

**Report of the Trustees and
Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31st August 2021
for
The New Guild Trust**

Hardings
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
6 Marsh Parade
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1DU

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for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

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The New Guild Trust

**Reference and Administrative Details
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

Members:	S Brough D Webster S Kuzubasoglu
Trustees	S J Dutton L Eagle P Humphreys K Peters S Brough H Frost J N Grindey
Company secretary	E L Searl
Registered office	Moorpark Junior School Park Road Burslem Stoke-on-Trent Staffordshire ST6 1EL
Registered company number	11185205 (England and Wales)
Auditors	Hardings Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor 6 Marsh Parade Newcastle-under-Lyme Staffordshire ST5 1DU
Solicitors	Wrigleys Solicitors 19 Cookridge Street Leeds LS2 3AG
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Plc Fountain Square Hanley Stoke-on-Trent Staffordshire ST1 1LE

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy Trust operates 2 infant and 2 Junior academies for pupils aged 3 to 11 years, serving a catchment area in Stoke-on-Trent. It has capacity of 939 and had a roll of 846 in the school census in October 2020.

Objectives and activities

Objectives and aims

- Provide an ambitious and inspiring curriculum that will be full of opportunities, nourishment and growth to meet the needs of every child to excel as life-long learners.
- Ensure all adults who work with our children are the golden thread that provide care, warmth and inspiration to all. Everyone will be supported by an embedded culture to be strong with compassion, proud with belonging and possess the resilience to succeed.
- Thrive through exceptional collaboration with each other and many external partners to ensure there is full inclusion in opportunities for the future prosperity and well-being in every layer of school, the local and national community.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Objectives and activities

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

All schools in the Trust have created their respective school development plans from their three year pupil premium strategies as pupil premium numbers are broadly half of the school population, this serves to ensure all targeted action is focused on closing the disadvantaged gap. The strategic development plan for the Trust was created by the senior leaders of each school within the Executive board and has been further developed through consultation with each local community governing body and trustee committees.

Priorities identified in the plan are informed from individual self-evaluations of performance, external and peer to peer reviews of teaching and learning alongside the analysis of assessment information in each school at the end of key stage and internally. In addition to this information the outcomes of external teaching and learning reviews further inform the school and trust priorities. Performance management targets are set within each school to mirror the objectives for school specific and trust shared priorities where applicable.

There are shared networks across the trust that formulate their action plans from and to the main development plan. These cover the key areas of:

- English
- Maths
- Science
- Sport/PE
- PHSE
- SEND
- Pupil premium
- Attendance and family support
- School business management
- Remote learning

Each individual school incorporates the shared trust priorities alongside school specific areas of improvement. In each school, middle and senior leaders create individual action plans for specific curriculum priorities. These cover other key areas of:

- Humanities and creative arts
- Early Years Foundation stage
- Outdoor education / forest schools

The objectives and aims for the period September 2020 to August 2021 were as follows:

- Accelerate the learning of all pupils to 'catch up' to achieve at age expectations by the end of 2021.
- At Key stage 1 and 2 to narrow the gap between PP (pupil premium/ disadvantaged) and Non PP nationally for children achieving expected and greater depth in all subjects and at all key stages.
- All schools remain at least good against Ofsted judgements (self-evaluation, externally validated, awaiting inspection). Continue to increase elements of outstanding in all areas of Ofsted framework in all schools. Embed outstanding broad and balanced curriculum, despite pressures on catch up.
- Implement a trust level digital strategy for distance/ remote learning - quality of education is improved through blended learning provision in school to ensure quality of education for children out of school due to Covid-19 remains equal in quality and achievement. Alongside efficient procurement of IT equipment and development of a cloud based infrastructure.
- Eradicate the disadvantaged gap to quality access for all pupils across the trust to access

Personal Development

- Wellbeing and personal development of all children and staff is prioritised on the return to school after Covid-19 lockdown. Resulting in positive key stakeholder voice on support, ethos and leadership of the schools across the trust shows care and compassion to enable positive challenge and achievement. Staff and children continue to show resilience, self-regulation, motivation and ambition in all aspects of school.
- All schools provide at least good standards of PHSE - curriculum provision for RSE (relationships and sex education) is compliant before Summer 2021.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Objectives and activities

- Trust external accreditation for trauma and attachment informed practice in all schools.

Behaviour welfare & safety

- Continue to improve attendance to be above national 97% and to reduce persistent absence across the trust to be below national, in particular to reduce pupil premium and SEND persistent absence. (taking into account contextual and current pandemic factors)
- Continue high quality SEND offer in each school and continue to demonstrate value for money with SEND and pupil premium funding to support wellbeing that impact on progress.

Leadership & Management

- Communication, challenge and support at all levels of governance remains strong regardless of limitations on visiting schools due to Covid-19.
- All aspects of school business management remain robust and fully compliant.
- Safeguarding remains outstanding across the trust.
- Embed the Trust's career progression pathway for staff at all levels and this is shared with all stakeholders and on the trust website.
- Strengthen the capacity of leadership across the trust from MAT to MAT collaborations.
- Embed teacher workload charters - all staff across the trust report to feel valued and supported by senior leaders to fulfil their role.

Public benefit

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit issued by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers and duties.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Strategic report Achievement and performance Key performance indicators OFSTED

- 2 schools Ofsted graded Good (Moorpark Junior 2016 & Jackfield Infant 2017), 2 schools Ofsted graded Requires improvement (Alexandra Infants 2016 & Alexandra Juniors 2017), all awaiting inspection at anytime, nationally Ofsted are 5 terms behind schedule due to Covid.
- All schools self-evaluation graded Good with some outstanding features, validated by external reviews.

Quality of education.

