Registered number: 09728614



# INSPIRE EDUCATION TRUST (A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

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#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Members

Mrs Lois Whitehouse Canon Linda Wainscoat Mrs Eileen Leech Mr Ralph Bonnell

#### **Trustees**

Mrs Lois Whitehouse, Chair of Trustees (until 11 October 2017)
Mrs Kim Docking, Executive Principal
Canon Linda Winscoat, Chair of the Diocesan Board of Education
Mr David Kershaw
Mr Peter Law (resigned 5 August 2017)
Mr Graham Wise, Chair of the finance and audit committee
Mrs Eileen Leech
Mr Malcolm Tyler, Chair of Trustees (appointed 11 October 2017)

#### Company secretary

Mrs Antoinette Heffernan

#### Senior leadership team

Mrs Kim Docking - Executive Principal
Mrs Antoinette Hefferman - Business Manager
Mr Robert Darling - Headteacher - Walsgrave
Mrs Karen Rossiter - Headteacher - Whittle
Mrs Amy Husband - Headteacher - Clifford Bridge
Mrs Bryony Harrison - Headteacher - Hearsall (appointed 01 April 2017)

#### Company name

Inspire Education Trust

#### Principal and registered office

Walsgrave CofE Academy School House Lane Walsgrave Coventry CV2 2BA

#### Company registered number

09728614

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, ITS TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### **Advisers (continued)**

#### Independent auditor

PKF Cooper Parry Group Limited Chartered Accountants One Central Boulevard Blythe Valley Business Park Solihull West Midlands B90 8BG

#### **Bankers**

Lloyds Bank PLC Coventry CV1 5RA

#### **Solicitors**

Browne Jacobson Victoria Square House Victoria Square Birmingham B2 4BU

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates 4 primary academies in Coventry, Warwickshire. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 1,662 and had a roll of 1,505 in the school census on January 2017.

#### Structure, governance and management

#### a. Constitution

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

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the academy trust.

The Trustees of Inspire Education Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law.

The charitable company is known as Inspire Education Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

#### b. Members' liability

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

#### c. Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with the normal commercial practice the academy trust provides indemnity insurance to protect its members, directors, academy representatives and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. This insurance does not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty, or which was committed by the trustees in reckless disregard of whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty, or to the costs of any unsuccessful defense to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as trustees. The insurance provider provides up to £10 million in aggregate claims.

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

Trustees are appointed by the members reflecting their skill set. Approval is sought from the Diocesan Board of Education. The invitation of observers has ensured a representation from each of the academies on the MAT Board of Directors.

#### e. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Trustees bring a variety of experience from a number of different backgrounds in both education and industry and commerce. Those coming via a role with a Local Governing Body will have received governor training. Where necessary additional training will be provided on charity, educational, legal and financial matters. All trustees are routinely involved with meetings, accounts, reports, budgets, plans and other information necessary to enable them to carry out their roles. Assistance and advice is always available from trust staff or professional advisors.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### f. Organisational structure

The MAT Board of Directors (the trustees) consists of The Executive Principal, and a team of six appointed directors each with varying skills. The MAT Board establish an overall framework for the governance of the Trust and is responsible for setting general policies, setting and monitoring annual budgets, making major decisions regarding strategic direction of the MAT and staff appointments. The directors are responsible for the monitoring and performance of the Executive Principal.

Each Academy has a Local Governing Body which has delegated authorities from the Trust Board. The Local Governing Body of each of the schools are responsible for implementing the policies laid down by the directors and reporting back to them. They scrutinise the performance of the individual schools. The committees are made up of parents, staff, directors and co-opted governors. They have responsibility for the Performance Management of the Head Teacher. The Executive Principal is the Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer.

The day-to-day running of the academies within the trust are managed by a Headteacher and senior leaders in each academy, who again have delegated authorities for both Financial and HR matters per a scheme of delegation. Headteachers can authorise expenditure up to £1,000 of goods and services with the Executive Principal able to authorise up to £10,000. The Executive Principal, HeadTeacher, Deputy Heads and Business Manager are bank signatories on the respective bank accounts of each academy.

#### g. Pay policy for key management personnel

The pay policy was agreed on 21 September 2016 at the Finance and Audit Committee with arrangements specified for key management personnel. The pay of these staff is set in line with the recommendations in the Teachers' Pay and Conditions for the size of school and level of responsibility. The salary of the Executive Principal was benchmarked against other primary MATs.

#### h. Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Inspire Education Trust was established as a standalone MAT and does not have any external sponsors. The long-established relationship between Inspire Education Trust and the Coventry Diocesan Board of Education has continued with Walsgrave C of E Academy entering into a Service Level Agreement to support the school in continuing to be an outstanding Church of England Primary School.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### **Objectives and Activities**

#### a. Objects and aims

Inspire Education Trust ("IET") is a Multi Academy Trust of Primary Schools that grew from a shared belief that children deserve a first-class education, so that each individual child understands what they are capable of, the talents they have, and strives for excellence in themselves in order to succeed in the next stage of their education and the world of work.

We understand that every member of staff is here for the best interest of the children. We want to ensure that every child is valued and that the unique identity of each school is protected, celebrated and recognised for the contribution it makes to ensuring children have the best education and experiences.

Our mission statement captures the way in which we work to achieve this.

The mission statement of the academy trust is "**Together we achieve, individually we grow**" and the academy trust's aims are:

- To be recognised as a Trust with outstanding learning opportunities.
- To raise aspirations to secure high levels of academic progress for all learners.
- To provide a wide range of memorable learning experiences.
- To ensure equality of opportunity within a safe and nurturing environment.
- To promote the Trust's values.
- Maintain and develop rigorous MAT wide school improvement programmes to support children and staff in raising achievement.
- To ensure effective governance together with ambitious and determined leadership, secure the best outcomes for our academy communities.
- For all Trust academies to have outstanding environments which support all learners.
- To establish a financial foundation to enable IET to fulfil its vision.
- To value committed, reflective staff who challenge themselves to be creative and to take risks, enabling outstanding performance.
- To provide continual professional development and promote a well-resourced, high quality environment.
- To become the employer of choice.
- To be recognised as a Centre of learning excellence, disseminating best practice within and beyond the MAT.
- To conduct the Trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.
- To develop effective partnerships between home, school, local, national and global communities.

