

Company registration number 07890590 (England and Wales)

**BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

**(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

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# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

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

### Trustees

Mr C Coxon (Vice Chair)  
Mr P Cantwell  
Mr M Gannon (Chair)  
Mrs M Harrison  
Mr I Mearns MP  
Mrs C Reid  
Mrs A Boyle  
Rev C M Hayden (Appointed 22 October 2021)  
Mr D Hicks (Appointed 9 June 2022)  
Mr S Horne (Appointed 9 June 2022)  
Mr A Egdell (Appointed 20 January 2022)

### Senior management team

- CEO/Accounting Officer
- Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Technology Officer
- Director of HR
- Director of Commercial
- Director of Teaching & Learning
- Director of Safeguarding and Welfare
- Director of Ethos
- Director of Estates
- Director of Governance
- Chief Financial Officer
- Deputy Chief Executive Officer
- Director of Operations

Mr N Hurn OBE  
Mr J Parkinson  
Mrs L Levy  
Mr U Chughtai  
Mrs H Naden (resigned 31 August 2022)  
Mrs J Collins  
Miss M Murphy  
Mrs A Riley  
Mrs B Reilly-O'Donnell  
Miss L A Hall  
Mrs J Ridley  
Mrs L Smith  
Mrs L Stephenson (from 1 November 2021)  
Mrs C Barclay (from 9 May 2022)

### Company secretary

Ms L Levy

### Company registration number

07890590 (England and Wales)

### Registered office

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Hq  
Barmston Court, Nissan Way  
Turbine Business Park  
Washington, Sunderland  
Tyne & Wear  
SR5 3NY  
England

### Academies operated

Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)  
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)  
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)  
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)  
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)

### Location

Gateshead  
Gateshead  
Sunderland  
Sunderland  
Sunderland

### Executive Headteacher

Mr B Robson  
Mrs S Fraser  
Mrs J Black  
Mrs M Wilson  
Mr J Anderson

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary SchoolSunderland (Sunderland)	Mrs E Maher
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and SixthSunderland Form College (Sunderland)	Mr D Juric
St John Boste Catholic Primary SchoolSunderland (Sunderland)	Mrs D Cushlow
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School andCounty Durham Sixth Form College (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 SchoolNorthumberland (Northumberland)	Mr M Gray
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham)	Mrs S Clarke
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham)	Mrs C Craig
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary SchoolCounty Durham (County Durham)	Mrs L Keenan
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham - Ushaw Moor)	Mrs L Keenan
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham)	Mrs A Garrity
St Joseph's Catholic Middle SchoolNorthumberland (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 (CountyCounty Durham Durham)	Mrs J Bruton
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham)	Mrs C Young
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead) Gateshead	Mrs T Musgrove
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham -County Durham Stanley)	Mrs S Fraser
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham 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
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham - Gilesgate)	Miss K Haggart
St Thomas More Primary School (County Durham -County Durham Belmont)	Mr T Hunt
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County DurhamCounty Durham - South Moor)	Mrs A Robson
St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School (CountyCounty Durham Durham - Consett)	Mrs J Cruise
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School (Gateshead -Gateshead Dunston)	Mrs E Maher
Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic PrimaryCounty Durham School (County Durham - Leadgate)	Mrs J Cruise
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School (County DurhamCounty Durham - Birtley)	Mrs K Swaddle
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School (County DurhamCounty Durham - Birtley)	Mrs K Swaddle
St Peter's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead -Gateshead Low Fell)	Mrs L A Stokoe

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	Mrs J Gill
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Mrs C Maxwell
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	Mr P Naughton
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Whickham)	Mr J Wheatley
St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Mr J Philips
St Mary' & St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	Miss E White
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Langley Moor)	Mrs P Burnside
All Saints' Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Lanchester)	Mrs F Stephenson
St Agnes' Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Crawcrook)	Mrs J Woods

### Independent auditor

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

### Bankers

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

### Solicitors

WBD (UK) LLP  
The Spark  
Draymans Way  
Newcastle Helix  
Newcastle upon Tyne  
NE4 5DE

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT

### *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022*

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The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a strategic report under company law.

The trust operates 47 academies (5 Secondary academies, 1 Middle School, 1 First School and 40 Primary academies) for over 16,000 pupils aged 3 to 18 serving a catchment area across 4 different Local Authorities – Gateshead, Sunderland, Durham and Northumberland. The Trust has almost 2,000 staff employed in Teaching and Support staff roles.

During the Accounting year 1st September 2021 – 31st August 2022, the following schools joined the Trust:

St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gilesgate  
St Thomas More Catholic Primary School, Belmont  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, South Moor  
St Pius Catholic Primary School, Consett  
Our Lady and St Joseph's (Brooms), Leadgate  
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School, Dunston  
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School, Birtley  
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School, Birtley  
St Peter's Catholic Primary School, Low Fell  
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School, Gateshead  
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Blaydon  
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Langley Moor  
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Consett  
St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School, Felling  
St Agnes Catholic Primary School, Crawcrook  
St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Whickham  
St Mary's & St Thomas Aquinas, Blaydon  
All Saints Catholic Primary School, Lanchester

#### **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, and to the date of these accounts 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 2022*

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#### 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 of the Trust.

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 and will be interviewed by Diocesan representatives prior to appointment.

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.

#### Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

All Trust Board and Local Governing Committee members of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust will have an introductory discussion with their Headteacher's and with either the Director of Governance or their Local Governing Clerk. They can access induction and on-going training via the Governor Hub portal administered by the Trust and which they will be given access to on appointment as a Governor. The sessions offered will usually be internal delivered by the Trust, from the Catholic Diocese of Hexham and Newcastle, Local Authorities or Schools North East. Individual Local Authorities produce an annual Course Directory which is reviewed each year to reflect any changes in practice and legislation. Trustees can also access information directly from the Company Secretary at Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust, to assist with their development. A number of sessions will also be arranged by the Clerk to the Trustees to assist Trustees in their pursuit of the highest standards of governance. Training for individual Board Members and Governors will be provided by the Governance team at Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust.

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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### Organisational structure

The trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee. It has a strategic role in running the academies within the trust and is responsible for appointing trustees. It has control over the land and other assets and delegates management of each academy to the trustees.

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006, the Articles and to any directions given by special resolution, the business of the trust shall be managed by the trustees who may exercise all the powers of the trust. No alteration of the article shall be limited by any special power given to the trustees by the articles and a meeting of trustees at which a quorum is present

may exercise all the powers exercisable by the trustees.

