

Company Registration No. 07890590 (England and Wales)

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Bishop R Byrne
Mrs D Fox
Mr J Ledger
Rev S Lerche
Rev Canon Peter Leighton

Mr M Gannon (Chair)
Mr C Coxon (Vice Chair)
Mr P Cantwell
Mrs M Harrison
Mr I Mearns MP
Father M A Millward (Resigned 2 July 2021)
Mrs A Boyle
Mrs C Reid (Appointed 1 December 2020)
Rev C M Hayden (Appointed 22 October 2021)

Mr N Hurn OBE
Mr J Parkinson
Mrs L Levy
Mr U Chughtai
Mrs H Naden
Mrs J Collins
Miss M Murphy
Mrs A Riley
Mrs B Reilly-O'Donnell
Miss L A Hall
Mrs J Ridley
Mrs L Smith

- Headteacher	Mrs J Black
- Headteacher	Mr D Curran
- Headteacher	Mrs D Cushlow
- Headteacher	Mrs S Fraser
- Headteacher	Mr M Gray
- Headteacher	Mr C Hammill
- Headteacher	Mr N Harrison
- Headteacher	Mr D Juric
- Headteacher	Mr J Parkinson
- Headteacher	Mrs B Reilly O'Donnell
- Headteacher	Mr B Robson
- Headteacher	Mrs M Wilson
- Headteacher	Mr S Woods
- Headteacher	Mrs E Bridon
- Headteacher	Mrs J Bruton
- Headteacher	Mrs J Burgess
- Headteacher	Mrs C Craig
- Headteacher	Mr J Hattam
- Headteacher	Mrs L Keenan
- Headteacher	Mrs G Lynch

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

- Headteacher	Mrs E Maher
- Headteacher	Mr D Miller
- Headteacher	Mrs T Musgrove
- Headteacher	Mr P Naughton
- Headteacher	Mrs C Swales
- Headteacher	Mrs C Young

Company secretary	Mrs L Levy
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Company registration number	07890590 (England and Wales)
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Registered office	Coniston House Fifth Avenue Business Park Team Valley Trading Estate Gateshead NE11 0NL
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BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Academies operated	Location	Executive Headteacher
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mr B Robson
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mrs S Fraser
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	Sunderland	Mrs J Black
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	Sunderland	Mrs M Wilson
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	Sunderland	Mr J Anderson
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	Sunderland	Mrs E Maher
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	Sunderland	Mr D Juric
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	Sunderland	Mrs D Cushlow
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	County Durham	Mr D Juric
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mr C Hammill
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mr J Parkinson
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mr S Woods
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	Northumberland	Mr M Gray
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs S Clarke
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs C Craig
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs L Keenan
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	County Durham	Mrs L Keenan
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs A Garrity
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	Northumberland	Mr P Naughton
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	Northumberland	Mr P Naughton
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mrs E Bridon
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mr D Miller
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs J Bruton
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs C Young
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mrs T Musgrove
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	County Durham	Mrs S Fraser
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	Mrs J Burgess
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mrs G Lynch
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	Mr J Hattam

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services
Wynyard Park House
Wynyard Avenue
Wynyard
Billingham
TS22 5TB
United Kingdom

Bankers

Lloyds Bank plc
PO Box 100
Andover
BX1 1LT
United Kingdom

Solicitors

Womble Bond Dickinson
One Trinity
Broad Chare
Newcastle Upon Tyne
Tyne And Wear
NE1 2HF
United Kingdom

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The Trust Board of Directors present their annual report together with the accounts and independent auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates 29 academies (5 Secondary academies and 24 Primary academies) for pupils aged 4 to 18 serving a catchment area across 4 different Local Authorities – Gateshead, Sunderland, Durham and Northumberland. All schools within the Trust are currently rated either Outstanding or Good by Ofsted, successful and popular, serving almost 12,000 pupils and their families.

The Trust has 1,500 staff employed in Teaching and Support staff roles.

During the Accounting year 1st September 2020 – 31st August 2021, The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle instructed the Trust to change its name from Trinity Catholic Multi Academy Trust to Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust, effective from 1st April 2020. We have operated under the name of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust ever since.

The following schools joined the Trust during this financial year:

St Godric's Catholic Primary School, Durham
St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Sacriston
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School, Hexham
St Mary's Catholic First School, Hexham
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Blackhill
St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Esh
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Dipton
St Oswald's Catholic Primary School, Wrekenton
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Ushaw Moor
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Stanley
St Benet's Catholic Primary School, Ouston
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Chester le Street
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Leam Lane
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gateshead
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School, Esh Winning
St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Pelaw

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The multi academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The trustees of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust. Prior to converting to a Multi Academy Trust during 2016, the company was previously known as Cardinal Hume Catholic School.

Details of the trustees who served during the year are approved and 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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Trustees' indemnities

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 s236 every governor or other officer or auditor of the Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets

Shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Trust against any liability incurred by him in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which he is acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to him by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the academy trust.

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust subscribes to the Education Skills and Funding Agency's Risk Protection Arrangement. This Arrangement ensures that the Trust liabilities are covered, in addition to the subsequent insurances in place that are relevant to Academy business.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

The Diocesan Bishop and Board of Education formally consider and appoint all Members of the Trust Board, whether they are Foundation Board Members or other applicants. Application forms are submitted by the candidates and reviewed by the Diocesan Board of Education prior to appointment. All Foundation Members of the Board must be practising Catholics.

Each of the individual Catholic academies have their own Local Governing Committee's. The Chair of each Committee must be a practising Catholic and approved by the Bishop and Diocesan Board of Education. The Local Governing Committee members of each school within the Trust, must all apply in the same way, directly to the Director of Governance within the Trust, in order then to submit the appropriate application form for approval by the Bishop. Local Governing Committees may appoint Staff Trustees through an election process, provided that the total number of Trustees on each Local Governing Committee (including the Headteacher) who are employees of the Academy does not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees and Article 58A shall apply.

Additional Governors/Trustees:

The Trustees may appoint no more than 1 other Trustee, and the number of Foundation Trustees must outnumber the non Foundation Governors by at least 2.

The Headteacher within each academy shall be treated for all purposes as being an ex officio Trustee.

Subject to Article 57, the Parent Trustees shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy. A Parent Trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time when they are elected. The Trustees shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of Parent Trustees, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered pupil at the Academy. Any election of Parent Trustees which is contested shall be held by secret ballot, via the Clerk to the Local Governing Committee.

The Staff Trustees shall be elected by a secret ballot of all staff employed under a contract of employment or a contract for services or otherwise engaged to provide services to the Academy (excluding the Headteacher of an Academy). All arrangements for the calling and the conduct of the election will be administered by the Clerk to the Local Governing Committee and resolution of questions as to whether any person is an eligible candidate shall be determined by the Trustees.

If a Staff Trustee ceases to work at an Academy then they shall be deemed to have resigned and shall cease to be a Governor automatically on termination of their work at the Academy. Any election of a Staff Trustee which is contested shall be held by Secret ballot, arranged by the Clerk to the Local Governing Committee.

Details of the Trustees are shown in the Reference and Administration details.

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Arrangements for setting and reviewing pay and remuneration are reviewed annually and the pay policy is approved by governors, following appropriate consultation.

The trustees and key management personnel including the CEO, Executive team and Headteachers review and challenge the academy staffing structures regularly to ensure it is the best structure to meet the needs of the academy whilst maintaining financial integrity. Executive Team and Senior Leaders pay is tightly correlated to strong educational outcomes and sound financial management.

The trust benchmarks the size of their senior leadership teams for example against that of similar schools/academies.

The Pay Policy for all staff, including key leaders within the Trust, has been set and is governed by BWCET Pay Policy 2020-21. The policy includes that all teachers are employed in accordance with the School Teachers Pay & Conditions document and the undertaking of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle that it will abide by the National Terms & Conditions. An independent review of the Senior Executive Team within the Trust was completed by the HR Director and an external HR provider to benchmark salaries of existing roles of the same responsibilities in other Trusts.

There is a robust staff appraisal process, which the trust reviews annually and in turn supports with strong performance management. Pay progression recommendations are reviewed by the Local Governing Committee of each academy for their own individual staff, alongside appropriate evidence. The summary of which is then considered by the trust Board of Directors for approval.

The trustees do not receive any remuneration.

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

-

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Engagement with employees

BWCET is proactive in how it provides employees with information on matters of concern to them. Following the significant expansion of the Trust, it is recognised how vitally important effective communication is for all employees. Prior to conversion, the CEO and COO are in discussions with the Headteacher of each school throughout the process of Due Diligence, and get to know the individual schools. Covid Restrictions allowing, the COO also visits each school and meets the staff wherever possible in order to ensure the staff feel part of and invested in the conversion process. All staff meet the CEO and COO during the TUPE consultation process. Once part of the Trust and formal conversion has taken place, the Headteachers attend a weekly briefing session with the Executive team within the Trust, in order to receive updates and information around the priorities of the Trust and schools. This information is then communicated to the staff teams within the schools. Individual departments within the Essential Services team also issue Termly bulletins and FAQ's to the staff. Headteachers ensure that there is also the opportunity for two-way communication with the Trust and provide the Executive team with the feedback from their staff in schools which works well. At an operational level, the Essential Services team are in constant touch with the School Administrative teams and Business Managers on a daily basis.

The Trust has an excellent relationship with Trade Union Representatives across the Teaching and Support Unions. There is a termly Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) attended by the CEO, COO and Director of HR to discuss any updates to Trust policies/procedures and take feedback from the Unions on the feelings of their Members. This is an extremely effective method of communicating and allows discussion to take place to ensure Members are properly supported.

The individual schools conduct annual Staff questionnaires to ensure staff have the opportunity of providing distinct feedback on issues that effect them directly. Any issues raised of note are fed back directly to the Trust for attention.

The staff within the Trust feel a sense of great loyalty to their own individual school and in time, hope that all school staff will also feel that sense of belonging and being valued by the Trust.

It is critically important that the Trust has a very transparent Recruitment and Selection policy, which ensures all applicants have confidence that their individual applications will be considered fairly. The first draft of the Recruitment and Selection policy has been initially approved by the Board of Directors and is to be consulted upon with Trade Union Colleagues for their feedback and comment.

The provision of the Recruitment and Selection policy should ensure that each Recruitment panel observes the necessary protocols and is sufficiently well-versed in Trust recruitment requirements, which supports and protects each applicant from any bias from selectors.

