Registered number: 07694563

ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

THE ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

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ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS OF THE ACADEMY, ITS MEMBERS, ACADEMY TRUSTEES AND ADVISERS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

Members The Right Reverend A Williams

The Brentwood Diocesan Trust

Mr P Hav

Academy Trustees Miss E Heaphy, Headteacher

Mr P Hay, Chair of Governors, Chair of Standards, Foundation Governor Mrs M Roberts, Vice Chair Person, Chair of Audit, Foundation Governor

Mr T Austin, Chair of Finance, Foundation Governor (resigned 17 September 2015)

Mr J Baker, Teacher Governor

Mrs N Balloqui, Parent Governor, Foundation Governor

Mrs J Delves, Community Governor Mr N Ehigie-Obano, Parent Governor Mrs R Harding, Staff Governor

Mrs K Hay, Chair of Curriculum and Pupils, Chair of Admissions, Foundation Governor

Mrs M Hicks, Chair of Canteen, Foundation Governor

Mrs P Plowman, Community Governor Father B Soley, Foundation Governor

Mrs M Cooper, Foundation Governor (appointed 16 December 2014)

Company Secretary Mr P Walsh

Senior Leadership

Team Miss E Heaphy, Headteacher

Mr P Walsh Mr B McCarthy Mr J Taylor Mr S Long Mr D Rowland Miss N McGuinness

Chief Executive Officer Miss E Heaphy

Registered and principal

office

Tripton Road Harlow Essex CM18 6AA

Company registered

number

07694563

Independent Auditors Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Causeway House 1 Dane Street Bishop's Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 3BT

Bankers Lloyds TSB

East Gate Harlow PO BOX 1000 BX1 1LT

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

The Academy Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditors' report of St Mark's West Essex Catholic School Academy Trust (the Charitable Company, the Trust or the Academy) for the year ended 31 August 2015.

The Charitable Company operates an Academy for pupils aged 11-18 serving the catchment area of Harlow and West Essex. It has a pupil capacity of 800 for years 7 to 11 plus the Sixth Form and a school roll of 763 years 7 to 11 and a Sixth Form of 210 (973 in total) in the 2014 school census.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a Company limited by guarantee and an exempt Charity. The Charitable Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents.

The Academy Trustees of the Charitable Company are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. The terms Director and Academy Trustee are interchangeable. The Charitable Company is also known as St Mark's West Essex Catholic School (The School). Details of the Academy Trustees who served throughout the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details section on page 1.

Member's 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.

Academy Trustee and Officers' Indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Academy Trustees and Officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim and details of the costs are disclosed in Note 12 to the accounts.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Academy Trustees

Academy Trustees are appointed for a fixed term, the Foundation Academy Trustees being appointed by the Diocese. The Headteacher is a full Member of the Board of Academy Trustees. Parent Academy Trustees and the Staff Academy Trustees are elected to office or appointed if there are insufficient candidates offering themselves for election.

Policies and Procedures adopted for the induction and training of Academy Trustees

New Academy Trustees are required to attend a training programme appropriate to their background and experience. The induction programme would involve a briefing by the Chair of Academy Trustees and the Headteacher, followed by a tour of the School, meetings with students and staff and provision of policy and procedures documents supplied by the Headteacher and Clerk that are appropriate to the role they undertake as Academy Trustees. Each Academy Trustee is automatically a member of all committees, but will be asked to indicate a specific committee in which they have a primary interest to ensure that each committee has a regular core membership.

Organisational Structure

The governance of the Academy is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the funding agreement with the Department of Education.

The Board of Academy Trustees, which meets on at least three occasions per year, is responsible for the strategic direction of the Academy. The Board of Academy Trustees reviews progress towards educational objectives and results. It also approves major expenditure requests, sets the budget for the following year, and sets the organisational staffing structure, agrees the performance objectives of the Headteacher, and reviews progress.

The Headteacher is the designated Accounting Officer of the Academy and has overall responsibility for the day to day financial management of the Charitable Company. The Headteacher has delegated responsibility for devolving designated levels of expenditure to specific budget holders who are each responsible for managing their own departments within the constraints of their allocated budgets. A system of financial controls is in place to manage this process.

ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

The Headteacher manages the Academy on a daily basis supported by a Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The SLT meets frequently to discuss emerging matters and to help to develop strategies for future development to be put to the Headteacher and the Board of Academy Trustees as required for approval. Each member of the SLT has specific responsibilities to assist the Headteacher to manage certain aspects of the Academy.