The Chief Executive Officer (CEO), as accounting officer, has personal responsibility to the trustees for financial and administrative matters including:

- Ensuring regularity and propriety
- Prudent and economical administration
- Avoidance of waste and extravagance
- Efficient and effective use of available resources
- Day to day organisation, staffing and management of the academy has been delegated to the Headteacher in each school



# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 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 2021-22. 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**

The Trust pays into Local Authority schemes who provide this service from both Durham and Gateshead Authorities

#### Engagement with employees

In order to engage well with our employees, the Trust has established a Joint Consultative Committee (JCC) to provide a forum for discussion, consultation and negotiation, prior to large-scale rollout to all staff. It considers:

- Employment relations matters
- Policy development
- Working arrangements
- Training and development
- Welfare
- Terms & Conditions of employment
- Pay & Pensions
- Equality
- Health & Safety
- Pending Trust developments

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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

Directors and Local Governors have a crucial role to play in connecting their schools with wider stakeholders in the communities and businesses in their local area. Professional links will enhance the education and aspirations of our pupils. The Trust recognises the responsibility each school has in playing its part in engaging with customers, businesses and suppliers. This has a directly positive impact on our pupils and the communities we serve in many ways. One such example is the creation and development of the St Nicholas Support Fund. Commercial partners with the trust have kindly made a small financial fund available which can be allocated throughout the year to pupils in urgent need of support.

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.

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

#### Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust is now a Trust with 47 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 and on an annual basis since. 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 both the Related Party Transactions shown in the Accounts and the CEO and COO involvement in Education Mutual and Schools Mutual Services is well known throughout the Education sector.

The Trust has continued 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 Trust has also established our own trading subsidiary Bishop Wilkinson Commercial Services Limited (BWCS) trading as Education Commercial Services (ECS), which allows the Trust to provide services to other schools outside of the parameters of teaching, in order to generate additional income.

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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### **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](http://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.

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.

#### 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.

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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### **Strategic report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

##### **Quality of Education**

Ensuring that the quality of education is at least good across all schools in the trust is a priority. We are working collaboratively together, in clusters, to support the development of the curriculum. Through school improvement partner visits and data analysis, we have identified the schools that require additional support in specific subjects. Support so far has included mathematics, phonics and reading. We also use the strength in some schools and departments to support others. A focus for this year is on how the curriculum has been adapted for SEND pupils and how the disadvantaged pupils are being supported to catch up.

##### **Behaviour and Attitudes**

Ensuring that there is a safe, calm, orderly and positive environment in all of our schools is essential. The Trust has an overview of all behaviour policies. The trust is notified and involved in all suspensions or exclusions. The attendance of all schools in the trust is monitored termly.

##### **Personal Development**

All of our schools place the personal development of pupils at the centre of what they do. The Catholic ethos, vision and values underpins all aspects of this curriculum. Our schools use the diocesan RSE and PSHE guidance. Pupils are actively encouraged to take part in a wide range of extra-curricular activities. The trust has organised some additional opportunities for disadvantaged pupils to take part in performing arts, positive mental health and sporting activities.

##### **Leadership and Management**

We have been working with 'The Centre for Teaching' to develop subject leadership across the primary and secondary phases. Curriculum collaboration groups are currently being developed across the trust using the expertise of the secondary specialists to support the development of the primary curriculum. Curriculum groups already in place include music, art and design and design and technology. Some primary headteachers have sought some individual additional support from secondary heads of department.

We have also established a new headteachers programme, a deputy headteacher formation programme and an executive headteachers support network.

##### **Early Years**

We have established 5 early years cluster groups to support our early years leaders. We are holding an annual conference this year for all EY practitioners. We are currently supporting a number of our schools to improve their provision both indoors and outdoors. We have also opened 3 new nursery provisions and have plans to open more in the future.

##### **Sixth Form**

Our sixth form leaders are working collaboratively as a group. They are looking at curriculum and exam specification. They have identified where some departments are stronger than others and they are sharing good practice.

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 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 2022.

During the period ending 31st August 2022 total Trust expenditure of £81,624,657 was less than DfE grant funding together with other incoming resources. The excess of income over expenditure was £3,472,231 excluding LGPS adjustments, capital income and depreciation. 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 School Condition Allocation Funding (SCA) in order to maintain and develop school sites. Devolved Formula Capital from the Diocese and ESFA was also received on behalf of some schools. Total capital grant was £4,015,642

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 £6,688,915 to £10,855,106. 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 2021-22 was submitted to the ESFA for scrutiny in July 2022 showing the additional schools and the anticipated income/expenditure forecast for the next 3 years. This was formally approved and ratified by the Trust Board prior to submission.

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 overall cost of living crisis is being felt across the purchase of just about all goods and services within the Trust. Increases from all partners are being felt and having a dramatic impact on school budgets. None moreso than Energy and School Meal provision in particular. Individual school budgets are under immense pressure and reserves are dwindling. The Finance Managers across the Trust and Headteachers are working together to monitor expenditure and income, managing the implications directly.

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### *FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022*

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#### Reserves policy

The Trust Board is mindful that since the rapid expansion of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust throughout 2021-22 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.

The Diocese previously introduced an over-arching Reserves Policy to be implemented across all four Diocesan 'Base MAT's' of an aspirational level of 8% 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.

The Trust remains solvent, is not in an overall deficit position and forecasts remain healthy. However due to the emerging Cost of Living crisis the Board of Directors do not wish to commit to long term investments at this point in time and continue to review the changing position very closely. The actual vs reserves forecast/target for 2021-22 has increased due to the higher level of reserves being transferred across from schools converting and joining the trust during this financial year.

#### 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 47 Trust schools have funds paid into 1 Lloyds Bank current account. On conversion, all 47 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). Understanding the remaining funds may be required to support funds with specific projects in the future. The Trust remains solvent, is not in an overall deficit position and forecasts remain healthy. However due to the emerging Cost of Living crisis the Board of Directors do not wish to commit to long term investments at this point in time and continue to review the changing position very closely.



# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 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 continued to be centred upon the Covid19 Pandemic. Staffing attendance levels, supplier contracts and cost of living crisis, 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 cost of living crisis 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 Handbook are being discharged satisfactorily by the Central MAT team.

#### **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

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

*FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022*

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### Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

The data (01/09/2021-31/08/2022) from utilities has been collated from the energy management tool, Systemslink. The report uses Invoice data, which is supplied by our utility provider and backed up by automatic half hourly meter readings and regular physical meter reads.

Data on transport has been collated by the school from records of mileage claimed by staff or from fleet records and converted from miles to km.

This information was multiplied by the relevant Carbon Factors from BEIS using the 2022 dataset to calculate emissions.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/greenhouse-gas-reporting-conversion-factors-2022>

BWCET are continuing to engage Durham County Council to provide Energy Management Services through a service level agreement. This provides the staff at the Trust with day+1 data on our energy use across the building estate through an energy portal allowing staff to maintain oversight on consumption.

Annual energy use reports have been produced for the individual schools in the Trust which have contracted into the Service.