If applications for employment are received from disabled persons, their application is considered on the basis of relevant experience and qualifications for the role they are applying for. If adaptations need to be made to their potential working environment that will be discussed with the applicant in due course. The Trust will put in place those adaptations to allow them to carry out their role effectively and ensuring everyone's safety remains paramount.

The HR team within the Trust are extremely experienced and qualified professionals who support all staff across the Trust well. If there are any circumstances where a staff member needs support with either personal, emotional or physical assistance to allow them to attend/carry out their role, the HR team will facilitate that. They are effective in carrying out Risk Assessments to allow staff to talk about areas that are causing them difficulties and they work with members of the school or Central Leadership Teams to ensure whatever support is required by the individuals can be put in place.

If a member of staff became disabled during their employment with the Trust, the HR Team will be involved right at the outset with the staff member to ensure they are supported and continue to feel valued by the Trust. Working with their Line Managers, Occupational Health and H&S team, the best support possible from the Trust will be provided. Training and Career development will be considered for each applicant on an individual basis, as appropriately considered in the same way for all staff.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the trust

We continue to work on a number of initiatives including Trust and school websites, admissions materials, signage and promotional banners, which will ensure our Values and Ethos of the Trust is communicated strongly to whoever comes into contact with the Trust.

We have developed a commercial model and a 7-Step approach to ensure consistency across all activity. This allows the consistent engagement model to be followed by all staff. The Commercial Strategy and Vision has been developed and covers how we ensure Compliance, Make effective Savings for our school which can be used to benefit the pupil experiences and then to improve Outcomes directly.



Commercial activity has been focused on a number of areas including:

- Catering Services
 - Primary Schools Programme – Durham Schools
 - Bread and Hot Beverages
- Ongoing SLA Discussions with Durham and Gateshead
- Transport – Home to School
- CT Strategy
 - Strategy Communication, see Appendix 3
 - IT Hardware Requirements – Device Leasing
 - ICT Infrastructure Requirements – Implementation
 - Connectivity Implementation
 - Mobile Phones Tender
 - Photocopiers
- Facilities Management
 - Strategy Development
 - Health & Safety, including Fire Safety Tender
 - Construction related Professional Services Tender –
 - Hard FM Pre-Market Engagement
 - Waste Management Tender

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

- Marketing Activity
 - Trust Website – waiting for photography to complete
 - Centre for Teaching Website & Materials
- Education Commercial Services

The programme of activity as you can see from the above examples is vast and either ongoing or to do is now 54, with 57 projects already completed. There is a considerable amount of work to do in finalising contractual arrangements and establishing a consistent and robust approach to Trust-wide implementation and ongoing contract management. However, the Trust believes this is essential, again in harmony with the transparent approach that all suppliers, customer and business contacts will learn to expect from the Trust.

Our savings total is currently at £828k and we have also received an additional £40k in social value investment from EDF Energy as part of the NEPO Energy Framework – we were selected as a large Trust to work with, and our business relationships go from strength to strength.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust is now a Trust with 29 academies. The Trust is part of the Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle but is not part of any wider network, other than being the Lead School in the Centre for Teaching. This has no impact on the operating policies of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust.

The CEO and COO are also involved with Education Mutual Limited, a not for profit staff sickness absence cover provider. The CEO and COO of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust receive no financial incentive for being part of the Education Mutual Board of Directors, Company Secretary nor a Member school. Approval was provided by the Chair and Board of The Trust for their involvement at the outset of the Mutual's development in 2018. It is Minuted accordingly. The CEO and COO are also Board members of Schools Mutual Ltd, again a not for profit Recruitment and staff Supply Company. The CEO and COO of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust receive no financial incentive for being part of the Schools Mutual Board of Directors, Company Secretary nor a Member school.

The ESFA have provided approval for the Related Party Transaction shown in the Accounts and the CEO and COO involvement in Education Mutual is well known throughout the Education sector.

The Trust is continuing to expand at a rapid pace, and had a number of schools joining at regular intervals throughout the year. Once the schools are formally incorporated into the Trust, an assessment of services provided by external companies is then determined by the internal Finance team. At that point, an assessment of providers is issued to the Commercial Department within the Trust. The Commercial Team then assess which services must be procured centrally and determine which providers are approaching/over the Trust Handbook thresholds. Schools Mutual is widely used by the Schools within the Trust, due to the ethical nature of the Mutual company and the cost of Supply staff which provides best value for money. An independent process and formal tender was then undertaken via the Constellia Framework and most suitable company was awarded the Contract. SMS were the successful tenderers.

The CEO of the Trust, has been extremely open about his involvement in SMS, so much so that he presented a paper to Minister Walker on his visit to Cardinal Hume Catholic School in October 2020, in order to highlight the work of the mutual, his involvement and how it is set up to obtain best value for schools and retain funding within the Education Sector. Members of the ESFA have also been informed.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable trust is the operation of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust to provide education for pupils between the ages of 4 and 18. The Academy's admissions code has Trustee approval and is published on our website www.bwcet.com.

The Academy's object ("The Object") is specifically restricted to the following: to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, managing, carrying on, and developing Catholic schools. This can be either by the offering of a broad and balanced curriculum and shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Catholic Church and all Catholic canon law applying thereto, including any trust deed governing the use of land used by the MAT both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship and having regard to any advice and following directives issued by the Diocesan Bishop.

The Trust shall ensure that all Academies within the Trust comply with any guidance issued by the Secretary of State from time to time to ensure that pupils take part in assessments and in teacher assessments of pupils' performance as they apply to maintained schools.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The Trust is situated within four Local Authorities –Gateshead, Sunderland Durham and Northumberland. Predominantly the area has a White-British intake, but has an increasing proportion of EAL/EM pupils. The Trust's mix of pupils is genuinely comprehensive with a larger than average proportion coming from areas of deprivation, and broadly average numbers of disadvantaged pupils. The Trusts stability falls into the upper quintile.

The staff teams within the academies are committed to the children, and provide a stable, happy and highly effective education for the pupils, and were supportive of joining the MAT with the best interests of the pupils and their catholic education in mind. Staff turnover is healthy.

At the end of the Summer term (July 2021) the Trust appointed a new Deputy CEO with the responsibility of working closely with Primary Headteachers and staff, to work alongside the Deputy CEO (Secondary) as well as the School Improvement Partner to work across the Trust, with the purpose of improving outcomes and standards for children. They have a rolling programme of self-evaluation and this is summarised in the Trust Self Evaluation Form, which will be completed annually by the Trust Leadership Team every May/June. Action points from the evaluation are then pursued and detailed in the Trust Development Plan.

The Trust Development Plan covers the following main areas with specific Aims and Objectives linked to each one:

Curriculum Impact

Curriculum Implementation

Behaviour and Attitudes

Catholic Ethos, Personal Development & SMSC

The areas above are then split down into specific actions and Success Criteria targets. They are allocated to specific members of Working Groups within the MAT Leadership Team and the Headteachers manage and monitor progress throughout the year. In May of each year, the outcomes are reviewed and progress measured accordingly against the pre-determined success criteria.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Curriculum Intent		Curriculum Implementation (T&L & Assessment)
The curriculum, across the Key Stages, is designed and shaped to:		All teaching in the school is at least good, and much is outstanding.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> remain broad and build pupils' cultural capital provide pupils with ambitious pathways commensurate with their abilities, interests and aspirations deliver outstanding results in external qualifications, preparing pupils for their next steps. 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pupil engagement, personal enquiry and ability to transfer learning to long-term memory are prioritised by all teachers. The development of teachers' subject and curricular knowledge are central to the school's CPD Teachers are increasingly skilled in providing challenge for a wide range of abilities in classes.
Behaviour and Attitudes	Catholic Ethos, Personal Development and SMSC	Leadership and Management
Across the Key Stages, exemplary conduct, manners and levels of respect are displayed by all pupils, both in the classroom and public areas of the school. Key areas of focus:	A wide range of opportunities are available to involve staff, pupils and the wider community in acts of collective worship, and the leading of collective worship. The school goes the 'extra-mile' with extra-curricular activities, work experience, character education, environmental stewardship and developing pupils spiritually, morally, socially and culturally, focuses on careers advice and mental and physical well-being.	Exemplary standards of provision and pupil outcomes provided as the school and Multi-Academy Trust grows. Key areas of focus:
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Attendance (>96%) and punctuality Intrinsic motivation, merits and rewards Pupils' conduct when moving around school Parents' engagement with pupils' learning 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff workload, roles, capacity and succession planning Management, tracking and monitoring of larger year groups as they move through the school Physical environment, site maintenance and security Financial security Teaching School and partnership growth

Public benefit

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission in exercising their powers or duties. We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our Aims and Objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular the Board consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set.

The MAT has provided a fully comprehensive education to all students in its care. It fully complies with all statutory guidance and seeks to support its wider educational objectives via a strong community role. The schools within the Trust comply with their duty to teach the National Curriculum and meet the standards set by Ofsted. The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charities Commission in exercising their powers or duties.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic in 2020/21, the DfE cancelled student examinations and school performance measures. Primary schools across the country did not take part in the annual Summer terms SATS for KS2 examinations. Therefore there is no published data to be recognised within the Accounts this year.

The latest overall Ofsted effectiveness grade profiles for the Trust schools individually was:

Outstanding 12 schools

Good 17 schools

KS4 Results for August 2021 were published in the Summer term, but again due to the Covid 19 pandemic, no formal examinations were set by the students, grades were determined by Teacher assessed grades and mock examination results, with the same process for KS5 Sixth Form students

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

KS4 Outcomes

Progress 8	In this table, this measure compares the school result with the other SISRA Users. A positive score means that the schools grades are higher than the average of the collaborating schools taking into account KS2 information.
Attainment 8	This is the score produced by adding together the English and Maths GCSE scores (doubled), the three best scores from the EBACC subjects, and two other subjects, which make up the open pot.
Att 8 English	This is the doubled average best grade in English.
Att 8 Maths	This is the doubled average grade in Maths.
Att 8 EBacc Pots	The average of the best three EBACC scores.
Att 8 Open Pots	The average of the best three Open Pot scores.
E & M 5+ %	The percentage of pupils obtaining a grade 5 or higher in both English and Maths.
E & M 4+ %	The percentage of pupils obtaining a grade 4 or higher in both English and Maths.
EBacc APS	The average grade in all EBACC entries in a school.
APS	Average Points Score - in the new world of GCSEs this is the grade, the highest being a grade 9. A grade 7 is equivalent to a grade A in the previous system. Vocational qualifications can count in the open pot and these are given an equivalence so that they can be included.
EBACC	English Baccalaureate made up of an English GCSE [Literature or Language], Maths, the best science result, the best humanity result and the best language result.