- Accelerate the learning of all pupils to 'catch up' to achieve at age expectations by the end of 2021. Progress is substantial and rapid when children have been in school between lockdowns. Ambitious targets for all children to be on track for their age by July 2021 have not been achieved due to continued disruption to learning. The junior schools are engaging with the DfE tutoring programme and are planning to increase this intervention in the Autumn term 2021.
- At Key stage 1 and 2 to narrow the gap between PP (pupil premium/ disadvantaged) and Non PP nationally for children achieving expected and greater depth in all subjects and at all key stages. The disadvantaged gap for achievement has widened over the last year again at all age stages due to Covid disruption to learning. This is reflected nationally. Pupil premium is now way above national in all schools across the trust, with FSM being equal to pupil premium and it has increased over the pandemic (historically half the number) however there is still a significant difference in attainment, progress and attendance between the two groups. Giving further importance to the pupil premium strategy being the priority for whole school development into 2021/2022. Pupil engagement during remote learning also had a significant difference between PP and non PP. Important to note is that where every family had access to IT, engagement was less overall from children in the disadvantaged group. Reasons were identified to be a variety of family and social factors. All schools employed rigorous and varied approaches to improve engagement of the hardest to reach.++Detailed assessment information is shared in each local governing body committee, including link governor meetings specifically for pupil premium.
- All schools remain at least good against Ofsted judgements (self-evaluation, externally validated, awaiting inspection). Continue to increase elements of outstanding in all areas of Ofsted framework in all schools. Embed outstanding broad and balanced curriculum, despite pressures on catch up. Ofsted inspections have restarted Summer 21, schools requiring improvement are on the priority list. Standards remain at least good in all schools. All schools continue to follow the ambitious national curriculum with a broad and balanced curriculum alongside intervention for catch up. Quality of Education is consistently good in all schools, with many features of outstanding teaching and learning. All schools in the trust are now able to provide school to school support in at least one subject area to teachers and leaders in schools outside of The New Guild Trust, three senior leaders, formally accredited as SLE (School leaders of Education) this demonstrates the continued strength and progress of teaching and learning. These leaders work in our schools that require improvement, also demonstrating the high quality leadership of teaching and learning that is secured in the schools that have needed the greatest support.
- Implement a trust level digital strategy for distance/ remote learning - quality of education is improved through blended learning provision in school to ensure quality of education for children out of school due to Covid-19 remains equal in quality and achievement. Alongside efficient procurement of IT equipment and development of a cloud based infrastructure. Access to quality IT has been increased in all schools. The schools remote learning offer was above the minimum expectation. The trust is now working with one IT technical support company and this has secured a trust level sustainability and growth plan for IT infrastructure. All schools are currently working on incorporating the benefits of technology into pedagogy building on the success of blended learning and accessibility strategies adopted in lockdown remote learning. This area of development is prioritised within the next three years pupil premium strategy. Quality CPD will be provided for all staff to fully utilise the increased amount of IT in the schools, alongside a review of the curriculum for IT and computing to ensure it is highly ambitious and fit for purpose for the children's learning across all subjects.
- Eradicate the disadvantaged gap to quality access for all pupils across the trust to access quality distance learning. All schools in the Trust achieved 100% access during lockdown 3.0 - ongoing review of access for home learning in post covid times possible loan of devices for identified children in key stage 2

Personal development

- Wellbeing and personal development of all children and staff is prioritised on the return to school after Covid-19 lockdown. Resulting in positive key stakeholder voice on support, ethos and leadership of the schools across the trust shows care and compassion to enable positive challenge and achievement. Staff and children voice continues to demonstrate leaders support for them to be resilient, self-regulated, motivated and ambitious in all aspects of school. Parent voice during lockdown showed that the overwhelming majority felt supported by the school and understood the expectations of home learning, all children have been given access to complete the largest ever national children's survey The Big Ask.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

- All schools provide at least good standards of PHSE - curriculum provision for RSE (relationships and sex education) is compliant before Summer 2021. Policies established, shared with parents by end of Summer 2021 and implemented by Autumn 2021.
- Trust external accreditation for trauma and attachment informed practice in all schools. All schools remain committed to trauma informed best practices. Formal accreditation process continuing 2021 - 2022. Supporting the LA virtual school in creating a self-evaluation tool for all school in the city to be attachment and trauma aware.

Behaviour, welfare & safety

- Continue to improve attendance to be above national 97% and to reduce persistent absence across the trust to be below national, in particularly to reduce pupil premium and SEND persistent absence. (taking into account contextual and current pandemic factors) Family support intervention continues to be a priority in all schools with intensive attendance monitoring and support for identified families that have persistent absence not due to Covid factors. ++Attendance from 08.03.21 to 16.06.21 (National May 2021 94%) AIS = 89.9% (7 children restricted travel to return from abroad) AJS = 90.7% (19 children restricted travel to return from abroad) MPJ = 94.1% JIS = 93.8% (1 child restricted travel to return from abroad)
- Continue high quality SEND offer in each school and continue to demonstrate value for money with SEND and pupil premium funding to support wellbeing that impacts on progress. Bespoke intervention implemented across all schools for SEND pupils during remote learning in lockdown 3.0 and school places were targeted at the pupils in highest need of support. On the return to school, specific intervention continues for SEND to make accelerated progress. High quality family support and access to counselling services in all schools continues to prioritise early intervention.

Leadership & management

- Communication, challenge and support at all levels of governance remains strong regardless of limitations on visiting schools due to Covid-19. All LCGB, link and Trust meetings continue Autumn 2020, Spring 2021 and Summer 2021. Quality recruitment and induction of new local community governance has strengthened support and challenge at a local level of school leadership for link governance around curriculum, pupil premium and safeguarding. Skills audits have informed training for the LCGB (Summer 2021) on finance and compliance. The trust chair is completing new to chair development including 360 review tools with the NGA (National governance association).
- All aspects of school business management remain robust and fully compliant. Consistent clean external audits for the third year of academisation, all reports submitted on time, positive annual accounts report. Compliant in all areas. DPO audit completing for GDPR, all actions complete.
- Safeguarding remains outstanding across the trust.
- Embed the Trust's career progression pathway for staff at all levels and this is shared with all stakeholders and on the trust website. Trust approval in Summer 2021, updated from DfE announcement on ECT (Early career framework) and NPQs (National Professional Qualifications, implementation from September 2021. Strengthen the capacity of leadership across the trust from MAT to MAT collaborations. All senior leaders participating in peer to peer coaching with another local Multi Academy Trust has increased leadership capacity, continuing 2021 2022. Increased SLE capacity for school to school support.
- Embed teacher workload charters - Staff voice demonstrates all staff across the trust report to feel valued and supported by senior leaders to fulfil their role.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Strategic report

Financial Review

Income for the period was £5,246,977 of which £4,623,104 was provided by the Department for Education (DfE) via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) by means of standard grants to cover operational and capital costs. The remaining £623,873 was as a result of donations, other government grants and other trading activities including funds generated by extended school activities.

Expenditure for the period was £5,490,082 with the largest element of this expenditure being attributed to staff costs totalling £3,827,697 for the period. The depreciation and amortisation charge on tangible and intangible assets of £168,911 has been included. Net deficit for the period was £243,105.

The academy trust element of the Pension fund that forms part of the Local Government Pension Scheme was valued at 31 August 2021 showing a net deficit of £4,324,000.

As at 31 August 2021, the net book value of tangible fixed assets was £6,557,766 and the movements are shown in note 13 of the accounts. The assets were used exclusively in providing education and the associated support services to the pupils across the academy trust.

COVID Impact

The Trust received £64,181 in COVID support from grants such as the catch up premium. This has enabled the schools to utilise the National Tutoring programme by the DfE and to allow the schools to employ further teaching and support staff to aid catch up for all pupils. The Trust also utilised the Coronavirus Job retention scheme whereby wraparound care provision relies on the income from parents to support the staffing.

The Trust supported Free School Meal Parents by using the WONDE and also Edenred voucher system, throughout the pandemic to ensure all families that were entitled had access to meal provisions. Where there were school bubble closures families were supported by hampers provided by our Catering company.

