

Company Registration No. 08087508 (England and Wales)

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019



ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

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ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Mr W J Thompson (resigned 24/09/2019) Mr M Garnett (resigned 31/08/2019) Mrs K Shuttleworth (resigned 05/09/2019) Mr J Henderson (appointed 31/08/2019) Mr D Brookes (appointed 04/0/2019) Mr P Thompson (appointed 18/11/2019)	
Directors	Mr W J Thompson (Chair to 16/10/2019) (Resigned 31 October 2019) Mr P Thompson (Chair from 16/10/2019) Mrs S Cardwell (Resigned 2 April 2019) Mr M J Hamblett (Principal and Accounting Officer) Miss A Lalla (Resigned 15 October 2019) Miss M Kirkham Mrs C Wyatt (Resigned 14 January 2019) Mr H Asher (Appointed 24 October 2018) Mrs J Alexander (Appointed 25 October 2018 and resigned 31 August 2019) Mrs S E Darbyshire (Appointed 8 March 2019) Mrs R L Foxtan (Appointed 25 January 2019)	
Senior management team		
- CEO	Mr M Hamblett	
- Director of Business and Finance	Mrs S Cardwell	
Company secretary	Mrs S Cardwell	
Company name	Zest Academy Trust	
Company registration number	08087508 (England and Wales)	
Registered office	Waterloo Road Blackpool FY4 3AG	
Academies operated	Location	CEO
Waterloo Primary Academy	Blackpool	Mr M Hamblett (appointed 1 September 2017)
Independent auditor	MHA Moore and Smalley Richard House 9 Winckley Square Preston PR1 3HP	

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson LLP
14th Floor
No.1 Spinningfields
1 Hardman Square
Manchester
M3 3EB

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The Directors present their annual report together with the accounts and independent auditor's reports of the Charitable Company for the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

As of the 31st August 2019, Waterloo Primary Academy remains as the only academy within the trust. The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 3 to 11 serving a catchment area in Blackpool. It has a pupil capacity of 656 and had 672 on roll as at July 2019. Pupil numbers includes the academy's maintained nursery.

In accordance with the articles of association the Charitable Company has adopted a "Scheme of Governance" approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The Scheme of Governance specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting students to the Academy, the catchment area from which the students are drawn, and that the curriculum should be broad, balanced and comply with the substance of the national curriculum.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Zest Academy Trusts incorporated name change came in to force on 22 April 2016. The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The Academy Trust name change was incorporated on 22nd April 2016 following Waterloo Primary Academy's incorporation on 29th May 2012.

The Directors are the trustees of Zest Academy Trust and are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. Details of the Directors who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The Academy has purchased indemnity insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising in connection with Academy business. The insurance provides cover of up to £5,000,000 on any one claim.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Directors and Academy Council Members

Members

The Articles of Associations under Article 12 states that the number of members of the Academy Trust shall not be less than three.

Trustees / Directors

The Articles of Associations under Article 45 states that the number of Trustees of the Academy Trust shall not be less than three but (unless otherwise determined by ordinary resolution) shall not be subject to any maximum.

Subject to Articles 48-49 and 53 the Academy Trust shall have the following Trustees:

- 5 trustees appointed under Article 50
- minimum of 2 parent trustees under Articles 53-56 in the event that no Academy Councils are established
- Co-opted trustees under Article 58
- Original trustees named in the statement delivered pursuant to sections 9 and 12 of the Companies Act 2006
- The total number of trustees including the Chief Executive Officer under Article 57 shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees

Zest Academy Trust recognises the importance of transparency and are working towards limiting the number of 'staff trustees' on the board to just the Chief Executive Officer.

Academy Councils

The Academy Trust has appointed Academy Councils within its academies with the membership structure as follows:

- 2 parent academy council members
- 1 teaching academy council member
- 1 non-teaching academy council member
- Academy Council Members as appointed by the board of Trustees

The term of office for any Trustee or Academy Council Member shall be 4 years, save that this time limit shall not apply to any post which is held ex officio. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee may be re-appointed or re-elected.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Directors and Academy Council Members

The training and induction provided for new Members, Trustees and Academy Council Members will depend on their existing experience.

All Members, Trustees and Academy Council Members are provided with copies of key documents, such as policies, procedures, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents on appointment and in relation to their role.

Induction is undertaken for all those in governance, which highlights their responsibilities and accountabilities. Further training is offered by the Trust and also National Governance Association.

This year the Trust held its first annual conference for Members, Trustees and Academy Council Members. The focus was based around accountabilities, responsibilities and strategy for growth.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Organisational structure

The Academy Trust consists of four levels of organisation structure: Members, Trustees / Directors, Academy Council Members, the Principal and Senior Leadership Team. The Trust have also formed a separate Finance, Risk and Audit Committee this year which have delegated responsibilities as identified in their Terms of Reference.

Over the last year, Zest Academy Trust have continued to work with, The Constant Group on governance best practice.

Members are accountable for:

- determining the Trust constitution
- vision and values
- appointing and removing Trustees
- approving the Trusts annual financial accounts

Trustees are responsible for:

- strategy and leadership
- policies and practice
- financial management
- risk management
- central services
- safeguarding
- strategy for growth

Academy Council members are responsible for:

- curriculum and standards
- teaching and learning
- pupil progress
- annual budget monitoring
- academy admissions

Academy Council Members have powers delegated to them from the Trustees to make decisions on behalf of the academy as detailed in the scheme of delegation. The scheme of delegation has been reviewed in the year 2018 - 2019 to show clear lines of accountability in line with the academies Financial Handbook and Governance Handbook.

During the course of 2018 – 2019 academic year the Trust met four times, with members also meeting to undertake their Annual General Meeting in sign off the Trust accounts.