### Further Comparisons

In the past year the Trust has expanded by nine schools so the increase in carbon emissions in the table below is expected

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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### **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. As the four Catholic Education Trusts are now evolving and working collaboratively with their respective schools, it is apparent that the benefit for schools now operating within trust structures has been massively underestimated. Through the appointment of skilled specialists working across large groups of schools, trusts are able to effectively support, monitor and model high quality teaching. Leaders within the schools are working well within the new structures and feel the benefit of the support being provided across the board in all service areas. The Bishop Wilkinson Centre for Teaching is able to successfully attract, train, develop and place students within schools across the trust. New talent, being 'home grown' will secure the future generation of new teaching staff for roles within the trust. Full training schedules for existing staff in numerous roles is also carefully planned and delivered across the academic year.

Detailed School Improvement Plans have been developed and are monitored by Leaders across the Trust with the objective of delivering a robust, exciting and planned curriculum to all students, which is built in each school to take into account their own context.

As a Trust with responsibility for more than 5 schools and more than 3,500 children going forward, the Trust now receives 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. The Director of Estates and Chief Operating Officer liaise with external Consultancy, Arcadis in order to prioritise school projects. Priority is given to Health & Safety projects, together with heating maintenance etc.

Opportunities for the growth of Bishop Wilkinson Commercial Services (trust 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 2022***

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### **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 20 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr M Gannon

**Chair**

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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### 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 the 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 8 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 C Coxon (Vice Chair)	8	8
Mr P Cantwell	8	8
Mr M Gannon (Chair)	6	8
Mrs M Harrison	6	8
Mr I Mearns MP	6	8
Mrs C Reid	6	8
Mrs A Boyle	6	8
Rev C M Hayden (Appointed 22 October 2021)	1	6
Mr D Hicks (Appointed 9 June 2022)	1	1
Mr S Horne (Appointed 9 June 2022)	1	1
Mr A Egdell (Appointed 20 January 2022)	5	5
Mr N Hurn, OBE (CEO, Accounting Officer)	8	8

### Key Changes to Constitution of the Board

No changes to constitution but the Board was strengthened further with the additional appointments of 4 Directors with skills to support Teaching and Learning, Financial and Ethos development:

- Foundation Director - Father C Hayden from 21 October 2021
- Foundation Director - Mr A Egdell from 20 January 2022
- Non Foundation Director - Mr D Hicks from 9 June 2022
- Non Foundation Director - Mr S Horne from 9 June 2022

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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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.

All 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.

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.

#### **Conflicts of interest**

At the beginning of each Board and Local Governing Committee meeting, all Clerks ensure that Directors/ Governors are asked to advise and reference any conflicts of interest with any of the agenda items being discussed. This record is maintained by the Clerks and a register published on each school and Central website. All involved in governance across the Trust are aware of the importance of these declarations and the ESFA regulations around this.

#### **Governance Review**

Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust appointed the Confederation of Schools Trust to conduct a formal, external and rigorous review of Governance during 2021-22. The results were very complimentary of structures, clerking, minute taking and support provided at all levels. This independent review was conducted at the request of the Board and presented by the representative conducting the review.

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.

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

<b>Trustees</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of possible</b>
Mr C Coxon (Chair)	3	3
Mrs A Boyle	2	3
Mr Ian Mearns	1	3
Mrs C Reid	3	3

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:

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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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
Mr I Mearns MP	1	3
Mr D Hicks	-	-

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:

- Adoption of the DfE Chart of Accountants in order to easily facilitate benchmarking and assessment of value for money
- Driving forward the Diocesan Academy conversion programme to completion . This enables increased purchasing power and realisation of economies of scale
- Consolidating the newly converting academies to one financial reporting system, creating efficiencies with reduction of processing time

#### 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 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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### **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.



# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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The board of trustees has decided to buy in an internal and audit function from Clive Owen LLP. Throughout the academic year, they carried out audit visits to primary and secondary schools across the Trust.

The programme of work for Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust was agreed by the Trust Board in the Autumn Term 2021, before further discussions around the selection of academies to be visited were undertaken with the Chief Operating Officer and the Chief Finance Officer in a series of meetings from January 2022 onwards. The areas for review were areas where the internal procedures are carried out by the individual academies finance department and are not part of the Trust Central Finance function. These included a review of:

- The procurement of goods and services in line with the Bishop Wilkinson Trust Financial Handbook • Compliance with the stated limits where quotations or tenders should be sought in line with the Bishop Wilkinson Trust Financial Handbook
- The procurement of goods and services using the academy credit cards in line with the Bishop Wilkinson Trust Financial Handbook
- The procurement of goods and services using the Amazon Business Account (implemented in Autumn 2021)
- The payment of staff expenses
- Income Recording and Cash Security The Internal Assurance work took place in accordance with the agreed plan across 26 of the trust academies between March and July 2022 .

Below is a list of all schools visited during the 2021-22 academic year to undertake the above Internal Assurance work:

- St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College, Lanchester – SBL
- St Benet's Catholic Primary School, Ouston – SBO
- St Leonard's Catholic School – SLD
- St Bede's Catholic Primary School, Sacriston – SBS
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary, Stanley – SJS
- St Oswald's Catholic Primary, Wrekenton – SOW
- Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School, Esh Winning – OLE
- St Joseph's Catholic Middle School, Hexham – SJH
- St Mary's Catholic First School, Hexham – SMF
- St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School, Chester-le-Street – SCC
- St Godrics Catholic Primary School, Durham – SGD
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Ushaw Moor – SJU
- St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and 6th Form Follow Up – SRN
- St Michael's Catholic Primary School, Esh Village – SME
- Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School, Leadgate – OLL
- St Alban's Catholic Primary School, Pelaw – SAP
- St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School, Consett – SPC
- St Mary's Catholic Primary School, Blackhill – SMB
- St Patrick's Catholic Primary School, Dipton – SPD
- St Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Gateshead – SJG

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### ***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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- St Augustine's Catholic Primary School, Gateshead – SAG
- St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School, Dunston – SPD
- Cardinal Hume Catholic School – CHG
- St Michaels Catholic Primary, Houghton Follow Up – SMH
- St Bedes Catholic Primary, Washington Follow Up – SBW
- St Matthew's Catholic Primary School, Prudhoe - SMP

A summary of the findings from Clive Owen audit team were presented to the Trust Board and followed up with discussions with the individual school representatives as follows:

To ensure that there is formal approval of school purchases, an official purchase requisition should be completed by any member of staff requesting the goods which is then signed by the Headteacher to confirm the items are appropriate, before being entered on the finance system in accordance with the Trust Finance Handbook.

Official purchase orders should be generated for all procurement except for the instances stated in Appendix A of the Trust Finance Handbook. If work is to be undertaken when staff availability is minimal, such as during school holidays then arrangements should be implemented so that the procurement process can be followed as much as possible. 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 therefore does not need issuing to the supplier.