Measure	St Bede	Cardinal Hume	St Leonards	St Roberts	St Thomas More
Progress 8	-0.27	0.47	0.53	0.04	0.1
Attainment 8	54.2	56.5	57.7	57.5	56.8
Att 8 English	11.1	11.5	12.1	11.9	11.4
Att 8 Maths	10.5	11.1	10.6	10.5	10.8
Att 8 EBacc Pots	15.1	16.7	16.5	16.5	16.7
Att 8 Open Pots	17.5	17.2	18.5	18.5	17.9
E & M 5+ %	60.5	62.5	62.9	58.4	62.2
E & M 4+ %	80.5	88.8	83.5	82.4	81.3
EBacc APS	4.7	5.3	4.9	5.2	4.8

- The Progress 8 measure in this table compares against other SISRA schools that have uploaded their results. A score in line with usual progress 8 expectations would mean that the school's increase in grades due to the process is in line with other schools. Where it is greater than usual it means that the grades awarded by the school are increased by more than other schools. There will obviously be significant variance in this and the secondary schools in the trust increases in grades are inline with national increases. St Leonard's higher increase is in line with expected increase in results based on internal data.
- Attainment 8 are similar across the schools with the exception with St Bede's which is a little lower which reflects the difference over the 2017-2019 period.
- The other Attainment scores are similar across the schools.
- The number of appeals by students against the grades that they have been awarded is very low which is an indication that the grades are considered fair by the students of the schools.
- Overall the schools have managed a difficult and stressful process fairly.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

KS5 Outcomes

Measure	Explanation
Average Points Per Entry [All]	The points per entry [All] includes every qualification included in the performance tables. The grade is converted to a number and an average produced. A grade E is 10, D is 20, C is 30, B is 40, A is 50 and A* is 60.
Average Grade [All]	
Value Added [All]	This is the average points per entry converted to a grade.
Average Points Per Entry [A-level]	The Value Added based on KS4 prior performance. St Leonard's uses a different system and does not produce a comparable figure. Going forwards they will be using SISRA as the other schools do.
Average Grade [A-Level]	
Value Added [A-Level]	
Average Points Per Entry [Applied General]	
Average Grade [Applied General]	
Value Added [Applied General]	

Measure	St Bede	Cardinal Hume	St Leonards	St Roberts	St Thomas More
Average Points Per Entry [All]	40.46	40	44	38.4	44.15
Average Grade [All]	B=	B=	B+	B=	B+
Value Added [All]	0.55	0.28		0.24	0.79
Average Points Per Entry [A-level]	40.41	41.4	42.2	38.4	44.21
Average Grade [A-Level]	B=	B=	B+	B=	B+
Value Added [A-Level]	0.55	0.28		0.27	0.66
Average Points Per Entry [Applied General]	40	35.7	29.5	38.4	44
Average Grade [Applied General]	D+	D=	M+	D=	D*
Value Added [Applied General]	0.66	0.28		0.07	1.27

- In the same way as KS4 outcomes, as the schools have developed the assessment process and awarded grades there is going to be significant grade inflation. These, therefore, are a very fine set of outcomes for all the schools. Whilst there is variation the attainment is broadly in line. St Roberts has a much larger sixth form taking in many students from other schools has a wider KS4 attainment distribution.
- Value Added differs ranging from +0.79 to +0.24 which will reflect the different ways in which schools have awarded grades. All the processes met the required specifications and passed examination board monitoring. When only A-levels are considered they are much more similar.
- The number of appeals has been relatively low reflecting the fact that most students are happy with the outcomes and were able to make the next step that they were aiming for.
- Similarly to KS4 the schools have managed a very difficult process well.
- These outcomes cannot be compared to previous, or likely, future outcomes as the method by which they were produced was so different.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Going concern

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

Protecting the success of the trust

The Trust Board appreciates that with so many schools now across the Trust that there are many good news stories and successes to celebrate within the Trust. The trustees are aware they must act fairly, having high standards in their decision making processes to protect the Trust's long-term viability. This must include the interests of all stakeholders, staff, business relationships with suppliers and customers, and within the wider community.

Financial review

The principal sources of the Academy's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted for particular purposes. Such grants and all associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities for the period ending 31st August 2021.

During the period ending 31st August 2021 total. Academy expenditure of £63.5m was less than DfE grant funding together with other incoming resources. The excess of income over expenditure was £2.9m. Budget and expenditure reviews have been conducted by the MAT Central Team, MAT Board, Internal and External Auditors.

All schools within the Trust had a positive reserves balance when transferring into The Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust. Each academy will have their reserves held individually prior to academy conversion ringfenced for their future use. This had prior approval from the Trust Board and is supported by the Diocese.

The Trust also received a total of just over £433k of Devolved Formula Capital from the Diocese and ESFA which had been ringfenced on behalf of each school, at the beginning of the Autumn term.

Prior to conversion, each of the Local Governing Bodies agreed to contribute an annual contribution of 5% to the Trust to provide the Central Essential Services Team and Trust wide provision of services via external suppliers which will be deducted on a monthly basis.

General and unrestricted reserves of the Trust increased from £3.6m to £6.6m. In the main this was due to the number of schools joining the Trust and bringing forward ring-fenced reserves.

The whole school Trust Forecast for 2020-21 was submitted to the ESFA for scrutiny in July 2021 showing the additional schools and the anticipated income/expenditure forecast for the next 3 years.

The closing level of reserves is healthy and demonstrates a history of positive net assets, adequate cash flow to sustain operations and advance the overall achievements of the trust schools.

FINANCIAL EFFECT OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

The most significant event affecting the Trust through this Annual Reporting year is as all would expect is the continuing repercussions from the Covid 19 Pandemic and the additional pressures this has placed within the staff teams across the Trust. Support for schools has been provided by the Trust Central Leaders to Headteachers and staff within individual academies. The Headteachers have all worked collaboratively and extremely effectively at managing the initial school closures back in March 2020 and the staggered reopening for Vulnerable pupils and key worker children.

The Financial implications have been felt by the schools in ensuring that the pupils and staff teams remained safe. The additional costs for the majority of Covid related expenditure have not been met by the government as schools within this Trust were not going to be faced with a deficit due to that additional expenditure. The government have met the additional expenditure on Free School Meal vouchers which has been a huge relief to Trusts, as has the RPA in meeting the costs of trip cancellations.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Reserves policy

The Trust Board is mindful that since the rapid expansion of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust throughout 2020-21 total reserves have increased significantly, whilst some schools are seeing reducing reserve levels. The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle understand the importance of ensuring that Trust's can operate effectively whilst ensuring they have the capacity to respond to adverse changes in financial circumstances of any of its schools. Holding adequate reserves will allow the Trust to meet ongoing working capital requirements. Any new Reserves policy must provide the framework for future strategic planning and decision-making to support the mitigation of risk upon the continuing operations of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust and the Diocesan Growth Plan.

Therefore, the Diocese has introduced an over-arching Reserves Policy to be implemented across all four Diocesan 'Base MAT's' and will in turn impact each school, as a new Reserves policy takes into account the expansion. The Diocese have issued 'aspirational targets' for all schools to achieve a Reserves level of 8% of annual income. Some schools are at that level currently with others way below. The Trust Leadership team will work with the Headteachers/Business Managers in schools to support them to work towards the aspirational targets. This will be monitored on a monthly basis by the Chair/Head/SBMgr and Executive Leaders to review which schools are in line with Diocesan policy each month.

Since original Academy conversion in 2012 Directors have looked to retain sufficient funds to pay the staff salaries for at least 1 month (which was £480k originally when a SAT, now nearer £3.75m) in the event of a financial emergency. This has been achieved despite the budget reductions, however as was anticipated by the Trustees, we may be unable to prevent the savings being eroded due to income cuts and rising costs.

However, by bringing in the additional 28 academies into the Trust, at the end of the financial year 31st August 2021, the reserves had increased to £6.6m. The Trust remains solvent, is not in an overall deficit position and forecasts remain healthy.

Investment policy

The Trustees' have not committed to any investments for a longer term than 12 months in the past due to the financial climate and uncertainty with funding for schools. This was thought to be particularly prudent during periods of time when large scale building work was underway and external costs were being budgeted for and has indeed been with forethought.

All 29 Trust schools have funds paid into 1 Lloyds Bank current account. On conversion, all 29 schools closed their School Private Fund accounts and transferred the positive balances into the existing Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust account (or Trinity Catholic MAT account prior to 1st April 2020). The Trust is now in the process of discussing an alternative risk-averse savings account for balance (with a number of Finance professionals indicated by the Accountants) that we do not anticipate spending within the coming months in order to maximise return, whilst understanding the remaining funds may be required to support funds with specific projects in the future.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust manages its finances and risks appropriately, under the direction of not only the Trust Board and the Finance and Audit Committee members, they do so together with the Internal and External Auditors. The Trust Financial Handbook for Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust is the financial guide for Trustees', Headteachers and staff within academies to follow. The Handbook draws upon the financial requirements specified in academy Funding Agreement, approved by the Secretary of State for Education prior to conversion to Academy status, must be adhered to by Trustees and staff.

Financial and risk management guidance is contained within The Trust Financial Handbook, and provides detailed information on a wide range of financial management, funding and accounting issues, whilst setting out the overall governance framework and key systems and controls that should be in place within Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust. It is the responsibility of the Accounting Officer (CEO), Chief Operating Officer (COO) and the Chief Financial Officer (CFO) in the Trust to ensure that the Central Finance team, as well as those individuals within academies with responsibility for Finance, carry out their duties on accordance with the financial and risk management objectives and policies within the Trust.

Principal risks during this accounting year are without question, centred upon the Covid19 Pandemic. Staffing attendance levels, supplier contracts, falling income generation for schools and continued service provision (as well as anticipated increases in the costs of that provision) are being monitored, documented and informed. It is of major concern to the public sector that due to the significant impact of the national lockdowns and reduction in income generation opportunities for our private suppliers, that many may cease to trade and schools are left without provision.

