

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**Feltons**  
**Chartered Accountants**  
**Birmingham**  
**B1 3JR**

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**CONTENTS**

---

	Page
<b>Reference and Administrative Details</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 10
<b>Governance Statement</b>	11 - 14
<b>Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance</b>	15
<b>Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities</b>	16
<b>Independent Auditors' Report on the Financial Statements</b>	17 - 20
<b>Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity</b>	21 - 22
<b>Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account</b>	23
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	24
<b>Statement of Cash Flows</b>	25
<b>Notes to the Financial Statements</b>	26 - 50

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

<b>Members</b>	K Hyem J Hamilton White J Hemmings (resigned 14 November 2023) J Bhoi (appointed 14 November 2023)
<b>Trustees</b>	Miss Loretta Barratt, Head Teacher and Accounting Officer (resigned 31 August 2024) Ms Janet Hamilton-White, Community Trustee and Chair Person (appointed 14 November 2023) Mr David Ruane, Chair (appointed 2 October 2024) Mr John Harrison, Head Teacher (appointed 1 September 2024) Mr John Hemmings, Community Trustee and Chair Person (resigned 14 November 2023) Mr Keith Hyem, Community Trustee and Vice Chair Person (resigned 1 October 2024) Mr Fayaz Khuhro, Parent Trustee Mrs Stephanie Ogidih, Community Trustee Miss Dawn Cox, Staff Trustee (appointed 3 October 2024) Miss Diane Nagy, Parent Trustee (appointed 25 September 2023) Mr Jagmit Bohi, Parent Trustee (appointed 25 September 2023) Mr Stuart Haynes, Community Trustee (appointed 15 January 2024, resigned 31 August 2024)
<b>Company registered number</b>	8049062
<b>Company name</b>	Dorrington Academy Trust
<b>Principal and registered office</b>	Dorrington Road Birmingham West Midlands B42 1QR
<b>Company secretary</b>	Ms J Hamilton-White
<b>Senior management team</b>	L Barratt, Head Teacher (resigned on 31 August 2024) J Harrison, Deputy Head Teacher S Williamson, Deputy Head Teacher S Taylor, Deputy Head Teacher
<b>Independent auditors</b>	Feltons 8 Sovereign Court 8 Graham Street Birmingham West Midlands B1 3JR

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

<b>Bankers</b>	Lloyds Bank PLC 4th Floor 125 Colmore Row Birmingham West Midlands B3 3SD
<b>Solicitors</b>	Browne Jacobson Mowbray House Castle Meadow Road Nottingham NG2 1BJ



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 3 to 11 serving a catchment area in Perry Barr, Birmingham. It has a pupil capacity of 708 and had a roll of 634 in the school census on October 2024.

**Structure, governance and management**

**a. Constitution**

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

The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The Trustees of Dorrington Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company operates as Dorrington Academy.

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

**b. Members' liability**

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

**c. Trustees' indemnities**

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides unlimited cover on any one claim. Dorrington Academy has opted into the ESFA's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA).

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees**

Parent trustees are elected by the parents of registered pupils at the academy. A parent trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the academy at the time when she/he is elected.

Community trustees may be appointed by the board of trustees provided that the person who is appointed as a community trustee is:

- a person who lives or works in the community served by the academy; or
- a person who, in the opinion of the board of trustees, is committed to the government and success of the academy.

Staff Trustees are elected by employees of the academy trust.

The above selection procedures are by advertisement of the post on Newsletter and Website, interested parties to collect application form and return with A4 reasons as to why they would make a good Trustee. These statements are available for the Community to read and a set date for voting is advertised. Voting takes place using a locked ballot box. The Ballot Box is unlocked by the Chair of Governors and the votes counted by the Chair of Governors and the Community are informed of the results.

**e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees**

The board of trustees has a service level agreement with the trustee support department of Dorrington Academy to provide training, advice and support to the board of trustees.

Newly elected trustees attend induction training for new trustees, and in addition select specific training provided by trustee support in accordance with their needs.

One of the trustees is appointed as link trustee, attends relevant training and provides information to trustees following such training.

The deputy head teacher/vice principal is the leader for professional development in school, and he/she ensures that trustees are provided with opportunities to receive training in accordance with their role, and the school's training plan.

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**Structure, governance and management (continued)**

**f. Organisational structure**

The board of trustees has established committees and appoints trustees to serve on each of the committees annually. The committees for the period of the report were:

- Finance/Buildings
- Health & Safety
- Staffing
- Curriculum and Standards
- Exclusions
- Pay & Grading/Performance Management
- Child Protection/Safeguarding
- Head Teacher Performance Management
- Appeals
- Staff and Pupil Discipline
- Monitoring Groups linked to the Academy Development Plan

The written terms of reference of the committees include the monitoring of the preparation and management of the academy's budget and implementation of the academy's financial management policies, including risk assessment.

The board of trustees also appoints a responsible officer and this role has been fully implemented in accordance with the academy trust's financial procedures.

Decisions relating to Dorrington Academy are reserved for the board of trustees. Those responsibilities delegated to management include leadership and management of the school.