#### b. Objectives, strategies and activities

Key Improvement focuses identified for this year were:

- To improve the effectiveness of leadership and management at all levels.
- To further develop the effectiveness of the Local Governing Body in providing a balance of challenge and support to leaders, in understanding the areas needing improvement at the school.
- To raise standards of teaching & learning.
- To use assessment information to plan appropriate teaching & learning activities to cater for all learners.
- To ensure all pupils are confident, self-assured, independent learners.
- To improve behaviour over time so that all children behave in line with school expectations.
- To secure expected or better than expected progress, for the overwhelming majority of pupils based on previous statutory assessments.
- To ensure inclusion and equality by promoting equality of opportunity and diversity for pupils and staff so
  that the ethos and culture of the whole school counters any form of direct or indirect discriminatory
  behaviour.
- To ensure the school reflects best practice in safeguarding so that all pupils feel safe in school.
- To ensure the school achieves high attendance / improved attendance for vulnerable children.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### c. Activities for achieving objectives

The strategies and criteria to measure success for achieving these objectives were:

- staff had individual profiles and generic and bespoke staff development was provided as a result of monitoring outcomes.
- 'Accelerated Improvement Plans' for teachers not meeting teacher standards commensurate with career stage expectations.
- extended staff meetings to support planning for the Core Curriculum.
- performance management systems to support teacher improvement.
- staff across the MAT, including employment of a Teaching and Learning Consultant were deployed to improve the teaching profile.
- head of Walsgrave led on assessment and introduced new systems and processes.
- ongoing staff training throughout the year.
- purchase of resources to support teacher assessment.
- cross MAT and Network moderation.
- · sampling of teacher judgements.
- 'Pupil Progress' meetings used to upskill teachers.
- ongoing monitoring of the quality of teaching.
- introduction of Strategic Leads across the MAT to ensure consistency of expectation in all subjects and in key year groups, EYFS, 2 and 6.
- thematic curriculum rewritten to ensure full coverage for all subjects.
- teachers had support at individual level to ensure that they were confident in delivering all National Curriculum Subjects.
- additional resources purchased as required to support delivery in PE, computer programming, PSHE etc.
- cross MAT planning of enrichment activities.
- termly analysis of data to include a focus on the attainment and progress of identified groups of pupils and a gap analysis.
- Provision Management for 'off-track' children.
- teachers and support staff trained in delivering interventions.
- monitoring focus on provision and outcomes for identified groups of pupils.
- achievement for All embedded in work of the school.
- Introduction of Thrive at Clifford Bridge, consolidation of this at Walsgrave and Whittle and Secrets to Success at Hearsall.
- new attendance initiatives introduced.
- termly staff training in Safeguarding including, Prevent, CSE, FGM and discipline in Black African Society.
- school Leaders received top up training, including Safer Recruitment and all governors at LGB level received Safeguarding training.

#### d. Public benefit

In setting the objectives and planning activities the trustees have given careful consideration to ensuring compliance with the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit. The activities undertaken to further the academy trust's public benefit are:

The trust aims to advance, for the public benefit, education in Coventry and the surrounding area. In particular, but without prejudice to the generality of the forgoing by maintaining, managing and developing schools and offering a broad curriculum to all its pupils and in the case of Walsgrave C of E Academy with a distinctively Christian context.

The trust also provides opportunities for children, their parents and the local communities that it serves through a range of extra-curricular activities and opportunities.

Inspire Education Trust is working to support all of the academies within the trust and to sustain a culture of mutual support and development across these academies. The commitment to developing a high-quality curriculum, delivered by well trained and effective teaching and support staff, and the sharing of expertise is at the heart of the trust's vision and development.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Strategic report

#### Achievements and performance

#### a. Review of activities

The MAT is in its second year of operation and we continue to build on the ethos embedded within our group of academies. There have not been any OFSTED inspections during this academic year but we have seen some impressive improvements in all four MAT academies. The Regional Schools Commissioner is prepared to allow IET to grow the MAT.

#### Walsgrave CE Academy

There have not been any inspections during this year and Walsgrave remains in the category of 'Outstanding' in both OFSTED and SIAMS. The Local Authority confirms the view of the MAT that this is an effective academy with its vision and ethos embedded in its practice. The strong support of the local incumbent as the Chair of the Local Governing Body is a factor in its success, along with an effective Local Governing Body. There is also a wonderful team spirit within the academy where all staff work well together to evaluate and monitor progress constantly and strive to ensure that good progress is achieved for all pupils. The Headteacher is relentless in his drive for improvement.

The Leadership Team has been strengthened with the internal promotion of a deputy Headteacher. Her work with the MAT Teaching and Learning consultant has seen both the curriculum and the quality of teaching improve across the MAT Academies. There is good capacity for leadership at all levels. The academy achieved Achievement for All Quality Lead which was well led by the Headteacher and is now working towards becoming an AfA lead academy.

The refurbishment of the Reception classrooms, completed in August 2016, has had a positive impact on provision and outcomes. Remodeling of the Year 4 classroom completed in year has already supported pupil's learning.

#### **Clifford Bridge Academy**

The Academy sits with an OFSTED judgement of 'Good'. This has been a significant year for Clifford Bridge. A new Headteacher took up post at the start of the academic year. She has worked closely with the executive principal as the academy has been without a deputy. 2016-17 has seen the academy go from strength to strength. The Headteacher has won the respect of all stakeholders. She has used her expertise in Inclusion to introduce systems and processes to support all children within the academy. The widening of the catchment area has seen an increased number of children with additional needs. Our Local Authority adviser felt the academy to be "on the cusp of outstanding". This is certainly the aim of all those associated with the academy. The Local Governing Body is led by an extremely proactive Chair. She is well supported by the rest of the Governing Body.

The quality of sports provision continued to improve during this period and the school achieved silver Kitemark from the Youth Sports Trust and the gold School Games Kitemark from Sainsbury's.

#### Whittle Academy

Whittle was a sponsored Academy with an OFSTED judgement of 'Requires Improvement'. It has been an academy on a journey of improvement. The Headteacher who was appointed in September 2015 has benefited from the support of a highly effective Assistant Head who is now the Deputy Head. The deputy has provided a strong lead for Inclusion and the academy was awarded Achievement for All Quality Mark. The Chair of the Local Governing Body is outstanding. As a former Senior Education Advisor for Coventry Local Authority, her experience, support and guidance has been invaluable. She is supported by a committed Governing Body, the Safeguarding background of one member has been priceless as the school draws from areas of need and has had to support vulnerable children and families.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### **Hearsall Academy**

Hearsall Community Primary School joined Inspire Multi Academy Trust in April 2017. The academy sits with an OFSTED judgement of 'Good' however, the Local Authority, Department of Education and the Multi Academy Trust recognise challenges facing the school, and as such, it joined the MAT as a sponsored academy. The Executive Principal had been working with the school during the latter part of the previous academic year. From September 2016 an acting Headteacher had been seconded from Inspire, together with the executive principal they supported school improvement. The MAT Teaching and Learning consultant was deployed within the school for additional days. The building needed substantial work both in terms of tidying, decluttering and maintenance. The school's reception space and offices were remodeled and this has had a huge impact both in terms of welcoming visitors but also on the efficiency of the office. During the summer holiday the reception area was relocated and remodeled, including the outside space and the year one classrooms divided and decorated. We anticipate these improvements will have a significant impact on the quality of education for our younger children. The Local Authority has started a programme of improvements which will run for the next two years. These were agreed on the point of conversion.

