

**Company registration number 07718680 (England and Wales)**

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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# CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

V Crosher  
G Doughty  
S Ball  
S Richey  
D Chapman

### Governors

R Shough (Resigned 14 November 2023)  
C Smith (Accounting Officer)  
S Ball (Resigned 31 August 2024)  
E Odom (Co-chair of governors)  
K Walker (Resigned 1 September 2023)  
T Smith (Co-chair of governors)  
C Dyson (Resigned 31 August 2024)  
L Coulthard (Resigned 21 September 2023)  
J Dyson (Resigned 31 August 2024)  
A Barker (Resigned 31 December 2023)  
S Clark  
Ms H Miller (Appointed 11 December 2023)  
Ms S Hearne (Appointed 11 December 2023 and resigned 29 April 2024)

### Senior management team

- Principal
- Vice principal
- Assistant principal
- Assistant principal
- Assistant principal SENCO
- School Business Manager

C Smith  
N Rawes  
G Bentley  
A Hibbins  
M Mindham  
T Green

### Company secretary

H Cook

### Company registration number

07718680 (England and Wales)

### Registered office

Ryhall Road  
Great Casterton  
Stamford  
Lincolnshire  
PE9 4AT  
United Kingdom

### Independent auditor

Azets Audit Services  
Westpoint  
Lynch Wood  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire  
PE2 6FZ  
United Kingdom

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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**Bankers**

Lloyds Bank plc  
65 High Street  
Stamford  
Lincolnshire  
PE9 2AT  
United Kingdom

**Solicitors**

Browne Jacobson  
44 Castle Gate  
Nottingham  
NG1 7BJ  
United Kingdom

**GOVERNORS' REPORT**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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The governors present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The accounts have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies set out in note 1 to the accounts and comply with the academy's Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Companies Act 2006 and "Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (effective 1 January 2015)".

**Structure, governance and management**

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee incorporated on 26 July 2011, and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. On 1 September 2011 the charitable company commenced the operation of an academy school, following the conversion of a Local Authority controlled school.

The company is known as Casterton College Rutland.

The governors are the trustees of Casterton College Rutland and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the governors who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of governors

Governors are appointed and inducted in accordance with the provisions detailed within the Memorandum and Articles of Association. New governors, appointed by existing governors, will undergo induction to brief them on their legal obligations under charity and company law, the content of the Memorandum and Articles of Association, the Funding Agreement and the Board and decision making processes.

Governors are appointed for a period of 4 years. Details of the composition of the governors are noted below.

The constitution of the former governing body was maintained upon the conversion to academy status to ensure an appropriate level of stakeholder involvement and accountability. The particular groups represented are parents, staff, community and partnerships.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of governors

The current governing body contains education professionals representing the full range of provision including higher education. There is a strong representation from private enterprise and public sector roles with a wide range of professional backgrounds and experience.

All governors other than the academy trust's principal and other staff governors, who are employees of the company, give up their time freely and no remuneration or expenses were paid in the period in respect of being a governor.

Induction for governors is organised by the principal and clerk to governors.

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### Organisational structure

Casterton College Rutland is made up of 1 school, which reports to the governors. Levels of delegation have been made by the board of governors to the finance, estates and resources committee and also to the principal. For the year to 31 August 2024 the financial delegations remained in line with the procedures prior to academy status and governed by the Academy Trust Handbook.

The strategic direction of Casterton College Rutland is overseen by the principal.

The senior team in the school is responsible for the day to day operations of the school in particular relating to teaching staff and students.

The principal has the role of accounting officer and the director of finance has the role of chief financial officer.

#### Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

Pay for the senior team is set by the governing body pay committee, this is reviewed in line with staff performance appraisals. We seek guidance from an external personnel management company. The size of the leadership team is reviewed in line with students numbers.

### **Objectives and activities**

#### Objects and aims

The academy trust's objects are:

1. To advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum.
2. To promote for the benefit of individuals living in Rutland and Stamford and the surrounding area who have need by reason of their age, infirmity or disability, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time activities in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said individuals.