The Trust has invested further capital expenditure on ICT to ensure that the remote learning strategy can be embedded due to COVID-19 impact. The Trust has also received the following laptops;

- MPJ - 12 laptops from LA (DfE via the Local Authority) and 79 chrome books from DfE, 60 chrome books from lease and extra 10 DfE Devices from June 21.
- JIS - 15 Laptops from LA
- AIS - 12 laptops from LA
- AJS - 6 laptops from LA and 76 chrome books from DfE, 10 Routers, 60 chrome books from lease. Extra 10 DfE devices from June 21

The academy trust complies with the principles of financial control as outlined in the Academies Financial Handbook and the accounts direction. Financial performance is monitored monthly and Management reports are sent to all Trustees/Members. The CFO meets with the Chair of the Resources and Audit Committee to discuss the MAT's financial performance. There are regular reviews of the finances within the Local Governing Board meeting, Resource and Audit committee meetings and the Full Board meetings. All key policies are published on the Trust website.

The trust uses HCSS budgeting and accounting software to closely monitor the budget in each academy. Information from this is consolidated at MAT level. This allows an increased level of control both over current spending and the development of future budgets to ensure long-term viability of individual academies.

Investment policy and objectives

The investment policy supports the reserves policy. The academy trust seeks to adopt a cautious, prudent and well-diversified investment stance taking into account future cash flow projections to balance potential returns with appropriate levels of risk whilst attracting as high an interest returns as possible.

The Trust aims to manage its cash balances for the day to day working capital requirements of its operations, whilst protecting the real long-term value of any surplus cash balances against inflation. Reserve Funds will be held with Lloyds Bank or in other instruments and investments as agreed from time to time by the Board of Trustees. On the date of approval of this report, the trust holds no investments.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Strategic report

Financial review

Reserves policy

Any reserves held are in accordance with the requirements laid down in the Master Funding Agreement and by the Education & Skills Funding Agency. The level of reserves held takes into account the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them to commitments, including future capital projects, and the need to maintain sufficient reserves to cover any unexpected urgent expenditure requirements, especially to buildings repair not covered by insurance. The board of trustees identify capital projects on an annual basis and reserves are reviewed alongside this exercise. The board of trustees will review the level of reserves and reserves policy annually.

As at 31 August 2021 the academy trust has reserves of £2,861,160 with unrestricted funds of £435,172 and restricted funds of £2,425,988.

The level of reserve for each academy will be reviewed on an annual basis as part of the annual budget cycle.

The Trust will aim to hold Working Capital reserves at each month end to cover the cost of one month's payroll commitments and committed expenditure. Reports will be made to the CEO if funds look insufficient.

The level of reserves held takes into account the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them to commitments, including future capital projects, and the need to maintain sufficient reserves to cover any unexpected urgent expenditure requirements, especially to buildings repair not covered by insurance.

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.

Fundraising

Within the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016, section 13, the Trust supports fundraising for the individual schools and for external charities. The Trust complies with the Accounting and reporting by charities; statement of recommended practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standards applicable in the UK (FRS 102), charities SORP.

The New Guild Trust

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

Strategic report

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trustees are responsible for the management of the risks faced by all the Trusts academies. Risks for each academy are identified and assessed in each individual academy. Each Academy holds a risk register which analysis's risk over a number of categories. The Trust has a main risk register for the MAT. This is reviewed by the leadership team and Audit committee annually. The trustees can then review strategies and ensure that the risk is reduced to low impact and incidence levels.

The categories covered are:

- Strategic
- Organisational
- Financial Risks
- Compliance
- Operational
- Safeguarding

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than eliminate it.

The key uncertainties which the trust face include:-

- The impact of COVID-19 on all pupils educational outcomes and the impact on teaching and learning throughout the Trust.
- Potential fall in nursery/junior numbers due to local competition and aggressive marketing practices, which would result in loss of income to the schools through the GAG.
- The financial statements report the share of the pension scheme deficit on the Academy's balance sheet in line with the requirements of FRS 102.
- Staffing issues such as loss of Senior Management, epidemic sickness or long term sickness rendering the academy unable to function effectively and efficiently.
- Financial commitments made without adequate authorisation.
- The risk of government policy funding changes upon which the academy has considerable reliance.

Academy	Area	Risk	Strategies
	<p>Academy improvement - School Performance and quality of education is at least good in all schools</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant gaps in learning and emotional development of children returning to school following covid-19 school closures. • Performance of schools not improving sufficiently or quickly enough impacts on OFSTED judgements and therefore reputation of the Trust. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increase teaching capacity for rapid intervention to close gaps and provide EMSH support. • Prioritise resources to ensure rapid school improvement – ICT/equipment/books • Ensure accurate and efficient assessment and monitoring systems are in place to ensure progress of the quality of education. • Ensure link Trustees and LCGB are informed to provide another layer of support and challenge. • School to school support deployed effectively.

The New Guild Trust

**Report of the Trustees
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

Strategic report

<p>The New Guild Trust</p>	<p>Leadership – creating a self-sustaining, system led, collaborative approach to improvement.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National shortage of high quality school leaders impacts on ability to recruit within the Trust • Leaders resign or move from the Trust 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure quality succession planning of senior leadership across the trust. • MAT executive board ensures that leaders across the trust understand the priorities in each academy school.
<p>The New Guild Trust</p>	<p>Business – To strengthen the Trust to ensure future sustainability and efficiency.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An academy becomes financially unviable due to fall in pupil numbers/ high rise in staff pay progression. • Adverse changes to national funding formula. • Changes to High Needs funding impacts on capacity to support pupils with SEND. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Effective planning and management of staffing and resources to identify impact on budget over time to inform strategic decision making. • Effective financial management systems in place. Monthly reporting to CFO/CEO of positions. • Services for SEND ensure early identification, intervention, assessment is always robust to secure EHCP provision alongside budget planning to ensure appropriate resources are meeting the needs of SEND pupils. • Trust procurement of SEND/ EP services to minimise waiting lists and ensure specialist services attend to early identification and more swift assessment to gain accurate EHCP support.
<p>The New Guild Trust</p>	<p>Business – MAT Growth plans</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Uncertainty with regards to the future merger with other schools – not enabling the Trust to grow • Trust grows too quickly - embarking on high risk ventures weakens other areas of school improvement/ finance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Liaising closely with the Trust and CEO and AO of other Trusts to ensure strong relationships are forged and shared visions are growing to enable schools to naturally merge. • Full due diligence, including risk register and financial forecasts to be completed. Transparency of findings to the Trust.