The school fund account should be closed, and the balance remaining be transferred to the main Trust bank account, at the earliest opportunity.

It is good practise that, for instances where the formal procedures documented in the Trust Finance Handbook are not to be complied with regarding quotation or tender exercises to be undertaken by the school, then a "Non-Competitive Tender Form" should be completed documenting the process undertaken and reasoning behind why the selected single supplier was chosen. This would then be signed by the headteacher and whoever else is involved in the selection process

The cardholder is reminded that supporting evidence of purchase requests, such as a purchase requisition form or email, should be retained with all card transaction paperwork to demonstrate the purchases are for the school and can be traced back to the initial requestor should a query occur. The monthly card transaction summary sheets should also be completed to ensure that all supporting evidence is reconciled back to the card statements before being sent over to the central team for payment.

The School Business Manager / Finance Officer is reminded of the importance of entering the costs of purchases correctly to separate the breakdown of net amounts and VAT elements where this is easily identified so that this can be accounted for as part of the Trust VAT returns. Where there is uncertainty perhaps due to the absence of a VAT number then clarity should be sought from the Trust central finance team as how they are expected to proceed.

The Amazon Business Account should be used to order items from the Amazon Business Catalogue as it replaces the PS Purchasing process for ordering items

Any cash that is received should be counted and recorded at the earliest opportunity before being stored in the safe. This will allow the school office staff that do the banking to know the total amount of cash collected which can be reconciled against the safe contents and any discrepancies can be immediately investigated. The school should use Parent Pay, a system used by numerous other schools in the Trust, to allow parents to purchase items such as hoodies rather than asking parents to bring the cash into the school to reduce the risk of cash being misappropriated.

Multiple cash counts should be completed and recorded to evidence and reconcile cash deposited into the bank.

Clive Owen audit team commented "From the Internal Scrutiny work undertaken throughout the academic year 2021-22 there is suitable monitoring of risk areas, with the Trust confirming that recommendations made have been fully completed or are in the process of being implemented to improve the controls already in place".

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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### **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
- The completion and analysis of data submitted within the Schools Resource Management Tool
- The work of the Chief Financial Officer, Central Finance team, Chief Operating Officer, Cluster Finance Managers, inschool Business Managers and Finance assistants within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 20 December 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr M Gannon  
**Chair**

Mr N Hurn OBE  
**CEO/Accounting Officer**

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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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 Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

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

Mr N Hurn OBE  
**Accounting Officer**

20 December 2022

# **BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022***

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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 2021 to 2022;
- 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 20 December 2022 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 2022***

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### **Opinion**

We have audited the accounts of Bishop Wilkinson Catholic Education Trust for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 2022 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 2021 to 2022.

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# **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 2022***

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### **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 2022**

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### **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 2021 to 2022 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 2022***

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### **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.

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

22 December 2022

**Statutory Auditor**

Wynyard Park House  
Wynyard Avenue  
Wynyard  
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 2022***

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 11 July 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, 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 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 2021, 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 2021 to 2022. 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 2021 to 31 August 2022 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 2022***

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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 nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

### **Reporting Accountant**

Azets Audit Services

Dated: 22 December 2022

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General    Fixed asset £            £		Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	96,437	-	4,135,096	4,231,533	2,901,376
Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion	30	2,267,213	-	164,177	2,431,390	2,149,075
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	2,842,511	77,185,986	-	80,028,497	60,208,058
Other trading activities	5	2,538,688	-	-	2,538,688	1,522,394
Investments	6	1,894	-	-	1,894	2,900
<b>Total</b>		7,746,743	77,185,986	4,299,273	89,232,002	66,783,803
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	7	2,433,633	44,192	-	2,477,825	1,475,477
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	9	3,022,626	81,069,206	722,975	84,814,807	63,086,184
Charitable expenditure - transfer from local authority on conversion	30	-	7,110,000	-	7,110,000	7,957,000
<b>Total</b>	7	5,456,259	88,223,398	722,975	94,402,632	72,518,661
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>						
		2,290,484	(11,037,412)	3,576,298	(5,170,630)	(5,734,858)
Transfers between funds	20	-	858,119	(858,119)	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	34,008,000	-	34,008,000	(1,292,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		2,290,484	23,828,707	2,718,179	28,837,370	(7,026,858)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		4,165,418	(29,800,503)	15,060,668	(10,574,417)	(3,547,559)
Total funds carried forward		6,455,902	(5,971,796)	17,778,847	18,262,953	(10,574,417)

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2021	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General    Fixed asset £            £		Total 2021 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
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
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	1,476,117	58,731,941	-	60,208,058
Other trading activities	5	1,522,394	-	-	1,522,394
Investments	6	2,900	-	-	2,900
<b>Total</b>		5,007,394	58,954,513	2,821,896	66,783,803
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	1,456,077	19,400	-	1,475,477
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	9	1,519,933	61,034,499	531,752	63,086,184
Charitable expenditure - transfer from local authority on conversion	30	-	7,957,000	-	7,957,000
<b>Total</b>	7	2,976,010	69,010,899	531,752	72,518,661
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		2,031,384	(10,056,386)	2,290,144	(5,734,858)
Transfers between funds	20	(147,442)	347,499	(200,057)	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	(1,292,000)	-	(1,292,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		1,883,942	(11,000,887)	2,090,087	(7,026,858)
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
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

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13	16,779,267		13,520,975	
Investments	14		1		1
			<u>16,779,268</u>		<u>13,520,976</u>
<b>Current assets</b>					
Stocks	15	27,776		10,839	
Debtors	16	4,824,568		3,188,003	
Cash at bank and in hand		17,228,164		11,977,306	
		<u>22,080,508</u>		<u>15,176,148</u>	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	17	(9,159,337)		(6,161,453)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			12,921,171		9,014,695
			<u></u>		<u></u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			29,700,439		22,535,671
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	18	(1,066,486)		(786,088)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
<b>Net assets before defined benefit pension scheme liability</b>			28,633,953		21,749,583
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22	(10,371,000)		(32,324,000)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
<b>Total net assets/(liabilities)</b>			18,262,953		(10,574,417)
			<u></u>		<u></u>
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>	20				
- Fixed asset funds		17,778,847		15,060,668	
- Restricted income funds		4,399,204		2,523,497	
- Pension reserve		(10,371,000)		(32,324,000)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			11,807,051		(14,739,835)
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	20		6,455,902		4,165,418
			<u></u>		<u></u>
<b>Total funds</b>			18,262,953		(10,574,417)
			<u></u>		<u></u>

The accounts on pages 34 to 69 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 01 December 2022 and are signed on their behalf by:

Mr M Gannon  
Chair

Company registration number 07890590

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Notes	2022 £	£	2021 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Net cash provided by operating activities	23	2,265,106		4,566,998	
Cash funds transferred on conversion	30	2,431,390		-	
		<u>4,696,496</u>		<u>4,566,998</u>	
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		1,894		2,900	
Capital grants from DfE Group		4,015,642		3,197,347	
Capital funding received from sponsors and others		119,454		-	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(3,981,267)		(1,628,548)	
Purchase of investments		-		(1)	
		<u>155,723</u>		<u>1,571,698</u>	
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>			155,723		1,571,698
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>					
New other loan		505,315		357,981	
Repayment of other loan		(106,676)		(57,162)	
		<u>398,639</u>		<u>300,819</u>	
<b>Net cash provided by financing activities</b>			398,639		300,819
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			5,250,858		6,439,515
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			11,977,306		5,537,791
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			<u>17,228,164</u>		<u>11,977,306</u>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 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 2021 to 2022 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 2022

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#### 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 2022

### 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 2022

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### 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 2022

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### 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 2022

### 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 2022. 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 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	200,000
Capital grants	-	4,015,642	4,015,642	2,594,843
Other donations	96,437	119,454	215,891	106,533
	<u>96,437</u>	<u>4,135,096</u>	<u>4,231,533</u>	<u>2,901,376</u>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 4 Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	67,970,712	67,970,712	50,420,673
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- UIFSM	-	717,506	717,506	388,354
- Pupil premium	-	2,801,172	2,801,172	1,843,273
- Start up grants	-	225,000	225,000	500,000
- PE and Sports Premium	-	528,104	528,104	237,286
- Rates	-	312,343	312,343	249,302
- Teachers pension grants	-	311,553	311,553	1,807,540
- Teachers pay grants	-	110,252	110,252	638,510
- National tutor grant	-	253,417	253,417	-
- Supplementary grant	-	860,321	860,321	-
- Others	-	334,425	334,425	171,528
	-	74,424,805	74,424,805	56,256,466
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	2,249,239	2,249,239	1,193,670
<b>COVID-19 additional funding</b>				
<b>DfE/ESFA</b>				
Catch-up premium	-	-	-	725,710
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	407,369	407,369	312,781
<b>Non-DfE/ESFA</b>				
Other COVID-19 funding	-	104,573	104,573	123,314
	-	511,942	511,942	1,161,805
<b>Other funding</b>				
Teaching school	-	-	-	120,000
Catering income	2,513,794	-	2,513,794	1,271,638
Other incoming resources	328,717	-	328,717	204,479
	2,842,511	-	2,842,511	1,596,117
<b>Total funding</b>	2,842,511	77,185,986	80,028,497	60,208,058

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Hire of facilities	77,148	-	77,148	55,146
Catering income	12,958	-	12,958	34,984
Support services to other schools	-	-	-	26,430
School trips	648,801	-	648,801	52,937
Teaching school	19,751	-	19,751	236,189
Other income	1,780,030	-	1,780,030	1,116,708
	<u>2,538,688</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,538,688</u>	<u>1,522,394</u>

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Short term deposits	1,894	-	1,894	2,900
	<u>1,894</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,894</u>	<u>2,900</u>

### 7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	1,429,479	-	1,048,346	2,477,825	1,475,477
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	50,716,800	-	4,463,271	55,180,071	42,512,537
- Allocated support costs	14,674,400	6,997,116	7,963,220	29,634,736	20,573,647
	<u>66,820,679</u>	<u>6,997,116</u>	<u>13,474,837</u>	<u>87,292,632</u>	<u>64,561,661</u>

### Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	21,350	18,150
- Other services	3,900	3,450
Operating lease rentals	357,322	284,612
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	722,975	531,752
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	619,000	411,000
	<u>1,725,547</u>	<u>1,252,964</u>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### 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

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	503,020	228,250
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	33,021	31,535
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	42,924	16,172
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	43,725	41,857
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	43,946	41,786
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	66,253	59,655
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	429,645	236,593
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	41,624	39,850
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	378,209	210,096
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	365,875	200,652
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	415,576	225,228
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	50,787	45,960
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	30,723	27,725
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	-	20,039
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	43,890	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)	4,037	14,906
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	69,069	52,609
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	26,549	-
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	42,038	20,558
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	45,462	21,003
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	-	-
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	17,222	16,080
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	47,304	22,380
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	45,060	22,048
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	39,428	13,263
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	65,177	16,317
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	44,627	11,082
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Gilesgate)	29,777	-



# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 8 Central services (Continued)

St Thomas More Primary School (County Durham - Belmont)	20,259	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - South Moor)	26,309	-
St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	20,775	-
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Dunston)	34,165	-
Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Leadgate)	22,247	-
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School (County Durham - Birtley)	22,023	-
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School (County Durham - Birtley)	18,066	-
St Peter's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Low Fell)	25,196	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	46,467	-
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	26,724	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	26,103	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Whickham)	14,403	-
St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	11,215	-
St Mary' & St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	15,049	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Langley Moor)	7,456	-
All Saints' Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Lanchester)	12,747	-
St Agnes' Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Crawcrook)	13,768	-
	<u>3,327,940</u>	<u>1,706,944</u>

### 9 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	Total 2022	Total 2021
	£	£	£	£
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Educational operations	-	55,180,071	55,180,071	42,512,537
<b>Support costs</b>				
Educational operations	3,022,626	26,612,110	29,634,736	20,573,647
	<u>3,022,626</u>	<u>81,792,181</u>	<u>84,814,807</u>	<u>63,086,184</u>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 9 Charitable activities

(Continued)

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	14,674,400	10,289,391
Depreciation	722,975	531,752
Technology costs	1,132,390	551,039
Premises costs	6,274,141	4,710,970
Legal costs	228,061	192,468
Other support costs	6,550,665	4,263,103
Governance costs	52,104	34,924
	<u>29,634,736</u>	<u>20,573,647</u>

### 10 Staff

#### Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	45,956,759	35,791,682
Social security costs	4,613,057	3,536,987
Pension costs	14,349,629	10,428,615
	<u>64,919,445</u>	<u>49,757,284</u>
Staff costs - employees	64,919,445	49,757,284
Agency staff costs	1,901,234	1,170,923
	<u>66,820,679</u>	<u>50,928,207</u>
Staff development and other staff costs	510,299	253,991
	<u>67,330,978</u>	<u>51,182,198</u>

#### Special staff severance payments

Included within wages and salaries is £108,691 (2021 - £174,164) of severance payments. Special staff severance payments are amounts paid to employees outside of statutory and contractual requirements. Included in severance payments are special severance payments totalling £64,740 (2021: £nil). Individually, the payments were: £21,799, £5,070, £6,240, £5,942, £6,234, £6,733, £3,442, £3,120 and £6,160.