#### Objectives, strategies and activities

Characteristics of the School:

Casterton is a popular and high performing co-educational comprehensive 11-16 academy in Rutland, less than a mile from Stamford in Lincolnshire. It is located on a large rural site with extensive grounds to the rear. The current roll is 949, having grown 30% in 5 years.

#### Public benefit

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

### **Strategic report**

#### **Achievements and performance**

The last published results show a progress 8 score of 0.22 which is above average, and the school was recently rated good by Ofsted in all respects.

The school is a single academy trust.

#### Going concern

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

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### Financial review

The academy trust's accounting period is for the year ended 31 August 2024.

Most of the income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants from the ESFA and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. The academy trust also received grants for capital expenditure from the ESFA and the Local Authority. All these grants are shown as restricted income in the fixed asset funds. The fund is then reduced by the annual depreciation charge over the useful life of the assets concerned.

#### Reserves policy

The reserves policy can be found on the college website. Our aim is not to drop below £200,000. Due to the underlying surplus in the year, the available GAG and unrestricted reserves at the year end have risen above this level and the governors are reviewing the position.

Restricted fixed assets funds of £7,763,351 (2023 - £7,958,975) are represented by the value of fixed assets of £7,720,578 (2023 - £7,920,129), a balance of ESFA capital funding of £41,283 (2023 - £54,224) a balance of Condition Improvement Funding of £37,929 (2023 - £37,929) and a balance of Salix loans due of £36,439 (2023 - £53,307).

The academy is confident that it will meet the required pension contributions from its projected income without significantly impacting on its planned level of charitable activity. It continues to calculate its 'free' or general unrestricted reserves without setting aside designated reserves to cover the pension liability.

Total funds of the charity amount to £8,607,690 (2023 - £8,421,804). At the year end the academy had a surplus on GAG funding of £261,998 (2023 - £258,362) and there are unrestricted reserves of £323,979 (2023 - £204,467). The balance is invested in fixed assets or has a restriction for other purposes.

#### Investment policy

The governors aim to maximise income from any funds available for short term investment. All free funds are invested in cash deposits to ensure they can be accessed when required whilst generating income.

#### Principal risks and uncertainties

The academy trust continually monitors and reviews its systems and procedures to ensure that major risks are identified and managed. Within the current period the academy trust continued to work in line with its previous procedures and protocols whilst the overall risk management structure was reviewed.

Key controls to manage risk include:

- Agendas for all committee and board meetings
- Terms of reference for all committees
- Strategic planning, budgeting and management reporting
- Formal organisational structure
- Written policies and procedures
- Authorisation and approval levels
- DBS checks
- Risk registers

A copy of our risk register can be found on the website.

The trust maintains a full risk register and the health and safety committee meets three times a year.

The trust audits health and safety annually and reports to the health and safety committee and health and safety governor.

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### **Fundraising**

The trust is compliant with the recognised standards of fundraising set out in the Code of Fundraising Practice. Casterton College Rutland does not use professional fundraisers and there have been no complaints received by the trust about fund raising activities carried out by the trust in the year.

#### **Plans for future periods**

Our aims are:

- Maximise student attainment and progress.
- Ensure the continued financial viability of the college.
- Broaden the trust to eventually form a Multi-Academy Trust (MAT).

#### **Auditor**

In so far as the governors are aware:

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

A resolution proposing that Azets Audit Services be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

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

.....