The Trustees have reviewed the financial scheme of delegation, which clearly sets out the level of financial authority delegated to the CEO / Principal (who is the Accounting Officer) and other members of staff. This document has been circulated to all staff.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Zest Academy Trust has a robust performance management policy in place for setting pay and remuneration for key Trust personnel.

Performance targets are set in the autumn term by the Academy Council Members and Trustees, following a meeting with the external School Improvement Advisor. These progress measures are reviewed regularly but are linked to pupil progress, strategic leadership and individual operational performance. Targets are reviewed three times throughout the year. Recommendations are then made to the full Academy Council and Trustees.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

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

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	-
Percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time	-

Paid trade union activities

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

Zest Academy Trust is a Multi Academy Trust with one academy, Waterloo Primary Academy.

The Trust works closely with a cluster of local Blackpool academies, sharing best practice and working collaboratively on a variety of topics. The Trust offer traded services to other organisations for HR, Governance Clerking and Data Protection Officer role.

The Trusts Business and Finance Director is an accredited School Resource Management Adviser (SRMA) working with the Educations Skills Funding Agency on undertaking deployments in other academies. This has continued throughout the year and provided the trust with additional income.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Zest Academy Trust is ambitious, optimistic and forward thinking. It aims to:

- recruit and retain high quality staff
- deliver and develop quality first teaching. Provide a relevant and engaging curriculum
- build capacity for improvement with schools
- promote wellbeing
- celebrate diversity
- deliver rapid and sustained improvement

The Trust is committed to achieving high outcomes for all its children. Principals, supported by Academy Council Members and Trustees, are committed fully to securing the highest standards and to sustaining improvement in all areas of the school's work. The Trust benefits from a high standard of leadership not only in the Trust but also within its academy.

Zest Academy Trust will:

- promote a love of learning, have a constant focus on teaching and assessment and will effectively manage all its resources
- prepare our children for life's challenges by creating innovative, safe learning environments that challenge preconceptions and expectations
- value each member of the Zest learning community by trusting, supporting and treating each other with dignity and respect
- enable our family of schools to maintain and develop their own school identity, sharing innovative practice and support
- enable staff to develop professionally and share their enthusiasm and love of learning with the children in their care
- share expertise and experience within the Zest community and will collaboratively support professional development and build effective learning capacity
- always challenge to improve

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trusts' long term objective is to establish a successful Multi Academy Trust which works collaboratively with its academies. The Trust has the capacity to sponsor schools who are in need of support and identified by the Regional Schools Commissioner after the DfE has issued an academy order.

We firmly believe that our Trust should:

- provide guidance and support
- challenge where appropriate
- work collaboratively
- be committed to improving outcomes for children

The Trust is also committed to adhering to the 7 principles of public life, selflessness, integrity, objectivity, accountability, openness, honesty and leadership (the Nolan Principles).

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

We remain committed to fulfilling our objectives and aims, we are ambitious as a Trust, optimistic and forward thinking.

Exit surveys from staff who leave us, suggest they are happy with the level of wellbeing and CPD they receive, many of our departing staff actually leave us for promotions, which we hope we have prepared them for through opportunities within our own Trust.

One of our biggest priorities as a Trust is to grow, through effective promotion, we are hoping to see some positive growth in the near future. We are keen to promote the Trust in the most positive light,, having established positive relationships with many local schools through school to school support and traded services offered.

The Trust's founding school has seen sustained improvement in the last three years, in a bid to eradicate weaker teaching, thus improving outcomes for all the children in the Trust.

The board of Trustees and Members has seen some significant change in the last 12 months with a new chair who will bring new energy and a fresh direction working closely with the CEO. All new Trustees and Members have been sought to fulfil gaps in skills and experience and are committed to improvement and growth across the Trust.

Public benefit

The Trustees are aware of the Charity Commission Guidance on providing public benefit and have had due regard to this in exercising their duties during the year. The key public benefit delivered by Zest Academy Trust as identified in the Articles of Association is to provide education to the young people of the community it serves.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Strategic report

Achievements and performance including Key Performance Indicators

The Trust utilises a variety of KPIs such as financial data, assessment data and Ofsted ratings.

Waterloo Primary Academy was inspected in February 2018 with the following outcomes being achieved.

OFSTED (February 2018)

Overall effectiveness: Good 2

Previous inspection: Good 2

End of EYFS (YR) Good Level of Development (First twelve aspects of EYFS framework)

GLD	2017	2018	2019
Waterloo	64%	71%	72%
National	71%	72%	72%

This is the first year that Waterloo has equalled the national GLD percentage. This is an amazing achievement, as our pupils on entry are much lower than national standards.

Y1 Phonics Screening Check

Phonics	2017	2018	2019
Waterloo	80%	81%	70%
National	81%	81%	82%

This year's percentage is considerably lower than national averages, which we normally mirror.

Action

- **all TAs** (not offering 1:1 support) are released from their classes to support phonics teaching in KS1 every morning.
- Staff have received further phonics training to further enhance phonic sessions

End of KS1 (Y2)

	Reading		Writing		Maths		Combined
	≥EXP	GDS	≥ EXP	GDS	≥ EXP	GDS	
Waterloo	59%	20%	54%	14%	56%	14%	52%
LEA	71%	19%	65%	9%	72%	16%	62%
National	75%	25%	69%	15%	76%	22%	65%

Outcomes last year were disappointing, well below national average.

- 8 NRA children arrived in Y2 last academic year. **All of them** were significantly below age-related standards.
- KS1 was moderated last year, where some children's results were downgraded.