**g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel**

Dorrington Academy has an approved pay policy and performance management policy which it adheres to with regards to setting pay and remuneration. In addition to Governors, the Head Teacher also has an external assessment as part of her performance management.

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

Trustee's related parties and other connected charities and organisations are all documented on their pecuniary interest forms and these are reviewed to ensure sound and transparent governance. The Academy publishes it's relevant business and pecuniary interest of Trustees on it's website. The ESFA is advised of related parties where approval is required.

**Objectives and activities**

**a. Objects and aims**

The strategic goal of Dorrington Academy Trust is to provide a broad and balanced curriculum to all pupils in accordance with the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Department for Education.



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**Objectives and activities (continued)**

**b. Objectives, strategies and activities**

At Dorrington Academy, our overarching aim is to be an outstanding inclusive academy that specialises in focused personalised learning and the holistic development of each child. We strive to cultivate the skills, attitudes, and values within our community, encouraging everyone to be the best they can be. Our objectives include respecting the uniqueness of every individual involved in our academy community and committing to achieving the highest standards for all. We believe in creating a stimulating and joyful learning environment that enables every member of our community to realise their potential and capacity for enjoyment. We promote cooperation and sensitivity towards the needs of others while fostering an appreciation for diverse races, religions, and lifestyles. We also encourage parents to actively support their children's education and engage in the daily life of the academy. Embracing creativity in our provision, we enrich our curriculum to enhance accelerated learning opportunities and enjoyment for all. Furthermore, we ensure that the spiritual, moral, social, and cultural (SMSC) development of our children is embedded throughout our entire curriculum. As we work towards realising our vision, we are dedicated to investing in the wellbeing of our entire community.

**The specific school development plan priorities for the year ending 31st August 2023 were**

**Raising standards in Teaching and Learning**

**Priority areas for development**

'Know More, Remember More' initiative  
Enhanced science curriculum through outdoor provision  
Continued development of reading skills through year of reading initiative  
Continued development of key mathematical skills through year of arithmetic initiative  
Embedding technology resources, including the radio room for improved oracy  
Continue to embed virtual learning provision for homework  
Enhanced G&T provision  
Add depth to teacher's subject knowledge  
Enhanced provision of life skills including swimming

**Improving the Learning Environment**

**Priority areas for development**

Construction of fundamental movement zone  
Monitor new heating system  
Continued development of purpose-built Art, life skills and DIY workshop  
Continued maintenance of high-quality learning environment

**Effectiveness of Leadership and Management**

**Priority areas for development**

Year of community initiative  
Continuation of embedding the new management and finance systems  
Incentive programme to assist overall pupil standards of achievement which includes academic, social, attendance and punctuality  
Leadership succession  
Effectiveness of Governing Body  
Development of DA Consultancy  
Smooth transition for new Headteacher

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**Objectives and activities (continued)**

**c. Public benefit**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

Dorrington Academy Trust is an equal opportunity employer, and strives to give full and fair consideration to all applicants for employment, training and promotions, irrespective of disability, gender, race, colour or sexual orientation.

**Strategic report**

**Achievements and performance**

The Academy has established a forward-thinking technology curriculum and infrastructure designed to be future-proof for children, staff, and the wider community. Staff have been effectively redeployed, and our management systems have generated financial savings, which have been reinvested into capital expansion projects and resources. The recruitment of Early Career Teachers (ECTs) and the implementation of our own training programme have contributed to maintaining high standards of teaching and learning, alongside increasing our capacity for small group instruction, ultimately enhancing achievement levels.

Our investment in a new technology hub, equipped with virtual reality and advanced computer software, alongside a new library and librarian, has significantly enriched the educational experience we offer our children. Every child now has access to a library book, and each class is scheduled weekly to utilise both the library and technology hub as part of our "Know More, Remember More" initiative, which aims to bolster independent research skills tailored to identified learning needs.

To improve children's swimming abilities, we have created an environment that accommodates a swimming pool for pupils and the community throughout the year. Through careful negotiation, the Academy has secured a mobile swimming pool and swimming lessons for the entire academic year, providing every child with the exceptional opportunity to learn how to swim.

The trustees are committed to offering young adults the chance to re-enter the workforce and acquire new skills. Currently, we are training several teaching assistant apprentices with specific needs, which has increased our capacity for small group teaching and expanded opportunities for additional activities. Furthermore, the trustees are giving back to the community by enabling young people to enhance their skill sets.

The Academy also prioritises continued professional development at all levels, facilitating nine staff members to complete a National Professional Qualification in either Headship or Senior Leadership, with plans to continue this support in the future.