T Smith

**Co-chair of governors**

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****GOVERNANCE STATEMENT*****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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**Scope of responsibility**

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

The board of governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Casterton College Rutland and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of governors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' Report and in the Statement of Governors' Responsibilities. The board of governors has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of governors was as follows:

<b>Governors</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of possible</b>
R Shough (Resigned 14 November 2023)	0	1
C Smith (Accounting Officer)	4	4
S Ball (Resigned 31 August 2024)	3	4
E Odom (Co-chair of governors)	3	4
K Walker (Resigned 1 September 2023)	0	0
T Smith (Co-chair of governors)	4	4
C Dyson (Resigned 31 August 2024)	4	4
L Coulthard (Resigned 21 September 2023)	0	0
J Dyson (Resigned 31 August 2024)	4	4
A Barker (Resigned 31 December 2023)	0	2
S Clark	1	4
Ms H Miller (Appointed 11 December 2023)	2	2
Ms S Hearne (Appointed 11 December 2023 and resigned 29 April 2024)	1	2

**Conflicts of interest**

All trustees are asked to declare conflicts of interests at the start of each meeting and these are formally recorded in a register. In the event of a conflict that trustee cannot take part in decision making that might be affected by that interest.

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

#### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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The finance, estates and resources committee is a sub-committee of the main board of governors. Its purpose is to advise the board of governors on all matters regarding finance and property:

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Governors	Meetings attended	Out of possible
C Smith (Accounting Officer)	4	4
T Smith (Co-chair of governors)	4	4
J Dyson (Resigned 31 August 2024)	4	4
A Barker (Resigned 31 December 2023)	0	2

#### Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the principal 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, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

Governors assess value for money on the basis of the SEF Scorecard and key financial benchmarks which are compared with similar schools.

All major financial decisions follow best practice rules and the Principal has a fortnightly meeting with the Director of Finance to assess day to day matters.

Pupil Premium funding is assessed for the impact it has on pupil outcomes and the resulting evaluation is published on the school website.

We seek to main a proportion of staff costs to the total budget of approximately 78%.

#### 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 Casterton College Rutland for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

#### Capacity to handle risk

The board of governors 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 governors 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 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of governors.

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### **The risk and control framework**

The academy trust's system of internal 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 governors;
- regular reviews by the finance, estates and resources committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.

The board of governors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and have appointed School Business Services (SBS) as internal auditor.

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems.

On a regular basis, the reviewer reports to the board of governors through the finance, estates and resources committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of governors.

#### **Review of effectiveness**

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

- the work of the external auditor performing additional checks;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the board of governors on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

C Smith  
**Accounting Officer**

T Smith  
**Co-chair of governors**

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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As accounting officer of Casterton College Rutland, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of governors and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, 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 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust's board of governors 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 2023.

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 governors and ESFA.

C Smith

**Accounting Officer**

.....

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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The governors (who act as trustees for Casterton College Rutland and are also the directors of Casterton College Rutland for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the governors' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the governors to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the governors 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 governors 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 2023 to 2024;
- 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors on ..... and signed on its behalf by:

T Smith

**Co-chair of governors**

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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#### Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Casterton College Rutland for the year ended 31 August 2024 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 2023 to 2024 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 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- 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 2023 to 2024.

#### 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 governors' 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 governors 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 governors 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.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CASTERTON COLLEGE  
RUTLAND (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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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 governors' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the governors' 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 governors' 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 governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

**Responsibilities of governors**

As explained more fully in the statement of governors' responsibilities, the governors 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 governors 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 governors 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 governors 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.

**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.

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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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 2023 to 2024 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 is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

#### Use of our report

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

**Mr Mark Jackson FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**  
**for and on behalf of Azets Audit Services**

**Chartered Accountants**  
**Statutory Auditor**

.....  
Westpoint  
Lynch Wood  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire  
United Kingdom  
PE2 6FZ

## CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 9 October 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Casterton College Rutland during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

#### **Respective responsibilities of Casterton College Rutland's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Casterton College Rutland's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 September 2011 (as amended by the deed of variation dated 15 January 2013) and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

#### **Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- a review of the activities of the academy, by reference to sources of income and other information available to us;
- sample testing of expenditure, including payroll;
- a review of minutes of Governors' meetings.

## **CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND**

### **INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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#### **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 2023 to 31 August 2024 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

Westpoint

Lynch Wood

Peterborough

Cambridgeshire

PE2 6FZ

United Kingdom

Dated: .....