#### **Pupil Outcome 2017**

Reception	2016	2017
National 2016	69	71
Clifford Bridge	80	88 🛧
Hearsall	67	65 ₩
Walsgrave C of E	81	74 ₩
Whittle	50	68 ♠

<sup>\*</sup>Arrows indicate comparative performance in attainment from 2016 (increase or decrease from 2016)

Phonics	Yea	ar 1	Year 2 (Retake)			
	2016	2017	2016	2017		
National	81	81	91	94		
Clifford Bridge	88	81 ♥	90	94 ♠		
Hearsall	73	78 ♠	83	87 🛧		
Walsgrave C of E	93	87 ₩	95	100 ♠		
Whittle	86	68 ₩	93	95 ♠		

KS1 Teacher Assessment	O REPUBLIS	i de la	Exp	ected		Greater Depth						
	Rea	ding	Writing		Maths		Reading		Writing		Maths	
National	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	74	76	66	68	73	75	24	27	14	17	18	21
Clifford Bridge	75	87 🛧	70	85 ♠	85	90 ♠	17	28 🛧	15	9 ₩	35	20 ₩
Hearsall	52	74 🛧	52	60 1	62	66 ♠	29	28 ₩	12	4 🛡	24	23 ₩
Walsgrave C of E	77	81 🛧	75	78 ♠	82	86 🛧	23	26 ♠	23	12 ₩	32	26 ₩
Whittle	60	70 ♠	57	66 🛧	72	83 🛧	11	23 ♠	4	7 1	14	10 ₩

KS2 Test outcome		Reading		Reading	GI At Ex	aPS pected	At higher	aPS r standard		iting pected	Wri Greate	ting r depth		ematics pected		ematics standard	Combined 2016	Combined 2017
National	2016	2017	2016	2016	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	66	71	19	22	72	77	22	25	74	75	15	18	70	75	17	20	53	61
Clifford Bridge	68	83 🛧	10	27 ♠	77	83 🛧	39	43 ♠	81	90 ♠	19	23 🛧	81	87 🛧	16	53 ♠	61	77 🛧
Hearsall	57	82 🛧	26	50 ♠	65	82 🛧	30	55 🛧	57	77 🛧	20	20 🛧	59	75 🛧	9	414	43	73 🛧
Walsgrave C of E	66	78 🛧	18	274	79	92 🛧	29	42 1	77	86 🛧	13	19 🛧	79	95 🛧	21	31 🛧	63	73 🛧
Whittle	58	55 ₩	15	12 ₩	70	70	15	20 个	70	64 ₩	12	17	45	55 🛧	6	7	39	41 个

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Inspire MAT Attainment Data Headlines - Disadvantaged - July 2017

Reception	2016	2017
National 2016	72	75
Clifford Bridge	100	100
Hearsall	50	60
Walsgrave C of E	100	0
Whittle	29	80

Phonics	Yea	ar 1	Year 2 (Retake)			
	2016	2017	2016	2017		
National 2016	83	86	91	94		
Clifford Bridge	66	33	66	66		
Hearsall	17	86	77	56		
Walsgrave C of E	100	100	100	100		
Whittle	63	63	100	90		

KS1 Teacher Assessment		Reference to	Exp	ected		Greater Depth						
	Reading		Writing		Maths		Reading		Wri	ting	Maths	
National	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	78	81	70	73	77.	80	27	30	16	19	20	23
Clifford Bridge	50	75	50	75	50	100	0	25	0	0	50	0
Hearsall	31	44	62	33	54	22	23	0	8	0	15	0
Walsgrave C of E	78	75	67	75	78	100	22	0	33	0	44	0
Whittle	73	57	64	57	73	85	0	14	0	0	0	0

KS2 Test outcome	English At Exq	Reading sected		Reading standard	GaPS At Expected			Writing At Expected		Writing Greater depth		Mathematics At Expected		matics standard	Combined 2016	Combined 2017
National	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017	2016	2017
	71	74	23	26	78	81	79	82	18	21	75	78	20	23	60	63
Clifford Bridge	17	33	17	0	50	66	33	33	0	0	33	66	17	0	17	33
Hearsall	21	55	0	27	29	55	36	45	0	9	7	55	0	27	7	55
Walsgrave C of E	71	57	0	0	57	71	57	71	14	0	71	71	14	0	28	43
Whittle	72	52	0	13	0	60	71	44	71	18	67	48	0	4	33	40

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Inspire MAT Scale Score & Progress Overview

	KS1 Historic APS	
	2016	2017
Clifford Bridge	16.4	17.9
Hearsall	15.5	15.7
Walsgrave C of E	17.0	17.2
Whittle	14.8	14.6

		NY THE	Progre	ss Mea	sures							
*Progress is calculated by seeing where		Rea	ding			Wri	ting		Maths			
similar children were at the end of KS1 and then again at the end of KS2.	20	16	0 2017		2016		2017		2016		20	17
and then again at the end of K32.		0									0	
	All	Dis	All	Dis	All	Dis	All	Dis	All	Dis	All	Dis
Clifford Bridge	-1.1	-3.1	-1.0	-3.7	+0.2	-7.5	-1.1	-9.0	+0.2	-3.5	+0.9	+0.4
Hearsall	0	-5.3	+3.5	-	-0.1	-1.7	+1.1	*	-2.5	-7.7	+2.0	*
Walsgrave C of E	-1.9	-5.2	-0.7	-2.0	-1.5	-3.1	-1.1	-1.4	-1.1	-2.5	+1.3	-0.7
Whittle	+0.9	-0.3	-0.5	-0.6	+0.5	+0.4	-3.1	-3.1	-1.8	-2.5	-1.9	-2.0

#### \*Hearsall Progress DATA not fully available due to recent conversion to a MAT

			Average :	Scaled Sc	core Info	rmation						
*This is calculated by adding all the		Rea	ding			Ga	PS	Maths				
children individual scaled scores and	2016		20	2017		2016		17	20	16	20	17
dividing by total number of children so we can compare to National	103	104	104	D/-	106	105	103	Die	104 All	104 Dis	All	Dis
	All	Dis	All	Dis	All	Dis	All	Dis	550		The second second	DIS
Clifford Bridge (30)	102	96.7	106.4	-	106	98.2	107.5	-	104	98.2	107.9	
Hearsall (43)	103	95.0	108.2	7.45 (**)	105	99	109.5	-	101	93.0	105.5	-
Walsgrave C of E (59)	103	98.9	105.4	S = A	106	102.3	108.9	-	104	102	107.2	-
Whittle (41)	101	100.4	100.1	-	103	102.9	103.1		99	99	99.3	-

#### **Quality of Teaching**

The teaching profile improved in all four schools within the MAT during 2016/17. \* Staff at Hearsall saw considerable changes during the academic year. All teachers who were working below career stage expectations have now left the MAT.

Clifford Bridge		Hearsall			Walsgrave			Whittle			
Aut	Spr	Sum	Aut	Spr	Sum	Aut	Spr	Sum	Aut	Spr	Sum
38-O	37-0	54-0	0-0	13-0	19-0	47	47-0	56-0	18-O	45-0	45-0
61-G	63-G	46-G	59-G-	63-G	56-G	47	53-G	44-G	63-G	55-G	45-0
7-R1	0-R1	0-R1	41-RI	19-RI	19-RI	6	0-R1	0-RI	18-RI	0-R1	10-RI
0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-0	6-I*	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1

All four schools start 2017/18 with 100% or better teaching discounting Newly Qualified Teachers.

#### Assessment

Moderation sessions and LA audit of judgement in Year R, 2 and 6 in MAT schools, SATS results confirmed teacher judgments were accurate. Teachers themselves reported greater confidence in assessing without levels.

#### Curriculum

Monitoring of planning, delivery, books and pupil voice confirmed that there was appropriate focus on all national curriculum subjects and that children were engaged in their learning and enjoyed coming to school.