Action

- **all TAs** (not offering 1:1 support) are released from their classes to support phonics teaching in KS1 every morning.
- reactive support for Y2 children each Thursday afternoon
- Reading Rockets programme to Y2 children each week.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

End of KS2 (Y6)

Attainment

	Reading		Writing		GPS		Maths		Combined	
	≥EXP	GDS	≥ EXP	GDS	≥ EXP	GDS	≥ EXP	GDS	≥ EXP	GDS
Waterloo	69%	15%	75%	17%	76%	18%	75%	12%	61%	3%
LEA	76%	25%	76%	16%	79%	34%	82%	27%	66%	7%
National	73%	27%	78%	20%	78%	36%	79%	27%	65%	11%

Progress

	Reading	Writing	Maths
	Ave Progress Score	Ave Progress Score	Ave Progress Score
Waterloo	0.3	0.6	-0.1
LEA	0.6	-0.2	1.1
National	0	0	0

Attainment was lower than national and the LEA last year. Progress was roughly in line with national levels or better.

Context

- 5 NRA children arrived in Y6 last academic year. **All of them** were significantly below age-related standards.

Action

- Reactive support to Y6 (M, T, Th afternoons respectively)
- Focus on reading in staff appraisal for year 2019/2020

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason the Board of Trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

The Trust's total incoming resources during the period were £3,395,624 (2018: £3,473,976). The majority of the Trust's income derives from central government funding via the Education and Skills Funding Agency, in the form of current grants. Total funding received for the Trust's educational operations in the period was £3,319,837 (2018: £3,195,328) and further details are provided in note 5 to the accounts.

Total outgoing resources for the period were £3,469,887 (2018: £3,614,198) all of which related to the direct provision of educational operations and further details are provided in note 8 to the accounts.

The in year surplus on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) and unrestricted funds was £334,235 (2018: £126,465).

At the period end the Trust's total reserves were £2,476,560 (2018: £3,229,823) details of which are included on page 11.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

On conversion in 2011 the Trust inherited a deficit of £956,000 in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme, which many of the non-teaching staff belong to. This deficit had increased to £2,300,000 by 31 August 2019, mainly due to changes in actuarial assumptions regarding future returns on investments and the present value of future liabilities. The Trust is currently paying contributions of approximately £32,000 towards the deficit, funded out of GAG. The Trust does not have an obligation to settle this liability immediately and there are no indications that it will crystallise in the foreseeable future.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to 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.

At 31 August 2019 all assets shown in the accounts were used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to students of the Trust.

Reserves policy

The Trust Board review the reserve levels each year. The review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance and repairs.

The Trusts current reserves, net of amounts allocated to fixed assets and the pension deficit, are £797,765 (2018: £463,530).

The Trust will be utilising some of its reserves in the new academic year to replace boiler and complete urgent premises work.

The Trust will take appropriate action to ensure that reserves are always at a prudent level.

At 31 August 2019 the Trust held the following reserves.

	2019	2018
Total reserves	2,476,560	3,229,823
Add back Pension reserve	2,300,000	1,338,000
Less reserves attributable to Fixed assets	<u>(3,978,795)</u>	<u>(4,104,293)</u>
Unrestricted and general restricted funds	797,765	463,530
Less restricted general funds	<u>(654,765)</u>	<u>(316,644)</u>
Free reserves	<u>143,000</u>	<u>146,886</u>

Restricted GAG reserves

The Trustees have considered the level of GAG reserves which they believe will provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between the spending and receipt of grants and unexpected or planned future revenue and capital costs. At 31 August 2019 the school held GAG reserves of £654,765 (2018: £316,644). The Trust aim to have in their reserves at least two month's salary and business costs with additional costs being accumulated for school improvement. At 31 August 2019, the Trust's GAG reserves are currently higher than the policy however as the Trust was unsuccessful in obtaining Condition Improvement Funding, the additional reserves will be used to fund the essential maintenance work required.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Unrestricted reserves

In addition to the GAG reserve, which can only be utilised for the restricted purposes set out in the Funding Agreement, the Trust holds unrestricted free reserves, which provide additional working capital and are not committed or designated at 31 August 2019 the level of unrestricted reserves held was £143,000 (2018: £146,886), which is in line with the reserves policy.

Investment policy

All investments are agreed by the board of Trustees, which has regard to the Charity Commission guidance in relation to charity investment policy. The Trust does not currently hold any investments other than cash, which is held for its normal operations. The Trustees have adopted a low risk strategy to its cash holdings. Surplus cash is held in an instant access deposit account to ensure that there is always access to sufficient cash to meet short and medium term requirements.

Principal risks and uncertainties

Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching, provision of facilities, other operational areas of the Trust and its finances. Risk is a standing agenda item and is reviewed on a quarterly basis.

Trustees continue to assess risks and Trustees are heavily involved in risk management. The Trust strategically planned for increasing teachers pension's contributions and have been able to set a balanced budget for the next three years.

The internal financial systems of delegation are based on the Academies Financial Handbook September 2019 alongside the Trusts scheme of delegation and financial management procedures. The systems are based on a framework of segregation of duties, schemes of delegation that include authorisation and approval at each layer. Over the Summer period a full internal audit was undertaken to ensure the Trust were fully compliant with the AFH 2019, and what evidence there was to support this. All Trustees received a copy of this report.

To further support the organisation the Trust have also reviewed the ESFA guidance Indicators for potential fraud: a generic checklist for education providers and provided commentary on who the Trust manages the risk.

All Trustees on a monthly basis receive;

- A copy of the Trust management Accounts
- A copy of the Trusts Aged Creditors
- A copy of the Trusts Aged Debtors
- A copy of the Trusts Cash Flow Statement

Both Trustees and Academy Council Members, also receive quarterly reports which are differentiated depending on the layer of governance they fall under.