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £ Fixed asset £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	3	5,898	-	20,298	26,196
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	343,499	6,438,123	-	6,781,622
- Community focussed education		383,834	248,849	-	632,683
Other trading activities	5	26,709	-	-	26,709
Investments	6	110	-	-	110
<b>Total</b>		<b>760,050</b>	<b>6,686,972</b>	<b>20,298</b>	<b>7,467,320</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	7	135,077	-	-	135,077
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	203,402	6,058,257	232,790	6,494,449
- Community focussed education		302,059	248,849	-	550,908
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>640,538</b>	<b>6,307,106</b>	<b>232,790</b>	<b>7,180,434</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>119,512</b>	<b>379,866</b>	<b>(212,492)</b>	<b>286,886</b>
Transfers between funds	18	-	(16,868)	16,868	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	(101,000)	-	(101,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>119,512</b>	<b>261,998</b>	<b>(195,624)</b>	<b>185,886</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		204,467	258,362	7,958,975	8,421,804
Total funds carried forward		323,979	520,360	7,763,351	8,607,690

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)  
INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

<b>Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2023</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds:</b>		<b>Total 2023</b>
		<b>£</b>	<b>General £</b>	<b>Fixed asset £</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	<b>3</b>	5,410	-	54,224	59,634
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	<b>4</b>	403,340	5,821,717	-	6,225,057
- Community focussed education		346,326	126,078	-	472,404
Other trading activities	<b>5</b>	29,889	-	-	29,889
Investments	<b>6</b>	93	-	-	93
<b>Total</b>		<b>785,058</b>	<b>5,947,795</b>	<b>54,224</b>	<b>6,787,077</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	<b>7</b>	127,755	-	-	127,755
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	<b>8</b>	235,306	5,842,751	207,299	6,285,356
- Community focussed education		321,605	126,078	-	447,683
<b>Total</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>684,666</b>	<b>5,968,829</b>	<b>207,299</b>	<b>6,860,794</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>100,392</b>	<b>(21,034)</b>	<b>(153,075)</b>	<b>(73,717)</b>
Transfers between funds	<b>18</b>	-	(153,271)	153,271	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	<b>24</b>	-	402,000	-	402,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>100,392</b>	<b>227,695</b>	<b>196</b>	<b>328,283</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		104,075	30,667	7,958,779	8,093,521
Total funds carried forward		204,467	258,362	7,958,975	8,421,804

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024**

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	13		7,720,578		7,920,129
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	14	273,256		361,516	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,009,711		621,237	
		1,282,967		982,753	
<b>Current liabilities</b>					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(379,687)		(448,042)	
<b>Net current assets</b>			903,280		534,711
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			8,623,858		8,454,840
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16		(16,168)		(33,036)
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>			8,607,690		8,421,804
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	24		-		-
<b>Total net assets</b>			8,607,690		8,421,804
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>	18				
- Fixed asset funds			7,763,351		7,958,975
- Restricted income funds			520,360		258,362
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			8,283,711		8,217,337
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	18		323,979		204,467
<b>Total funds</b>			8,607,690		8,421,804

The accounts on pages 17 to 40 were approved by the governors and authorised for issue on ..... and are signed on their behalf by:

.....  
T Smith  
**Co-chair of governors**

Company registration number 07718680 (England and Wales)

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

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>					
Net cash provided by operating activities	21		384,934		109,713
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		110		93	
Capital grants from DfE Group		20,298		54,224	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		-		(133,000)	
<b>Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities</b>			20,408		(78,683)
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>					
Repayment of long term bank loan		(16,868)		(20,271)	
<b>Net cash used in financing activities</b>			(16,868)		(20,271)
<b>Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>			388,474		10,759
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			621,237		610,478
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>			1,009,711		621,237

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**1 Accounting policies**

Casterton College Rutland is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the governors' report.