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**Strategic report (continued)**

**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**a. Key performance indicators**

Dorrington Academy - Headline Results 2023-24

**Key Stage 2 Test Results**

	<b>Dorrington Academy</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>
<b>GPS Expected+</b>	75.6%	72.2%	74.5%
<b>GPS Exceeding</b>	45.3%	31.9%	36.7%
<b>Writing Expected+</b>	82.6%	71.7%	70.9%
<b>Writing Exceeding+</b>	18.6%	12.9%	10.8%
<b>Maths Expected+</b>	75.6%	73.1%	73.3%
<b>Maths Exceeding+</b>	31.4%	23.8%	24.9%
<b>Reading Expected+</b>	60.5%	74.2%	71.6%
<b>Reading Exceeding+</b>	16.3%	28.5%	26.5%
<b>Expected in RWM</b>	55.8%	60.5%	60.2%
<b>Exceeding in RWM</b>	8.1%	7.6%	6.8%

**EYFS – Good Level of Development (GLD)**

<b>Dorrington Academy</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>
70.8%	67.7%	65.2%

**Phonics Screening Results**

	<b>Dorrington Academy</b>	<b>National</b>	<b>Local Authority</b>
<b>Year 1</b>	82.6%	80.2%	80.8%
<b>Year 2 Cumulative</b>	93.3%	n/a	87.1%

**b. Going concern**

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

**Financial review**

The financial results of Dorrrington Academy Trust are detailed in the following pages. It is considered that the finances are sound and well established. The principal financial management policies adopted are laid down by the Academy Trust Handbook published by the ESFA and requirements as laid down by the Academy's Financial Handbook.

The principal funding source is grant income from the ESFA. All expenditure of this grant income is planned to fulfil the objectives and strategies of the academy trust.

During the year ended 31 August 2024 total resources expended were £4,169,295 and the deficit of expenditure over income was £371,708 stated after depreciation of £277,506.

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**Strategic report (continued)**

**a. Reserves policy**

The trustees continually monitor the reserves of the charitable company. This process encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams and the need to match commitments with income and nature of reserves. It is the board of trustees' general policy to continue to build reserves which can be used for future educational purposes.

The academy trust had total funds at 31 August 2024 of £7,336,324 which included deficit of £23,238 restricted funds not available for general purposes of the academy trust, £nil of free reserves defined as unrestricted funds available for general purposes and £7,281,562 which can only be realised by the disposal of tangible fixed assets.

The balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds was a deficit of £23,238.

In addition, the surplus on the restricted pension fund of £104,000 arises from an actuarial deficit on the local government pension scheme which will be dealt with as advised by the actuary. This will result in a cash flow effect for the academy trust in the form of an increase in employers' pension contributions over a period of years.

**b. Investment policy**

Surplus funds at the year end are not separately invested

**c. Principal risks and uncertainties**

The trustees have considered the major risks and uncertainties facing the charitable company which include changes in legislation and regulations and cash flow management and have put in place procedures to deal with these matters.

Attention has also been focused on non-financial risks arising from fire, health and safety. These risks are managed by ensuring accreditation is up to date, having robust policies in place, and regular awareness training for staff working in these operational areas.

The trustees looked after the wellbeing of all staff and children efficiently and effectively, financially there has been no negative impact affecting the Academy during the uncertain time of Covid-19. Any threat to the Academy's financial and operational strategies at the onset of Covid-19 were alleviated by careful strategic planning and any potential threats were turned into a positive opportunity to benefit the community.

The trustees have strategically planned for the economic climate and increase in prices and the fluctuation regarding inflation, especially concerning the gas and electric costs. The Academy has made allowances for the dramatic increase in utility bills. A robust financial plan is in place and ample reserves to meet any additional increases regarding energy and further unexpected increases.

To conclude,

- Trustees continue with robust plans to ensure all children catch up due to Covid-19.
- Grants have been used appropriately to extend high standards of provision.

Robust financial plans are strategically in place for increases in energy and potential recession



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

### **Fundraising**

Throughout the academic year, we have small community charity days to support Children in Need, Jeans for Genes, MacMillan, Breast Cancer. Children are asked to donate if they can afford. This income is then sent to the appropriate organisation and we receive a receipt of acknowledgement. In addition to this, as part of the Year of Reading initiative, we have launched a parent bookshop which is stocked with books from a range of charity shops. Proceeds from any sales are reinvested in further stock to support these charities.

### **Plans for future periods**

A new Headteacher was appointed and began their post on 1st September 2024. An in-depth review of the Academy, has generated the following improvement areas:

- To ensure high quality, effective and compliant governance and financial procedures.
- To develop leaders to ensure that the implemented curriculum is coherently planned and sequenced towards cumulatively sufficient knowledge and skills for future learning and employment.
- Raise attainment in Reading across the school.
- Effectively manage resources to ensure those with the highest needs receive the support required without a detrimental impact on their peers.
- Work closely with key families to ensure persistent absence is below the national average and attendance is above the national average for all pupils and groups of pupils.

Governors recognise the impact of the learning environment on the levels of pupil achievement and continue to develop and improve the teaching, learning and whole school environment in a continually evolving education system. They actively seek to improve the school building and space available for all pupils. Plans are underway for the development of an inclusive resource, especially to support the needs of children with additional needs.