#### Behaviour

Ongoing monitoring of behaviour and exclusions confirmed the impact of the introduction of Thrive. Behaviour is outstanding in two schools and good in the others. The focus on behaviour for learning has had positive outcomes in all four schools

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Safeguarding

The MAT Pastoral Lead coordinates the work of the Pastoral Teams in each academy. Staff work closely to ensure consistent practice in all schools and are constantly looking at ways to improve and extend our provision. Safeguarding leads have had refresher training including Safer Recruitment. This and a focus on termly training to which governors were invited has been successful. Whole staff training has included a Prevent update, FGM, E Safety and Child Sexual Exploitation. CPOMs is used consistently across the MAT and has greatly improved our systems. Staff report increased confidence in this area. Safeguarding leads have attended training in self harming and visual imagery on line.

#### Cross MAT appointments

We now have an Executive Principal, MAT Business Manager, Assistant Business Manager, Lead Site Service Officer, Health & Safety Lead (.2), Teaching and Learning Consultant (.4), ICT Technician, ICT support, ICT Apprentice, Social Media Apprentice and PE HLTA plus two PE apprentices. These cross-MAT roles have had a positive impact not only on teaching and learning, but every aspect of our school. Consistence of expectations, clear procedures and systems have supported school improvement at every level.

#### Staff

Headteachers, Chair of Governors, Office Managers, Year Group Teachers, Subject leaders, Pastoral Support Staff, Inclusion Leads all meet on a regular basis to share and improve practice.

#### Governance

The strong lead from the Chair of Directors, and Chairs of the Local Governing Bodies has provided much needed support, challenge and expertise during this period of change.

2015 – 2017 saw the introduction of a new way of working, as we became an Academy. The skillset of the Local Governing Bodies has ensured that governors have effectively held the school to account and provided appropriate challenge as evidenced in increased governor monitoring. This is an area which we need to further develop reflecting increased expectations on governors.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### **Attendance**

100% Club has had great impact on whole-school attendance. We are constantly looking at ways to further improve our attendance particularly impacting on hard to reach families and those who choose to take a holiday in term time.

Clifford Bridge					Hearsall				
Attendance based on % days	2015-16	2016-17 Autumn	2016- 17 Spring	2016- 17 Target	Attendance based on % days 2015-		2016-17 Autumn	2016-17 Spring (inc Aut)	2016-17 (Whole Year)
Attendance – all pupils (Overall %)	96.31%	96.55%	95.66%	97.3%	Attendance – all pupils (Overall N) 95.9%		96%	96.5%	96.7%
Disadvantaged pupils 94		94.26%	90.03%	95.26%	Disadventaged pupils	92.8%	95.7%	95.1%	94.2%*
Unauthorised absence- all (%) 0.72%		0.8%	0.41%	0.8%	Unauthorised absence- xII (%)	0.3%	0.8%	0.4%	0.25%
Disadvantaged pupils	0.68%	0.96%	1.04%	1.09%	Disadvantaged pupils	0.46%	0.45%	0.8%	0.52%*
Persistent Absence 15% - all(%)	3.97%	1.42%	0.04%	2.2%	Persistent Absence 15% - all(%)	4,2%	4.8%	4,6%	5.1%*
Disadvantaged pupils 0.		0.28%	0%	0%	Disadvantaged pupils			-	16.4%*
Persistent Absence 20% - all(%) 1.98		1.13%	0.12%	0.5%	Persistent Absence 20% - all(%)	2.23%	3%	2.2%	
Disadvantaged pupils 0%		0.28%	0%	0%	Disadvantaged pupils	- 6		-	-
Pupil sessions missed - all (no.)	4727	1609	1854	980	Pupil sessions missed - all (no.)	5521	1906	3416 (1510 this term)	5086 (1670 this term)
Disadvantaged pupils	326	165	97	31	Disadvantaged pupils	989	173	125	189
V	Valsgrave	)			Call to specify the true	Wh	ittle		
Attendance based on % days	2015	-16	16-17 oring	2016-17	Attendance based on % days		2015-16	2016-17 Spring	2016-17
Attendance – all pupils (Overall %)	95.4	1% 96	5.3%	96.5%	Attendance – all pupils (Overa	H %)	95.4%	96.3%	94.4%
Disadvantaged pupils	93.9	9% 9	5.6%	95.3%	Disadvantaged pupils		93.9%	95.6%	94.7%
Unauthorised absence- all (%)	0.86	5% 0	.6%	0.64%	Unauthorised absence- all (%)		0.86%	0.6%	3.84%
Disadvantaged pupils	1.79	9% 0	% 0.5%		Disadvantaged pupils		1.79%	0.5%	1.7%
Persistent Absence 15% - all(%)	8.2	3% 7.9%		4.8%	Persistent Absence 15% - all(%)		8.23%	7.9%	10.5%
Disadvantaged pupils	13.7	2% 8	.8%	8.2%	Disadvantaged pupils		13.72%	8.8%	3.3%
Persistent Absence 20% - all(%)	4.13	2% 2.	43%	2.87%	Persistent Absence 20% - all(%)		4.12%	2.43%	5.3
Disadvantaged pupils	5.9	96 6	.7%	8.69%	Disadvantaged pupils		5.9%	6.7%	2.6
Pupil sessions missed - all (no.)	750	54 2	446	7029	Pupil sessions missed - all (ne	0.)	7564	2446	5347
Disadvantaged pupils	110	24	270	755	Disadvantaged pupils		1104	270	1541

Staff retention was high across the trust and trends in exit interviews were positive. Recruitment was very successful and we are fully staffed in all four schools. We were thrilled to be an employer of choice at a time when many schools are struggling to recruit. Our commitment to CPD and staff wellbeing is recognised as is our success in promoting from within

#### b. Key performance indicators

Each school within the MAT are measured by the results attained in statutory assessments and the exclusions rates.

As funding is predominantly based on pupil numbers this is a key performance indicator. Pupil numbers as at the census in October 2016 were 1,008 as opposed to 992 in the October 2015 census.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### c. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy 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 Accounting Policies.

#### Financial review

#### a. Financial Performance

Most of the academy trust's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2017 of £5,017,218 (2016: £4,580,329) and the associated expenditure of £4,650,282 (2016: £4,065,843) are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

Certain land, buildings and other assets were transferred into the Trust in April 2017. Included in assets is land and buildings which were professionally valued by Chartered Surveyors. The valuation is based on Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) for specialised properties which is the current cost of replacing an asset with its modern equivalent less deductions for physical deterioration and all relevant forms of obsolescence and optimisation.

Total funds at the period end were £11,592,959 (2016: £8,784,461) of which £13,446,543 (2016: £10,634,518) related to fixed assets less (£3,275,000) (2016: (£,2,989,000)) relating to the pension reserve deficit.

The MAT continues to work to the key financial policies which were adopted during the first year that includes the Finance Policy which lays out the framework for financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board, Executive Principal, Head Teachers, Business Manager, Office Managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as delegated authority for spending.

On an annual basis finance policies are reviewed and updated by the finance and audit committee and these policies include Charges and Remissions, Lettings, Debtors, Budget Holders policy and Investments.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### b. Reserves policy

The amount of reserves held by the academy at 31 August 2017 is £1,421,416 (2016: £1,157,243). These are for the following purpose:

Ringfenced Funds	£139,035
School Funds	£28,106
Special Projects	£13,898
Earmarked Grants	£103,048
Conversion Grant	£50,178
Un-earmarked	£1,087,151

The trustees review the reserve levels of the trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Trustees take into consideration the future plans of the MAT, the uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks identified during the risk review. In addition to ring-fencing funds to strategically manage potential costs such as maternity cover some of the 2016-17 revenue carryforward balances will also be used to support 2017/18 budget plans.