The Trust continues to utilise the Responsible Officer (RO) role. The RO role has been performed, by Mr David Brookes and reports have been presented to Trustees. No major issues have been identified and any recommendations have been implemented.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Trust receives a portion of its income on a monthly basis and manages its cash flow accordingly.

The key Trust financial objectives are;

- Adhere to the 7 principles of public life
- Apply at all time, best value principles
- Monitor and report on financial matters
- Ensure that all financial transactions are open and transparent

In line with the financial objectives the Trust recognises that risk management is key to the success of the Trust and as such the Business and Finance Director reviews the risk register on a monthly basis. The risk register considers strategic and reputational risks, operational risk, compliance risks and financial risks. The risk register is a live working document.

The Trust also regularly undertakes horizon scanning and keeps up to date with new policy and legislation changes that could impact on the Trusts financial position of otherwise.

Fundraising

The Academy Trust has undertaken fundraising during 2018/19 where funds have been raised to support local and national charities such as Children in Need. Traditional approaches to fundraising have been used, including non uniform days. All funds are collected by the Finance Department and paid to the relevant charity via BACS or Cheque.

Secondly, funds have been raised by the Academy to improve the quality of education for all students. Fundraising initiatives undertaken included school discos, Christmas toy fair and Summer fair and funds have been used on extra curriculum activities or events such as Zoo and Blackpool Tower passes.

The Trust does not have a PTFA associated with Waterloo Primary Academy. All fundraising activities are monitored by the Senior Leadership Team and are undertaken in accordance with regulations. The Academy does not work with professional fundraisers or commercial participators and has received no complaints in relation to its fundraising activities.

It is hoped that the Waterloo Primary School will develop a 'Friends of Waterloo' over the coming year to assist with fundraising.

Plans for future periods

The Trusts strategic development plan outlines its growth strategy. Whilst continuing to raise standards at Waterloo Primary Academy, we are keen to grow. The Executive team continue to liaise with both the RSC for the North and Lancashire and West Yorkshire in providing school to school support.

The Trust have continued to provide business and finance support to other schools and academies in the form of service contracts and will continue this line of income generation. In the academic year 2019/20, the Trust will also provide packages of governance support and clerking service to schools or academies.

The founding school in the Trust, Waterloo is entering its most stable period in recent years, with a full complement of senior leaders and a very good quality of education being provided across all year groups. The Principal is very keen to further develop the relationship with other local schools. There has been a lot of interest , locally and nationally in the academy's brand-new, international curriculum, we continue to develop this and hope the interest this has generated will lead to other schools taking more of an interest in our successes.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

For the year ending 31 August 2019 there are no assets and arrangements for safe custody segregation.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Auditor

In so far as the Directors are aware:

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

A resolution proposing that MHA Moore and Smalley be reappointed as auditor of the Charitable Company will be put to the members.

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

.....
Mr P Thompson
Chair from 16/10/2019

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Scope of responsibility

As Directors we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Zest 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.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, 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 Zest 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 3 times during the year. The finance and audit responsibilities are included within the board of directors meetings and no separate committee is set up for these responsibilities.

Although the Board has only met four times in the year, the Trust has set up a finance and audit sub-committee of the Board that now meets throughout the year and informs the Board. As a result of these the Board maintains effective oversight of funds.

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

Directors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr W J Thompson (Chair to 16/10/2019) (Resigned 31 October 2019)	4	4
Mr P Thompson (Chair from 16/10/2019)	1	4
Mrs S Cardwell (Resigned 2 April 2019)	2	3
Mr M J Hamblett (Principal and Accounting Officer)	4	4
Miss A Lalla (Resigned 15 October 2019)	2	4
Miss M Kirkham	2	4
Mrs C Wyatt (Resigned 14 January 2019)	1	4
Mr H Asher (Appointed 24 October 2018)	3	4
Mrs J Alexander (Appointed 25 October 2018 and resigned 31 August 2019)	1	4
Mrs S E Darbyshire (Appointed 8 March 2019)	0	1
Mrs R L Foxton (Appointed 25 January 2019)	2	2

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The Trust have continued to work with the Constant Group throughout 2018 -2019 to ensure Governance is of the highest quality. Recruitment of additional Trustees and Members has taken place alongside their annual self-assessments.

Two Trustees have undertaken the Governance Leadership Programme which was deliver by Ambition School Leaders. In addition two members of staff have undertaken the Professional Clerking Programme which was delivered by the Institute of School Business Leaders.

The board continue to undertake annual skills audit which identifies any gaps in knowledge. Training is then tailored to meet those needs.

The Trust continually review a variety of data that is submitted to them to assess the performance and sustainability of the Trust. Reports that are received are:

- Annual budgets
- Financial management accounts
- Financially budget monitoring
- HR recruitment and retention statistics
- Staffing absence in relation to financial implications
- Efficiency metrics such as PTR, average salary costs and percentage of staffing costs to name a few
- Attainment and progress reports
- Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning

The Business and Finance Director provides the Trust Board with an annual benchmark report which includes both national and local data so they can ensure value for money and best value are attained.