Strategic report

The New Guild Trust	People – To ensure staff/pupil wellbeing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to retain quality staff/ fall in pupil numbers reduces resources/ staffing across the Trust impacts negatively on the long term viability and performance. • Staff absence rate continues/ long term sicknesses to be covered impacting on risks to budgets. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Work load and work life balance strategies focused priority for all in staff in all academy schools, fixed item on executive board agenda. • Marketing strategies are in place for recruiting pupils • Ensure all school have sufficient staff coverage within their staff absence policies. • Monthly monitoring of academy school budgets
The New Guild	Personnel/Finance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Risk of redundancy costs for temporary posts that extend longer than 2 years. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitor and support schools to plan for redundancy costs in the 2nd year of a temporary post and to increase this as posts are extended.
Jackfield Infant	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A drop in pupil numbers having an adverse impact on the school budget. Especially forecast decrease in Nursery numbers impacting on Early years funding • Low surplus due to EYFS funding formula. And reduced planned income from nursery contributions due to covid-19 closures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increasing marketing of the school. • Review cost saving areas – Schools Resource management tool.
Moorpark Junior	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Administration capacity low due to SBM fulfilling CFO responsibilities and extra support for AIS finance & business management. • A drop in pupil numbers having an adverse impact on the school budget. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Roles and responsibilities of administration team revised in view of the changes to the SBM/CFO responsibilities established in first year, to be sustained continued growth into year 2. • Strategic review of admin roles across the MAT to ensure capacity is met. • Continued increase capacity at MPJ administration team to support CFO, upskill current staffing to take on additional office duties from SBM Y2. • Increase CFO capacity.
Moorpark Junior	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of SLT with CEO/Headteacher completing school to school support duties. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SLT restructured to create Head of School to ensure accountability whilst headteacher is regularly not physically present in the school. • Increased capacity of teaching, support staff and SENCO to support across the school and SLT

Strategic report

Alexandra Infants	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall in pupil numbers, especially forecast decrease in Nursery numbers impacting on Early years funding Impacting on reduced of resources (staffing and materials). • Significant gaps in learning and emotional development of children returning to school following covid-19 school closures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased marketing of the school. • Reviewing cost saving areas – Schools Resource management tool to review staffing structure. • Review of teaching group sizes to support budget and staffing factors. • Use of staff from partner Junior school for classroom support. • Re-evaluate cross charges • Increase and sustain teaching capacity
Alexandra Infants	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reduction in SBM to share SBM capacity across two schools, risks on quality of finance and business. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SBM over 2 schools reviewed and efficiencies made by reducing SBM role but upskilling existing office staff (Level 6) to complete duties with support from CFO further development into the 2nd year.
Alexandra Juniors	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of staff changes and recruitment on day to day administration through shared SBM role across two schools compromising the efficiency of the SBM role. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the trial re-deployment of the existing SBM to support finance across the two schools. To ensure efficiencies and work is focused SBM to remain in one school and focus on completing tasks effectively and timely further development into the 2nd year.
Alexandra Juniors	Academy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Significant gaps in learning and emotional development of children returning to school following covid-19 school closures. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased and sustained support staff teaching capacity.
The New Guild Trust	Finance/Business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • COVID-19 impact on wraparound care provision income decreasing to NIL, as this service ceased but staff are still being contractual paid. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Trust will utilise the Furlough scheme to offset against a portion of the loss of income in order to sustain staffing, so that once services resume staffing will remain in place rather than having to restructure and potentially lose the service for 12- 18 months.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Strategic report

Risk is managed at The New Guild Trust through sound financial practice as stipulated in the Trusts Accounting and Finance Policy. The Trust is committed to strengthening the efficiency of the finance functions across the Trust and retaining expertise within. Financial software and database systems have been installed across the Trust to allow collaborative working. The Trusts financial policy and procedures are adopted in each academy to improve internal auditing and advice is sought from the Trust's external auditors to ensure best practice. The Accounting Officer, CFO and SBM ensure they meet regularly to standardise processes and maximise economies of scale through combined procurement.

Future plans

Achieving high standards of education is a constant aim for every school in the Trust to be at least good. Longer term, we envisage the work of the trust will involve supporting more schools in their development and improvement. The Trust will continue to develop leadership capacity through well-established MAT to MAT collaboration and will continue to provide quality school to school support external to the schools in The New Guild Trust.

Future plans are financed from income direct for the DfE, related to pupil numbers and other lump sum factors. Trustees will ensure funding is invested appropriately for the next generation of pupils as they have done in the past for current pupils.

At the date of approval the trust was not negotiating the sponsorship or entry of any other school or academy. The trust has a strategic development plan in place and any growth plans will be subject to the capacity of the trust and the conduct of due diligence.

Structure, governance and management

Charity constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of The New Guild Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as The New Guild Trust which includes the following schools:-

Moorpark Junior School
Jackfield Infant School
Alexandra Junior School
Alexandra Infants School

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

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Structure, governance and management

Members' liability

Each member of the academy trust 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

As part of the overall insurance cover taken out with third party insurers the trust has taken out insurance relating to Governors Indemnity. The limit of indemnity cover is £5,000,000 in this respect.

Recruitment and appointment of new trustees

The management of the academy trust is the responsibility of the trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association.

The Articles of the Association require the members of the trust to appoint at least 3 Trustees to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs of the charitable company and the management of the academy.

Trustees who are able to benefit the academy trust by their knowledge and expertise are recruited by nomination and election by the board of trustees. All Trustees will complete a skills check assessment to establish their areas of strength to bring to the Trust and also areas that the Trust can help to develop. All Trustees complete a biography, which is shown on the Trust website.

The Trust currently has:

3 Members

7 Trustees

The term of office for Trustees is 4 years. The Trust has vacancies for:

1 Member

2 Trustees

Organisational structure

The board of trustees are responsible for the overall strategic direction of the academy trust. The trustees have a duty to act for the fulfilment of the academy trust objectives. They set the strategic direction, and determine the policies and procedures of the academy trust whilst holding each academy within the academy trust to account. The trustees will meet at least three times a year and local governing body committees will report to meetings of the board of trustees throughout the year via the Executive board.

The Accounting Officer/CEO and CFO of the Trust works closely with the leadership teams in each academy. This group of people form the Executive board.

The board of trustees and each academy committee do not exercise a managerial role. The leadership and management across the academy trust is delegated by the board of trustees to the Senior Leadership Team within each academy that make up the Executive board. The Senior Leadership Teams are responsible at an executive level for implementing the policies laid down by the board of trustees and reporting to them through various committees. This includes actions concerning the budget, staffing, and school improvement.

The strategic responsibilities are distributed between the two committees:-

- Standards
- Resources and Audit

The Headteacher at Moorpark is the Accounting Officer and is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets. Some spending control is devolved to designated budget holders within the hierarchy of limits and in accordance with the approved Financial Regulations and Financial Scheme of Delegation.

The New Guild Trust

Report of the Trustees for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Structure, governance and management

Induction and training of new trustees

The training and induction of trustees will depend on their existing experience. New trustees will be appointed according to the level of expertise which meets the requirements of the academy trust. Where necessary, training will be given on legal, financial and educational matters. Training on safeguarding and link governor roles is provided through the SGS clerking services that the Trust procure.

A skills audit is performed to allocate the trustees to the committee to which their skills are best suited. The trustees then receive additional training on the responsibilities of being a part of the board of trustees of the academy trust.

Trustees are expected to read and understand the memorandum and articles of association and Scheme of Delegation. They will be provided with minutes from previous meetings.