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

**1.1 Basis of preparation**

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

**1.2 Going concern**

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

**1.3 Income**

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

Grants

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

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

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

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.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

**1.4 Expenditure**

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Governance costs

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****1 Accounting policies****(Continued)****1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation**

The land and buildings were transferred into the academy trust by the governors of the previous LA school. The ESFA commissioned a professional valuation at 31 August 2012 on a depreciated replacement cost value basis and that valuation has been used to bring the property into these accounts in that year.

Other fixtures, fittings and equipment transferred into the academy trust from the previous LA school have been brought into these accounts on a depreciated replacement cost value basis carried out by the governors.

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

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

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

Land and buildings	2% p.a. on a straight line basis
Equipment	25% p.a. on a reducing balance basis
IT equipment	over 5 years on a straight line basis

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

**1.6 Liabilities**

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

**1.7 Leased assets**

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

Some of the land and buildings from which the academy trust operate are leased from the Local Authority at £nil rent. A commercial value of the lease has not been included in these accounts as expenditure or donated income.

**1.8 Financial instruments**

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**1 Accounting policies**

**(Continued)**

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.

**1.9 Taxation**

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

**1.10 Pensions benefits**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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.

**1.11 Fund accounting**

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

Designated funds are where the governors have ring fenced unrestricted income for specific projects.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****1 Accounting policies****(Continued)**

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

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

**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.

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 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

**3 Donations and capital grants**

	<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<b>Restricted funds</b>	<b>Total 2024</b>	<b>Total 2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Capital grants	-	20,298	20,298	54,224
Other donations	5,898	-	5,898	5,410
	<u>5,898</u>	<u>20,298</u>	<u>26,196</u>	<u>59,634</u>

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****4 Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Educational operations</b>				
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	5,701,692	5,701,692	5,080,975
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	195,744	195,744	184,073
- Supplementary grant	-	-	-	151,971
- Mainstream supplementary annual grant	-	199,658	199,658	83,191
- Teachers pension grant	-	51,550	51,550	-
- Teachers pay grant	-	101,371	101,371	-
- Others	-	53,480	53,480	78,534
	-	6,303,495	6,303,495	5,578,744
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	107,846	107,846	160,497
<b>Other incoming resources</b>	343,499	26,782	370,281	485,816
<b>Total funding for educational operations</b>	343,499	6,438,123	6,781,622	6,225,057
<b>Community focussed education income</b>	383,834	248,849	632,683	472,404
<b>Total funding</b>	727,333	6,686,972	7,414,305	6,697,461

**5 Other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Lettings	26,709	-	26,709	29,868
Catering income	-	-	-	21
	26,709	-	26,709	29,889

**6 Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Short term deposits	110	-	110	93

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****7 Expenditure**

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Expenditure on raising funds					
- Direct costs	135,077	-	-	135,077	127,755
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	3,867,196	-	475,668	4,342,864	3,689,887
- Allocated support costs	1,304,506	732,278	363,650	2,400,434	2,595,469
Community focussed education					
- Direct costs	253,511	-	48,548	302,059	447,683
	<u>5,560,290</u>	<u>732,278</u>	<u>887,866</u>	<u>7,180,434</u>	<u>6,860,794</u>

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	15,700	14,600
- Other services	2,384	1,273
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	199,551	207,299
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(11,000)	16,000

**8 Charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Educational operations	203,402	4,139,462	4,342,864	3,689,887
Community focussed education	53,210	248,849	302,059	447,683
<b>Support costs</b>				
Educational operations	-	2,400,434	2,400,434	2,595,469
	<u>256,612</u>	<u>6,788,745</u>	<u>7,045,357</u>	<u>6,733,039</u>

	Community focussed education £	Educational operations £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
<b>Analysis of costs</b>				
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Teaching and educational support staff costs	253,511	3,867,196	4,120,707	3,630,043
Staff development	-	7,370	7,370	11,751
Technology costs	-	103,511	103,511	94,611
Educational supplies and services	-	214,856	214,856	203,850
Other direct costs	48,548	149,931	198,479	197,315
	<u>302,059</u>	<u>4,342,864</u>	<u>4,644,923</u>	<u>4,137,570</u>