### **Disclosure of information to auditors**

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 17 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



**D Ruane**  
(Chair of Trustees)

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

---

**Scope of responsibility**

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

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

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

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Miss Loretta Barratt	6	6
Mr John Hemmings	1	1
Mr David Ruane, Chair	0	0
Mr John Harrison, Head Teacher	0	0
Mr Keith Hyem	6	6
Ms Janet Hamilton-White	5	6
Mr Fayaz Khuhro	6	6
Mrs Stephanie Ogidih	3	6
Miss Dawn Cox	6	6
Mr Jagmit Bohi	5	5
Miss Diane Nagy	4	5
Mr Stuart Haynes	3	4

*Trust is compliant with only a third or trustees staff. A review of governance was undertaken during the year which found that the Trustees continue to make an outstanding contribution to the continued success of the Academy. The level of skills, experience and knowledge held by Trustees is considerable and allows for excellent support to the Academy*

**Conflicts of interest**

Business interests are declared at each meeting of Trustees to ensure full disclosure, if applicable, before meetings start and any related party transactions are rigorously discussed before being approved. Trustees will sort ESFA approval for transactions they interpret as required.



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

---

**Governance (continued)**

**Governance review**

A review of governance was undertaken during the year which found that the Trustees continue to make an outstanding contribution to the continued success of the Academy. The level of skills, experience and knowledge held by Trustees is considerable and allows for excellent support to the Academy

Subsequent to this the following actions were taken :

- The number of Staff Trustees remain at a lower level thus allowing for greater independence to the board of trustees.
- Chair of Governors implemented a rota of learning walks at the academy for all Trustees
- Chair of Governors continues to lead on up to date training on any areas of Governance throughout the year.

The trust intends to conduct its next self-evaluation/external review in July 2025, however a day to day evaluation is continually made by the board of trustees.

The finance and general purposes committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to ensure sound financial management within the Academy and to ensure buildings remain fit for purpose.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Miss Loretta Barratt	6	6
Mr John Hemmings	1	1
Mr Keith Hyem	6	6
Miss Janet Hamilton-White	5	6
Mr Fayaz Khuro	6	6
Mr John Harrison	6	6
Miss Dawn Cox	6	6

**Review of value for money**

As accounting officer, the Principal has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy 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 :

- By reviewing, streamlining staff and redeploying where we could enhance value for money. Appointing new staff to ensure we focused on changing demands, technologies and provision of opportunities to enhance the excellent Ofsted report, small intervention teaching groups across the whole Academy for all abilities and new finance/management systems/pay online systems.
- Maximising efficiency and effectiveness of our learning environment to ensure excellent conditions for pupil learning and staff well-being.
- Ensuring directed use of Pupil Premium to ensure disadvantaged pupils make strong Academic Progress as reflected in the excellent Ofsted report and progress reports for all children

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

---

**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 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 Dorrington Academy Trust for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

**Capacity to handle risk**

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

**The risk and control framework**

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance and General Purposes Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed Nigel Smith of drb Schools and Academies Limited to complete internal control reports.

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

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of control accounts / bank reconciliations

On a termly/quarterly basis, the Internal Control reports go to the board of trustees, through the finance and general purposes 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.



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

---

**The risk and control framework (continued)**

Last review undertaken June 2023 and findings presented to Accounting Officer and subsequently to Finance and Buildings Committee.

Review taken of External Suppliers and service providers, Funding reconciliations, Other Income, Salaries, bank account reconciliations

**Review of effectiveness**

As accounting officer, L Barratt, the Principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the ;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process of the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

**Conclusion**

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 17 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



**D Ruane**  
Chair of Trustees



**J Harrison**  
Accounting Officer

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

---

As accounting officer of Dorrington Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy 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, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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



**J Harrison**  
Accounting Officer  
17 December 2024

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 17 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



**D Ruane**  
Chair of Trustees



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**

---

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Dorrington Academy Trust (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

**Basis for opinion**

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

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy'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.

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

---

**Other information**

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

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

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

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

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

**Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy 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'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 or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

---

**Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

- We reviewed the academy's control and risk management procedures and planned our work based on our assessment of those controls and procedures;
- This review included an assessment of the risk of material misstatement due to errors, fraud and management override of controls for all material areas in the financial statements;
- We made enquiries of management and the academy's lawyers regarding any actual or potential litigation and/or claims;
- Financial statements disclosures were reviewed and checked for compliance with applicable laws;
- Detailed testing was conducted on balances and transactions including unusual items and those of individual significance to the financial statements;
- Data analytics were used in order to identify unusual or significant trends;
- Communications with management and those charged with governance regarding relevant matters was undertaken throughout the audit and on completion.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

As part of an audit in accordance with ISAs (UK), we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional scepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness of the Academy's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our Auditors' Report to the related

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

---

disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our Auditors' Report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Academy to cease to continue as a going concern.

- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

**Use of our report**

This report is made solely to the Academy's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Academy's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



**David W Farnsworth FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

for and on behalf of  
**Feltons**

Statutory Auditor  
8 Sovereign Court  
8 Graham Street  
Birmingham  
West Midlands  
B1 3JR

19 December 2024



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO  
DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

---

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 30 March 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Dorrington Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

**Respective responsibilities of Dorrington Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Dorrington Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 June 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes :

- Consideration of the applicable legislation and the academy trust's funding agreement
- Review and evaluation of the academy trust's system of internal controls
- Examination and assessment of the Accounting Officer's statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance
- Examination, on a test basis, of third party evidence supporting income and expenditure
- Review of exceptional and unusual items

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO  
DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

---

**Conclusion**

In the course of our work we found several matters which in our opinion are novel, contentious and repercussive and therefore in breach of the Academy Trust Handbook. These matters are:

A two year consultancy contract was agreed amounting to £120,000. The proposed consultancy services are not being used after the senior leadership team enquired into the circumstances. This contract was not subjected to a formal tendering or value for money process. The whole of this contract is understood to remain payable and has been provided in full in the financial statements.

At the time of issuing the contract referred to above, an indemnity was also given indemnifying the recipient against costs incurred in connection with any potential proceedings taken in connection with matters arising as a result of the recipient's role at Dorrington Academy Trust. The indemnity had not been approved by the ESFA as is required in the Academy Trust Handbook. As with the consultancy services contract, this indemnity is still in place and has been noted as a contingent liability in the financial statements.

An amount of approximately £27,000 was disbursed in respect of a community event. No income could be found to have been received from any activities which took place during this event and it was significantly larger than would be considered usual for engagement with local community and parents.

In our opinion and in respect of the matters referred to above, the expenditure disbursed and the contract and indemnity are novel, contentious and repercussive. The expenditure and financial transactions have not been applied for the purposes intended by parliament and do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



**David W Farnsworth FCA (Reporting Accountant)**  
**Feltons**

Statutory Auditor

8 Sovereign Court  
8 Graham Street  
Birmingham  
B1 3JR

19 December 2024



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	11,128	11,128	339,071
Investments	5	59	-	-	59	78
Charitable activities		76,967	3,709,433	-	3,786,400	3,531,154
<b>Total income</b>		<b>77,026</b>	<b>3,709,433</b>	<b>11,128</b>	<b>3,797,587</b>	<b>3,870,303</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities		106,731	3,495,985	277,506	3,880,222	3,662,612
Exceptional items		-	266,073	-	266,073	-
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>106,731</b>	<b>3,762,058</b>	<b>277,506</b>	<b>4,146,295</b>	<b>3,662,612</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>		<b>(29,705)</b>	<b>(52,625)</b>	<b>(266,378)</b>	<b>(348,708)</b>	<b>207,691</b>
Transfers between funds	16	-	(187,147)	187,147	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)</b>		<b>(29,705)</b>	<b>(239,772)</b>	<b>(79,231)</b>	<b>(348,708)</b>	<b>207,691</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	127,000	-	127,000	786,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(29,705)</b>	<b>(112,772)</b>	<b>(79,231)</b>	<b>(221,708)</b>	<b>993,691</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		29,705	190,534	7,360,793	7,581,032	6,587,341
Net movement in funds		(29,705)	(112,772)	(79,231)	(221,708)	993,691
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>-</b>	<b>77,762</b>	<b>7,281,562</b>	<b>7,359,324</b>	<b>7,581,032</b>

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

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



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 8049062**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	12	7,267,511	7,346,742
		<u>7,267,511</u>	<u>7,346,742</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	13	105,117	89,702
Cash at bank and in hand		428,661	606,118
		<u>533,778</u>	<u>695,820</u>
Creditors: falling due within one year	14	(545,965)	(397,530)
<b>Net current liabilities / assets</b>		<u>(12,187)</u>	<u>298,290</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>7,255,324</u>	<u>7,645,032</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset / liability</b>		<u>7,255,324</u>	<u>7,645,032</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	23	104,000	(64,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>7,359,324</u></u>	<u><u>7,581,032</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Academy</b>			
<b>Restricted funds:</b>			
Fixed asset funds	16	7,281,562	7,360,793
Restricted income funds	16	(26,238)	254,534
Restricted funds excluding pension liability / asset	16	<u>7,255,324</u>	<u>7,615,327</u>
Pension reserve	16	104,000	(64,000)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	16	<u>7,359,324</u>	<u>7,551,327</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	16	-	29,705
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>7,359,324</u></u>	<u><u>7,581,032</u></u>

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

The financial statements on pages 23 to 50 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 17 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf, by:

**D Ruane**   
 (Chair of Trustees)

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>£</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	18	9,631	(325,179)
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	19	<b>(187,088)</b>	<b>(470,862)</b>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>(177,457)</b>	<b>(796,041)</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		<b>606,118</b>	1,402,159
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	20, 21	<u><b>428,661</b></u>	<u><b>606,118</b></u>

The notes on pages 26 to 50 form part of these financial statements

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**1. Accounting policies**

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

**1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

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

**1.2 Going concern**

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy 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 has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

**1.3 Income**

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.3 Income (continued)**

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the Academy 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 'Stocks' 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'.

- **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy)**

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy's accounting policies.