Connected Organisations and Related Parties

Owing to the nature of the Academy's operations and the composition of the Board of Academy Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which an Academy Trustee has an interest. Any transactions involving such organisations would be conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. Any transactions where the Academy Trustee has a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle stated in the Academies Financial Handbook.

As a Catholic Academy we are linked to the Diocese of Brentwood.

In the last financial year no transactions where conducted with organisations where an Academy Trustee had any related interest.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and Aims

The principal object and aim of the Charitable Company is the operation of St Mark's West Essex Catholic School to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 11 and 18.

The Academy's mission is to ensure that all students have access to a broad and balanced curriculum; enabled to fulfil their potential in a caring supportive environment; and prepared for the world of work with the skills and values necessary to contribute to and help form the society in which they live.

In line with the Academy's mission statement, we aim to establish high quality provision in:

- · teaching, learning and assessment;
- · curriculum provision and other extra-curricular activities;
- · care, guidance and support of students; and
- · leadership and management.

As a result, the Academy seeks to ensure high levels of student achievement, attainment and standards, as well as the personal development and well-being of each individual, and high levels of effectiveness, efficiency and inclusiveness.

Strategies and Activities

During the year the Academy has worked towards achieving these aims by:

- ensuring that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care;
- raising the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- improving the effectiveness of the Academy by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review:
- providing value for money for the funds expended;
- complying with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- · conducting the Academy's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity

Public Benefit

The Academy Trustees believe that by working towards the objects and aims of the School as detailed above, they have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievements and performance

The Academy continued its mission to ensure that students achieved their potential in public examinations; encouraged a wide range of extra-curricular activities; developed and retained suitable staff and guided students in appropriate progression routes when they left the School.

In 2015, 52% of students achieved 5 or more GCSEs grades A* to C, including Maths and English. Although this is a slight fall on the previous year, it reflects the national changes to the exam system introduced by the current Government to increase stringency and therefore, is not something the school can control. 30% of students achieved English Baccalaureate (EBacc), again this is significantly above national averages. The EBacc is the Governments flagship measure and requires success at A* to C in English, Maths, a minimum of two Science subjects, a Language and either History or Geography. In addition when progress is considered against value added criteria and the new school performance measure, Progress 8 (where each student's progress is tracked across 8 subject disciplines) both indicate the School is performing above National Averages. As a corollary, as in previous years the pass rates in the majority of GCSE subjects exceeded national averages.

In the area of Sixth Form achievements, 97% of students passed their A2 (A Level) qualifications at A* to E and 70% at grade A* to C which is an increase on the previous year's figure. AS results would suggest that this figure will improve again next year and overall the Sixth Form is graded as Excellent for value added by ALPs (a nationally recognised independent performance measure used by over 70% of Sixth Forms).

The academy admission number has been increased to 172 in Year 7 and saw applications exceed places with a number of families asking to be placed on a waiting list. The indications for the next academic year are that again we will achieve a full intake and pupil numbers should continue to grow over the coming years. The Sixth Form partnership with three of the other Academies in the town continues to grow and numbers in September 2015 have increased again from 210 last year to 225

Key Performance Indicators

The Academy Trustees receive regular information to enable them to monitor the performance of the School compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.

As funding is based on pupil numbers this is a key performance indicator. Pupil numbers for January 2015 were 973 (2014: 974) which reflects a stable roll.

Another key financial performance indicator is staffing costs as a percentage of total income. For 2014/15 this was 77% (70% in 2013/14).

Pupil performance; 52% of students achieved 5 A* to C grades including English and Mathematics (and although this is a fall on the previous year value added indicators have improved reflecting the Academy has improved relative to the ability range of the current cohort of students).

Going concern

After making appropriate consideration, review and enquiry, the Board of Academy Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

FINANCE REVIEW

The principal source of funding for the Trust is the General Annual Grant (GAG) and other grants that it receives from the EFA. For the year ended 31 August 2015 the Trust received £5,558,784 of GAG and other funding. A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Academy's primary objective of the provision of education. During the year the Trust spent all of its 2015 restricted income but had a surplus of £91,924 from its unrestricted funds (excluding designated funds) carrying a surplus of £348,597 forward (which also excludes designated funds).

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

Reserves policy

The Academy Trustees are aware or the requirement to balance current and future needs. The Academy Trustees always aim to set a balanced budget with annual income balancing annual expenditure.

The Academy's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £1,138,597. This has been built up from a mixture of locally raised income and balances transferred from the predecessor school.