The Finance and Audit committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Board, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Board's responsibility to ensure sound management of the Trust's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Directors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr P Thompson (Chair from 16/10/2019)	1	1
Mr M J Hamblett (Principal and Accounting Officer)	1	1
Mr H Asher (Appointed 24 October 2018)	1	1
Mrs R L Foxton (Appointed 25 January 2019)	1	1

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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 available. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Quality first teaching
- Improved assessment and tracking systems
- New financial software to streamline process
- New educational curriculum
- Business consultancy in both financial and educational
- Robust procurement and contract management processes in place.
- Preparing business cases

The Trust have introduced business cases to ensure that they are always sourcing value for money. The project manager has completed a business case detailing the purpose of the expenditure and providing three quotes as evidence of obtaining value for money. This was trialled with the purchases of smart boards, freezers and flooring for the hall and has shown that the Trust is obtaining the best value for money.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Zest Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of Directors has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of Directors is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Directors.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees;
- regular reviews by the board of Trustees of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks;
- Robust systems and controls in place to identify 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 Directors have appointed Mr David Brooks, an external Business Manager, as Responsible Officer ("RO").

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The RO's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. Trustees of the Trust identify the focus of the internal audit.

RO visits for 2018/19 were undertaken on 17th December 2018 and 3rd April 2019. The following systems were reviewed:

- testing of payroll systems
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of control account/bank reconciliations
- testing of returns
- testing of risk management
- testing of credit cards purchases

All findings are presented to the Trust Board and documentation uploaded to Governor Hub.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer the CEO 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 responsible officer
- the work of the external auditor
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Trustees and Academy Council Members of Waterloo Primary Academy and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the Board of Trustees on and signed on its behalf by:

Mr P Thompson
Chair from 16/10/2019

Mr M J Hamblett
Principal and Accounting Officer

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

As accounting officer of Zest Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust's Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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

Mr M J Hamblett
Accounting Officer

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ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

The directors (who also act as trustees for Zest Academy Trust) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

In preparing these accounts, the Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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

Mr P Thompson
Chair from 16/10/2019

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ZEST ACADEMY TRUST FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Zest Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2019 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the notes to the accounts, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2019 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ZEST ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Other information

The Directors are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. Other information includes Reference and Administrative details, Trustees Report incorporating the Strategic Report and the Directors Report, the Governance Statement, the Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance and the Trustees Responsibility Statement. Our opinion on the accounts does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Directors are responsible for the preparation of the accounts and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Directors determine is necessary to enable the preparation of accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ZEST ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

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

Use of our report

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

Christine Wilson (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of MHA Moore and Smalley
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Richard House
9 Winckley Square
Preston
PR1 3HP

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ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 15 November 2016 and further to the requirements of the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Zest Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Zest Academy Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Zest 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 Zest Academy Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Zest Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 18 May 2016 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

We have undertaken testing as appropriate in line with the guidance included in Technical release 08/12AAF from the Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes consideration of governance issues and an evaluation of the control environment of the school together with enquiry, analytical review and substantive testing of transactions.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant MHA Moore and Smalley

Richard House
9 Winckley Square
Preston
PR1 3HP

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ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total 2019	Total 2018
	Notes	£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	4	-	-	22,795	22,795	237,622
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	5	102,412	3,217,425	-	3,319,837	3,195,328
Other trading activities	6	52,605	-	-	52,605	40,723
Investments	7	387	-	-	387	303
Total income and endowments		<u>155,404</u>	<u>3,217,425</u>	<u>22,795</u>	<u>3,395,624</u>	<u>3,473,976</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	10	159,290	3,175,551	135,046	3,469,887	3,614,198
Total expenditure	8	<u>159,290</u>	<u>3,175,551</u>	<u>135,046</u>	<u>3,469,887</u>	<u>3,614,198</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		(3,886)	41,874	(112,251)	(74,263)	(140,222)
Transfers between funds		-	13,247	(13,247)	-	-
Other recognised gains and losses						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	20	-	(679,000)	-	(679,000)	371,000
Net movement in funds		<u>(3,886)</u>	<u>(623,879)</u>	<u>(125,498)</u>	<u>(753,263)</u>	<u>230,778</u>
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		<u>146,886</u>	<u>(1,021,356)</u>	<u>4,104,293</u>	<u>3,229,823</u>	<u>2,999,045</u>
Total funds carried forward	18	<u>143,000</u>	<u>(1,645,235)</u>	<u>3,978,795</u>	<u>2,476,560</u>	<u>3,229,823</u>

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2019

	Notes	2019 £	£	2018 £	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14		3,978,795		4,064,846
Current assets					
Debtors	15	115,624		187,023	
Cash at bank and in hand		768,052		650,686	
		<u>883,676</u>		<u>837,709</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(85,911)		(334,732)	
Net current assets			797,765		502,977
Net assets excluding pension liability			4,776,560		4,567,823
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	20	(2,300,000)		(1,338,000)	
Total net assets			<u>2,476,560</u>		<u>3,229,823</u>
Funds of the Academy Trust:					
Restricted funds	18				
- Fixed asset funds			3,978,795		4,104,293
- Restricted income funds			654,765		316,644
- Pension reserve			(2,300,000)		(1,338,000)
Total restricted funds			<u>2,333,560</u>		<u>3,082,937</u>
Unrestricted income funds	18		143,000		146,886
Total funds			<u>2,476,560</u>		<u>3,229,823</u>

The accounts on pages 26 to 49 were approved by the Directors and authorised for issue on
and are signed on their behalf by:

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Mr P Thompson
Chair from 16/10/2019

Company Number 08087508

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

	Notes	2019 £	£	2018 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	21		130,980		106,139
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		387		303	
Capital grants from DfE Group		34,994		228,579	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(48,995)		(93,992)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities			(13,614)		134,890
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			117,366		241,029
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			650,686		409,657
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			768,052		650,686

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

Zest Academy Trust is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the Trustees' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Zest Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the Academy. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going concern

The Directors 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 charitable company to continue as a going concern. The Directors make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the accounts and have concluded that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the accounts.

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

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

Land and buildings	Over the lease term/2%
Computer equipment	3 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	4 to 5 years

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.