**1.4 Expenditure**

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.5 Taxation**

The Academy 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 is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Long-term leasehold buildings	-	2% straight line
Furniture and equipment	-	25% reducing balance
Computer equipment	-	20% straight line
Motor vehicles	-	10% straight line

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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.



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.7 Debtors**

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

**1.8 Cash at bank and in hand**

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

**1.9 Liabilities**

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy 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.

**1.10 Financial instruments**

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. 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 14. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

**1.11 Operating leases**

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

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.12 Pensions**

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

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

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

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

**1.13 Fund accounting**

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

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

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



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

**3. Income from donations and capital grants**

	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Capital Grants	11,128	11,128	339,071
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<i>Total 2023</i>	339,071	339,071	
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**4. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Educational operations</b>				
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant	-	2,871,810	2,871,810	2,736,436
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Pupil premium	-	324,285	324,285	304,187
UIFSM	-	83,642	83,642	85,857
Teachers pay grant	-	51,466	51,466	1,262
Teachers pension grant	-	26,077	26,077	3,565
UIFSM	-	-	-	82,009
Mainstream school grant	-	99,482	99,482	41,450
Recovery premium	-	30,813	30,813	30,921
Others	-	23,222	23,222	53,074
	-	3,510,797	3,510,797	3,338,761
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	198,636	198,636	97,215
	-	198,636	198,636	97,215
<b>Other income from the Academy's educational operations</b>				
	76,967	-	76,967	95,178
	76,967	3,709,433	3,786,400	3,531,154
	76,967	3,709,433	3,786,400	3,531,154
<i>Total 2023</i>	95,178	3,435,976	3,531,154	

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**5. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Short term deposits	59	59	78
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>78</u>	<u>78</u>	

**6. Expenditure**

	<b>Staff Costs 2024 £</b>	<b>Premises 2024 £</b>	<b>Other 2024 £</b>	<b>Total 2024 £</b>	<i>Total 2023 £</i>
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	2,387,260	172,503	116,618	<b>2,676,381</b>	2,344,939
Allocated support costs	395,410	335,283	473,148	<b>1,203,841</b>	1,317,673
Exceptional items:					
Allocated support costs	-	-	266,073	<b>266,073</b>	-
	<u>2,782,670</u>	<u>507,786</u>	<u>855,839</u>	<u><b>4,146,295</b></u>	<u>3,662,612</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>2,530,056</u>	<u>614,947</u>	<u>517,609</u>	<u>3,662,612</u>	



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**7. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Educational operations	2,676,381	1,203,841	<b>3,880,222</b>	3,662,612
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>2,344,939</u>	<u>1,317,673</u>	<u>3,662,612</u>	

**Analysis of support costs**

	Educational operations 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Support staff costs	395,410	<b>395,410</b>	425,104
Depreciation	105,003	<b>105,003</b>	175,846
Technology costs	62,580	<b>62,580</b>	34,443
Premises costs	230,280	<b>230,280</b>	323,608
Legal costs	67,005	<b>67,005</b>	9,243
Other support costs	334,210	<b>334,210</b>	339,956
Governance costs	9,353	<b>9,353</b>	9,473
	<u>1,203,841</u>	<u><b>1,203,841</b></u>	<u>1,317,673</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>1,317,673</u>	<u>1,317,673</u>	

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**8. Staff**

**a. Staff costs and employee benefits**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	2,045,535	1,851,594
Social security costs	200,601	178,696
Pension costs	471,411	479,948
	<u>2,717,547</u>	<u>2,510,238</u>
Agency staff costs	65,123	19,818
	<u>2,782,670</u>	<u>2,530,056</u>

**b. Staff numbers**

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	22	25
Administration and support	44	46
Management	8	6
	<u>74</u>	<u>77</u>

**c. Higher paid staff**

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	2
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	3	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	-	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**8. Staff (continued)**

**d. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £808,569 (2023 - £597,966).

**9. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

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

		2024	2023
		£'000	£'000
Miss Loretta Barratt, Head Teacher and Accounting Officer (resigned 31 August 2024)	Remuneration	130 - 140	120 - 130
	Pension contributions paid	30 - 40	20 - 30
Mr John Harrison, Staff Trustee	Remuneration	70 - 80	70 - 80
	Pension contributions paid	20 - 30	10 - 20
Miss Dawn Cox, Staff Trustee (resigned 3 October 2023)	Remuneration	30 - 40	20 - 30
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5	5 - 10

During the year ended 31 August 2024, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed or paid directly to Trustee (2023 - £1,322 to 3 Trustees).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 25.

**10. Trustees' and Officers' insurance**

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim. It is not possible to quantify the trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**11. Exceptional items**

	2024 £	2023 £
CIF clawback	54,232	-
Community day	27,278	-
Consultancy	120,000	-
Legal	64,563	-
	266,073	-

During the course of the year certain transactions were identified which were considered to be irregular and exceptional including the clawback of CIF funding. These exceptional items noted above have been provided in full in addition to exceptional legal costs.