However, future plans have identified a number of issues that will need some investment. Academy Trustees have designated £250,000 over each of the next two years to facilitate Sixth Form expansion and to allow for effects of funding changes and the impact on School roll as provision in the town has changed. This will allow flexibility in the curriculum offer and staffing levels while they adjust to meet these new challenges. In addition they have designated £290,000 for capital improvements to the site.

The cash balance of the Academy has been very healthy all year, ending the year with a balance of £1,691,774. The Academy Trustees have determined that in addition to funds earmarked for school development and refurbishment they should hold a cash contingency equivalent to one and a half month's gross salary expenditure and fixed overheads, which is approximately £576,000. This together with the improvements detailed above account of all the free reserves of the Academy.

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS17, the Academy is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £1,460,000. This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises and that such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years.

Investment policy

An Investment Policy was approved by the Board of Academy Trustees in December 2013 and is kept under annual review.

The aim of the policy is to ensure funds that the Academy does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested in such a way as to maximise the Academy's income but with minimal risk. The aim is to research where funds may be deposited applying prudency in ensuring there is minimum risk. The Academy does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather as a result of good stewardship and as and when circumstances allow.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Academy Trustees maintain a risk register identifying the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, and identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. A formal review of the risk management process is undertaken on an annual basis and the internal control systems and the exposure to said risks are monitored on behalf of the Academy Trustees at the Finance and Personnel Committee meeting. The principal risks facing the Academy are outlined below; at an operational level they are addressed by its systems and by internal financial and other controls.

The Academy Trustees report that the Academy's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the EFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

As an academy school, the level of financial risk is low. Cash flows can be reliably forecast, monitored and reported. Staff costs make up the majority of expenditure and this is relatively stable with contingencies in place to cover such items as sickness and maternity.

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

The Academy Trustees assess the other principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy as follows:

- The Academy has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the EFA and 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.
- Failures in governance and/or management the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Academy's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, etc. The Academy Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.
- Reputational the continuing success of the Academy is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk Academy Trustees ensure that student success and achievement are closely monitored and reviewed.
- Safeguarding and child protection the Academy 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 Academy is reliant on the quality of its staff and so the Academy 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 as required by the Academy Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area.
- Staff retention: possibly the biggest single risk to the Academy would lie in a failure to retain key staff in particular, the Headteacher. However, it is not considered to be the case that there are any immediate threats in this regard, and that recent and current developments such as the development of a sixth form partnership will aid retention. Academy Trustees, however, remain vigilant in this regard and are not complacent.
- Material decrease in income affecting provision: currently, this is considered to be highly unlikely. The budget for 2015-16 is sound, and the longer-term financial plan shows considerable contingency against known changes and any unwelcome and as yet unforeseen future developments.

The Academy has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

Plans for the future

In line with the Mission Statement, the Academy will continue striving to improve the levels of achievement of its students at all levels, and will attempt to maintain its recent progress in ensuring the number of students on roll properly reflects the demand for places.

The Academy Trustees continue to work at enhancing and developing facilities in pursuance of the School's commitment to ensure that all students achieve their potential. It is recognised that to achieve this, students with differing abilities and aptitudes will have differing curricula requirements and that a range of learning experiences will be required to deliver these and this is reflected in the budget allocations. The Sixth Form partnership has led to the development and expansion of the Sixth Form and this will continue to be developed over the coming years. Recruitment to the Sixth Form has continued to grow, increasing by further 10 students from September 2015 and the recent Sixth Form opportunities evening was again very well attended showing the benefits of the Sixth Form Partnership, we expect to strengthen the links with partner schools and increase Sixth Form numbers again next year, (September 2016).

Academy Trustees have taken every opportunity to bid for additional capital resources resulting in significant improvements to the fabric of the School. They will continue to work closely with the Academy architects and have a current bid in place which aims to remove some temporary buildings and replace them with a permanent classroom block. Future bids will focus on refurbishing and upgrading classrooms to enhance the learning environment.

Academy Trustees are aware of the funding pressures that may arise in future years and will continue to aim to produce balanced budgets in the light of changes to the allocation, particularly concerning the 16 to 18 funding levels. Budget projections and models are reviewed to reflect these changes and the challenge of changing provision in the town.

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REPORT (continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

PROVISION OF INFORMATION TO AUDITORS

Insofar as the Academy Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditors are unaware, and
- the Academy Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Auditor is aware of that information.

AUDITORS

The Auditors, Price Bailey LLP, are willing to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the Full Governing Body Meeting.