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

Rentals payable under operating leases are charged against income on a straight line basis over the period of the lease.

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

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

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

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.9 Taxation

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

1.10 Pensions benefits

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

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to 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.

1.11 Fund accounting

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

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

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

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

Valuation of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability

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 20, 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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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.

Useful economic life of tangible fixed assets

The useful economic life of tangible fixed assets is judged at the point of purchase. These are disclosed above under the policy for tangible fixed assets and depreciation..

Impairment of fixed assets

At each balance sheet date, management undertake an assessment of the carrying value of tangible fixed assets to determine whether there is any indication that the value has been impaired. Where necessary, impairment is recorded as an impairment loss.

Impairment of trade debtors

At each balance sheet date, management undertake a review of outstanding debtor balances and consider whether there is any indication of impairment or any balances requiring provision.

This calculation is based on the financial position of the customers, the payment history and any ongoing discussions.

Critical areas of judgement

Classification and valuation of long leasehold land and buildings

The academy's long leasehold land and buildings are held under a 125 year lease and are wholly used in the course of the academy's business and are held within the academy. No value was paid for the land and buildings, which have been incorporated into the accounts as a donated asset, based on a depreciated replacement cost valuation carried out as at 31 March 2013 on behalf of the Department for Education by DTZ. This valuation has been adjusted to take account of depreciation in the period since conversion, to arrive at an estimate for the value of land and buildings acquired on conversion. Subsequent purchases of land and buildings are initially measured at cost.

3 General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to limits at 31 August 2019 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

4 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Capital grants	-	22,795	22,795	228,579
Other donations	-	-	-	9,043
	-	22,795	22,795	237,622

The income from donations and capital grants was £22,795 (2018: £237,622) of which £- was restricted (2018: £9,043) and £22,795 was restricted fixed assets (2018: £228,579).

5 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	2,452,640	2,452,640	2,411,524
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	543,709	543,709	499,744
	-	2,996,349	2,996,349	2,911,268
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	207,435	207,435	165,725
Other funds				
Other incoming resources	102,412	13,641	116,053	118,335
Total funding	102,412	3,217,425	3,319,837	3,195,328

The income from funding for educational operations was £3,319,837 (2018: £3,195,328) of which £102,412 was unrestricted (2018: £106,817) and £3,217,425 was restricted (2018: £3,088,511).

6 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Hire of facilities	100	-	100	-
Other income	52,505	-	52,505	40,723
	52,605	-	52,605	40,723

The income from other trading activities was £52,605 (2018: £40,723) of which £52,605 was unrestricted (2018: £40,723).

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

7 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Short term deposits	387	-	387	303

The income from funding for investment income was £387 (2018: £303) of which £387 was unrestricted (2018: £303).

8 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non Pay Expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	2,171,070	32,778	155,184	2,359,032	2,406,535
- Allocated support costs	684,977	281,191	144,687	1,110,855	1,207,663
	2,856,047	313,969	299,871	3,469,887	3,614,198

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2019 £	2018 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	7,500	7,150
- Other services	4,765	6,945
Operating lease rentals	16,595	16,595
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	135,046	159,609
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	36,000	36,000

9 Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academy during the year:

- human resources;
- financial services;
- legal services;
- educational support services.

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

- time-apportioned based on staff costs.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
Waterloo Primary Academy	128,016	136,164
	128,016	136,164

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

10 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Direct costs				
Educational operations	87,036	2,271,996	2,359,032	2,406,535
Support costs				
Educational operations	72,254	1,038,601	1,110,855	1,207,663
	<u>159,290</u>	<u>3,310,597</u>	<u>3,469,887</u>	<u>3,614,198</u>

The expenditure on charitable activities was £3,469,887 (2018: £3,614,198) of which £159,290 was unrestricted (2018: £147,843), £3,175,551 was restricted (2018: £3,306,746) and £135,046 was restricted fixed assets (2018: £159,609).

	2019 £	2018 £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	684,977	538,484
Depreciation	102,268	102,288
Premises costs	142,074	351,997
Other support costs	163,025	183,120
Governance costs	18,511	31,774
	<u>1,110,855</u>	<u>1,207,663</u>

11 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2019 £	2018 £
Wages and salaries	2,065,164	1,817,842
Social security costs	144,571	204,756
Pension costs	622,982	636,061
	<u>2,832,717</u>	<u>2,658,659</u>
Amounts paid to employees	2,832,717	2,658,659
Agency staff costs	18,701	25,957
Staff restructuring costs	4,629	15,000
	<u>2,856,047</u>	<u>2,699,616</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments	<u>4,629</u>	<u>15,000</u>
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ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

11 Staff

(Continued)

Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £4,629 (2018: £15,000). Individually, the payment was: £4,629.

Staff numbers

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

	2019 Number	2018 Number
Teachers	35	31
Administration and support	56	64
Management	2	2
	<u>93</u>	<u>97</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2019 Number	2018 Number
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>1</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Directors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £172,616 (2018: £162,123).

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

12 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

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

M Hamblett - Principal:

Remuneration - £80,001 - £85,000 (2018: £75,001 - £80,000)

Employers' pension contributions - £10,001 - £15,000 (2018: £10,001 - £15,000)

S Cardwell - Business & Finance Director (Resigned 2 April 2019)

Remuneration - £30,001 - £35,000 (2018: £45,001 - £50,000)

Employers' pension contributions - £nil - £5,000 (2018: £5,001 - £10,000)

During the year travel and subsistence expenses totalling £519 were reimbursed to two Directors (2018: £68 to one Director).

13 Directors and officers insurance

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 trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim and the cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost and is not separately identifiable.

