing activities			(28,329)		(28,329)
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(1,434,322)		1,459,471
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			4,433,033		2,973,562
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			2,998,711		4,433,033

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

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

These financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the entity.

1.2 Going concern

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

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

Investment Income

Interest receivable is included in the statement of financial activities on an accruals basis.

1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £2,000 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 that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

Leasehold land and buildings	2% straight line
Leasehold improvements	10% straight line
Computer equipment	50% straight line

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

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

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

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

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

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

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 19, will impact on 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 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. 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.

The UK corporate bond yields at 31 August 2024 are at their highest levels for many years resulting in higher accounting discount rates at the year end. This places a significantly lower value on the pension obligations compared to last year and will be one of the main reasons a net asset has been reported. We have ensured that our assumptions are appropriate for the academy trust and the valuation has been based on the following estimates:

- There is a minimum funding requirement in relation to LGPS
- There is the ability to recover a surplus through the ability to reduce future contributions (not refund)
- In calculating the surplus, the present value of current and past service costs is offset against the future contributions over the future period
- The present values in the above calculations are calculated using an annuity representing participation into perpetuity.

There is no known intention to exit the LGPS and therefore the economic benefit of a refund would be highly unlikely and on that basis recognition of an asset is considered inappropriate. We have however considered the economic benefit available to the Academy trust as a future contribution reduction and whether it is appropriate to recognise the net asset in full. Under FRS 102, a net asset restriction may apply as the prevailing view is that a minimum funding requirement for future service exists in the LGPS. We requested our actuaries consider the impact of the minimum funding requirement on the asset ceiling and as a result we have not restricted the asset based upon an asset restriction calculation. We consider this to be appropriate and a more accurate reflection of the pension positions as at the 31 August 2024.

Critical areas of judgement

Accounting estimates and assumptions are made concerning the future and, by their nature, will rarely equal the related actual outcome. The key assumptions and other sources of estimation uncertainty that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are as follows:

Assessing indicator of impairment.

In assessing whether there have been any indicators of impairment of assets the directors have considered both external and internal sources of information such as market conditions, counterparty credit ratings and experience of recoverability. There have been no indicators of impairment identified during the current financial year.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Private sponsorship	-	-	-	2,480
Capital grants	-	39,210	39,210	115,236
Other donations	-	114,873	114,873	114,136
	-----	-----	-----	-----
	-	154,083	154,083	231,852
	=====	=====	=====	=====

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	11,842,482	11,842,482	11,426,654
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	435,315	435,315	404,720
- Others	-	723,433	723,433	440,090
	-	13,001,230	13,001,230	12,271,464
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	374,673	374,673	325,416
COVID-19 additional funding				
DfE/ESFA				
Catch-up premium	-	104,880	104,880	102,741
Total funding	-	13,480,783	13,480,783	12,699,621

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Hire of facilities	185,908	-	185,908	164,658
Catering income	461,781	-	461,781	389,394
Other income	239,920	-	239,920	243,404
	887,609	-	887,609	797,456

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Short term deposits	19,338	-	19,338	353

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
		Premises £	Other £		
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	-	-	372,414	372,414	303,141
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	9,410,318	874,919	1,203,716	11,488,953	10,653,612
- Allocated support costs	1,703,116	983,041	403,555	3,089,712	2,983,124
	<u>11,113,434</u>	<u>1,857,960</u>	<u>1,979,685</u>	<u>14,951,079</u>	<u>13,939,877</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024 £	2023 £
Operating lease rentals	116,988	126,703
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	874,919	866,236
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	15,250	11,250
- Other services	3,000	2,500
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	11,000	60,000
	<u>1,020,157</u>	<u>1,058,689</u>

8 Charitable activities

	2024 £	2023 £
All from restricted funds:		
Direct costs		
Educational operations	11,488,953	10,653,612
Support costs		
Educational operations	3,089,712	2,983,124
	<u>14,578,665</u>	<u>13,636,736</u>