All members and Trustees are required to obtain satisfactory disclosure and barring service check prior to appointment. The Chair of the Trustees will complete an enhanced DBS which is signed by the secretary of state.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the key management personnel of the academy trust are subject to the 'school teachers pay and conditions document and guidance on school teachers pay and conditions'. The determination of leadership pay is in line with the school group size and relevant scale points attributed to the group pay range.

Incremental rises are dependent upon the successful completion of the previous years' performance management cycle and quality assured by the Senior Leadership Team within each academy. Recommendations for pay increases are made by the Senior Leadership Team to the academy committee and their decision is validated by the board of trustees at the Autumn term meeting.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The members, board of trustees, academy committee members and the accounting officer all complete a pecuniary interest declaration on an annual basis. This declaration sets out any relationship with the academy trust that is not directly related to their duties within these roles. Each individual is also required to declare a potential 'conflict of interest' if it arises between such declarations. Once a declaration has been made, the individual concerned takes no further part in any decision relating to the matter declared.

During the year the Trust has had no related party transactions to report.

Funds held as custodian for others

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

Auditors

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

Report of the trustees, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 1st December 2021 and signed on the board's behalf by:



L Eagle - Trustee

The New Guild Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Scope of Responsibility

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

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

The board of the trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between The New Guild Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 3 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
L Eagle	3	3
S J Dutton	3	3
P Humphreys	1	3
S Brough	3	3
H Frost	3	3
K Peters	3	3
J N Grindey	3	3

The Members Board meets once a year and the attendance is as follows:-

Member	Meetings attended	Out of possible
D Webster	0	1
S Brough	1	1
S Kuzubasoglu	1	1

The standards committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to monitor and evaluate standards and performance of all pupils in the schools. The committee receive reports of monitoring visits including external reviews.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows

Member	Meetings attended	Out of possible
S Dutton	2	3
H Frost	3	3
K Peters	3	3

The resource and audit committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to maintain oversight of the utilisation of financial and other resources across the MAT. The committee also maintains an oversight of the MAT governance, risk management, internal control and value for money framework.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Member	Meetings attended	Out of possible
L Eagle (Chair of Trust Board)	6	6
S Brough (Chair of Resource and Audit)	6	6
P Humphreys	1	6
J Grindey	5	6
K Peters	6	6
E Searl (in attendance)	6	6

The New Guild Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Review of Value for Money

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

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

Key Area	Resources	Outcome/Impact
Ensuring Budgets are balanced	CFO completes monthly monitoring completed by CFO and reported to CEO and Chair of Trust	Ensuring all schools are sustainable over the medium term.
Additional income from school to school support	Number of SLEs accredited across all schools increased.	Income from school to school support allowing the procurement of educational resources that otherwise would not have been possible.
Inter-academy collaboration and support, particularly in areas of assessment, staff development, recruitment and specialisms such as SENCO	The MAT has invested in training staff as MAPA trainers.SENCO is shared between the Alexandra Infants and Juniors.	This has enabled the trust to effectively train others within the trust rather than purchasing training from other providers which has proven cost effective. Cost effective in using 1staff member for 2 schools.
Financial Management	Various categories of expenditure have been targeted to achieve a reduction in cost. The MAT's SLA's re-negotiated for Catering, Cleaning, ICT Support services, insurances and finance support services. Option appraisal completed to ensure best value.	Negotiated group discount and economies of scale on annual subscriptions for all schools.
Supporting Suppliers during pandemic	The trust has supported suppliers with whom we have had contracts with and ensured they have been paid timely.	Complying to the requirements of the PPN and ensuring that we are maintaining our commitments to our suppliers so that they can continue to provide us excellent service and value for money moving forward out of the pandemic.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The New Guild Trust for the period 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

The New Guild Trust

Governance Statement for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees
- May require editing to reflect the circumstances of the individual academy trust.
- May require editing to reflect the circumstances of the individual academy trust. 102
- regular reviews by the CEO, CFO and academy senior leaders to review financial performance with any issues/ recommendations being presented to governors/Trustees.
- 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 buy in an internal audit service from Dains Accountants 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:

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of control account/ bank reconciliations
- testing of purchase card systems

On a half-yearly basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual 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.

All the reviews for 2020-2021 have been reported back to the Trust Board with no areas identified for actioning. The Trust has obtained a 'clean' audit on all inspections.

The New Guild Trust

**Governance Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

Review of Effectiveness

As accounting officer, the chief executive 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 work of the external auditor
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the result outcome of their review of the system of internal control by the resource and audit committee and will ensure the highest level of compliance remains in place as already shown from the current clean audit.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 1st December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

L Eagle - Trustee



K Peters - Accounting Officer



The New Guild Trust

**Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

As accounting officer of The New Guild Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the academy trust 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 Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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

K Peters - Accounting Officer



Date: 1st December 2021

The New Guild Trust

**Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 1st December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
L Eagle / Trustee

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of The New Guild Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The New Guild Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31st August 2021 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy trust's affairs as at 31st August 2021 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Report of the Independent Auditors to the Members of The New Guild Trust

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 Report of the Trustees.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, our procedures included the following:

- enquiring of management including obtaining and reviewing supporting documentation concerning the Trust's policies and procedures relating to
- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether there were any instances of non-compliance;
- detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have any knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
- reviewing the internal controls established to mitigate risks related to fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations.
- discussions among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.
- obtaining an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework in which the Trust operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the financial statements or that had a fundamental effect on the operations of the Trust.

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

Use of our report

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



Timothy McNeal FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Hardings
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditor
6 Marsh Parade
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1DU

Date: 1st December 2021

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to
The New Guild Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The New Guild Trust during the period 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of The New Guild Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of The New Guild Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1st September 2019, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. 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 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

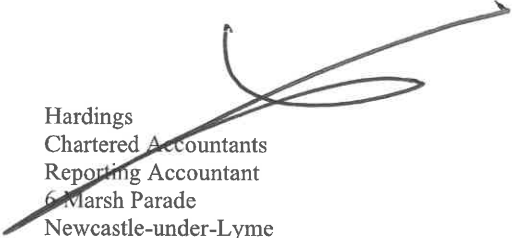
The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity.

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

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

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 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Hardings
Chartered Accountants
Reporting Accountant
6 Marsh Parade
Newcastle-under-Lyme
Staffordshire
ST5 1DU

Date: 1st December 2021

The New Guild Trust

Statement of Financial Activities
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

					31/8/21	31/8/20
	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £	Total funds £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from						
Donations and capital grants	2	2,445	-	44,682	47,127	70,876
Charitable activities						
Funding for the academy's educational operations	3	167,583	5,032,176	-	5,199,759	5,115,450
Investment income	4	<u>91</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>807</u>
Total		170,119	5,032,176	44,682	5,246,977	5,187,133
Expenditure on						
Raising funds	6	-	3,533	-	3,533	7,700
Charitable activities						
Academy's educational operations	8	28,550	5,289,088	168,911	5,486,549	5,506,719
Total	5	<u>28,550</u>	<u>5,292,621</u>	<u>168,911</u>	<u>5,490,082</u>	<u>5,514,419</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)		141,569	(260,445)	(124,229)	(243,105)	(327,286)
Transfers between funds	16	<u>-</u>	<u>(36,523)</u>	<u>36,523</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes		<u>-</u>	<u>(1,033,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,033,000)</u>	<u>(127,000)</u>
Net movement in funds		141,569	(1,329,968)	(87,706)	(1,276,105)	(454,286)
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		293,603	(2,786,082)	6,629,744	4,137,265	4,591,551
Total funds carried forward		<u>435,172</u>	<u>(4,116,050)</u>	<u>6,542,038</u>	<u>2,861,160</u>	<u>4,137,265</u>

Continuing operations

All income and expenditure has arisen from continuing activities.