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£	£	£	£
Cost				
At 1 September 2018	4,428,172	258,834	138,897	4,825,903
Additions	-	39,803	9,192	48,995
Disposals	-	(52,749)	-	(52,749)
At 31 August 2019	4,428,172	245,888	148,089	4,822,149
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2018	431,844	214,282	114,931	761,057
On disposals	-	(52,749)	-	(52,749)
Charge for the year	85,549	32,778	16,719	135,046
At 31 August 2019	517,393	194,311	131,650	843,354
Net book value				
At 31 August 2019	3,910,779	51,577	16,439	3,978,795
At 31 August 2018	3,996,328	44,552	23,966	4,064,846

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

14	Tangible fixed assets	(Continued)	
The net book value of land and buildings comprises:			
		2019	2018
		£	£
	Long leaseholds (over 50 years)	3,910,779	3,996,328
15	Debtors	2019	2018
		£	£
	VAT recoverable	1,730	31,563
	Other debtors	8,888	28,289
	Prepayments and accrued income	105,006	127,171
		115,624	187,023
16	Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	2019	2018
		£	£
	Trade creditors	1,206	169,154
	Other taxation and social security	-	39,337
	ESFA creditors	12,199	-
	Other creditors	19,824	59,928
	Accruals and deferred income	52,682	66,313
		85,911	334,732
17	Deferred income	2019	2018
		£	£
	Deferred income is included within:		
	Creditors due within one year	42,832	38,748
	Deferred income at 1 September 2018	38,748	41,170
	Released from previous years	(38,748)	(41,170)
	Resources deferred in the year	38,238	38,748
	Deferred income at 31 August 2019	38,238	38,748
	Warning! Figures do not agree by:	4,594	-
At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for the year to 31 August 2019 for the Universal Infant Free School Meals.			

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

18 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	316,644	2,452,640	(2,127,766)	13,247	654,765
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	543,709	(543,709)	-	-
Other government grants	-	207,435	(207,435)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	13,641	(13,641)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,338,000)	-	(283,000)	(679,000)	(2,300,000)
	<u>(1,021,356)</u>	<u>3,217,425</u>	<u>(3,175,551)</u>	<u>(665,753)</u>	<u>(1,645,235)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	3,168,036	-	(68,688)	-	3,099,348
DfE group capital grants	42,283	22,795	(2,836)	(62,242)	-
Capital expenditure from GAG	893,974	-	(63,522)	48,995	879,447
	<u>4,104,293</u>	<u>22,795</u>	<u>(135,046)</u>	<u>(13,247)</u>	<u>3,978,795</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>3,082,937</u>	<u>3,240,220</u>	<u>(3,310,597)</u>	<u>(679,000)</u>	<u>2,333,560</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>146,886</u>	<u>155,404</u>	<u>(159,290)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>143,000</u>
Total funds	<u>3,229,823</u>	<u>3,395,624</u>	<u>(3,469,887)</u>	<u>(679,000)</u>	<u>2,476,560</u>

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running expenses of the School and any amounts carried forward at the end of a financial period must be used in accordance with the terms of the Funding Agreement.

Other DfE/ESFA grants comprise additional funding received for the furtherance of education, which must be used in accordance with the specific terms of each grant.

Other government grants includes local authority nursery grants and other support staff funding.

Other restricted funds include contributions received for school trips.

The pension reserve represents the value of the School's share of the deficit in the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Restricted fixed asset funds include assets inherited on conversion and expenditure out of GAG and other capital grants during the year. Depreciation is charged against the fund.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

18 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	190,179	2,411,524	(2,435,716)	150,657	316,644
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	499,744	(499,744)	-	-
Other government grants	-	165,725	(165,725)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	20,561	(20,561)	-	-
Pension reserve	(1,524,000)	-	(185,000)	371,000	(1,338,000)
	<u>(1,333,821)</u>	<u>3,097,554</u>	<u>(3,306,746)</u>	<u>521,657</u>	<u>(1,021,356)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	3,236,724	-	(68,688)	-	3,168,036
DfE group capital grants	61,173	228,579	(2,820)	(244,649)	42,283
Capital expenditure from GAG	888,083	-	(88,101)	93,992	893,974
	<u>4,185,980</u>	<u>228,579</u>	<u>(159,609)</u>	<u>(150,657)</u>	<u>4,104,293</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>2,852,159</u>	<u>3,326,133</u>	<u>(3,466,355)</u>	<u>371,000</u>	<u>3,082,937</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	<u>146,886</u>	<u>147,843</u>	<u>(147,843)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>146,886</u>
Total funds	<u>2,999,045</u>	<u>3,473,976</u>	<u>(3,614,198)</u>	<u>371,000</u>	<u>3,229,823</u>

Total funds analysis by academy

	2019 £	2018 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2019 were allocated as follows:		
Waterloo Primary Academy	777,364	447,965
Central services	20,401	15,565
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	<u>797,765</u>	<u>463,530</u>
Restricted fixed asset fund	3,978,795	4,104,293
Pension reserve	(2,300,000)	(1,338,000)
Total funds	<u>2,476,560</u>	<u>3,229,823</u>

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

18 Funds

(Continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies	Other costs excluding depreciation	Total 2019	Total 2018
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Waterloo Primary Academy	2,163,077	581,488	145,118	275,050	3,164,733	3,271,412
Central services	7,992	103,488	10,068	48,559	170,107	112,258
	<u>2,171,069</u>	<u>684,976</u>	<u>155,186</u>	<u>323,609</u>	<u>3,334,840</u>	<u>3,383,670</u>

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,978,795	3,978,795
Current assets	147,594	736,082	-	883,676
Creditors falling due within one year	(4,594)	(81,317)	-	(85,911)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(2,300,000)	-	(2,300,000)
Total net assets	<u>143,000</u>	<u>(1,645,235)</u>	<u>3,978,795</u>	<u>2,476,560</u>

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	4,064,846	4,064,846
Current assets	146,886	651,376	39,447	837,709
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(334,732)	-	(334,732)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(1,338,000)	-	(1,338,000)
Total net assets	<u>146,886</u>	<u>(1,021,356)</u>	<u>4,104,293</u>	<u>3,229,823</u>

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

20 Pension and similar obligations

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £19,391 (2018: £57,611) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2019 and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has now taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation, TPS employers will pay an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.8%). The timing of the implementation is to align its introduction with employers' budget planning cycles. Until then, employers will pay the current rate of 16.48%.