	2024 £	2023 £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	1,762,666	1,913,354
Technology costs	20,177	27,523
Premises costs	983,041	672,961
Legal costs	15,777	15,700
Other support costs	289,801	339,111
Governance costs	18,250	14,475
	<u>3,089,712</u>	<u>2,983,124</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	8,006,082	7,699,204
Social security costs	862,563	793,602
Pension costs	1,888,516	1,795,686
	<u>10,757,161</u>	<u>10,288,492</u>
Staff costs - employees	10,757,161	10,288,492
Agency staff costs	356,273	210,633
	<u>11,113,434</u>	<u>10,499,125</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	86,289	71,160
	<u>11,199,723</u>	<u>10,570,285</u>

Staff numbers

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Teachers	125	119
Administration and support	111	83
Management	10	12
	<u>246</u>	<u>214</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	3	6
£70,001 - £80,000	3	2
£80,001 - £90,000	2	-
£90,001 - £100,000	-	2
£100,001 - £110,000	2	-
	<u>10</u>	<u>10</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £688,023 (2023: £626,904).

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the governors has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff governors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as governors.

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

K Irving (Coheadteacher):

Remuneration: £100,000 - £105,000 (2023 - £90,000 - £95,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £25,000 - £30,000 (2023 - £20,000 - £25,000)

J Bird (Coheadteacher):

Remuneration: £100,000 - £105,000 (2022 - £90,000 - £95,000)
Employer's pension contributions: £25,000 - £30,000 (2023 - £20,000 - £25,000)

Other related party transactions involving the governors are set out in note 22.

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £1,000 (2023: £1,000). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and improvements buildings £	Leasehold improvements £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	44,136,654	1,934,574	313,563	46,384,791
Additions	-	143,973	25,888	169,861
At 31 August 2024	44,136,654	2,078,547	339,451	46,554,652
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	7,770,378	783,765	246,997	8,801,140
Charge for the year	647,532	182,220	45,167	874,919
At 31 August 2024	8,417,910	965,985	292,164	9,676,059
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	35,718,744	1,112,562	47,287	36,878,593
At 31 August 2023	36,366,276	1,150,809	66,566	37,583,651

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

13 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	13,555	187,175
VAT recoverable	72,300	22,384
Other debtors	15,070	-
Prepayments and accrued income	368,433	133,465
	<u>469,358</u>	<u>343,024</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	28,329	24,106
Trade creditors	176,997	1,965,706
Other taxation and social security	201,967	-
Other creditors	230,739	2,601
Accruals and deferred income	375,471	486,318
	<u>1,013,503</u>	<u>2,478,731</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Other loans	47,285	79,837
	<u>47,285</u>	<u>79,837</u>

Analysis of loans

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wholly repayable within five years	75,614	103,943
Less: included in current liabilities	(28,329)	(24,106)
	<u>47,285</u>	<u>79,837</u>

Loan maturity

Debt due in one year or less	28,329	24,106
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	28,329	24,106
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	18,956	55,731
	<u>75,614</u>	<u>103,943</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

15 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

(Continued)

Loans of £16,990 from Salix Finance Ltd which is provided on the following terms: Salix Energy Efficiency loan - Interest free loan repayable through GAG in 6-monthly installments of £1,545 from March 2020.

Loans of £6,804 from Salix Finance Ltd which is provided on the following terms: Salix Energy Efficiency loan - Interest free loan repayable through GAG in 6-monthly installments of £567 from September 2020.

Loans of £108,478 from Salix Finance Ltd which is provided on the following terms: Salix Energy Efficiency loan - Interest free loan repayable through GAG in 6-monthly installments of £12,053 from March 2021.