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****8 Charitable activities****(Continued)****Support costs**

Support staff costs	-	1,304,506	1,304,506	1,301,823
Depreciation	-	199,551	199,551	207,299
Maintenance of premises and equipment	-	147,007	147,007	247,034
Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	-	385,720	385,720	364,255
Security and transport	-	5,329	5,329	53,779
Catering	-	138,855	138,855	139,958
Finance costs	-	(11,000)	(11,000)	16,000
Legal costs	-	3,877	3,877	5,168
Other support costs	-	208,505	208,505	244,280
Governance costs	-	18,084	18,084	15,873
	-	2,400,434	2,400,434	2,595,469

**9 Governance costs****All from restricted funds:**

Total	Total
2024	2023
£	£

**Amounts included in support costs**

Legal costs	3,877	5,168
Auditor's remuneration		
- Audit of financial statements	15,700	14,600
- Other audit costs	2,384	1,273
	21,961	21,041

**10 Staff****Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	4,121,406	3,680,839
Social security costs	395,743	349,796
Pension costs	932,707	868,933
Staff costs - employees	5,449,856	4,899,568
Agency staff costs	110,434	160,053
	5,560,290	5,059,621
Staff development and other staff costs	7,370	11,751
Total staff expenditure	5,567,660	5,071,372

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****10 Staff****(Continued)****Staff numbers**

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

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
Teachers	56	55
Administration and support	52	47
Management	6	5
Childcare	20	16
	<u>134</u>	<u>123</u>

**Higher paid staff**

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

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>Number</b>	<b>Number</b>
£60,001 - £70,000	3	-
£70,001 - £80,000	-	1
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-
	<u>  </u>	<u>  </u>

**Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the six (2023 - five) members of the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £531,561 (2023 - £427,197).

**11 Governors' remuneration and expenses**

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

The value of governors' remuneration and other benefits for the period they were a governor was as follows:

C Smith (principal and governor)

Remuneration £110,001 - £115,000 (2023: £100,001 - £105,000)

Employer's pension contributions £25,001 - £30,000 (2023: £20,001 - £25,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £nil (2023: £47) were reimbursed or paid directly to governors.

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****12 Governors' and officers' insurance**

The academy trust has opted into the Department of 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 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.

**13 Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Land and buildings</b>	<b>Equipment</b>	<b>IT equipment</b>	<b>Total</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024	9,780,009	426,227	23,169	10,229,405
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2023	1,980,618	305,489	23,169	2,309,276
Charge for the year	172,596	26,955	-	199,551
At 31 August 2024	2,153,214	332,444	23,169	2,508,827
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2024	7,626,795	93,783	-	7,720,578
At 31 August 2023	7,799,391	120,738	-	7,920,129

**14 Debtors**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Trade debtors	123,963	24,706
VAT recoverable	3,961	39,374
Prepayments and accrued income	145,332	297,436
	<b>273,256</b>	<b>361,516</b>

**15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Government loans	20,271	20,271
Trade creditors	1,107	72,226
Other taxation and social security	85,521	82,845
Other creditors	116,461	98,820
Accruals and deferred income	156,327	173,880
	<b>379,687</b>	<b>448,042</b>

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****16 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Government loans	16,168	33,036
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>Analysis of loans</b>		
Wholly repayable within five years	36,439	53,307
Less: included in current liabilities	(20,271)	(20,271)
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Amounts included above	16,168	33,036
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
<b>Loan maturity</b>		
Debt due in one year or less	20,271	20,271
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	16,168	33,036
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
	36,439	53,307
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

**17 Deferred income**

	<b>2024</b>	<b>2023</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	58,999	18,803
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	18,803	70,164
Released from previous years	(18,803)	(70,164)
Resources deferred in the year	58,999	18,803
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	58,999	18,803
	<u>          </u>	<u>          </u>

Deferred income relates to income received in the year for trips and events that are to take place in the year ended 31 August 2025.