We consider that the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, as identified by the trustees, have been reviewed and that systems or procedures have been established to manage those risks. The internal control systems and the exposure to risks are matters that are considered on a termly basis by management, trustees and the audit and finance committees.

The Internal Audit visits are calendared termly, and the annual audit conducted annually during the Autumn term. Each of the written reports are presented to the Accounting Officer, Finance Committee and Trust Board meetings on a termly basis. The External Audit Partner also presents the findings of the annual External Audit personally to the full Trustee group each Autumn. This element of scrutiny provides the Board and Local Academy Boards with comfort that their statutory duties and financial responsibilities as detailed in the guidance within the Academies Financial Handbook are being discharged satisfactorily by the Central MAT team.

Currently the uncertainty of the academy funding formula is a situation that requires very close monitoring. If the increase to National Insurance Contributions does proceed as announced, and potentially would be unfunded, a further £600k would be potentially needed from the trust budget to meet that additional cost on an annual basis.

The ongoing discussions and disputes with Unions regarding the unfunded payrise for staff, and indeed the fact that Teaching staff have not been awarded a payrise this year, leads to uncertainty with budget requirements in the future also causing concern and additional strain on the budget.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Fundraising

Under the provisions of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016 this section must include information on fundraising practices. The areas to cover are included in section 13 of the Act and include: Fundraising amongst the school community is limited to small-scale support for registered charities and extra-curricular events that are to be supported/accessed by the students/their families. There are no fundraising activities to support the general/daily operations of the academies within the Trust.

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust has not worked with, nor had any oversight of, any commercial participators / professional fundraisers within the current financial year.

All monies received from fundraising activity is administered through the school finance/Central team and credited to the individual school income accounts, conforming to recognised standards.

The schools do not receive any direct nor indirect fundraising from external philanthropic donors. Any income generated in excess of the Dedicated School Grant income, is directly from the Education Skills Funding Agency or Department of Education.

The Trust has not received any complaints about the small-scale fundraising it conducts and Trustees are satisfied that the public, including vulnerable people, are not subjected to any unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and undue pressure to donate

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

BWCET Trust Carbon Reporting Requirements

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021	1st September 2019 to 31st August 2020
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	14,822,453	14,107,474.00
Energy Consumption breakdown:		
Gas	10,851,734	10,170,656
Electricity	3,807,100	3,744,645
Oil	163,619	192,173
	14,822,453	14,107,474

Emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Gas Consumption	1,990,405	1,870,023
Electricity Consumption	838,660	910,165
Oil Consumption	40,358	47,401

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Plans for future periods

By reviewing educational structures and supporting the growth of four 'Base Multi Academy Trusts', the aim of the Diocese is to ensure that Catholic education in the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle is secured, protected and developed further for future generations of children and young people. The principles announced in October 2019 set out the foundations for the Trust structures within the Diocese. These structures must enable high quality teaching to continue and to develop and flourish so that all children who attend Diocesan schools receive the best possible Catholic education. Due to the current educational climate, it is believed that if all Diocesan schools are part of large Catholic Education Trusts, the Catholic mission will be strengthened, school to school support will be enhanced, and provision will be improved further. A Catholic Trust model where every school has its place will mean that no individual school will be left isolated or vulnerable in this rapidly changing environment. Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust has been selected to be a 'Base MAT' with up to 48 academies within the Trust. This collaboration between schools generates economies of scale. The Board of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust are to conduct Due Diligence on a number of Catholic Primary and Secondary Schools within the area in the coming months. This has the full approval of the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle as per the Diocesan Directive announced by Bishop Robert Byrne on 7th October 2019. Full recommendations will be obtained through the usual Due Diligence process and recommendations brought to the Board.

The Diocesan Growth Plan 2020-22 includes the detail relating to our Trust future growth plans. The CEO and School Improvement Partner (Mark Wilson) are working collaboratively with each Headteacher of the academies within the Trust and coordinating the support from the various Local Authority School Improvement Teams to prepare their individual School Self evaluations with their staff teams. This is to ensure whole-school priorities are encompassed within each school/department.

The overall objective of the Trust is to continue to improve the progress and attainment levels of children within our care. The new National Curriculum and changes to examination frameworks continue to be integrated as required (scale 9-1 for Secondaries and the new Primary Curriculum/framework).

As a Trust with responsibility for more than 5 schools and more than 3,500 children going forward, the Trust now receive automatic School Condition Allocation Funding (SCA) without having to submit bids from individual schools for funding for Capital works funding. This funding allows the Trust to prioritise the capital investment required to individual schools and the Board receive information on the priorities at Board meetings throughout the year. There is a policy in operation where academies within the Trust bid to the Board for elements of this funding to improve and develop school sites within the Trust.

The Trust has also launched a wholly-owned subsidiary company Bishop Wilkinson Commercial Services Ltd (trading as Education Commercial Services (ECS) to provide a number of services to schools/academies that operate outside of the Trust, to offer support and expertise that they may not have access to (particularly in the Commercial and Procurement areas), but that can be provided by staff and partners working with the Trust. Services will be procured appropriately. BWCS is in its infancy, though it has begun to generate income and benefit partner schools within the North East.

The Trading Arm is registered at Companies House as a separate entity (company number 13236026). As a large Trust we understand first-hand the unique challenges and restrictions school and academies face, and the services have been comprehensively designed to support schools through the entire procurement process, releasing vital cash, making savings and ensuring compliance at pace. This will not only be an excellent resource for the area, it will also assist in self-generating additional income for the Trust.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

Neither the Academy nor its Trustees are acting as custodian trustee.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Auditor

Insofar as the trustees are aware:

There is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware;

And

The trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of threat information.

Azets have been the Trust External Auditors since a tendering exercise was undertaken in 2020. In line with the revised guidance/requirements from the ESFA, the Trust conducted a tender to ensure we had separated out the Internal and External Services to separate Audit providers. Therefore the Board was happy following the tender process to appoint Azets as External Auditors and Clive Owen as Internal Auditors accordingly. The Trust team have received excellent support and guidance from both parties

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr M Gannon
Chair



BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Scope of responsibility

As trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the 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 Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education 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 Directors has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr M Gannon (Chair)	6	6
Mr C Coxon (Vice Chair)	6	6
Mr P Cantwell	6	6
Mrs M Harrison	6	6
Mr I Mearns MP	6	6
Father M A Millward (Resigned 2 July 2021)	4	5
Mrs A Boyle	6	6
Mrs C Reid (Appointed 1 December 2020)	5	5
Rev C M Hayden (Appointed 22 October 2021)	0	0
Mr N Hurn, OBE (CEO, Accounting Officer)	6	6

The Director of Governance within the Trust is an Accredited Trainer of the NGA (National Governance Association). She is involved in carrying out External Reviews on behalf of schools whom are not within the Trust due to her considerable experience. The Director of Governance is in discussion with the NGA to have an External Review completed on the work of the Trust Board of Directors. This will be carried out in the Spring Term of 2021 ideally, dependent upon the allocation of a suitable National Leader of Governance by the NGA or associated provider. The NLG's have recently been reduced dramatically in number (to 50 across the country) so demand is high.

The work of the Board of Directors is considered by the Diocesan Members. All Directors are knowledgeable, passionate and can articulate the strategic vision for the Trust very well. They have been appointed due to their considerable skillset and experience. The Board are proactive and undertake their roles seriously and with great stewardship. The Diocese of Hexham & Newcastle, as well as the Department for Education formally approve the Board Members.

Each Local Governing Committee member takes part in Governor Open Days in their academies and are introduced to pupils in a live school environment. This was considered to be imperative for Governors understanding and decision-making processes. Throughout the Open Days various members of the Senior team present Data and updates on their own departments to assist Governors in their role, which are organised on a termly basis to see the School in action. All school curriculum leaders have appointed Governors who monitor progress and performance.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

All Local Governing Committees undertake a repeat self-evaluation of their individual skill sets which are collated by their Clerk and subsequently discussed by the full LGC. All results of the Skills Analysis is sent to the Director of Governance for onward submission to the Board for review. All new LGC Members complete the Skills Analysis documentation prior to their appointment and this is subject to scrutiny by the Diocese at application stage.

The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the main Trust Board. This Committee meets on a termly basis. Within the year September 2020-August 2021 the Finance Committee has met formally on 3 occasions. Attendance was always quorate and was as follows:

Attendance at meetings the Finance Committee in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr C Coxon (Chair)	3	3
Mrs A Boyle	3	3
Mr Ian Mearns	3	3
Mrs C Reid	3	3

The purpose of the Finance Committee works with the school to ensure financial decisions are made for the benefit of the school, achieve the strategic aims within the School Development Plan and within agreed delegated authorities.

The Audit Committee is also a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to meet on a termly basis, unless there are any urgent matters to attend to, when they would meet more frequently:

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr P Cantwell (Chair)	3	3
Mrs M Harrison	3	3
Fr M Millward	2	2

The Audit Committee works with the Finance Team, reviews the internal and external auditors reports and assesses risks for the school going forward.

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.

The accounting officer considers how the 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 trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Reduced annual insurance costs for the MAT due to inclusion of all academies within the RPA
- Reduced expenditure on Payroll services by a staggering £400k within the next 4 year period by a successful tender process and change of provider
- Reduced the cost of Catering provision, again following successful tendering on meat and vegetables.
- Generated additional income for the Trust from Bishop Wilkinson Commercial Services Ltd we support other schools to make savings
- Increased staffing capacity in school administrative functions from the effective deployment of staff across the trust

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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 Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust for the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

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

The risk and control framework

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

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

The board of trustees has decided to buy in an internal audit service from Clive Owen LLP. Recommendations received from Internal Auditors Clive Owen LLP.