The MAT holds ringfenced reserves for the following:

- · Maternity Cover,
- Building & Plant maintenance and Replacement,
- ICT replacement strategy.

The MAT has covered three staff maternities this financial year and has had notification of further maternities in 2017-18. The full cost of a staff member is profiled within the budget and is then matched from the fund. The fund therefore naturally decreases over the leave and is then increased at the end of the maternity leave as the total maternity entitlement is less than the annual cost of a staff member were they to be in post.

The purpose of these funds are to provide sufficient working capital to cover planed replacements such as staff, boilers and kitchen equipment to ensure business continuity and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance and the intention to build up reserves as and when circumstances allow. Trustees have agreed not to add to these reserves in 2017-18.

Additionally, trustees recognise other risks such as:

- fall in pupil numbers resulting in losing a class but not wanting to lose a teacher.
- a rise in pupil numbers meaning not enough funding to teach the pupils due to the lagged nature of funding in a growing school.
- Grant fallout.
- Decrease in Pupil Premium Grant as KS2 children leave from year six.

#### c. Investments policy

Due to the nature and timing of receipt of funding, the trust may at times hold cash balances surplus to its short term requirements. The Investments Policy was reviewed in this financial year by the Finance and audit committee.

The aim of this policy is to ensure that funds which the Inspire Education Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are deposited or invested in such a way as to maximise income but minimise risk.

Trustees recognise that principally, it is responsible for ensuring that the Multi Academy Trust's funds are used only in accordance with the law, its articles of association, its funding agreement, the Academies Financial Handbook and policy.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

Trustees are responsible for the proper stewardship of those funds, including regularity and propriety, and for ensuring economy, efficiency and effectiveness in their use – the three key elements of value for money.

Trustees recognise that should the Trust invest surplus funds it must adhere to the Value for Money principles achieving the best possible educational and wider societal outcomes through the economic, efficient and effective use of all the resources in the Trust's charge, the avoidance of waste and extravagance, and prudent and economical administration.

Inspire Education Trust does not consider the investment / deposit of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather it is the result of good practice as and when circumstances allow.

#### d. Principal risks and uncertainties

The board of trustees has reviewed the major risks to which the MAT is exposed in line with the risk register which is reviewed on a regular basis together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks.

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the trust are as follows:

Financial - the MAT has considerable reliance on continued government funding through the ESFA. Whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms. Education Services Grant is an example of government grant fall out and the Trust's future income will decrease as government has announced that 2016-17 is the last year for this grant. 2017-18 has a protected ESG budget allocation to support the transition from grant to fallout position.

Failures in governance and/or management - the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Trust's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, etc. The Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.

Reputational - the continuing success of the trust is dependent on continuing to attract pupils in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational and professional standards. To mitigate this risk, trustees ensure that student success and achievement are closely monitored and reviewed.

Safeguarding and child protection - the trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline.

Staffing - the success of the MAT is reliant upon the quality of its staff and succession planning for key staff so the trustees monitor and review policies and procedures to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning.

Fraud and mismanagement of funds - the academy has appointed an internal auditor to carry out checks on financial systems and records in line with good financial practice. All finance staff receive training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area.

The MAT has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness. A risk register is maintained and reviewed and updated on a termly basis by the Finance and Audit Committee.

At the year end, the MAT had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors that would have a significant effect on liquidity.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Plans for future periods

#### a. Future developments

The MAT will continue to strive to provide outstanding education and improve the levels of performance of its children at all levels. The MAT will continue to aim to attract high quality teachers and support staff in order to deliver its objectives, raising standards of teaching and learning from the baseline at the start of the year.

The trust recogniseS the need to grow the number of academies within the trust to a level that is deemed under the foreseeable future circumstances to ensure future sustainability and viability for the trust.

Leadership succession is a priority going forward as it is anticipated that the Executive Principal will retire in the next few years. The creation of the role of Deputy of the MAT is one designed to support succession planning. The new Headteachers at both at Clifford Bridge and Hearsall have completed the Coventry Heads Induction Training. Future school leaders have been identified and are accessing relevant training including preparation for Executive Headship, for Headship, Deputy Headship and Middle leaders training.

Our highly experienced and effective Chair of Directors has indicated she will want to step down in the very near future and succession plans have already been initiated. Numbers at both local Governing Bodies have increased and observers invited to directors meetings. A focus for development is to build upon strategies for Governor monitoring introduced in 2015/16 to build in more ongoing and incidental monitoring and more simplistic recording of governor visits.

Further development of pupil tracking with a focus on the attainment of key groups in relation to revised OFSTED criteria relating to their prior attainment.

Leadership will continue to ensure that staff have clarity and understanding around data collection and progress measures. All tracking systems are manageable and impact upon pupil attainment. All staff routinely use Assessment for Learning to ensure teaching and feedback is matched to individual children's needs.

#### Additionally the Trust will seek:

- To ensure that increased percentages of pupils make 'good' or better progress in relation to their starting points.
- To focus on diminishing the difference between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged pupils, to raise attainment of the more able.
- To embed Thrive Practice in all of our schools and so improve behavior and staff expertise in managing the behavior of all children.
- To introduce new attendance initiatives.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### Funds held as custodian

The academy does not hold such funds and does not act as the custodian trustees of any other charity.

#### Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that Trustees have taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of
  any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that
  information.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 6 December 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Malcolm Tyler Chair of Trustees

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### Scope of Responsibility

As trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Inspire 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.

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Executive 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 Inspire 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 trustees has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs Lois Whitehouse	4	4
Mrs Kim Docking	4	4
Canon Linda Winscoat	3	4
Mr David Kershaw	4	4
Mr Peter Law (resigned 5 August 2017)	2	4
Mr Graham Wise	4	4
Mrs Eileen Leech	3	4
Rev Malcolm Tyler (appointed 11 October 2017),	0	0
Chair of Trustees		

For future sustainability and effectiveness the Board has co-opted two new observers on to the board of directors one from Hearsall Academy and one from Clifford Bridge. Both of these governors also sit on the Finance and audit committee and have full voting rights. These governors have brought strong expertise and skills in Financial Management and Risk control.

#### **Governance Review**

The local governing bodies undertake annual skills audit and chairs meet peer to peer to develop and improve their knowledge and skills.

Numbers at both local Governing Bodies have increased and observers are invited to directors meetings. A focus for development is to build upon strategies for Governor monitoring introduced in 2015/16 to build in more ongoing and incidental monitoring and more simplistic recording of governor visits.