A copy of the latest valuation report can be found on the Teachers' Pension Scheme website.

Scheme Changes

The arrangements for a reformed Teachers' Pension Scheme, in line with the recommendations made by Lord Hutton, in particular the introduction of a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, were implemented from 1 April 2015.

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in the reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, gave rise to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. The Supreme Court, in a decision made in June 2019, have rejected the Government's application for permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling. The case will now be referred to an Employment Tribunal for a decision regarding the remedy which will need to be offered to those members of the two schemes who were subject of the age discrimination.

HM Treasury are clear that the ruling has implications for the other public service schemes, including the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Those implications are currently being considered and any impact on scheme costs is expected to be looked at within the next scheme valuation, which is currently scheduled to be based on April 2020 data and implemented in April 2023.

The pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £177,277 (2018: £174,884).

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 14.2% for employers and 5.5-12.5% for employees. The estimated value of employer contributions for the forthcoming year is £165,000. The academy pays additional deficit contributions to the scheme following the last scheme valuation in 2016. For April 2019 to March 2020, £33,200 of additional contributions are payable.

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.

Total contributions made	2019 £	2018 £
Employer's contributions	164,000	152,000
Employees' contributions	55,000	51,000
Total contributions	219,000	203,000

Principal actuarial assumptions	2019 %	2018 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.5	3.6
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.1	2.2
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.8	2.8
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.0	2.1

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

	2019 Years	2018 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	22.8	22.7
- Females	25.5	25.4
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	25.1	25
- Females	28.2	28

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Sensitivity analysis at 31 August 2019:

	Central £000	Sensitivity 1 + 0.1% p.a. discount rate £000	Sensitivity 2 + 0.1% p.a. inflation £000	Sensitivity 3 + 0.1% p.a. pay growth £000	Sensitivity 4 1 yr increase in life expectancy £000
Liabilities	5,072	4,957	5,189	5,093	5,164
Assets	(2,772)	(2,772)	(2,772)	(2,772)	(2,772)
Deficit/(surplus)	2,300	2,185	2,417	2,321	2,392
Projected service cost	397	385	408	397	404
Projected net interest cost	40	40	42	40	42

Sensitivity analysis at 31 August 2018:

	Central £000	Sensitivity 1 + 0.1% p.a. discount rate £000	Sensitivity 2 + 0.1% p.a. inflation £000	Sensitivity 3 + 0.1% p.a. pay growth £000	Sensitivity 4 1 yr increase in life expectancy £000
Liabilities	3,615	3,534	3,699	3,632	3,681
Assets	(2,277)	(2,277)	(2,277)	(2,277)	(2,277)
Deficit/(surplus)	1,338	1,257	1,422	1,355	1,404
Projected service cost	265	257	274	265	271
Projected net interest cost	35	34	38	36	37

The Academy Trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2019 Fair value £	2018 Fair value £
Equities	1,325,000	1,001,000
Government bonds	-	77,000
Other bonds	44,000	14,000
Cash/liquidity	50,000	20,000
Property	244,000	209,000
Other assets	1,109,000	956,000
Total market value of assets	2,772,000	2,277,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £308,000 (2018: £126,000).

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

20 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	2019 £	2018 £
Current service cost	277,000	297,000
Interest income	(66,000)	(52,000)
Interest cost	102,000	88,000
Benefit changes, curtailments and settlements gains or losses	129,000	-
Administration expenses	5,000	4,000
Total operating charge	447,000	337,000

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2019 £	2018 £
At 1 September 2018	3,690,000	3,546,000
Current service cost	277,000	297,000
Interest cost	102,000	88,000
Employee contributions	55,000	51,000
Actuarial loss/(gain)	921,000	(297,000)
Benefits paid	27,000	(70,000)
At 31 August 2019	5,072,000	3,615,000

Changes in the fair value of the Academy Trust's share of scheme assets	2019 £	2018 £
At 1 September 2018	2,277,000	2,022,000
Interest income	66,000	52,000
Actuarial gain	242,000	74,000
Employer contributions	164,000	152,000
Employee contributions	55,000	51,000
Benefits paid	(27,000)	(70,000)
Administration expenses	(5,000)	(4,000)
At 31 August 2019	2,772,000	2,277,000

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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

	2019 £	2018 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(74,263)	(140,222)
Adjusted for:		
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(34,994)	(228,579)
Investment income receivable	(387)	(303)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	247,000	149,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	36,000	36,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	135,046	159,609
Decrease/(increase) in debtors	71,399	(17,824)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(248,821)	148,458
Net cash provided by operating activities	130,980	106,139

22 Commitments under operating leases

At 31 August 2019 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2019 £	2018 £
Amounts due within one year	16,595	16,594
Amounts due in two and five years	20,701	37,295
	37,296	53,889

23 Capital commitments

	2019 £	2018 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	-	44,447

24 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust's operations and the composition of the Governing Body being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 12.

ZEST ACADEMY TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2019

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 or she is a member, or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he or she ceases to be a member.