The notes form part of these financial statements

The New Guild Trust (Registered number: 11185205)

Balance Sheet
31st August 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £	31/8/21 Total funds £	31/8/20 Total funds £
Fixed assets						
Intangible assets	12	-	-	-	-	2,757
Tangible assets	13	-	-	6,557,766	6,557,766	6,652,866
		-	-	6,557,766	6,557,766	6,655,623
Current assets						
Debtors	14	-	232,324	-	232,324	255,093
Cash at bank and in hand		435,172	278,882	9,648	723,702	560,048
		435,172	511,206	9,648	956,026	815,141
Creditors						
Amounts falling due within one year	15	-	(303,256)	(25,376)	(328,632)	(368,499)
Net current assets		435,172	207,950	(15,728)	627,394	446,642
Total assets less current liabilities		435,172	207,950	6,542,038	7,185,160	7,102,265
Pension liability	17	-	(4,324,000)	-	(4,324,000)	(2,965,000)
NET ASSETS		435,172	(4,116,050)	6,542,038	2,861,160	4,137,265
Funds						
Restricted income funds	16				2,425,988	3,843,662
Unrestricted income fund					435,172	293,603
Total funds					2,861,160	4,137,265

The financial statements were approved by the Board of Trustees and authorised for issue on 1st December 2021 and were signed on its behalf by:



L Eagle - Trustee

The notes form part of these financial statements

The New Guild Trust

**Cash Flow Statement
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

	Notes	31/8/21 £	31/8/20 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Cash generated from operations	21	<u>208,734</u>	<u>(93,240)</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities		<u>208,734</u>	<u>(93,240)</u>
Cash flows from investing activities			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(71,054)	(43,923)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA		25,882	58,179
Interest received		<u>91</u>	<u>807</u>
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		<u>(45,081)</u>	<u>15,063</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>163,653</u>	<u>(78,177)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the reporting period		<u>560,048</u>	<u>638,225</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the reporting period		<u><u>723,701</u></u>	<u><u>560,048</u></u>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**Notes to the Financial Statements
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

1. Accounting policies

Basis of preparing the financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2019)', Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention.

The New Guild Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 17, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the last actuarial valuation performed at 31st March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. 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.

Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

1. Accounting policies - continued

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 it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing various grants from varying bodies. Payments received and subsequent disbursements of these grants are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid, and any balances held are disclosed in note 20.

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Expenditure

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

Raising funds

Raising funds 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

Costs of charitable activities are 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.

Governance costs

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses

Tangible fixed assets

Depreciation is provided at the following annual rates in order to write off the cost less estimated residual value of each asset over its estimated useful life.

Long leasehold	-	over the expected useful economic life
Fixtures and fittings	-	20% on cost
Computer equipment	-	33% on cost

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

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

1. Accounting policies - continued

Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Financial instruments

The academy trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the academy trust and their measurement basis are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. 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 as detailed in note 15. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

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.

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

1. Accounting policies - continued

Pension costs and other post-retirement benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in note 17, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

Liabilities

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

2. Donations and capital grants

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Donations	2,445	12,697
Grants	<u>44,682</u>	<u>58,179</u>
	<u>47,127</u>	<u>70,876</u>

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

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Capital Grant - ESFA	25,882	25,735
Capital Grant - Local Authority	<u>18,800</u>	<u>32,444</u>
	<u>44,682</u>	<u>58,179</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

3. Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/21 Total funds £	31/8/20 Total funds £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant(GAG)	-	3,723,488	3,723,488	3,719,989
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	899,616	899,616	778,322
	-	4,623,104	4,623,104	4,498,311
Other Government grant				
Local Authority Grants	-	409,072	409,072	420,578
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations				
	167,583	-	167,583	196,561
	<u>167,583</u>	<u>5,032,176</u>	<u>5,199,759</u>	<u>5,115,450</u>

Other DfE/ESFA grants is made up of the following:

	31/8/21 £	31/8/20 £
Pupil premium	455,194	416,459
PE & sports grant	70,670	70,349
Rates relief	13,303	14,144
UIFSM	73,582	83,030
Teachers pay and pension grants	154,128	158,761
Covid-19 catch up premium	64,181	-
Other	68,558	35,579
	<u>899,616</u>	<u>778,322</u>

4. Investment income

	31/8/21 £	31/8/20 £
Deposit account interest	<u>91</u>	<u>807</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

5. Expenditure

	Non-pay expenditure			31/8/21	31/8/20
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	Total £	Total £
Raising funds					
Costs of fundraising					
Direct costs	-	-	3,533	3,533	7,700
Charitable activities					
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	3,026,457	-	158,727	3,185,184	3,094,758
Allocated support costs	<u>801,240</u>	<u>872,850</u>	<u>627,275</u>	<u>2,301,365</u>	<u>2,411,961</u>
	<u>3,827,697</u>	<u>872,850</u>	<u>789,535</u>	<u>5,490,082</u>	<u>5,514,419</u>

Net resources are stated after charging/(crediting) :

	Year Ended 31/08/21 £	Year Ended 31/08/20 £
Auditor's remuneration - audit	13,000	13,000
- other services	1,600	1,000
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	2,757	3,311
Depreciation - owned assets	52,711	39,117
Depreciation - leasehold assets	<u>113,443</u>	<u>113,356</u>

6. Raising funds

Costs of fundraising

	31/8/21 £	31/8/20 £
Pupil uniforms	<u>3,533</u>	<u>7,700</u>

7. Charitable activities - academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	31/8/21 Total funds £	31/8/20 Total funds £
Direct costs	1,871	3,183,313	3,185,184	3,094,758
Support costs	<u>26,679</u>	<u>2,274,686</u>	<u>2,301,365</u>	<u>2,411,961</u>
	<u>28,550</u>	<u>5,457,999</u>	<u>5,486,549</u>	<u>5,506,719</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

7. Charitable activities - academy's educational operations - continued

	31/8/21 Total £	31/8/20 Total £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	801,240	864,248
Technology costs	96,926	64,246
Premises costs	546,850	532,883
Other support costs	467,554	595,793
Governance costs	<u>388,795</u>	<u>354,791</u>
Total support costs	<u>2,301,365</u>	<u>2,411,961</u>

8. Trustees' remuneration and benefits

There were no trustees' remuneration or other benefits for the year ended 31st August 2021 nor for the year ended 31st August 2020.