- Whilst it is acknowledged that the school staff are obtaining the required numbers of quotations or completing the appropriate tender exercise, for completeness a "Quotation Summary" confirming the process followed and reasoning behind appointment of the successful supplier, will be prepared and provided to the Local Governing Committee of each school when completed (and retained on file).
- It was recommended that all authorisation emails from the Headteacher for purchases are filed electronically on the e-mail system by the School Business Manager so that they can be referred to at a later date if there are any issues with transactions
- Trust procedures state that only the named cardholder should use their card for ordering. Therefore a situation should occur only very rarely, where the cardholder has requested someone else to make the purchase, therefore the recommended procedure must be followed.
- It would be good practise to reconcile the individual e-mail notifications against the e-payment statement to ensure that all payments made have been accounted for. This will also identify any issues or errors and allow them to be investigated and corrected in a timely manner

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

- All cash that is collected as part of fundraising events should be recorded elsewhere in addition to the banking bag so that if that bag went missing there would still be a record of it in school. The various different methods of recording cash and cheques received should be streamlined into a single workable document such as a single spreadsheet that shows each transaction for dinner money, receipt of after school clubs, trip money, and fundraising, and whether each of the transactions are via cash or e-payment transactions. This would provide a running total of cash on the premises at any given time, should it be required.
- Official purchase orders should be generated for all procurement except for the instances stated in Appendix A of the Trust Finance Handbook. • Where orders are placed over the telephone, an official purchase order can still be generated to commit the expenditure, but it would be annotated to state the order was made over the telephone so the order is not issued to the supplier. The Central Finance Team will now expect to receive annotated orders if infrequent telephone orders are needed urgently on occasion.
- It is recommended that, in order to comply with the Trust Finance Handbook, that for the majority of goods and services, including standard maintenance and repairs, an official purchase order is generated through the main accounting system before goods are requested from suppliers. All requisitions should be created before an official purchase order is generated via PSF to ensure accurate budget monitoring can take place
- A register of pecuniary interests should be completed annually for all members of the Governing Body and those members of staff who have been delegated financial or budgeting responsibilities as stated above. This way should related party transactions be taking place, the ESFA can be duly notified. The Register will be completed annually by the Local Governing Committee and the SLT and members of staff with delegated financial responsibilities.

On a termly basis, the additional checks completed by the auditor are reported to the board of trustees, through the Finance committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and Audit Committees and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

For the year 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021, Clive Owen LLP have delivered their planned schedules of work throughout the academic year, and continued to do so despite the Covid 19 pandemic. On a termly basis, Clive Owen LLP reports to the board of trustees, through the production of the Termly reports, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. It is worth recording that only very minor points were picked up during these reviews as noted above, which is a very positive outcome for the inhouse Central Finance Team. All recommendations from Clive Owen have been acted upon and responded to accordingly.

Review of effectiveness

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

- The work of the Internal and External auditors
- The financial management and governance self- assessment process or the Schools Resource Management Tool
- The work of the Chief Financial Officer (Chief Operating Officer), Bursar and Finance assistants within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr M Gannon
Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'M Gannon', written over a horizontal line.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

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

I confirm that I and the academy trust'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 2020.

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the board of trustees and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the board of trustees and ESFA:

Financial issue:

During the period the trust entered into transactions with a related party. The services provided by this party were procured independently via a purchasing framework involving a number of suppliers and all proper processes around ensuring dealings at arms length were followed. However, we have not formally notified or sought permission for the resulting transactions with the related party via the ESFA's related party portal during the year as required by 5.40 and 5.41 of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020. We are satisfied that all other appropriate processes were followed and all other elements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020 requirements around related party transactions were followed.



Accounting Officer

10 December 2021

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The trustees (who are also the directors of The Trinity Catholic Multi Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued 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 trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees 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 trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgements and 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.

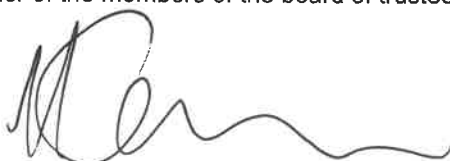
The trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the accounts comply with 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 trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring that grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 10 December 2021 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr M Gannon
Chair



BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust for the year ended 31 August 2021 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 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

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

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the '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

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

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

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information, which comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. 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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees 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 trustees 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 trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

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

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Use of our report

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

Azets Audit Services

Graham Fitzgerald BA FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services

21 December 2021

Statutory Auditor

Wynyard Park House
Wynyard Avenue
Wynyard
Billingham
United Kingdom
TS22 5TB

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 October 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education 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 Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 January 2012 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2020, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- completion of self assessment questionnaire by Accounting Officer
- discussions with the Accounting Officer and finance team
- review of Internal Assurance reports
- review of trustee and committee meeting minutes
- review of finance and other relevant policies
- review of purchases, expenses and expense claims on a sample basis including the application of controls and tendering processes where applicable
- review of gifts and hospitality transactions including the application of controls
- review of credit and debit card transactions including the application of controls
- review of payroll transactions on a sample bases including the application of controls
- review of potential special payments to staff
- review of leases and consideration of areas where borrowing may have been incurred
- consideration of transactions with related and connected parties
- review of register of business interests for completeness and compliance with regulations
- enquiries into transactions that may require disclosure under ESFA delegated authority rules
- consideration of value for money and appropriateness of transactions

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

As noted in the accounting officer's statement, during the period the trust entered into transactions with a related party. The services provided by this party were procured independently via a purchasing framework involving a number of suppliers and all proper processes around ensuring dealings at arms length were followed. However, the trust did not formally notify or seek permission for the resulting transactions with the related party via the ESFA's related party portal during the year as required by 5.40 and 5.41 of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020. All other appropriate processes were followed and all other elements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020 requirements around related party transactions were followed.



Reporting Accountant

Azets Audit Services

Dated: 21 December 2021

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General Fixed asset £ £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	106,533	-	2,794,843	2,901,376
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	30	1,899,450	222,572	27,053	2,149,075
Donations - transfer of existing academy into the trust	30	-	-	-	-
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	1,476,117	58,611,941	-	60,088,058
- Funding for teaching school	31	-	120,000	-	120,000
Other trading activities	5	1,522,394	-	-	1,522,394
Investments	6	2,900	-	-	2,900
Total		5,007,394	58,954,513	2,821,896	66,783,803
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	1,456,077	19,400	-	1,475,477
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	1,519,933	60,767,057	531,752	62,818,742
- Teaching school		-	267,442	-	267,442
Charitable expenditure - transfer from local authority on conversion	30	-	7,957,000	-	7,957,000
Total	7	2,976,010	69,010,899	531,752	72,518,661
Net income/(expenditure)		2,031,384	(10,056,386)	2,290,144	(5,734,858)
Transfers between funds	20	(147,442)	347,499	(200,057)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	(1,292,000)	-	(1,292,000)
Net movement in funds		1,883,942	(11,000,887)	2,090,087	(7,026,858)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		2,281,476	(18,799,616)	12,970,581	(3,547,559)
Total funds carried forward		4,165,418	(29,800,503)	15,060,668	(10,574,417)

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2020	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General Fixed asset		Total 2020 £
		£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	48,503	-	1,329,181	1,377,684
Donations - transfer of existing academy into the trust	30	780,123	(7,695,400)	7,463,172	547,895
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	718,945	32,437,181	-	33,156,126
- Funding for teaching school	31	-	53,334	-	53,334
Other trading activities	5	1,015,555	-	-	1,015,555
Investments	6	2,943	-	-	2,943
Total		<u>2,566,069</u>	<u>24,795,115</u>	<u>8,792,353</u>	<u>36,153,537</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	7	628,075	6,352	-	634,427
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	705,450	32,972,525	277,621	33,955,596
- Teaching school		-	358,412	-	358,412
Total	7	<u>1,333,525</u>	<u>33,337,289</u>	<u>277,621</u>	<u>34,948,435</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		1,232,544	(8,542,174)	8,514,732	1,205,102
Transfers between funds	20	(385,277)	469,545	(84,268)	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	(4,963,000)	-	(4,963,000)
Net movement in funds		847,267	(13,035,629)	8,430,464	(3,757,898)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		1,434,209	(5,763,987)	4,540,117	210,339
Total funds carried forward		<u>2,281,476</u>	<u>(18,799,616)</u>	<u>12,970,581</u>	<u>(3,547,559)</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021		2020	
		£	£	£	£
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	14	13,520,975		12,224,179	
Investments	13		1		-
		13,520,976		12,224,179	
Current assets					
Stocks	15	10,839		11,461	
Debtors	16	3,188,003		3,183,246	
Cash at bank and in hand		11,977,306		5,537,791	
		15,176,148		8,732,498	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(6,161,453)		(3,894,920)	
Net current assets		9,014,695		4,837,578	
Total assets less current liabilities		22,535,671		17,061,757	
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(786,088)		(506,316)	
Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability		21,749,583		16,555,441	
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(32,324,000)		(20,103,000)	
Total net liabilities		(10,574,417)		(3,547,559)	
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	20				
- Fixed asset funds		15,060,668		12,970,581	
- Restricted income funds		2,523,497		1,303,384	
- Pension reserve		(32,324,000)		(20,103,000)	
Total restricted funds		(14,739,835)		(5,829,035)	
Unrestricted income funds	20	4,165,418		2,281,476	
Total funds		(10,574,417)		(3,547,559)	

The accounts on pages 35 to 71 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 10 December 2021 and are signed on their behalf by:

Mr M Gannon
Chair



Company Number 07890590

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

	Notes	2021 £	£	2020 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	23	4,566,998		1,860,747	
Cash funds transferred on conversion		-		1,987,567	
		4,566,998		3,848,314	
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		2,900		2,943	
Capital grants from DfE Group		3,197,347		726,677	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,628,548)		(951,225)	
Purchase of investments		(1)		-	
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities		1,571,698		(221,605)	
Cash flows from financing activities					
New other loan		357,981		474,807	
Repayment of other loan		(57,162)		-	
Net cash provided by financing activities		300,819		474,807	
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		6,439,515		4,101,516	
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		5,537,791		1,436,275	
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year		11,977,306		5,537,791	

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

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

The academy trust has not prepared consolidated accounts on the grounds that the activities of the subsidiary company are not material to results of the group as a whole. Details of the financial position of the subsidiary company are included in the notes to the financial statements.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The trustees 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.

The reported share of the LGPS deficit has a significant impact on our restricted funds, however we draw your attention to the cash reserves held by the academy as well as the balances held in unrestricted and restricted general reserves.

1.3 Conversion to an academy trust

The conversion from a state maintained school to an academy trust involved the transfer of identifiable assets and liabilities and the operation of the school for £nil consideration. The substance of the transfer is that of a gift and it has been accounted for on that basis as set out below.

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from the schools listed in note 30 to the academy trust have been valued at their fair value. The fair value has been derived based on that of equivalent items. The amounts have been recognised under the appropriate balance sheet categories, with a corresponding amount recognised in Charitable activities – transfer from local authority on conversion in the Statement of Financial Activities and analysed under unrestricted funds, restricted general funds and restricted fixed asset funds. The transfer consists of funds and grants on conversion and an estimate of the pension liability transferred. Further details of the transaction are set out in note 30.