**12. Tangible fixed assets**

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>					
At 1 September 2023	8,482,731	774,964	369,857	-	9,627,552
Additions	161,335	9,250	3,690	24,000	198,275
At 31 August 2024	8,644,066	784,214	373,547	24,000	9,825,827
<b>Depreciation</b>					
At 1 September 2023	1,520,429	481,369	279,012	-	2,280,810
Charge for the year	172,885	75,725	26,496	2,400	277,506
At 31 August 2024	1,693,314	557,094	305,508	2,400	2,558,316
<b>Net book value</b>					
At 31 August 2024	6,950,752	227,120	68,039	21,600	7,267,511
At 31 August 2023	6,962,302	293,595	90,845	-	7,346,742

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**13. Debtors**

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Debtors from operations	500	-
VAT recoverable	28,829	14,173
Prepayments and accrued income	75,788	75,529
	<b>105,117</b>	<b>89,702</b>
	<b>105,117</b>	<b>89,702</b>

**14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	2024 £	2023 £
Creditors from operations	35,668	71,628
Other creditors	224,602	198,580
Accruals and deferred income	285,695	127,322
	<b>545,965</b>	<b>397,530</b>
	<b>545,965</b>	<b>397,530</b>

Included in other creditors are amounts of 224,602 due to Birmingham City Council for payroll costs which they have not drawn down and the trust held sufficient funds for the payment of these creditors. These were paid after the year end.

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	53,578	49,550
Resources deferred during the year	48,792	53,578
Amounts released from previous periods	(53,578)	(49,550)
	<b>48,792</b>	<b>53,578</b>
	<b>48,792</b>	<b>53,578</b>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for universal infant free school meals.

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**15. Financial instruments**

	2024	2023
	£	£
<b>Financial assets</b>		
Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure	<u>428,661</u>	<u>606,118</u>

Financial assets measured at fair value through income and expenditure comprise cash at bank and in hand.



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**16. Statement of funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Other income	29,705	77,026	(106,731)	-	-	-
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
GAG	254,534	2,871,810	(2,965,435)	(187,147)	-	(26,238)
UIFSM	-	83,642	(83,642)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	-	324,285	(324,285)	-	-	-
Recovery premium	-	30,813	(30,813)	-	-	-
Other grants	-	398,883	(398,883)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(64,000)	-	41,000	-	127,000	104,000
	<u>190,534</u>	<u>3,709,433</u>	<u>(3,762,058)</u>	<u>(187,147)</u>	<u>127,000</u>	<u>77,762</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
On conversion	3,959,070	-	(99,024)	-	-	3,860,046
DfE Group capital grants	865,966	11,128	(32,212)	-	-	844,882
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,469,997	-	(142,996)	187,147	-	2,514,148
Capital expenditure from Catch-up premium	42,020	-	(2,092)	-	-	39,928
Donations	23,740	-	(1,182)	-	-	22,558
	<u>7,360,793</u>	<u>11,128</u>	<u>(277,506)</u>	<u>187,147</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,281,562</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>7,551,327</u>	<u>3,720,561</u>	<u>(4,039,564)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>127,000</u>	<u>7,359,324</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>7,581,032</u></u>	<u><u>3,797,587</u></u>	<u><u>(4,146,295)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>127,000</u></u>	<u><u>7,359,324</u></u>

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**16. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

**Restricted general funds**

These comprise all restricted funds other than restricted fixed asset funds and include grants from The Education and Skills Funding Agency and Birmingham City Council.

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits

**Unrestricted funds**

These comprise resources that may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the academy trust at the discretion of the trustees.

**Restricted fixed asset funds**

These comprise resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by The Education and Skills Funding Agency and Birmingham Council where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**16. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2022 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2023 £</i>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
Other income	29,705	95,256	(95,256)	-	-	29,705
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
GAG	179,416	2,736,436	(2,525,465)	(135,853)	-	254,534
UIFSM	-	85,857	(85,857)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	-	304,187	(304,187)	-	-	-
Recovery premium	-	30,921	(30,921)	-	-	-
Other grants	-	278,575	(278,575)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(802,000)	-	(48,000)	-	786,000	(64,000)
	<u>(622,584)</u>	<u>3,435,976</u>	<u>(3,273,005)</u>	<u>(135,853)</u>	<u>786,000</u>	<u>190,534</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
On conversion	4,058,094	-	(99,024)	-	-	3,959,070
DfE Group capital grants	431,066	339,071	(40,024)	135,853	-	865,966
Capital expenditure from GAG	2,621,486	-	(151,489)	-	-	2,469,997
Capital expenditure from Catch-up premium	44,457	-	(2,437)	-	-	42,020
Donations	25,117	-	(1,377)	-	-	23,740
	<u>7,180,220</u>	<u>339,071</u>	<u>(294,351)</u>	<u>135,853</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,360,793</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>6,557,636</u>	<u>3,775,047</u>	<u>(3,567,356)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>786,000</u>	<u>7,551,327</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>6,587,341</u></u>	<u><u>3,870,303</u></u>	<u><u>(3,662,612)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>786,000</u></u>	<u><u>7,581,032</u></u>



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**17. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current period**