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

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

	2021	2020
Mrs K Peters		
Remuneration	£85,000 - £90,000	£75,000 - £80,000
Employer's pension contribution	£15,000 - £20,000	£10,000 - £15,000

Trustees' expenses

There were no trustees' expenses paid for the year ended 31st August 2021 nor for the year ended 31st August 2020.

9. Staff costs

	31/8/21 £	31/8/20 £
Wages and salaries	2,880,102	2,827,011
Social security costs	247,683	237,282
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	<u>686,434</u>	<u>663,015</u>
Compensation payments	3,814,219	3,727,308
Other staff costs	1,979	14,963
	<u>11,499</u>	<u>20,001</u>
	<u>3,827,697</u>	<u>3,762,272</u>

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

	31/8/21	31/8/20
Teachers	36	35
Administration and support	109	112
Management	<u>9</u>	<u>10</u>
	<u>154</u>	<u>157</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

9. Staff costs - continued

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

	31/8/21	31/8/20
£60,001 - £70,000	3	3
£70,001 - £80,000	1	2
£80,001 - £90,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u><u>5</u></u>	<u><u>5</u></u>

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise of the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £695,652 (2020: £664,670).

10. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £	Total funds £
Income and endowments from				
Donations and capital grants	12,697	-	58,179	70,876
Charitable activities				
Funding for the academy's educational operations	196,561	4,918,889	-	5,115,450
Investment income	<u>807</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>807</u>
Total	210,065	4,918,889	58,179	5,187,133
Expenditure on				
Raising funds	-	7,700	-	7,700
Charitable activities				
Academy's educational operations	53,524	5,297,412	155,783	5,506,719
Total	<u>53,524</u>	<u>5,305,112</u>	<u>155,783</u>	<u>5,514,419</u>
NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE)	156,541	(386,223)	(97,604)	(327,286)
Transfers between funds	<u>-</u>	<u>58,470</u>	<u>(58,470)</u>	<u>-</u>
Other recognised gains/(losses)				
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit schemes	<u>-</u>	<u>(127,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(127,000)</u>
Net movement in funds	156,541	(454,753)	(156,074)	(454,286)
Reconciliation of funds				
Total funds brought forward	137,063	(2,331,330)	6,785,818	4,591,551

The New Guild Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

10. Comparatives for the statement of financial activities - continued

	Unrestricted £	Restricted £	Restricted Fixed Asset Fund £	Total funds £
Total funds carried forward	<u>293,604</u>	<u>(2,786,083)</u>	<u>6,629,744</u>	<u>4,137,265</u>

11. Central services

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

12. Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software £
Cost	
At 1st September 2020 and 31st August 2021	<u>9,932</u>
Amortisation	
At 1st September 2020	7,175
Charge for year	<u>2,757</u>
At 31st August 2021	<u>9,932</u>
Net book value	
At 31st August 2021	<u>-</u>
At 31st August 2020	<u>2,757</u>

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long leasehold £	Improvements to property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Totals £
Cost					
At 1st September 2020	6,792,800	1,544	69,435	94,390	6,958,169
Additions	<u>-</u>	<u>6,202</u>	<u>39,729</u>	<u>25,123</u>	<u>71,054</u>
At 31st August 2021	<u>6,792,800</u>	<u>7,746</u>	<u>109,164</u>	<u>119,513</u>	<u>7,029,223</u>
Depreciation					
At 1st September 2020	245,605	26	18,252	41,420	305,303
Charge for year	<u>113,356</u>	<u>87</u>	<u>17,492</u>	<u>35,219</u>	<u>166,154</u>
At 31st August 2021	<u>358,961</u>	<u>113</u>	<u>35,744</u>	<u>76,639</u>	<u>471,457</u>
Net book value					
At 31st August 2021	<u>6,433,839</u>	<u>7,633</u>	<u>73,420</u>	<u>42,874</u>	<u>6,557,766</u>
At 31st August 2020	<u>6,547,195</u>	<u>1,518</u>	<u>51,183</u>	<u>52,970</u>	<u>6,652,866</u>

The New Guild Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

14. Debtors: amounts falling due within one year

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Trade debtors	-	750
Debit trade creditor balances	-	159
VAT	2,610	33,100
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>229,715</u>	<u>221,084</u>
	<u>232,325</u>	<u>255,093</u>

15. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Trade creditors	327	-
Social security and other taxes	58,095	55,292
Other creditors	86,731	107,195
Accruals and deferred income	<u>183,479</u>	<u>206,012</u>
	<u>328,632</u>	<u>368,499</u>

16. Movement in funds

	At 1/9/20	Net movement in funds	Transfers between funds	At 31/8/21
	£	£	£	£
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	101,614	34,345	(36,523)	99,436
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	72,169	35,745	-	107,914
Local Authority Grants	5,135	(4,535)	-	600
Pension Deficit	(2,965,000)	(1,359,000)	-	(4,324,000)
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	6,629,744	(143,029)	51,339	6,538,054
Local Authority Capital Funding Grant	<u>-</u>	<u>18,800</u>	<u>(14,816)</u>	<u>3,984</u>
	<u>3,843,662</u>	<u>(1,417,674)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,425,988</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Funds	<u>293,603</u>	<u>141,569</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>435,172</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>4,137,265</u>	<u>(1,276,105)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,861,160</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

16. Movement in funds - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	3,723,488	(3,689,143)	-	34,345
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	899,616	(863,871)	-	35,745
Local Authority Grants	409,072	(413,607)	-	(4,535)
Pension Deficit	-	(326,000)	(1,033,000)	(1,359,000)
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	25,882	(168,911)	-	(143,029)
Local Authority Capital Funding Grant	18,800	-	-	18,800
	<u>5,076,858</u>	<u>(5,461,532)</u>	<u>(1,033,000)</u>	<u>(1,417,674)</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Funds	170,119	(28,550)	-	141,569
	<u>5,246,977</u>	<u>(5,490,082)</u>	<u>(1,033,000)</u>	<u>(1,276,105)</u>

Comparatives for movement in funds

	At 1/9/19 £	Net movement in funds £	Transfers between funds £	At 31/8/20 £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	4,628	6,589	90,397	101,614
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	45,345	26,824	-	72,169
Local Authority Grants	119,770	(114,635)	-	5,135
Pension Deficit	(2,533,000)	(432,000)	-	(2,965,000)
Other	31,927	-	(31,927)	-
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	6,785,818	(97,604)	(58,470)	6,629,744
	<u>4,454,488</u>	<u>(610,826)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,843,662</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Funds	137,063	156,540	-	293,603
	<u>4,591,551</u>	<u>(454,286)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,137,265</u>

The New Guild Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

16. Movement in funds - continued

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

	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains and losses £	Movement in funds £
Restricted general funds				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	3,719,989	(3,713,400)	-	6,589
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	778,322	(751,498)	-	26,824
Local Authority Grants	420,579	(535,214)	-	(114,635)
Pension Deficit	-	(305,000)	(127,000)	(432,000)
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	58,179	(155,783)	-	(97,604)
	<u>4,977,069</u>	<u>(5,460,895)</u>	<u>(127,000)</u>	<u>(610,826)</u>
Unrestricted fund				
Unrestricted Funds	210,064	(53,524)	-	156,540
	<u>5,187,133</u>	<u>(5,514,419)</u>	<u>(127,000)</u>	<u>(454,286)</u>

Purposes of unrestricted funds

Included in unrestricted funds includes the surplus on conversion from a local authority school, income from outsourcing of staff and other income generated from the other small donations, etc. which carry no specific restrictions. These funds are available for the Academy Trust to use as deemed appropriate.