As our highly experienced and effective Chair of Directors has indicated she will want to step down in the very near future Directors will be carrying out a review of its skill set in 2017-18.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**

The Finance and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to hold the board of trustees to account for their financial statements, budgeting and value for money and to monitor, review and evaluate financial propriety. Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr Graham Wise	4	4
Mrs Kim Docking	4	4
Mrs Abigail Beasley (co-opted)	2	2
Mr Duncan Karran (co-opted)	0	1

#### Review of Value for Money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the academy's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the academy has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Reviewing utility services
- Review of sickness insurance cover
- Photocopying contracts changed
- Review of Service Level agreements & stripping out some previously purchased services
- · Robustly Seeking discounts
  - o by amalgamating contracts that were previously negotiated school by school
  - o by referring other schools / networks
  - o through our bargaining power
- Ensuring efficient back office working process and practices- sharing good practices
- Premises consumables managed centrally

#### 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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Inspire Education Trust for the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### Capacity to Handle Risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy's significant risks, that has been in place for the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)**

#### The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint Coventry City Council as internal auditor.

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

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

The internal auditor reports to the board of trustees through the finance and audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

The Trust has a service Level agreement with Coventry City Council's school finance team to undertake the role of the internal auditor. Each school has a termly visit and there have been no material control issues.

#### **Review of Effectiveness**

As Accounting Officer, the Executive 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 internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy 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 and general purposes committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 6 December 2017 and signed on their behalf, by:

Mr Malcolm Tyler Chair of Trustees Mrs Kim Docking Accounting Officer

#### STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Inspire 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 ESFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2016.

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.

Mrs Kim Docking Accounting Officer

Date: 06 December 2017

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### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

The Trustees (who act as governors of Inspire Education Trust and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 6 December 2017 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr Malcolm Tyler Chair of Trustees

(A company limited by guarantee)

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF INSPIRE EDUCATION TRUST

#### Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Inspire Education Trust for the year ended 31 August 2017 which comprise the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the academy's affairs as at 31 August 2017 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

#### Basis of 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 financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

#### Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report, other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF INSPIRE EDUCATION TRUST

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the academy for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the academies or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

(A company limited by guarantee)

### INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF INSPIRE EDUCATION TRUST

#### Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an 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 financial statements.

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

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher that for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that
  are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion of the effectiveness
  of the academy's internal controls.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by the Trustees.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the academy's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in my Auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of my Auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the academy to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

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

Simon Atkins FCA (Senior statutory auditor)

PKF Cooper long Group Circled

for and on behalf of

**PKF Cooper Parry Group Limited** 

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

One Central Boulevard Blythe Valley Business Park Solihull West Midlands B90 8BG 6 December 2017

(A company limited by guarantee)

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO INSPIRE EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 12 September 2017 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Inspire Education Trust during the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 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 Inspire Education Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Inspire Education Trust and the 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 Inspire Education Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### Respective responsibilities of Inspire Education Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Inspire Education Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 20 August 2015, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2016, 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 2016 to 2017. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2016 to 2017 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including high level financial control areas and areas assessed of presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity, where such controls, policies and procedures apply to classes of transactions. This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements to the extent evidence from the conduct of that audit supports the regularity conclusion.

(A company limited by guarantee)

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO INSPIRE EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (continued)

#### 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 year 1 September 2016 to 31 August 2017 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**PKF Cooper Parry Group Limited** 

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Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor

One Central Boulevard Blythe Valley Business Park Solihull West Midlands B90 8BG

6 December 2017

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2017	Restricted funds 2017	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017	Total funds 2017 £	Restated Total funds 2016 £
Income from:						
Donations & capital grants: Transfer from local authority on conversion (note 20) Other donations and capital grants Charitable activities: Funding for the academy	2 2 3	165,167 14,463	(726,000)	2,753,694 195,530	2,192,861 209,993	8,555,943 916,191
trust's educational operations Other trading activities Investments	4 5	305,281 97,122 1,260	5,489,194 - -	-	5,794,475 97,122 1,260	5,198,493 189,952 963
Total income		583,293	4,763,194	2,949,224	8,295,711	14,861,542
Expenditure on: Academy trust educational operations		625,256	5,289,130	225,827	6,140,213	5,009,081
Total expenditure	6	625,256	5,289,130	225,827	6,140,213	5,009,081
Net income / (expenditure) before transfers Transfers between Funds	16	(41,963) -	(525,936) (88,628)	2,723,397 88,628	2,155,498	9,852,461
Net income / (expenditure) before other recognised gains and losses		(41,963)	(614,564)	2,812,025	2,155,498	9,852,461
Actuarial gains / (losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	13	-	653,000		653,000	(1,068,000)
Net movement in funds		(41,963)	38,436	2,812,025	2,808,498	8,784,461
Reconciliation of funds: Total funds brought forward		694,176	(2,544,233)	10,634,518	8,784,461	
Total funds carried forward		652,213	(2,505,797)	13,446,543	11,592,959	8,784,461 ————

The notes on pages 31 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

## (A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 09728614

#### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	£	2017 £	£	2016 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13		13,346,564		9,904,380
Current assets					
Debtors	14	186,152		135,902	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,748,707		2,109,540	
		1,934,859		2,245,442	
Creditors: amounts falling due within one					
year	15	(413,464)		(376,361)	
Net current assets		8	1,521,395		1,869,081
Total assets less current liabilities			14,867,959		11,773,461
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	22		(3,275,000)		(2,989,000)
Net assets including pension scheme liabilities			11,592,959		8,784,461
Funds of the academy					
Restricted income funds:					
Restricted income funds	16	769,203		444,767	
Restricted fixed asset funds	16	13,446,543		10,634,518	
Restricted income funds excluding pension liability		14,215,746		11,079,285	
Pension reserve		(3,275,000)		(2,989,000)	
Total restricted income funds			10,940,746		8,090,285
Unrestricted income funds	16		652,213		694,176
Total funds			11,592,959		8,784,461

The financial statements on pages 28 to 52 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue, on 6 December 2017 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Mr Malcolm Tyler Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 31 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

#### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

	Note	2017 £	2016 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	18	356,694	1,429,859
Cash flows from investing activities: Dividends, interest and rents from investments Purchase of tangible fixed assets Capital grants from DfE/ESFA  Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities		1,260 (914,317) 195,530 ————————————————————————————————————	963 (237,473) 916,191 ——————
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(360,833)	2,109,540
Cash and cash equivalents brought forward		2,109,540	-
Cash and cash equivalents carried forward	19	1,748,707	2,109,540

The notes on pages 31 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 1. Accounting Policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy 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 2016 to 2017 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Inspire Education Trust constitutes a public benefit entity as defined by FRS 102.

#### 1.2 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the academy 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 financial statements.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### 1.3 Income

All income is recognised once the academy has entitlement to the income, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount of income receivable can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 entitlement of receipt, its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account in the year 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 when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

Where assets are received by the trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance sheet at the point when the risk and rewards of ownership pass to the trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as a transfer on conversion within Income from donations and capital grants.

#### 1.4 Expenditure

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

Expenditure on charitable activities are costs incurred on the academy's educational operations, including support costs and those costs relating to the governance of the academy appointed to charitable activities.

All expenditure is inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £3,000 are capitalised and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 incorporating income and expenditure account. 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 these assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property-2% (50 years)Motor vehicles-25% (4 years)Fixtures and fittings-20% (5 years)Computer equipment-33% (3 years)

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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 incorporating income and expenditure account.

#### 1.6 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account on a straight line basis over the lease term.

#### 1.7 Liabilities and provisions

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

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### 1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. 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 costs as detailed in note 15. 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 instruments.

#### 1.9 Taxation

The academy is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by 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

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.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. As stated in note 22, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and there is insufficient information available to use defined benefit accounting. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

### 1. Accounting Policies (continued)

#### 1.10 Pensions (continued)

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account 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 at the discretion of the Trustees.