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 10 Staff

(Continued)

#### Staff numbers

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

	2022 Number	2021 Number
Teachers	672	562
Administration and support	792	662
Management	142	116
	<u>1,606</u>	<u>1,340</u>

#### Higher paid staff

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

	2022 Number	2021 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	25	18
£70,001 - £80,000	14	11
£80,001 - £90,000	3	1
£90,001 - £100,000	3	2
£110,001 - £120,000	1	3
£140,001 - £150,000	1	-
£180,001 - £190,000	-	1
£190,001 - £200,000	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 £1,332,219 (2021: £1,011,817).

### 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 2022

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold improvements £	Assets under construction £	Computer equipment £	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 September 2021	12,675,009	560,453	1,370,110	1,029,492	51,929	15,686,993
Transfer	550,834	(559,458)	8,624	-	-	-
Additions	2,623,947	248,582	933,682	175,056	-	3,981,267
At 31 August 2022	15,849,790	249,577	2,312,416	1,204,548	51,929	19,668,260
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2021	717,054	-	1,048,621	379,698	20,645	2,166,018
Charge for the year	316,158	-	258,720	142,393	5,704	722,975
At 31 August 2022	1,033,212	-	1,307,341	522,091	26,349	2,888,993
<b>Net book value</b>						
At 31 August 2022	14,816,578	249,577	1,005,075	682,457	25,580	16,779,267
At 31 August 2021	11,957,955	560,453	321,489	649,794	31,284	13,520,975

### 14 Fixed asset investments

	£
<b>Market value</b>	
At 1 September 2021 and 31 August 2022	1
<b>Historical cost:</b>	
At 31 August 2022	1
At 31 August 2021	1

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 from incorporation to 31 August 2022 were as follows:

Turnover	£55,149
Expenditure	(£60,864)
Net Loss	(£5,715)

Capital & reserves:	
Called up share capital	£1
Profit and loss reserves:	(£5,715)
Total equity	(£5,714)

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 15 Stocks

	2022 £	2021 £
School uniform	27,776	10,839

### 16 Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade debtors	265,853	150,989
VAT recoverable	1,944,930	539,065
Other debtors	93,798	42,791
Prepayments and accrued income	2,519,987	2,455,158
	4,824,568	3,188,003

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	212,779	94,538
Trade creditors	2,548,029	1,533,297
Other taxation and social security	1,214,220	988,391
Other creditors	1,547,548	1,365,287
Accruals and deferred income	3,636,761	2,179,940
	9,159,337	6,161,453

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2022 £	2021 £
Other loans	1,066,486	786,088

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 18 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

(Continued)

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Analysis of loans</b>		
Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	151,900	338,037
Wholly repayable within five years	1,127,365	542,589
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,279,265	880,626
Less: included in current liabilities	(212,779)	(94,538)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Amounts included above	1,066,486	786,088
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Loan maturity</b>		
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	212,779	117,798
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	771,272	330,253
Due in more than five years	295,214	338,037
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,279,265	786,088
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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.
- Twenty-eight Salix loans relating to LED lighting schemes across eight of the schools in the Trust totalling £863,297, the duration of each loan is between 6-8 years and no interest is being charged.

### 19 Deferred income

	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	982,994	463,872
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	463,872	177,845
Released from previous years	(463,872)	(177,845)
Resources deferred in the year	982,994	463,872
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Deferred income at 31 August 2022</b>	<b>982,994</b>	<b>463,872</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Deferred income includes universal infant free school meals funding received, rates grant, early years funding, school trip income 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 2022

### 20 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,910,721	67,970,712	(66,340,348)	858,119	4,399,204
Start up grants	143,632	225,000	(368,632)	-	-
UIFSM	-	717,506	(717,506)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	2,801,172	(2,801,172)	-	-
Catch-up premium	273,895	-	(273,895)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	407,369	(407,369)	-	-
Other Coronavirus funding	-	104,573	(104,573)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	25,848	334,425	(360,273)	-	-
Other government grants	-	2,249,239	(2,249,239)	-	-
Teachers pension grants	-	311,553	(311,553)	-	-
Teachers pay grants	-	110,252	(110,252)	-	-
PE and sports premium	51,313	528,104	(579,417)	-	-
Rates	-	312,343	(312,343)	-	-
National tutor grant	-	253,417	(253,417)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	860,321	(860,321)	-	-
Other inherited restricted funds	118,088	-	(118,088)	-	-
Pension reserve	(32,324,000)	-	(12,055,000)	34,008,000	(10,371,000)
	(29,800,503)	77,185,986	(88,223,398)	34,866,119	(5,971,796)
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	107,091	164,177	-	-	271,268
DfE group capital grants	10,956,111	4,015,642	(722,975)	(858,119)	13,390,659
Capital expenditure from GAG	3,797,466	-	-	-	3,797,466
Other private grants	-	119,454	-	-	119,454
Donated assets	200,000	-	-	-	200,000
	15,060,668	4,299,273	(722,975)	(858,119)	17,778,847
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	(14,739,835)	81,485,259	(88,946,373)	34,008,000	11,807,051
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	4,165,418	7,746,743	(5,456,259)	-	6,455,902
<b>Total funds</b>	(10,574,417)	89,232,002	(94,402,632)	34,008,000	18,262,953

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 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 not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

Other DfE/ESFA grant income includes TCAF, Early Careers Framework Grant and Mental Health Grant.

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

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 includes; Devolved Formula Capital (DFC), School Condition Allowance (SCA) and Connect the Classroom grants, of which £4,033,844 is carried forward to spend in future years. The trust also has loan balances of £1,279,265 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 £10,855,106 as at 31 August 2022.



# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 20 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
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)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	53,159	171,528	(198,839)	-	25,848
Other government grants	5,979	1,193,670	(1,199,649)	-	-
Teaching school	-	120,000	(267,442)	147,442	-
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 government Covid-19 funding	-	123,314	(123,314)	-	-
Other inherited restricted funds	-	222,572	(104,484)	-	118,088
Pension reserve	(20,103,000)	-	(10,929,000)	(1,292,000)	(32,324,000)
	(18,799,616)	58,954,513	(69,010,899)	(944,501)	(29,800,503)
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Transfer 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
	12,970,581	2,821,896	(531,752)	(200,057)	15,060,668
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	(5,829,035)	61,776,409	(69,542,651)	(1,144,558)	(14,739,835)
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	2,281,476	5,007,394	(2,976,010)	(147,442)	4,165,418
<b>Total funds</b>	(3,547,559)	66,783,803	(72,518,661)	(1,292,000)	(10,574,417)

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### 20 Funds

(Continued)