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****18 Funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	258,362	5,701,692	(5,422,826)	(16,868)	520,360
Pupil premium	-	195,744	(195,744)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	406,059	(406,059)	-	-
Other government grants	-	107,846	(107,846)	-	-
Community focussed education	-	248,849	(248,849)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	26,782	(26,782)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	101,000	(101,000)	-
	<u>258,362</u>	<u>6,686,972</u>	<u>(6,307,106)</u>	<u>(117,868)</u>	<u>520,360</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	7,920,129	-	(199,551)	-	7,720,578
DfE group capital grants	92,153	20,298	(33,239)	-	79,212
Salix loans	(53,307)	-	-	16,868	(36,439)
	<u>7,958,975</u>	<u>20,298</u>	<u>(232,790)</u>	<u>16,868</u>	<u>7,763,351</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>8,217,337</u>	<u>6,707,270</u>	<u>(6,539,896)</u>	<u>(101,000)</u>	<u>8,283,711</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	134,193	376,216	(338,479)	-	171,930
Community focussed education	70,274	383,834	(302,059)	-	152,049
	<u>204,467</u>	<u>760,050</u>	<u>(640,538)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>323,979</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>8,421,804</u>	<u>7,467,320</u>	<u>(7,180,434)</u>	<u>(101,000)</u>	<u>8,607,690</u>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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**18 Funds**

**(Continued)**

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

Restricted general funds

The restricted grant income in the period all relates to the charitable objects of the provision of education for children attending the academy and community focussed education.

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 2024.

The pension provision equates to the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme FRS102 Valuation.

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.

Restricted fixed asset funds

The capital formula funding has to be spent on capital expenditure within three years of allocation.

The capital maintenance funding is for specific projects in the year.

The fixed asset fund represents the net book value of property and equipment.

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****18 Funds****(Continued)**

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	414,667	5,080,975	(5,084,009)	(153,271)	258,362
Pupil premium	-	184,073	(184,073)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	78,534	(78,534)	-	-
Other government grants	-	160,497	(160,497)	-	-
Community focussed education	-	126,078	(126,078)	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	151,971	(151,971)	-	-
Mainstream supplementary annual grant	-	83,191	(83,191)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	82,476	(82,476)	-	-
Pension reserve	(384,000)	-	(18,000)	402,000	-
	<u>30,667</u>	<u>5,947,795</u>	<u>(5,968,829)</u>	<u>248,729</u>	<u>258,362</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited on conversion	7,994,428	-	(207,299)	133,000	7,920,129
DfE group capital grants	37,929	54,224	-	-	92,153
Salix loans	(73,578)	-	-	20,271	(53,307)
	<u>7,958,779</u>	<u>54,224</u>	<u>(207,299)</u>	<u>153,271</u>	<u>7,958,975</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>7,989,446</u>	<u>6,002,019</u>	<u>(6,176,128)</u>	<u>402,000</u>	<u>8,217,337</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	58,522	438,732	(363,061)	-	134,193
Community focussed education	45,553	346,326	(321,605)	-	70,274
	<u>104,075</u>	<u>785,058</u>	<u>(684,666)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>204,467</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>8,093,521</u>	<u>6,787,077</u>	<u>(6,860,794)</u>	<u>402,000</u>	<u>8,421,804</u>

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****19 Analysis of net assets between funds**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	7,720,578	7,720,578
Current assets	382,978	820,777	79,212	1,282,967
Current liabilities	(58,999)	(300,417)	(20,271)	(379,687)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	(16,168)	(16,168)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>323,979</b>	<b>520,360</b>	<b>7,763,351</b>	<b>8,607,690</b>
	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:</b>				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	7,920,129	7,920,129
Current assets	217,726	672,874	92,153	982,753
Current liabilities	(13,259)	(414,512)	(20,271)	(448,042)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	(33,036)	(33,036)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>204,467</b>	<b>258,362</b>	<b>7,958,975</b>	<b>8,421,804</b>