16 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	182,176	298,996
	<u>182,176</u>	<u>298,996</u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	298,996	128,631
Released from previous years	(298,996)	(128,631)
Resources deferred in the year	182,176	298,996
	<u>182,176</u>	<u>298,996</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	182,176	298,996
	<u>182,176</u>	<u>298,996</u>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for: Teachers pension grant, bursary income and deferred sports club invoices.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	483,466	11,842,482	(12,171,445)	(15,778)	138,725
Pupil premium	-	435,315	(435,315)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	104,880	(104,880)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	723,433	(723,433)	-	-
Other government grants	-	374,673	(374,673)	-	-
Pension reserve	(456,000)	-	106,000	350,000	-
	<u>27,466</u>	<u>13,480,783</u>	<u>(13,703,746)</u>	<u>334,222</u>	<u>138,725</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	37,583,651	39,210	(874,919)	15,778	36,763,720
Private sector capital sponsorship	-	114,873	-	-	114,873
	<u>37,583,651</u>	<u>154,083</u>	<u>(874,919)</u>	<u>15,778</u>	<u>36,878,593</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>37,611,117</u>	<u>13,634,866</u>	<u>(14,578,665)</u>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>37,017,318</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>1,734,023</u>	<u>906,947</u>	<u>(372,414)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,268,556</u>
Total funds	<u>39,345,140</u>	<u>14,541,813</u>	<u>(14,951,079)</u>	<u>350,000</u>	<u>39,285,874</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 Funds

(Continued)

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) must be used for the normal running costs of the Trust. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at the balance sheet date.

A start up grant was received from the ESFA as a result of the conversion to academy status. The full grant was allocated.

Other DfE/ESFA grants include teachers pay and pension grants, pupil premium, PE and sports grant and other DfE/ESFA grants.

Other government grants comprise funding received from the Local Authority.

The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension scheme have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund, including contributions to Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS') and the pension liability has therefore been aligned with these funds. The restricted funds are in deficit as a result of the deficit on the LGPS pension scheme alone.

The inherited fixed asset fund reflects the fixed assets acquired from the Local Authority on conversion to academy status. Depreciation on these assets is charged against this fund.

DfE/ESFA capital grants received in year consist of capital grants received in the year which have been received for expenditure on acquisition and maintenance of fixed assets.

The transfer from the Local Authority reflects the fixed assets, the pension deficit, the surplus GAG and any surplus school funds acquired on conversion

Unrestricted funds can be used for any purpose at the discretion of the academy trust.

The transfer in the year represents fixed assets funded via GAG and unrestricted funds.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

17 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	471,751	11,426,654	(11,416,540)	(149,022)	332,843
Pupil premium	-	404,720	(404,720)	-	-
Catch-up premium	-	102,741	(102,741)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	440,090	(476,082)	-	(35,992)
Other government grants	-	325,416	(138,801)	-	186,615
Other restricted funds	-	116,616	(116,616)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,686,000)	-	(115,000)	1,345,000	(456,000)
	<u>(1,214,249)</u>	<u>12,816,237</u>	<u>(12,770,500)</u>	<u>1,195,978</u>	<u>27,466</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	<u>38,185,629</u>	<u>115,236</u>	<u>(866,236)</u>	<u>149,022</u>	<u>37,583,651</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>36,971,380</u>	<u>12,931,473</u>	<u>(13,636,736)</u>	<u>1,345,000</u>	<u>37,611,117</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>1,239,355</u>	<u>797,809</u>	<u>(303,141)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,734,023</u>
Total funds	<u>38,210,735</u>	<u>13,729,282</u>	<u>(13,939,877)</u>	<u>1,345,000</u>	<u>39,345,140</u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	36,878,593	36,878,593
Current assets	2,268,556	1,199,513	-	3,468,069
Current liabilities	-	(1,013,503)	-	(1,013,503)
Non-current liabilities	-	(47,285)	-	(47,285)
Total net assets	<u>2,268,556</u>	<u>138,725</u>	<u>36,878,593</u>	<u>39,285,874</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	37,583,651	37,583,651
Current assets	1,734,023	3,042,034	-	4,776,057
Current liabilities	-	(2,478,731)	-	(2,478,731)
Non-current liabilities	-	(79,837)	-	(79,837)
Pension scheme liability	-	(456,000)	-	(456,000)
Total net assets	1,734,023	27,466	37,583,651	39,345,140

19 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £232,265 were payable to the scheme at 31 August 2024 (2023: £nil) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academy trusts. 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 2023 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.