#### Total funds analysis by academy

	2022	2021
	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:		
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	2,257,365	1,585,927
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	216,043	153,086
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	162,745	169,539
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	154,504	211,825
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	61,641	61,432
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	113,996	147,803
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	1,098,960	725,473
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	213,250	226,260
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	870,759	700,060
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	215,199	(102,168)
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	1,557,493	1,012,421
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	78,120	19,335
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	(58,227)	(111,168)
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	(3,662)	27,614
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	161,622	113,553
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	60,422	30,624
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	75,560	71,374
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	20,205	13,559
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	24,640	62,111
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	1,999	1,263
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	172,332	158,899
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	143,320	127,338
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	91,591	93,646
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	9,383	41,398
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	349,579	255,327
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	315,938	209,912
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	123,746	159,124
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	285,073	310,592
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	106,468	104,342
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Gilesgate)	97,770	-
St Thomas More Primary School (County Durham - Belmont)	17,192	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - South Moor)	291	-
St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	117,488	-
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Dunston)	83,765	-
Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Leadgate)	121,627	-
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School (County Durham - Birtley)	91,087	-
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School (County Durham - Birtley)	77,666	-
St Peter's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Low Fell)	171,542	-

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 20 Funds

(Continued)

St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	144,521	-
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	118,349	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	186,416	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Whickham)	52,517	-
St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	12,313	-
St Mary' & St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	122,225	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Langley Moor)	42,756	-
All Saints' Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Lanchester)	52,646	-
St Agnes' Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Crawcrook)	150,515	-
Central services	314,355	108,414
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	10,855,105	6,688,915
Restricted fixed asset fund	17,778,847	15,060,668
Pension reserve	(10,371,000)	(32,324,000)
Total funds	18,262,952	(10,574,417)

St Matthew's Catholic Primary School is in a deficit position as a result a deficit balance on conversion and due to 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 deficit at this academy has reduced in the year and forecasts show the academy returning to a surplus position.

At St Bede's Sacriston, long term sickness absence and maternity cover have increased staff costs this year to a disproportionate level. In addition, children with EHCPs have required additional one to one support. The Director for SEN in the Trust is working with the head teacher to apply for additional local authority funding to support those children with additional needs. This would help to support the financial position of the school going forward together with a more stabilised staffing structure.

### 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 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Cardinal Hume Catholic School (Gateshead)	6,089,015	996,635	406,006	1,448,027	8,939,683	8,391,913
St Anne's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	471,468	83,594	44,972	167,152	767,186	710,343
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	669,713	184,970	32,215	188,340	1,075,238	1,063,301

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 20 Funds

(Continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	727,404	136,633	42,374	173,479	1,079,890	1,056,087
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	637,638	161,034	68,462	178,540	1,045,674	1,051,861
Our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	1,069,068	241,073	77,402	282,376	1,669,919	1,466,615
St Robert of Newminster Catholic School and Sixth Form College (Sunderland)	6,204,913	1,147,449	429,640	1,191,628	8,973,630	8,615,093
St John Boste Catholic Primary School (Sunderland)	599,853	155,592	24,479	179,467	959,391	900,742
St Bede's Catholic Comprehensive School and Sixth Form College (County Durham)	5,431,893	1,018,276	424,786	1,211,247	8,086,202	8,587,557
St Leonard's Catholic School (County Durham)	5,064,505	786,904	598,948	1,187,304	7,637,661	7,539,335
St Thomas More Catholic School (Gateshead)	6,029,813	1,034,490	295,006	1,490,174	8,849,483	8,508,218
Sacred Heart Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	718,422	158,943	57,701	236,023	1,171,089	1,022,895
St Matthew's Catholic Primary School (Northumberland)	510,078	85,302	24,641	167,310	787,331	741,918
St Bede's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	448,501	112,554	39,095	104,764	704,914	511,929
St Godric's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	645,242	145,075	24,366	198,523	1,013,206	821,327
Our Lady Queen of Martyrs Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	338,963	82,840	22,895	98,472	543,170	438,119
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Ushaw Moor)	428,258	94,824	28,572	90,862	642,516	503,327
St Cuthbert's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	621,105	155,396	30,021	177,528	984,050	716,807
St Joseph's Catholic Middle School (Northumberland)	1,132,519	201,671	65,559	331,936	1,731,685	1,319,880
St Mary's Catholic First School (Northumberland)	366,693	114,205	26,654	142,059	649,611	470,221
St Alban's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	682,992	146,417	32,660	199,391	1,061,460	460,757
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	653,813	153,231	49,913	169,877	1,026,834	481,015

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 20 Funds

(Continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
St Michael's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	648,642	122,342	46,063	152,654	969,701	497,196
St Benet's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	742,590	156,091	22,363	214,045	1,135,089	521,646
St Oswald's Catholic Primary (Gateshead)	685,123	149,917	95,497	207,353	1,137,890	535,124
St Joseph's Catholic Primary (County Durham - Stanley)	670,626	167,157	30,120	219,893	1,087,796	559,319
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham)	644,302	117,272	44,391	162,205	968,170	296,071
St Augustine's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	1,088,844	193,892	84,152	321,722	1,688,610	382,029
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	718,515	144,676	33,969	168,408	1,065,568	246,191
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Gilesgate)	492,304	124,994	32,227	119,570	769,095	-
St Thomas More Primary School (County Durham - Belmont)	245,500	84,060	23,273	117,587	470,420	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - South Moor)	462,127	123,449	30,958	102,076	718,610	-
St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	385,644	126,367	21,609	74,282	607,902	-
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Dunston)	567,894	97,409	28,788	136,179	830,270	-
Our Lady and St Joseph Brooms Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Leadgate)	334,926	88,414	22,229	83,109	528,678	-
St Joseph's Catholic Junior School (County Durham - Birtley)	314,413	65,951	38,792	93,575	512,731	-
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School (County Durham - Birtley)	246,173	70,890	19,440	76,163	412,666	-
St Peter's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Low Fell)	365,077	51,564	30,282	109,691	556,614	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	794,620	173,670	49,942	138,288	1,156,520	-

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 20 Funds

(Continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	481,477	63,040	55,435	140,149	740,101	-
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	369,144	77,679	34,161	108,320	589,304	-
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Whickham)	198,011	26,742	26,227	65,186	316,166	-
St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	175,071	27,407	15,085	55,399	272,962	-
St Mary' & St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	232,945	56,591	22,554	64,397	376,487	-
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Langley Moor)	87,497	42,039	6,500	43,433	179,469	-
All Saints' Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Lanchester)	222,019	46,591	17,270	51,788	337,668	-
St Agnes' Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Crawcrook)	192,714	27,290	7,224	50,038	277,266	-
Central services	1,448,073	826,238	268,055	1,976,717	4,519,083	1,016,436
	<u>52,356,140</u>	<u>10,648,840</u>	<u>3,952,973</u>	<u>14,666,706</u>	<u>81,624,659</u>	<u>59,433,272</u>

### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2022 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	1,755,000	-	15,024,267	16,779,267
Fixed asset investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	4,700,902	13,345,762	4,033,844	22,080,508
Current liabilities	-	(8,946,558)	(212,779)	(9,159,337)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	(1,066,486)	(1,066,486)
Pension scheme liability	-	(10,371,000)	-	(10,371,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>6,455,902</u>	<u>(5,971,796)</u>	<u>17,778,847</u>	<u>18,262,953</u>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 21 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:</b>				
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
Current liabilities	-	(6,066,914)	(94,539)	(6,161,453)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	(786,088)	(786,088)
Pension scheme liability	-	(32,324,000)	-	(32,324,000)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>4,165,418</b>	<b>(29,800,503)</b>	<b>15,060,668</b>	<b>(10,574,417)</b>

### 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 £1,257,485 (2021: £1,019,516) 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 academy trusts. All teachers have the option to opt out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

##### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 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 2022

#### 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 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £7,762,859 (2021: £6,311,159).