Purposes of restricted funds

The General Annual Grant represents the grant funding received from the ESFA in order to cover the on-going costs of the Academy 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 31st August 2021.

Other DfE/ESFA grants received include amounts to cover pupil premium and universal infant free school meals.

Local Authority grants include early years funding as well as funding to support children with special education needs and additional pupil premium.

Purposes of restricted fixed assets funds

The restricted fixed assets funds reflects resources received by the academy trust to acquire assets for continuing use and furtherance of the trust's aims and objectives. Resources expended reflect the associated depreciation charges as set out on the accounting policies.

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31st August 2021 were allocated as follows:

	31/8/21 £	31/8/20 £
Moorpark Junior School	219,234	171,647
Jackfield Infant School	101,107	55,636
Alexandra Junior School	166,313	122,232
Alexandra Infants School	<u>156,468</u>	<u>123,006</u>
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	643,122	472,521

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

16. Movement in funds - continued

Restricted fixed asset fund	6,542,038	6,629,744
Pension reserve	(4,324,000)	(2,965,000)
	<u>2,861,160</u>	<u>4,137,265</u>

Analysis of academies by cost

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

	Teaching/ Ed Support Staff Costs	Other Support Staff Costs	Education Supplies	Other Costs (ex Dep)	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Moorpark Junior School	873,850	208,745	60,754	251,992	1,395,341
Jackfield Infant School	773,241	251,407	18,022	284,312	1,326,982
Alexandra Junior School	761,238	207,813	62,325	248,370	1,279,746
Alexandra Infants School	618,130	133,275	21,159	219,519	992,083
Academy Trust	<u>3,026,459</u>	<u>801,240</u>	<u>162,260</u>	<u>1,004,193</u>	<u>4,994,152</u>

17. 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 Staffordshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £76,803 were payable to the schemes at 31st August 2021 (2020 - £70,844) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' pension scheme

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

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

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

17. Pension and similar obligations - continued

Valuation of the teachers' pension scheme

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

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

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £375,691 (2020 - £354,652).

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 has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31st August 2021 was £391,000 (2020 - £377,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £320,000 (2020 - £309,000), and employees' contributions totalled £71,000 (2020 - £68,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 27.20 per cent for employers and 12.50 per cent for employees.

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

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Present value of funded obligations	(7,884,000)	(5,583,000)
Fair value of plan assets	<u>3,560,000</u>	<u>2,618,000</u>
	(4,324,000)	(2,965,000)
Present value of unfunded obligations	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Deficit	<u>(4,324,000)</u>	<u>(2,965,000)</u>
Net liability	<u>(4,324,000)</u>	<u>(2,965,000)</u>

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

17. Pension and similar obligations - continued

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Current service cost	594,000	563,000
Net interest from net defined benefit asset/liability	100,000	98,000
Past service cost	-	-
	<u>694,000</u>	<u>661,000</u>
Actual return on plan assets	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Opening defined benefit obligation	5,583,000	4,815,000
Current service cost	594,000	563,000
Contributions by scheme participants	71,000	71,000
Interest cost	100,000	98,000
Benefits paid	(20,000)	(18,000)
Remeasurements:		
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in demographic assumptions	124,000	(92,000)
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	1,496,000	157,000
Oblig other remeasurement	(64,000)	(11,000)
	<u>7,884,000</u>	<u>5,583,000</u>

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Opening fair value of scheme assets	2,618,000	2,282,000
Contributions by employer	320,000	309,000
Contributions by scheme participants	71,000	71,000
Interest income	48,000	47,000
Benefits paid	(20,000)	(18,000)
Return on plan assets (excluding interest income)	<u>523,000</u>	<u>(73,000)</u>
	<u>3,560,000</u>	<u>2,618,000</u>

The New Guild Trust

**Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021**

17. Pension and similar obligations - continued

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

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in demographic assumptions	(124,000)	92,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses from changes in financial assumptions	(1,496,000)	(157,000)
Oblig other remeasurement	64,000	11,000
Return on plan assets (excluding interest income)	<u>523,000</u>	<u>(73,000)</u>
	<u>(1,033,000)</u>	<u>(127,000)</u>

The major categories of scheme assets as amounts of total scheme assets are as follows:

	Defined benefit pension plans	
	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Equities	2,527,600	1,780,240
Bonds	676,400	523,600
Cash	106,800	104,720
Property	<u>249,200</u>	<u>209,440</u>
	<u>3,560,000</u>	<u>2,618,000</u>

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

	31/8/21	31/8/20
Discount rate	1.65%	1.70%
Future salary increases	3.30%	2.60%
Future pension increases	2.90%	2.20%

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

Retiring today		
Males	21.4	21.2
Females	24	23.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.5	22.1
Females	25.7	25

Sensitivity analysis

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	231,000	171,200
Discount rate -0.1%	(231,000)	(171,200)
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	34,000	28,400
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(34,000)	(28,400)
CPI rate +0.1%	193,000	139,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(193,000)	(139,000)

Notes to the Financial Statements - continued
for the Year Ended 31st August 2021

18. Long-term commitments, including operating leases

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

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Within one year	29,972	26,343
Between one and five years	<u>28,267</u>	<u>58,239</u>
	<u>58,239</u>	<u>84,582</u>

19. Related party disclosures

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

20. Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes Science grants, National College for Teaching and Leadership grants and Opportunity Area grants to schools as an agent for various bodies. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2021 the academy trust received £308,990 (2020: £171,019) and disbursed £335,278 (2020: £135,570) from these grants. An amount of £9,161 (2020: £35,449) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds.

21. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	31/8/21	31/8/20
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	(243,105)	(327,286)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	168,911	155,783
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA	(25,882)	(58,179)
Interest received	(91)	(807)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	22,768	(32,533)
Decrease in creditors	(39,867)	(135,218)
Difference between pension charge and cash contributions	<u>326,000</u>	<u>305,000</u>
Net cash provided by/(used in) operations	<u>208,734</u>	<u>(93,240)</u>

22. Analysis of changes in net funds

	At 1/9/20	Cash flow	At 31/8/21
	£	£	£
Net cash			
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>560,048</u>	<u>163,653</u>	<u>723,701</u>
	<u>560,048</u>	<u>163,653</u>	<u>723,701</u>
Total	<u>560,048</u>	<u>163,653</u>	<u>723,701</u>