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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 outcome 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 the TPS in the period amounted to £1,555,054 (2023: £1,305,686).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust 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 academy trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18.8% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Total contributions made	2024	2023
	£	£
Employer's contributions	454,000	435,000
Employees' contributions	124,000	118,000
	<u>578,000</u>	<u>553,000</u>
Total contributions	<u>578,000</u>	<u>553,000</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	2024 %	2023 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.0	4.1
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.5	2.6
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.9	5
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.5	2.6

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.8	21
- Females	24.0	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.7	22.2
- Females	25.1	25.5

Sensitivity analysis

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Discount rate + 0.1%	-178,000	-166,000
Discount rate - 0.1%	178,000	166,000
Mortality assumption + 1 year	-212,000	-197,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year	212,000	197,000
CPI rate + 0.1%	161,000	150,000
CPI rate - 0.1%	-161,000	-150,000

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2024 Fair value £	2023 Fair value £
Equities	4,260,000	3,833,000
Government Bonds	102,000	97,000
Corporate Bonds	1,582,000	1,407,000
Cash and other liquid assets	68,000	127,000
Property	884,000	767,000
Other assets	1,607,000	1,213,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total market value of assets	8,503,000	7,444,000
Restriction on scheme assets	(32,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets recognised	8,471,000	7,444,000
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The actual return on scheme assets was £725,000 (2023: £18,000).

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2024 £	2023 £
Current service cost	337,000	490,000
Interest income	(381,000)	(296,000)
Interest cost	392,000	356,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total amount recognised	348,000	550,000
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The net gain recognised on scheme assets has been restricted because the full pension surplus is not expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2024 £
At 1 September 2023	7,900,000
Current service cost	337,000
Interest cost	392,000
Employee contributions	124,000
Actuarial gain	(38,000)
Benefits paid	(244,000)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	8,471,000
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CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Pension and similar obligations		(Continued)		
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets				
		2024		
		£		
At 1 September 2023		7,444,000		
Interest income		381,000		
Actuarial (gain)/loss		344,000		
Employer contributions		454,000		
Employee contributions		124,000		
Benefits paid		(244,000)		
		<hr/>		
At 31 August 2024		8,503,000		
Restriction on scheme assets		(32,000)		
		<hr/>		
Net assets recognised		<u>8,471,000</u>		
20 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities		2024	2023	
	Notes	£	£	
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(409,266)	(210,595)	
Adjusted for:				
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(154,083)	(115,236)	
Investment income receivable	6	(19,338)	(353)	
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	19	(117,000)	55,000	
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	19	11,000	60,000	
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		874,919	866,236	
(Increase) in debtors		(126,334)	(71,195)	
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(1,469,451)	1,052,612	
		<hr/>	<hr/>	
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		<u>(1,409,553)</u>	<u>1,636,469</u>	
21 Analysis of changes in net funds		1 September 2023	Cash flows	31 August 2024
		£	£	£
Cash		4,433,033	(1,434,322)	2,998,711
Loans falling due within one year		(24,106)	(4,223)	(28,329)
Loans falling due after more than one year		(79,837)	32,552	(47,285)
		<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
		<u>4,329,090</u>	<u>(1,405,993)</u>	<u>2,923,097</u>

CRAMLINGTON LEARNING VILLAGE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

22 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2024 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts due within one year	55,124	76,178
Amounts due in two and five years	45,224	28,627
	<u>100,348</u>	<u>104,805</u>

23 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.

24 Members' liability

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

25 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2024 the academy trust received £18,510 and disbursed £12,647 from the fund. An amount of £18,055 is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.

Comparatives for the accounting period ending 31 August 2023 are £18,566 received, £6,374 disbursed and £12,192 included in other creditors.