	<b>Restricted funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £</b>	<b>Total funds 2024 £</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	7,267,511	7,267,511
Current assets	519,727	14,051	533,778
Creditors due within one year	(545,965)	-	(545,965)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	104,000	-	104,000
<b>Total</b>	<u>77,762</u>	<u>7,281,562</u>	<u>7,359,324</u>

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period**

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2023 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	7,346,742	7,346,742
Current assets	29,705	652,064	14,051	695,820
Creditors due within one year	-	(397,530)	-	(397,530)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(64,000)	-	(64,000)
<b>Total</b>	<u>29,705</u>	<u>190,534</u>	<u>7,360,793</u>	<u>7,581,032</u>

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**18. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2024 £	2023 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	<u>(348,708)</u>	<u>207,691</u>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	277,506	294,351
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(11,128)	(339,071)
Interest receivable	(59)	(78)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(43,000)	14,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	2,000	34,000
Increase in debtors	(15,415)	(4,999)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	148,435	(531,073)
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities</b>	<u><u>9,631</u></u>	<u><u>(325,179)</u></u>

**19. Cash flows from investing activities**

	2024 £	2023 £
Interest received	59	78
Purchase of tangible assets	(198,275)	(810,011)
Capital grants from DfE Group	11,128	339,071
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>	<u><u>(187,088)</u></u>	<u><u>(470,862)</u></u>

**20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand and at bank	428,661	606,118
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u><u>428,661</u></u>	<u><u>606,118</u></u>

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**21. Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	606,118	(177,457)	428,661
	<u>606,118</u>	<u>(177,457)</u>	<u>428,661</u>

**22. Contingent liabilities**

There was an indemnity policy taken out on behalf of the former Accounting Officer prior to her resigning on 31st August 2024. This policy covers the former Accounting Officer for any action that may or may not be taken against her in connection to her former role at Dorrington Academy Trust. This has created a contingent liability at the balance sheet date for any sums which might become payable in the event of any such actions against the former Accounting Officer. No provision has been made in the accounts for any potential sums payable.

**23. Pension commitments**

The Academy'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 West Midlands Pension Fund. 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 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £ - were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023 - £47,356) and are included within creditors.

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.



---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- employer contribution rates set at 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 next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £347,099 (2023 - £292,528).

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

**Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £202,000 (2023 - £191,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £163,000 (2023 - £151,000) and employees' contributions totalled £39,000 (2023 - £40,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 25.1% for employers and between 5.5 per cent and 6.8 per cent for employees.

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

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

The trustees have agreed that the trust will make additional contributions in addition to normal funding levels over the next 21 years.

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Principal actuarial assumptions**

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	2.65	3.00
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	3.65	4.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.65	3.00
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	50.00	50.00

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

	2024	2023
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	20.0	20.1
Females	23.8	23.8
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	21.0	21.1
Females	25.0	25.0

**Sensitivity analysis**

	2024	2023
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(75)	(69)
Discount rate -0.1%	75	69
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	138	129
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(138)	(129)
CPI rate +0.1%	73	63
CPI rate -0.1%	(73)	(63)

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023 £
Equities	1,853,000	2,154,000
Bonds	1,247,000	665,000
Property	214,000	222,000
Cash and other liquid assets	250,000	127,000
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>3,564,000</b>	<b>3,168,000</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was 8.6% (2023 - £1.2%).

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Current service cost	120,000	165,000
Interest income	(168,000)	(138,000)
Interest cost	170,000	172,000
<b>Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>122,000</b>	<b>199,000</b>

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

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>3,232,000</b>	<b>3,992,000</b>
Current service cost	120,000	165,000
Interest cost	170,000	172,000
Employee contributions	39,000	40,000
Actuarial gains/(losses) - financial assumptions	(114,000)	(781,000)
Actuarial gains/(losses) - demographic assumptions	(7,000)	(58,000)
Actuarial gains/(losses) - experience gains/losses	103,000	(234,000)
Benefits paid	(83,000)	(64,000)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>3,460,000</b>	<b>3,232,000</b>



**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	2024 £	2023 £
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>3,168,000</b>	<b>3,190,000</b>
Interest income	168,000	138,000
Return on assets less interest	109,000	(176,000)
Actuarial gains/(losses - experience gains/losses)	-	(111,000)
Employer contributions	163,000	151,000
Employee contributions	39,000	40,000
Benefits paid net of transfers in	(83,000)	(64,000)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>3,564,000</b>	<b>3,168,000</b>

**24. Operating lease commitments**

At 31 August 2024 the Academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	6,497	1,500
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	7,580	-
	<b>14,077</b>	<b>1,500</b>

**25. Members' liability**

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

---

**DORRINGTON ACADEMY TRUST**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

---

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

---

**26. Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

The following related party transaction(s) took place during the period:

Expenditure related party transaction

	2023 £	2023 £
<b>Miss L Barratt</b> Headteacher and accounting officer		
Consultancy services provided to the academy during the year	<u>17,000</u>	<u>7,500</u>

The trust conducted these transactions at arm's length and they were approved by the Governing Body.