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

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

#### 1.12 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The academy 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 (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 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2017. 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.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 2. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Restated Total funds 2016 £
Transfer from local authority on conversion (note 20)	165,167	(726,000)	2,753,694	2,192,861	8,555,943
Donations Capital Grants	14,463	-	195,530	14,463 195,530	916,191
Subtotal	14,463		195,530	209,993	916,191
	179,630	(726,000)	2,949,224	2,402,854	9,472,134
Total 2016	556,447	(1,845,000)	10,760,687	9,472,134	

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 3. Funding for Academy's educational operations

4.

	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Restated Total funds 2016 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG) Start Up Grants Other DfE / ESFA Grants	-	4,616,493 - 400,725	4,616,493 - 400,725	3,932,710 216,995 430,624
other bill / Lot // Grants		400,723	400,723	430,024
Other government grants	-	5,017,218	5,017,218	4,580,329
Other government grants			- /	
Local authority grants		348,563	348,563	247,847
	-	348,563	348,563	247,847
Other funding				
Other income from the academy trust's educational operations School trips income Catering income	- 71,111 234,170	123,413 - -	123,413 71,111 234,170	136,637 21,354 212,326
	305,281	123,413	428,694	370,317
	305,281	5,489,194	5,794,475	5,198,493
Total 2016	233,679	4,964,813	5,198,492	
Other trading activities				
	Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £	Restated Total funds 2016 £
Hire of Facilities Other income	34,472 62,650	-	34,472 62,650	22,905 167,047
	97,122	-	97,122	189,952
Total 2016	189,952	-	189,952	

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

5.	Investment income					
			Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017	Total funds 2017 £	Total funds 2016 £
	Short term deposits		1,260	-	1,260	963
	Total 2016		963	-	963	
6.	Expenditure					
		Staff costs 2017 £	Premises 2017 £	Other costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Restated Total 2016 £
	Activities: Direct costs Support costs	3,406,180 1,160,689 4,566,869	225,827 194,847 ————————————————————————————————————	678,112 474,558 1,152,670	4,310,119 1,830,094 6,140,213	3,573,702 1,435,379 5,009,081
	Total 2016	3,656,470	343,940	1,008,671	5,009,081	
7.	Analysis of expenditure by	activities	Activities			
			undertaken directly 2017 £	Support costs 2017 £	Total 2017 £	Restated Total 2016 £
	Educational operations		4,310,119	1,830,094	6,140,213	5,009,081
	Total 2016		3,573,702	1,435,379	5,009,081	

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

## Analysis of support costs

	Educational operations £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Support staff costs	1,160,689	1,160,689	857,508
Technology costs	8,074	8,074	5,999
Premises costs	194,847	194,847	166,351
Other support costs	371,153	371,153	304,637
Governance costs	95,331	95,331	100,884
	1 920 004	1 920 004	4.425.270
	1,830,094	1,830,094	1,435,379
Total 2016	1,435,379	1,435,379	

## 8. Net income/(expenditure)

This is stated after charging:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets:		
<ul> <li>owned by the charity</li> </ul>	225,827	177,589
Fee payable to the auditor	11,710	10,935
Operating leases	27,341	8,628

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 9. Staff costs

Staff costs were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Wages and salaries Social security costs Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	3,303,052 272,666 864,169	2,811,590 189,005 519,505
Apprenticeship levy Supply teacher costs Staff restructuring costs	4,439,887 1,639 125,343 - 4,566,869	3,520,100 - 114,770 21,600 3,656,470
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Severance payments	2017 £ -	2016 £ 21,600

Included in staff restructuring costs in the prior year are two non-statutory/non contractual severance payments of £3,300 and £18,300 respectively.

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

	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers Administration and support	65 131	43 112
Management	10	10
	206	165
Average headcount expressed as a full time equivalent:		-
	2017 No.	2016 No.
Teachers	57	40
Administration and support Management	88 10	61 9
	155	110

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 9. Staff costs (continued)

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

	2017 No.	2016
· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	NO.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 2. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy was £619,840 (2016 - £508,148).

#### 10. Central services

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

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

The academy charges for these services on the following basis:

- flat percentage of the General Annual Grant (GAG) income at 5%

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2017 £	2016 £
Clifford Bridge Academy	62,318	57,802
Whittle Academy	56,043	57,752
Walsgrave Church of England Academy	82,628	81,240
Hearsall Academy	29,776	-
Total	230,765	196,794

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

### 11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The Principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and other staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their role as Trustees, The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2017 £	2016 £
Mrs Kim Docking	Remuneration Pension contributions paid	95,000-100,000 15,000-20,000	90,000-95,000 15,000-20,000

During the year ended 31 August 2017, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2016 - £NIL).

#### 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 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.

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Fixtures and fittings £	Computer equipment £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost					
At 1 September 2016 Additions Transferred from Local	9,773,035 -	84,420 38,457	55,244 53,471	169,270 822,389	10,081,969 914,317
Authority Transfer between classes	2,732,000 991,659		21,694	(991,659)	2,753,694
At 31 August 2017	13,496,694	122,877	130,409	-	13,749,980
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2016 Charge for the year	155,811 176,594	6,647 18,678	15,131 30,555	-	177,589 225,827
At 31 August 2017	332,405	25,325	45,686	-	403,416
Net book value					
At 31 August 2017	13,164,289	97,552	84,723	-	13,346,564
At 31 August 2016	9,617,224	77,773	40,113	169,270	9,904,380

Land is included in the total leasehold land and buildings valuation at a value of £2,220,500 (2016 - £1,982,500) and is not depreciated.

#### 14. Debtors

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade debtors Other debtors Prepayments and accrued income	13,802 89,241 83,109	9,572 76,259 50,071
	186,152	135,902

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

### 15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2017 £	2016 £
Trade creditors	26,781	210,467
Other taxation and social security	88,423	-
Other creditors	76,656	<del></del>
Accruals and deferred income	221,604	165,894
	413,464	376,361
	2017 £	2016 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2016	88,938	-
Resources deferred during the year	121,293	88,938
Amounts released from previous years	(88,938)	-
Deferred income at 31 August 2017	121,293	88,938

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds received in advance for Universal Infant Free School Meals £114,098 (2016 - £84,760) and trips income £7,195 (2016 - £4,178) relating to the 2017/18.

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 16. Statement of funds

	Balance at					Balance at
	September 2016 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out	Gains/ (Losses) £	31 August 2017 £
Designated funds						
Ringfenced funds				284,087		284,087
General funds						
Total General funds	694,176	583,293	(625,256)	(284,087)		368,126
Total Unrestricted funds	694,176	583,293	(625,256)		-	652,213
Restricted funds		8				
General Annual Grant						
(GAG)	255,016	4,616,493	(4,063,856)	(88,628)	-	719,025
Start Up Grant	147,251		(97,073)	_	=	50,178
Other Grants Pension reserve	42,500 (2,989,000)	872,701 (726,000)	(915,201) (213,000)	-	653,000	(3,275,000)
	(2,544,233)	4,763,194	(5,289,130)	(88,628)	653,000	(2 505 707)
	(2,044,255)	4,703,194	(5,269,130)	(00,020)	653,000	(2,505,797)
Restricted fixed asset fur	nds					
Transferred on conversion	9,669,265	2,753,694	(192,573)	-	_	12,230,386
DfE / ESFA Capital Transferred from GAG	913,833	195,530	(22,970)	-	-	1,086,393
Transferred from GAG	51,420		(10,284)	88,628	_	129,764
	10,634,518	2,949,224	(225,827)	88,628	-	13,446,543
Total restricted funds	8,090,285	7,712,418	(5,514,957)	-	653,000	10,940,746
Total of funds	8,784,461	8,295,711	(6,140,213)	-	653,000	11,592,959

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

Pupil Premium income is included within restricted funds and relates to the funding provided by the Education and Skills Funding Agency for the relevant Schools to provide additional support to pupils from low income families. The balance of £769,203 on the Restricted General Funds will be used for educational purposes in accordance with the restrictions attached to the funding.