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	2022 £	2021 £
Employer's contributions	2,322,000	1,625,000
Employees' contributions	713,000	521,000
Total contributions	3,035,000	2,146,000



# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 22 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions	Durham 2022	Tyne & Wear 2022	Durham 2021	Tyne & Wear 2021
Rate of increase in salaries	3.7	4.2	3.6	4.2
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/ inflation	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.1	4.1	1.7	1.7
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7	2.7	2.6	2.7

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

	Durham 2022 Years	Tyne & Wear 2022 Years	Durham 2020 Years	Tyne & Wear 2021 Years
Retiring today				
- Males	22.3	21.9	22.2	21.9
- Females	24.3	25.1	24.2	25.1
Retiring in 20 years				
- Males	23.3	23.6	23.2	23.6
- Females	25.8	26.9	25.7	26.9

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

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2022 Fair value £	2021 Fair value £
Equities	23,613,000	18,303,000
Government bonds	2,071,000	2,228,000
Corporate bonds	6,111,000	6,253,000
Cash	729,000	1,354,000
Property	4,464,000	2,410,000
Other assets	6,667,000	2,163,000
Total market value of assets	43,655,000	32,711,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £226,000 (2021: £4,839,000).

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 22 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	6,632,000	4,186,000
Past service cost	16,000	-
Interest income	(675,000)	(420,000)
Interest cost	1,294,000	831,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total operating charge	7,267,000	4,597,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September 2021	65,035,000	40,160,000
Obligations acquired on conversion	15,504,000	14,088,000
Current service cost	6,632,000	4,186,000
Interest cost	1,294,000	831,000
Employee contributions	713,000	521,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(34,457,000)	5,711,000
Benefits paid	(711,000)	(462,000)
Past service cost	16,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2022	54,026,000	65,035,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September 2021	32,711,000	20,057,000
Assets acquired on conversion	8,394,000	6,131,000
Interest income	675,000	420,000
Actuarial loss/(gain)	(449,000)	4,419,000
Employer contributions	2,322,000	1,625,000
Employee contributions	713,000	521,000
Benefits paid	(711,000)	(462,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2022	43,655,000	32,711,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 23 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2022 £	2021 £
Net expenditure for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(5,170,630)	(5,734,858)
Adjusted for:			
Net deficit on conversion to academy	30	4,678,610	5,807,925
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(4,135,096)	(2,794,843)
Investment income receivable	6	(1,894)	(2,900)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	22	4,326,000	2,561,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	22	619,000	411,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		722,975	531,752
(Increase)/decrease in stocks		(16,937)	622
(Increase) in debtors		(1,636,565)	(607,261)
Increase in creditors		2,879,643	2,245,486
Stocks, debtors and creditors transferred on conversion	30	-	2,149,075
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>2,265,106</b>	<b>4,566,998</b>

### 24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2022 £
Cash	11,977,306	5,250,858	17,228,164
Loans falling due within one year	(94,538)	(118,241)	(212,779)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(786,088)	(280,398)	(1,066,486)
	<b>11,096,680</b>	<b>4,852,219</b>	<b>15,948,899</b>

### 25 Long-term commitments

#### Operating leases

At 31 August 2022 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2022 £	2021 £
Amounts due within one year	79,378	138,290
Amounts due in two and five years	83,590	117,692
Amounts due after five years	-	604
	<b>162,968</b>	<b>256,586</b>

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 26 Capital commitments

	2022 £	2021 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the accounts	375,310	747,192

### 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 £453,469 during the year and received income of £250,803.

- 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 Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

During the year the trust purchased Catholic education support services of £201,152 from Hexham and Newcastle Diocese.

### 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.

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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#### 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 2022 the trust brought forward £121,959 (2021: £87,815) undistributed funds, received £141,219 (2021: £130,648) and disbursed £52,024 (2020: £96,564) from the fund. An amount of £211,154 (2021: £121,959) 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 2022 the trust brought forward £30,308 (2021: £30,308) from previous years, received £nil (2021: £nil) and disbursed £nil (2021: £nil) from funds. An amount of £30,308 (2021: £30,308) was included in other creditors prior to transfer relating to undistributed funds.

#### 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.

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

#### 30 Conversion to an academy

(Continued)

Academy	Location	Date of conversion
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Gilesgate)	County Durham	1 September 2021
St Thomas More Primary School (County Durham - Belmont)	County Durham	1 September 2021
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - South Moor)	County Durham	1 November 2021
St Pius Xth Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	County Durham	1 November 2021
St Philip Neri Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Dunston)	Gateshead	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 (County Durham - Birtley)	County Durham	1 November 2021
St Joseph's Catholic Infant School (County Durham - Birtley)	County Durham	1 November 2021
St Peter's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Low Fell)	Gateshead	1 February 2022
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Consett)	County Durham	1 February 2022
Corpus Christi Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	1 February 2022
St Joseph's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	Gateshead	1 February 2022
St Mary's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Whickham)	Gateshead	1 May 2022
St Wilfrid's Catholic Primary School (Gateshead)	Gateshead	1 May 2022
St Mary' & St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Blaydon)	Gateshead	1 May 2022
St Patrick's Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Langley Moor)	County Durham	1 May 2022
All Saints' Catholic Primary School (County Durham - Lanchester)	County Durham	1 May 2022
St Agnes' Catholic Primary School (Gateshead - Crawcrook)	Gateshead	1 May 2022

# BISHOP WILKINSON CATHOLIC EDUCATION TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

### 30 Conversion to an academy

(Continued)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2022 £
<b>Net assets transferred:</b>				
Cash	2,267,213	-	164,177	2,431,390
Pension scheme deficit	-	(7,110,000)	-	(7,110,000)
	<u>2,267,213</u>	<u>(7,110,000)</u>	<u>164,177</u>	<u>(4,678,610)</u>
	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total 2022 £
<b>Funds surplus/(deficit) transferred:</b>				
Fixed assets funds	-	-	164,177	164,177
LA budget funds	2,267,213	-	-	2,267,213
LGPS pension funds	-	(7,110,000)	-	(7,110,000)
	<u>2,267,213</u>	<u>(7,110,000)</u>	<u>164,177</u>	<u>(4,678,610)</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. Other assets on conversion have been estimated by the Trust.