1.4 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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

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

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

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 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.

Transfer of assets from existing academies

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust, the transferred net assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. Income equal to the net assets transferred is recognised within donations and capital grant income.

1.5 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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Charitable activities

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

1.6 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £10,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Leasehold improvements	50 years straight line
Assets under construction	Not depreciated
Computer equipment	3 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	7 years straight line
Motor vehicles	7 years straight line

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

The academy trust occupies the footprint of the school buildings, which are owned by the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. The Diocese are the providers of the buildings on the same basis as when the academy was a maintained school. The academy trust occupies the buildings under a mere licence. This continuing permission of the trustees is pursuant to, and subject to, the trustees' charitable objects, and is part of the Catholic Church's contribution since 1847 to provide State funded education in partnership with the State. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land and buildings to the academy trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the academy trust. The trustees have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the academy trust less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the buildings. Having considered the factual matrix under which the academy trust is occupying the buildings the trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the academy trust will not be recognised on the balance sheet of the academy. Subsequent expenditure funded by the academy has been capitalised.

The remaining land is owned by the local authorities and leased to the trust for 125 years. Building improvements funded by the academy have been capitalised at cost.

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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.7 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.

1.8 Leased assets

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

1.9 Investments

Fixed asset investments are stated at market value.

1.10 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

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

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

Financial liabilities

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

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

1.11 Stock

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete and slow moving stock.

1.12 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.

1.13 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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

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

1.14 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 trustees.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the Education Funding Agency and Department for Education 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 and Skills Funding Agency/Department for Education.

1.15 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in the notes to the accounts.

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.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2021. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Depreciation

Depreciation is calculated as to write off the cost of an asset off over its useful economic life. The accounting policies are disclosed in the accounting policy above.

Assets transferred on conversion

The trust has transferred the assets of the predecessor schools, details are included in note 30. The value of the assets transferred have been estimated by trustees and management by reference to asset registers and other information from the predecessor schools and the capitalisation and depreciation policies of the trust.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Donated fixed assets	-	200,000	200,000	-
Capital grants	-	2,594,843	2,594,843	1,329,181
Other donations	106,533	-	106,533	48,503
	<u>106,533</u>	<u>2,794,843</u>	<u>2,901,376</u>	<u>1,377,684</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
DfE / ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	50,420,673	50,420,673	28,325,414
Other DfE / ESFA grants:				
UIFSM	-	388,354	388,354	217,432
Pupil premium	-	1,843,273	1,843,273	982,416
Start up grants	-	500,000	500,000	150,000
Teachers pension grants	-	1,807,540	1,807,540	1,152,026
Teachers pay grants	-	638,510	638,510	408,478
PE and sports premium	-	237,286	237,286	120,248
Rates	-	249,302	249,302	195,368
Others	-	171,528	171,528	207,688
	-	56,256,466	56,256,466	31,759,070
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	1,193,670	1,193,670	578,969
Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up premium	-	725,710	725,710	-
Other DfE/ESFA Covid-19 funding	-	312,781	312,781	99,142
	-	1,038,491	1,038,491	99,142
Covid-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)				
Other Coronavirus funding	-	123,314	123,314	-
Other funding				
Teaching school	-	120,000	120,000	53,334
Catering income	1,271,638	-	1,271,638	604,607
Other incoming resources	204,479	-	204,479	114,338
	1,476,117	120,000	1,596,117	772,279
Total funding	1,476,117	58,731,941	60,208,058	33,209,460

The trust received £725,710 of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £451,815 with £273,895 carried forward to 2021/22.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Hire of facilities	55,146	-	55,146	20,013
Catering income	34,984	-	34,984	59,037
Support services to other schools	26,430	-	26,430	21,088
School trips	52,937	-	52,937	108,624
Teaching school	236,189	-	236,189	313,966
Other income	1,116,708	-	1,116,708	492,827
	<u>1,522,394</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,522,394</u>	<u>1,015,555</u>

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Short term deposits	2,900	-	2,900	2,943
	<u>2,900</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,900</u>	<u>2,943</u>

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	948,887	-	526,590	1,475,477	615,637
- Allocated support costs	-	-	-	-	18,790
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	39,518,188	-	2,729,210	42,247,398	23,652,450
- Allocated support costs	10,289,391	5,242,722	5,039,231	20,571,344	10,303,146
Teaching school					
- Direct costs	171,741	-	93,398	265,139	356,361
- Allocated support costs	-	-	2,303	2,303	2,051
	<u>50,928,207</u>	<u>5,242,722</u>	<u>8,390,732</u>	<u>64,561,661</u>	<u>34,948,435</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2021 £	2020 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	18,150	16,900
- Other services	3,450	9,600
Operating lease rentals	284,612	144,071
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	531,752	277,621
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	411,000	177,000
	<u>1,358,964</u>	<u>725,192</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Central services

The academy trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- human resources;
- financial services;
- legal services;
- educational support services;
- facilities management;
- governance; or
- others as arising.

Central services have been charged to academies at rates varying between 0% and 5% during year, with the percentage determined by when the academy joined the trust, whether the academy is a primary or secondary academy, and the financial position of the academy

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

8 Central services

(Continued)

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2021 £	2020 £
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	228,250	210,148
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	31,535	28,984
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	16,172	40,964
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	41,857	41,175
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	41,786	40,579
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	59,655	43,597
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	236,593	185,434
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	39,850	39,204
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	210,096	-
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	200,652	-
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	225,228	28,069
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	45,960	9,424
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	27,725	-
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	20,039	-
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	33,050	-
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	18,150	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	20,100	-
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	14,906	-
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	52,609	-
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	-	-
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	20,558	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	21,003	-
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	-	-
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	16,080	-
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	22,380	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	22,048	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	13,263	-
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	16,317	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	11,082	-
	<u>1,706,944</u>	<u>667,578</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

9 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Direct costs				
Educational operations	214,343	42,033,055	42,247,398	23,652,450
Teaching school	-	265,139	265,139	356,361
Support costs				
Educational operations	1,305,590	19,265,754	20,571,344	10,303,146
Teaching school	-	2,303	2,303	2,051
	<u>1,519,933</u>	<u>61,566,251</u>	<u>63,086,184</u>	<u>34,314,008</u>
	Teaching school £	Educational operations £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
Analysis of support costs				
Support staff costs	-	10,289,391	10,289,391	5,229,763
Depreciation	-	531,752	531,752	277,621
Technology costs	-	551,039	551,039	223,997
Premises costs	-	4,710,970	4,710,970	2,233,849
Legal costs	-	192,468	192,468	53,090
Other support costs	1,703	4,261,400	4,263,103	2,233,235
Governance costs	600	34,324	34,924	53,642
	<u>2,303</u>	<u>20,571,344</u>	<u>20,573,647</u>	<u>10,305,197</u>

10 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2021 £	2020 £
Wages and salaries	35,791,682	20,002,345
Social security costs	3,536,987	1,985,075
Pension costs	10,428,615	5,434,685
Staff costs - employees	<u>49,757,284</u>	<u>27,422,105</u>
Agency staff costs	1,170,923	385,339
	<u>50,928,207</u>	<u>27,807,444</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	253,991	194,126
Total staff expenditure	<u>51,182,198</u>	<u>28,001,570</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

10 Staff

(Continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
Teachers	678	347
Administration and support	754	350
Management	116	43
	<u>1,548</u>	<u>740</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 Number	2020 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	18	11
£70,001 - £80,000	11	3
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£90,001 - £100,000	2	-
£110,001 - £120,000	3	1
£170,001 - £180,000	-	1
£180,001 - £190,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer NI costs) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,011,817 (2020: £1,367,094).

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

None of the trustees have been paid remuneration or have received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out within the related parties note.

12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

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

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

13 Fixed asset investments

	£
Market value	
At 1 September 2020	-
Acquisitions at cost	1
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2021	1
	<hr/>
Historical cost:	
At 31 August 2021	-
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2020	-
	<hr/>

The fixed asset investment is in respect of the wholly owned subsidiary, Bishop Wilkinson Commercial Services Limited incorporated 1 March 2021.

The results for the period ended 31 August 2021 were as follows:

Turnover	£12,706
Expenditure	(£17,903)
Net Loss	(£5,197)

Capital & reserves:	
Called up share capital	£1
Profit and loss reserves:	(£5,197)
Total equity	(£5,196)

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

14 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements	Assets under construction	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cost						
At 1 September 2020	11,342,855	580,740	1,159,323	735,597	39,929	13,858,444
Transfer	580,740	(580,740)	-	-	-	-
Additions	751,414	560,453	210,787	293,894	12,000	1,828,548
At 31 August 2021	12,675,009	560,453	1,370,110	1,029,491	51,929	15,686,992
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2020	452,798	-	896,462	268,350	16,655	1,634,265
Charge for the year	264,256	-	152,159	111,347	3,990	531,752
At 31 August 2021	717,054	-	1,048,621	379,697	20,645	2,166,017
Net book value						
At 31 August 2021	11,957,955	560,453	321,489	649,794	31,284	13,520,975
At 31 August 2020	10,890,057	580,740	262,861	467,247	23,274	12,224,179

15 Stocks

	2021 £	2020 £
School uniform	10,839	11,461

16 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	150,989	149,713
VAT recoverable	539,065	1,109,692
Other debtors	42,791	28,169
Prepayments and accrued income	2,455,158	1,895,672
	3,188,003	3,183,246

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other loans	94,538	73,491
Trade creditors	1,533,297	952,468
Other taxation and social security	988,391	713,854
Other creditors	1,365,287	1,306,980
Accruals and deferred income	2,179,940	848,127
	<u>6,161,453</u>	<u>3,894,920</u>

18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2021 £	2020 £
Other loans	<u>786,088</u>	<u>506,316</u>

Analysis of loans	2021 £	2020 £
Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	338,037	216,209
Wholly repayable within five years	<u>542,589</u>	<u>363,598</u>
	880,626	579,807
Less: included in current liabilities	<u>(94,538)</u>	<u>(73,491)</u>
Amounts included above	<u>786,088</u>	<u>506,316</u>

Loan maturity

Due in more than one year but not more than two years	117,798	73,491
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	330,253	290,107
Due in more than five years	<u>338,037</u>	<u>216,209</u>
	<u>786,088</u>	<u>579,807</u>

The loan balances comprises;