**20 Long-term commitments****Operating leases**

At 31 August 2024 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts due within one year	11,512	11,512
Amounts due in two and five years	32,232	43,776
	<b>43,744</b>	<b>55,288</b>

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)****FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****21 Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		286,886	(73,717)
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(20,298)	(54,224)
Investment income receivable	6	(110)	(93)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	24	(90,000)	2,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance (income)/cost	24	(11,000)	16,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		199,551	207,299
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		88,260	(67,014)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(68,355)	79,462
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>		<b>384,934</b>	<b>109,713</b>

**22 Analysis of changes in net funds**

	1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2024 £
Cash	621,237	388,474	1,009,711
Loans falling due within one year	(20,271)	-	(20,271)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(33,036)	16,868	(16,168)
	<b>567,930</b>	<b>405,342</b>	<b>973,272</b>

**23 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.

No one individual has a controlling interest in the charitable company.

**24 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 Leicestershire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020, and that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £116,261 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023: £98,820) and are included within creditors.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024**

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**24 Pension and similar obligations**

**(Continued)**

**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 ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies 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 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- Employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed.
- Total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million.

The result of this valuation will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £656,882 (2023: £565,329).

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 is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and 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 % for employers and % for employees.

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 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

**CASTERTON COLLEGE RUTLAND****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024****24 Pension and similar obligations****(Continued)**

<b>Total contributions made</b>	<b>2024</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>£</b>
Employer's contributions	366,000	298,000
Employees' contributions	84,000	69,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	450,000	367,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Principal actuarial assumptions</b>	<b>2024</b> <b>%</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>%</b>
Rate of increase in salaries	3.15	3.50
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65	3.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	<b>2024</b> <b>Years</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>Years</b>
Retiring today		
- Males	21.9	22.0
- Females	24.7	24.7
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.3	21.4
- Females	25.8	25.8
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

<b>The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme</b>	<b>2024</b> <b>Fair value</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2023</b> <b>Fair value</b> <b>£</b>
Equities	3,281,200	3,092,820
Bonds	2,145,400	1,844,840
Cash	504,800	108,520
Asset ceiling adjustment	(655,000)	(172,000)
Property	378,600	379,820
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total market value of assets	5,655,000	5,254,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The actual return on scheme assets was £645,000 (2023: £67,000).

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

**24 Pension and similar obligations****(Continued)**

<b>Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
Current service cost	276,000	300,000
Interest income	(288,000)	(216,000)
Interest cost	277,000	232,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total operating charge	265,000	316,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
At 1 September 2023	5,254,000	5,353,000
Current service cost	276,000	300,000
Interest cost	277,000	232,000
Employee contributions	84,000	69,000
Actuarial gain	(25,000)	(551,000)
Benefits paid	(211,000)	(149,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	5,655,000	5,254,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets</b>	<b>2024 £</b>	<b>2023 £</b>
At 1 September 2023	5,254,000	4,969,000
Interest income	288,000	216,000
Actuarial gain	357,000	23,000
Employer contributions	366,000	298,000
Employee contributions	84,000	69,000
Benefits paid	(211,000)	(149,000)
Asset ceiling adjustment	(483,000)	(172,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	5,655,000	5,254,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

The actuarial valuation prepared under FRS102 in respect of the Local Government Pension Scheme indicated that the Trust's share of the scheme was in surplus as at the year end to the value of £655,000 (2023: £172,000). The actuaries have undertaken an asset ceiling calculation which, on the basis that a minimum funding requirement does exist, indicates that none of that surplus is likely to result in either a refund of contributions or a reduction in future contributions in the future. On this basis, the potential asset has not been recognised in the accounts.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)**

***FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024***

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**25 Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. No related party transactions took place in the period of account.

Some of the governors have children who are pupils at the academy, consequently there will be transactions between those governors and the academy in respect of their children's education. These are on the same basis as other pupils at the academy.