The Pension Reserve of £3,275,000 (overdrawn) represents the Academy Trust's share of the deficit in the West Midlands Pension Fund.

Restricted Fixed Assets Funds relate predominately to the assets acquired on conversion to an Academy Trust, being the properties.

The Unrestricted Funds represent the surplus generated by the Academy Trust on activities for generating funds. The designated funds represent amounts ringfenced for specific expenditure as detailed in the reserves policy within the Trustees' Report.

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 16. Statement of funds (continued)

## Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2017 were allocated as follows:

	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Clifford Bridge Academy Whittle Academy Walsgrave Church of England Academy Hearsall Academy Central Services	207,164 529,674 351,426 207,102 126,050	177,517 458,910 331,236 - 171,280
Total before fixed asset fund and pension reserve	1,421,416	1,138,943
Restricted fixed asset fund Pension reserve	13,446,543 (3,275,000)	10,634,518 (2,989,000)
Total	11,592,959	8,784,461

### Analysis of academies by cost

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciat- ion £	Total 2017 £	Total 2016 £
Clifford Bridge Academy	929,820	302,951	192,474	153,514	1,578,759	1,324,489
Whittle Academy Walsgrave Church of England	806,600	275,977	151,929	144,304	1,378,810	1,343,374
Academy	1,088,514	353,559	252,714	197,203	1,891,990	1,842,840
Hearsall Academy	448,169	121,986	77,208	72,795	720,158	-
Central Services	133,077	106,216	3,787	101,589	344,669	320,789
	3,406,180	1,160,689	678,112	669,405	5,914,386	4,831,492

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 17. Analysis of net assets between funds

		Unrestricted funds 2017 £	Restricted funds 2017	Restricted fixed asset funds 2017 £	Total funds 2017 £
Curre	gible fixed assets ent assets itors due within one year isions for liabilities and charges	659,171 (6,958)	1,175,709 (406,506) (3,275,000)	13,346,564 99,979 - -	13,346,564 1,934,859 (413,464) (3,275,000)
		652,213	(2,505,797)	13,446,543	11,592,959
18.	Reconciliation of net movement in funds to	net cash flow	from operatin	g activities	
				2017 £	2016 £
	Net income for the year (as per Statement of F	Financial Activitie	s)	2,155,498	9,852,461
	Adjustment for: Depreciation charges Dividends, interest and rents from investments Increase in debtors Increase in creditors Capital grants from DfE and other capital incor Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inh Defined benefit pension scheme cost less con Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost Net (loss) on assets and liabilities from local at  Net cash provided by operating activities	me erited tributions payable		225,827 (1,260) (50,250) 37,103 (195,530) 726,000 (15,000) 228,000 (2,753,694)	177,589 (963) (135,902) 376,361 (916,191) 1,845,000 (3,000) 79,000 (9,844,496) 1,429,859
19.	Analysis of cash and cash equivalents				
				2017 £	2016 £
	Cash in hand			1,748,707	2,109,540
	Total			1,748,707	2,109,540

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 20. Conversion to an academy trust

On 1 April 2017 Hearsall Community Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Inspire Education Trust from Coventry City Council 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 value and recognised in the Balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account as Donations - transfer from local authority on conversion

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account.

		Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total funds £
Та	angible fixed assets				
-	Leasehold land and buildings	-	-	2,732,000	2,732,000
- (	Other tangible fixed assets	-	-	21,694	21,694
Вι	udget surplus/(deficit) on LA funds	165,167	-	-	165,167
	GPS pension surplus/(deficit)	-	(726,000)	-	(726,000)
Ne	et assets/(liabilities)	165,167	(726,000)	2,753,694	2,192,861

The above net assets include £165,167 that were transferred as cash.

#### 21. Capital commitments

At 31 August 2017 the academy had capital commitments as follows:	2017 £	2016 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		854,964

#### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 22. Pension commitments

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

#### Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

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

### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The 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. 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 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay, including a 0.08% employer administration charge (currently 14.1%)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

During the previous year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £282,235 (2016 - £267,298).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx).

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 22. Pension commitments (continued)

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

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2017 was £318,000 (2016 - £300,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £259,000 (2016 - £244,000) and employees' contributions totalled £59,000 (2016 - £56,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.8% for employers and 6.2% 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions:

	2017	2016
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	2.60 %	2.20 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.20 %	3.75 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.70 %	2.00 %
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.70 %	2.00 %

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

	2017	2016
Retiring today Males Females	21.8 24.3	23.1 25.8
Retiring in 20 years Males Females	24.0 26.6	25.3 28.1

Sensitivity analysis	At 31 August 2017 £	At 31 August 2016 £
Discount rate +0.1%	116	78 (80)
Discount rate -0.1%	(119)	(80)
Morality assumption - 1 year increase	(145)	(71)
Morality assumption - 1 year decrease	141	69
CPI rate +0.1%	92	56
CPI rate -0.1%	(89)	(54)

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

## 22. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	Fair value at 31 August 2017 £	Fair value at 31 August 2016 £
Equities Gilts Corporate bonds Property Cash and other liquid assets Other	808,000 93,000 49,000 93,000 63,000 169,000	324,000 38,000 47,000 43,000 35,000 59,000
Total market value of assets	1,275,000	546,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £119,000 (2016 - £49,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account are as follows:

2017	2016
£	£
4,000)	(241,000)
0,000)	(79,000)
4,000) (	(320,000)
).	04,000) (

Movements in the present value of the defined benefit obligation were as follows:

	2017	2016
	£	£
Opening defined benefit obligation	3,535,000	-
Upon conversion	726,000	2,029,000
Current service cost	402,000	241,000
Employee contributions	59,000	56,000
Interest cost	85,000	92,000
Change in financial assumptions	(257,000)	1,117,000
Closing defined benefit obligation	4,550,000	3,535,000

# NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2017

#### 22. Pension commitments (continued)

Movements in the fair value of the academy's share of scheme assets:

	2017 £	2016 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets	546,000	-
Upon conversion	-	184,000
Interest income	15,000	13,000
Employee contributions	59,000	56,000
Employer contributions	259,000	244,000
Return on plan assets	104,000	49,000
Actuarial gains	292,000	-
Closing fair value of scheme assets	1,275,000	546,000

### 23. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2017 the total of the Academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2017 £	2016 £
Amounts payable: Within 1 year Between 1 and 5 years	14,766 20,545	5,595 4,000
Total	35,311	9,595

#### 24. Members' liability

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

### 25. Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 11.