- CIF loan provided to Cardinal Hume Catholic School by the ESFA totalling £105,000, the loan duration is 10 years and the interest rate is 1.85%.
- CIF loan provided to St Thomas More Catholic School by the ESFA totalling £80,000, the duration is 10 years and the interest rate is 2.29%.
- Salix loan provided to St Thomas More Catholic School by the ESFA totalling £220,000, the duration is 10 years and no interest is being charged.
- Three Salix loans provided to St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College by the ESFA totalling £200,826, the duration of each loan is 8 years and no interest is being charged.
- Eight Salix loans relating to LED lighting schemes across eight of the schools in the Trust totalling £357,981, the duration of each loan is 8 years and no interest is being charged.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

19 Deferred income

	2021 £	2020 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	463,872	177,845
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	177,845	68,466
Released from previous years	(177,845)	(68,466)
Resources deferred in the year	463,872	177,845
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	463,872	177,845

Deferred income includes infant school meals funding received and ICT service sales invoices in advance of the following academic year.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	988,874	50,420,673	(49,698,883)	200,057	1,910,721
Start up grants	121,121	500,000	(477,489)	-	143,632
UIFSM	26,400	388,354	(414,754)	-	-
Pupil premium	50,956	1,843,273	(1,894,229)	-	-
Teachers pension grants	-	1,807,540	(1,807,540)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	638,510	(638,510)	-	-
PE and sports premium	56,895	237,286	(242,868)	-	51,313
Rates	-	249,302	(249,302)	-	-
Covid-19 catch up premium	-	725,710	(451,815)	-	273,895
Other DfE/ESFA Covid-19 funding	-	312,781	(312,781)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	53,159	171,528	(198,839)	-	25,848
Other government Covid-19 funding	-	123,314	(123,314)	-	-
Other government grants	5,979	1,193,670	(1,199,649)	-	-
Teaching school	-	120,000	(267,442)	147,442	-
Other inherited restricted funds	-	222,572	(104,484)	-	118,088
Pension reserve	(20,103,000)	-	(10,929,000)	(1,292,000)	(32,324,000)
	<u>(18,799,616)</u>	<u>58,954,513</u>	<u>(69,010,899)</u>	<u>(944,501)</u>	<u>(29,800,503)</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	114,194	27,053	(34,156)	-	107,091
DfE group capital grants	9,383,258	2,594,843	(323,881)	(698,109)	10,956,111
Capital expenditure from GAG	3,473,129	-	(173,715)	498,052	3,797,466
Donated assets	-	200,000	-	-	200,000
	<u>12,970,581</u>	<u>2,821,896</u>	<u>(531,752)</u>	<u>(200,057)</u>	<u>15,060,668</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>(5,829,035)</u>	<u>61,776,409</u>	<u>(69,542,651)</u>	<u>(1,144,558)</u>	<u>(14,739,835)</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	2,170,085	4,771,205	(2,976,010)	-	3,965,280
Teaching school	111,391	236,189	-	(147,442)	200,138
	<u>2,281,476</u>	<u>5,007,394</u>	<u>(2,976,010)</u>	<u>(147,442)</u>	<u>4,165,418</u>
Total funds	<u>(3,547,559)</u>	<u>66,783,803</u>	<u>(72,518,661)</u>	<u>(1,292,000)</u>	<u>(10,574,417)</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

(Continued)

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

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2021.

Other DfE/ESFA grant income includes TCAF, FSM supplementary grant and AWPU transfer adjustments.

The trust also received Covid catch-up premium, some of which has been carried forward to be spent in 2021/22.

Teaching schools income is generated through grants and self-generated income. These elements are shown within restricted and unrestricted funds where appropriate.

Included within other inherited restricted funds are amounts received within the conversion income related to; Covid-19 catch up premium £46,625 and PE grant £71,463.

The pension reserve reflects the LGPS transactions. The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension scheme have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund, including contributions to the LGPS, and the pension liability has therefore been aligned with these funds.

DfE/EFA capital grants include £352,925 Devolved Formula Capital (DFC), £345,950 T Level capital funding and £1,895,968 School Condition Allowances (SCA), of which £384,624 DFC, £345,950 T Level and £1,623,935 SCA is carried forward to spend in future years. The trust also has loan balances of £880,627 accounted for within fixed asset funds.

Asset additions funded by GAG and unrestricted funds are reflected in the gains, losses and transfers column. Some non-capitalised expenditure has been funded by capital grants, this is also shown in this column.

The Inherited Fixed Asset Fund reflects the fixed assets acquired on conversion. Depreciation on these assets is charged against this fund.

Unrestricted funds can be used for any purpose at the discretion of the trustees, within the objectives of the academy trust.

The academy's restricted general and unrestricted funds were £6,688,915 as at 31 August 2021.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	241,820	28,524,014	(27,941,427)	164,467	988,874
Start up grants	-	150,000	(28,879)	-	121,121
UIFSM	-	217,432	(191,032)	-	26,400
Pupil premium	-	982,416	(931,460)	-	50,956
Teachers pension grants	-	1,152,026	(1,152,026)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	408,478	(408,478)	-	-
PE and sports premium	-	120,248	(63,353)	-	56,895
Rates	-	195,368	(195,368)	-	-
Other DfE / ESFA grants	33,193	207,688	(187,722)	-	53,159
Other government grants	-	678,111	(672,132)	-	5,979
Teaching school	-	53,334	(358,412)	305,078	-
Pension reserve	(6,039,000)	(7,894,000)	(1,207,000)	(4,963,000)	(20,103,000)
	(5,763,987)	24,795,115	(33,337,289)	(4,493,455)	(18,799,616)
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	131,786	21,000	(38,592)	-	114,194
DfE group capital grants	4,365,167	5,491,485	(159,851)	(313,543)	9,383,258
Capital expenditure from GAG	43,164	3,278,248	(77,558)	229,275	3,473,129
Donated assets	-	1,620	(1,620)	-	-
	4,540,117	8,792,353	(277,621)	(84,268)	12,970,581
Total restricted funds	(1,223,870)	33,587,468	(33,614,910)	(4,577,723)	(5,829,035)
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,331,706	2,252,103	(1,333,525)	(80,199)	2,170,085
Teaching school	102,503	313,966	-	(305,078)	111,391
	1,434,209	2,566,069	(1,333,525)	(385,277)	2,281,476
Total funds	210,339	36,153,537	(34,948,435)	(4,963,000)	(3,547,559)

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

(Continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

	2021 £	2020 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:		
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	1,585,927	830,226
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	153,086	136,122
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	169,539	181,386
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	211,825	254,519
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	61,432	58,866
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	147,803	103,670
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	725,473	428,717
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	226,260	197,878
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	700,060	550,631
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	(102,168)	(82,383)
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	1,012,421	1,004,560
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	19,335	(91,549)
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	(111,168)	(139,521)
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	27,614	-
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	113,553	-
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	30,624	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	71,374	-
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	13,559	-
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	62,111	-
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	1,263	-
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	158,899	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	127,338	-
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	93,646	-
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	41,398	-
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	255,327	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	209,912	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	159,124	-
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	310,592	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	104,342	-
Central services	108,414	151,738
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	6,688,915	3,584,860
Restricted fixed asset fund	15,060,668	12,970,581
Pension reserve	(32,324,000)	(20,103,000)
Total funds	(10,574,417)	(3,547,559)

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

(Continued)

St Matthew's Catholic Primary School is in a deficit position as a result of strategic capital expenditure which under the accounting rules leads to a reduction in reserves. This expenditure has been funded by St Thomas More Catholic School via a loan.

The Academy Trust is taking the following action to return the academies to surplus:

As a result of the capital expenditure future forecasts show the academies returning to surplus, albeit the deficit will be recovered over a longer term period.

St Leonard's Catholic School joined the Trust on 1st April 2020. Whilst the Due Diligence process had identified reserves were being used to balance the budget prior to joining the Trust, there was no expectation that the school would be in a deficit position by the end of August 2020. The deficit position now seen, is in the main due to the financial irregularities identified by the Central Team within the Trust that have been investigated at St Leonard's since the merger. Obviously this was not anticipated and could not have been budgeted for.

The Central Team have provided an experienced Finance Manager to work in St Leonard's and manage their budget and expenditure. The Headteacher approves all orders personally, in order to have a very strict approval process over expenditure in school. The Chief Finance Officer and COO have a monthly monitoring meeting with the Head and Finance Manager to work through the costs/income line by line. A Curriculum review is underway in school to assess whether staffing numbers are at the correct level and allocated accordingly. Vacancies are not replaced as a matter of course, purely considered on a needs basis. Income generation is also being utilised as much as possible, and the overhaul of the Catering Service within the school is already beginning to generate additional income for the school, even during the Covid19 pandemic which is pleasing. The Local Governing Committee are involved with the financial decision making and scrutinising those decisions accordingly.

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 2021	Total 2020
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	5,807,370	876,278	465,715	1,242,550	8,391,913	8,185,637
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	467,447	91,562	29,144	122,190	710,343	676,086
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	658,398	146,482	45,460	212,961	1,063,301	960,365
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	708,210	114,326	45,088	188,463	1,056,087	946,219
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	669,744	136,832	63,164	182,121	1,051,861	1,001,562
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	980,722	161,317	59,610	264,966	1,466,615	1,440,067

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

(Continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	6,209,570	1,163,820	299,995	941,708	8,615,093	8,370,792
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	588,636	111,429	49,045	151,632	900,742	854,262
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	5,513,926	1,176,955	398,068	1,498,608	8,587,557	3,215,508
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	5,249,154	729,634	622,526	938,021	7,539,335	3,058,859
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	6,075,525	1,244,637	322,475	865,581	8,508,218	3,326,417
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	663,569	159,669	39,869	159,788	1,022,895	416,022
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	490,389	91,448	29,177	130,904	741,918	290,677
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	342,103	70,636	16,148	83,042	511,929	-
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	547,945	100,043	30,689	142,650	821,327	-
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	276,060	73,502	20,415	68,142	438,119	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	334,425	79,110	18,765	71,027	503,327	-
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	482,925	115,286	21,473	97,123	716,807	-
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	930,994	170,028	30,143	188,715	1,319,880	-
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	306,401	68,759	14,799	80,262	470,221	-
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	310,921	68,495	7,903	73,438	460,757	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	318,161	81,210	12,547	69,097	481,015	-
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	314,498	77,120	45,859	59,719	497,196	-

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

20 Funds

(Continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2021 £	Total 2020 £
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	357,713	69,995	22,505	71,433	521,646	-
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	339,256	67,751	32,636	95,481	535,124	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	352,619	100,173	26,723	79,804	559,319	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	211,986	41,140	6,859	36,086	296,071	-
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	253,613	47,622	24,245	56,549	382,029	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	175,930	33,445	5,508	31,308	246,191	-
Central services	700,603	259,680	56,153	1,624,637	2,641,073	721,341
	40,638,813	7,728,384	2,862,706	9,828,006	61,057,909	33,463,814

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	13,520,975	13,520,975
Fixed asset investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	4,165,418	8,590,411	2,420,319	15,176,148
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(6,066,914)	(94,539)	(6,161,453)
Creditors falling due after one year	-	-	(786,088)	(786,088)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(32,324,000)	-	(32,324,000)
Total net assets	4,165,418	(29,800,503)	15,060,668	(10,574,417)

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

21 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2020 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	12,224,179	12,224,179
Current assets	2,320,786	5,085,503	1,326,209	8,732,498
Creditors falling due within one year	(39,310)	(3,782,119)	(73,491)	(3,894,920)
Creditors falling due after one year	-	-	(506,316)	(506,316)
Defined benefit pension liability	-	(20,103,000)	-	(20,103,000)
Total net assets	2,281,476	(18,799,616)	12,970,581	(3,547,559)

22 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by South Tyneside Council and Durham County Council. 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 2016, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £1,019,516 (2020: £740,870) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

22 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £6,311,159 (2020: £3,601,880).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.6%-22.8% for employers and 5.5%-12.5% for employees.

As described in note 30 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, being the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who joined the scheme in the period. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

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

Total contributions made	2021 £	2020 £
Employer's contributions	1,625,000	855,000
Employees' contributions	521,000	270,000
Total contributions	2,146,000	1,125,000

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

22 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	Durham 2021	Tyne & Wear 2021	Durham 2020	Tyne & Wear 2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6	4.2	3.3	3.8
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/ inflation	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.3
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.6	2.7	2.3	2.3

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

	Durham 2021 Years	Tyne & Wear 2021 Years	Durham 2020 Years	Tyne & Wear 2020 Years
Retiring today				
- Males	22.3	21.9	22.2	21.8
- Females	24.3	25.1	24.2	25.0
Retiring in 20 years				
- Males	23.3	23.6	23.2	23.5
- Females	25.8	26.9	25.7	26.8

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

	2021 £	2020 £
Discount rate + 0.1%	63,530,000	39,243,000
Discount rate - 0.1%	66,580,000	41,106,000
Mortality assumption + 1 year	62,629,000	38,714,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year	67,507,000	41,617,000
CPI rate + 0.1%	65,385,000	40,906,000
CPI rate - 0.1%	66,580,000	39,455,000

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2021 Fair value £	2020 Fair value £
Equities	18,303,000	10,525,331
Government bonds	2,228,000	1,557,228
Corporate bonds	6,253,000	4,182,725
Cash	1,354,000	531,203
Property	2,410,000	1,740,160
Other assets	2,163,000	1,520,353
Total market value of assets	32,711,000	20,057,000

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

22 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The actual return on scheme assets was £4,839,000 (2020: £1,031,000).

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	2021 £	2020 £
Current service cost	4,186,000	1,885,000
Interest income	(420,000)	(265,000)
Interest cost	831,000	442,000
Total operating charge	4,597,000	2,062,000

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2021 £	2020 £
At 1 September 2020	40,160,000	15,737,000
Obligations acquired on conversion	14,088,000	-
Transferred in on existing academies joining the academy trust	-	16,201,000
Current service cost	4,186,000	1,885,000
Interest cost	831,000	442,000
Employee contributions	521,000	270,000
Actuarial loss	5,711,000	5,729,000
Benefits paid	(462,000)	(104,000)
At 31 August 2021	65,035,000	40,160,000

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets

	2021 £	2020 £
At 1 September 2020	20,057,000	9,698,000
Assets acquired on conversion	6,131,000	-
Transferred in on existing academies joining the academy trust	-	8,307,000
Interest income	420,000	265,000
Actuarial gain	4,419,000	766,000
Employer contributions	1,625,000	855,000
Employee contributions	521,000	270,000
Benefits paid	(462,000)	(104,000)
At 31 August 2021	32,711,000	20,057,000

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

23 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2021 £	2020 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)	(5,734,858)	1,205,102
Adjusted for:		
Net deficit on conversion to academy	5,807,925	-
Net surplus on transfer of academy in the trust	-	(547,895)
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(2,794,843)	(1,329,181)
Investment income receivable	(2,900)	(2,943)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	2,561,000	1,030,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	411,000	177,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	531,752	277,621
Decrease/(increase) in stocks	622	(11,461)
(Increase) in debtors	(607,261)	(896,872)
Increase in creditors	2,245,486	2,436,603
Stocks, debtors and creditors transferred on conversion	2,149,075	(477,227)
Net cash provided by operating activities	4,566,998	1,860,747

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2020 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2021 £
Cash	5,537,791	6,439,515	11,977,306
Loans falling due within one year	(73,491)	(21,047)	(94,538)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(506,316)	(279,772)	(786,088)
	4,957,984	6,138,696	11,096,680

25 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	138,290	159,020
Amounts due in two and five years	117,692	166,622
Amounts due after five years	604	-
	256,586	325,642

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

26 Capital commitments

	2021 £	2020 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	747,192	912,497

27 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the 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. The following related party transaction took place in the period of account.

The academy trust occupies the footprint of the school building which is owned by its trustees, the Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle. The Diocese are the providers of the buildings on the same basis as when the academy was a maintained school. The academy trust occupies the buildings under a mere licence. This continuing permission of the trustees is pursuant to, and subject to, the trustees' charitable objects, and is part of the Catholic Church's contribution since 1847 to provide State funded education in partnership with the State. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land and buildings to the academy trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the academy trust. The trustees have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the academy trust less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the buildings. Having considered the factual matrix under which the academy trust is occupying the buildings the trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the academy trust will not be recognised on the balance sheet of the academy.

Expenditure related party transactions

During the year the trust purchased staff insurance provision from The Education Mutual Limited, a company in which Mr N Hurn OBE is also a director. The trust paid premiums of £245,422 during the year and received income of £202,866.

- The academy trust made the transactions at arms' length following a competitive tendering exercise in accordance with its financial regulations, which Mr N Hurn OBE neither participated in, nor influenced
- The Education Mutual Limited is a not for profit mutual company and all services are provided at cost. The company has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.
- In entering into all of these transactions, the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

During the year the trust purchased supply staff services from Schools Mutual Services Limited, a company in which Mr N Hurn OBE is also a director. The trust paid a total of £280,376 for services during the year.

- The academy trust made the transactions at arms' length following a competitive tendering exercise in accordance with its financial regulations, which Mr N Hurn OBE neither participated in, nor influenced
- Schools Mutual Services Limited is a not for profit mutual company and all services are provided at cost. The company has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.
- In entering into all of these transactions, the academy trust has not fully complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020, as noted in the statement on regularity.

During the year the trust purchased Catholic education support services of £128,115 from Hexham and Newcastle Diocese.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

28 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.

29 Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the trust brought forward £87,815 (2020: £43,306) undistributed funds, received £130,648 (2020: £380,639) and disbursed £96,564 (2020: £36,130) from the fund. An amount of £121,959 (2020: £87,815) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to ESFA.

The academy trust also distributes private sponsorship to students as an agent for certain individuals. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2021 the trust brought forward £30,308 (2020: £30,308) from previous years, received £nil (2020: £25,000) and disbursed £nil (2020: £nil) from funds. An amount of £30,308 (2020: £30,308) was included in other creditors prior to transfer relating to undistributed funds.

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

30 Conversion to an academy

On the dates noted below, the schools listed below converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair values and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net loss in the statement of financial activities as charitable activities – transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following sets out the total of the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the statement of financial activities.

Academy	Location	Date of conversion
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 November 2020
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 November 2020
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 November 2020
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	County Durham	1 November 2020
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 December 2020
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	Northumberland	1 December 2020
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	Northumberland	1 December 2020
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	1 March 2021
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 March 2021
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 March 2021
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 March 2021
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	Gateshead	1 March 2021
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	County Durham	1 March 2021
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	County Durham	1 May 2021
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	1 June 2021
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	1 June 2021

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

30 Conversion to an academy

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds:		Total
Funds surplus/(deficit) transferred:	£	General	Fixed asset	2021
		£	£	£
Fixed assets funds	-	-	27,053	27,053
LA budget funds	1,899,450	222,572	-	2,122,022
LGPS pension funds	-	(7,957,000)	-	(7,957,000)
	<u>1,899,450</u>	<u>(7,734,428)</u>	<u>27,053</u>	<u>(5,807,925)</u>

No land and buildings were transferred as the buildings are occupied on supplemental agreements with the Diocese. Capital and revenue funds were transferred at their cash value. The pension deficit on conversion has been calculated by the actuary.

31 Teaching school trading account

	2021	2020
	£	£
Direct income		
External funding	120,000	53,334
Other income		
Fundraising and other trading activities	236,189	313,966
Total income	<u>356,189</u>	<u>367,300</u>
Direct costs		
Direct staff costs	171,741	222,588
Staff development	4,677	73,767
Technology costs	21	-
Educational supplies and services	88,700	34,816
Examination fees	-	18,990
Educational consultancy	-	6,200
	<u>265,139</u>	<u>356,361</u>
Other costs		
Other support costs	1,703	2,051
Share of governance costs	600	-
	<u>2,303</u>	<u>2,051</u>
Total expenditure	<u>(267,442)</u>	<u>(358,412)</u>
Surplus from all sources	<u>88,747</u>	<u>8,888</u>
Teaching school balances at 1 September 2020	111,391	102,503
Teaching school balances at 31 August 2021	<u>200,138</u>	<u>111,391</u>

BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2021

32 Post balance sheet events

After the year end, the following schools converted to academy trust status and joined Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust.

Academy	Location	Date of conversion
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gilesgate	County Durham	1 September 2021
St Thomas More Primary School, Belmont	County Durham	1 September 2021
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School, Birtley	Gateshead	1 November 2021
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School, Dunston	Gateshead	1 November 2021
St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School, Consett	County Durham	1 November 2021
Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School, County Durham Leadgate	County Durham	1 November 2021
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School, Birtley	Gateshead	1 November 2021
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, South Moor	County Durham	1 November 2021