This report, incorporating the Strategic Report, was approved by the Board of Academy Trustees, on 15 December 2015 and signed on the board's behalf by:

Mr P Hay Chair of Academy Trustees

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

As Academy Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School 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 Academy Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Academy Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Academy Trustees' Report and in the Academy Trustees' Responsibilities Statement. The Board of Academy Trustees has formally met 3 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Academy Trustees was as follows:

Academy Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Miss E Heaphy	3	3
Mr P Hay	3	3
Mrs M Roberts	3	3
Mr T Austin	1	3
Mr J Baker	3	3
Mrs N Balloqui	3	3
Mrs J Delves	2	3
Mr N Ehigie-Obano	1	3
Mrs R Harding	2	3
Mrs K Hay	2	3
Mrs M Hicks	3	3
Mrs P Plowman	3	3
Mrs M Cooper	2	3

Governance reviews:

In July 2013 the school was inspected by Ofsted (Section 5), which included a review of governance, and was judged to be 'a good school with outstanding features'. The inspection team concluded that the achievement of pupils, the quality of teaching and leadership were all judged to be 'Good'; and the behaviour and safety of pupils was 'Outstanding'. These finding were endorsed by a Section 48 Ofsted inspection in October 2013 which confirmed the judgements of a Good Catholic School with Outstanding features. The Governors and staff are working to ensure that the next inspection is at least equally successful with the ultimate target being to be judged an outstanding school.

The Finance and Human Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Academy Trustees. Its purpose is to address financial and human resources matters.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Academy Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr Tom Austin	3	3
Mrs M Cooper	1	3
Mrs J Delves	2	3
Mr N Ehigie-Obano	2	3
Mr P Hay	3	3
Miss E Heaphy	3	3
Mrs M Hicks	3	3
Mrs P Plowman	3	3
Mrs M Roberts	1	3
Mrs K Hay	2	3

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

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

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

- In order to improve economies we have increased the number to admit in year 7 without increasing curriculum time.
- Rationalised Sixth Form courses in relation to their viability and extending the collaboration with other providers, the Sixth Form has grown from 181 in 2013 to 210 in 2014 and up to 225 in 2015 with no increase in curriculum time making the provision more cost effective and still be ranked on Value added (ALPS) as in the top 25% of schools nationally.
- Capital refurbishment projects that have seen the replacement of hot and cold water distribution and the Installation of a computerised Heating Management System to reduce energy costs.

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 St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School for the year 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Board of Academy 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 Academy 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 2014 to 31 August 2015 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Academy Trustees.

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 Academy Trustees;
- regular reviews by the Finance and Human Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

The Board of Academy Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to appoint Price Bailey LLP 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:

- A review of payroll, expenditure and petty cash systems
- A review of income and expenses
- A review of the Fraud and Whistleblowing procedures

On a termly basis, the Internal Auditor reports to the Board of Academy Trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Academy Trustees' financial responsibilities.

Price Bailey LLP delivered their schedule of works as planned and no material control issues were identified.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher 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 Auditors:
- 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 Human Resources 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 Academy Trustees on 15 December 2015 and signed on its behalf, by:

Mr P Hay Chair of Academy Trustees Miss E Heaphy Accounting Officer

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School I have considered my responsibility to notify the Board of Academy Trustees and the Education Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with EFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy 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 (2014).

I confirm that I and the Board of Academy Trustees are able to identify any material, irregular or improper use of funds by the Academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook (2014).

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 Academy Trustees and EFA.

Miss E Heaphy Accounting Officer

Date: 16 December 2015

ACADEMY TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

The Academy Trustees (who act as Academy Trustees for charitable activities of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and are also the Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Academy Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report) and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Requirements issued by the EFA, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (UKGAAP) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Academy Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law the Academy 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 Academy Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Company will continue in business.

The Academy 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 Academy 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 EFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The Academy 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 Academy Trustees on 15 December 2015 and signed on its behalf by:

Mr P Hay Chair of Academy Trustees

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

We have audited the financial statements of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School for the year ended 31 August 2015 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2014 to 2015 issued by the Education 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 Auditors' 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 for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ACADEMY TRUSTEES AND AUDITORS

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Academy 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.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's Ethical Standards for Auditors.

SCOPE OF THE AUDIT OF THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the Academy's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the Academy Trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Academy Trustees' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

OPINION ON FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy's affairs as at 31 August 2015 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 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2014 to 2015 issued by the Education Funding Agency.

OPINION ON OTHER MATTER PRESCRIBED BY THE COMPANIES ACT 2006

In our opinion the information given in the Academy Trustees' Report, incorporating the Strategic Report, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

MATTERS ON WHICH WE ARE REQUIRED TO REPORT BY EXCEPTION

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters where 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 Academy Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Gary Miller (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors

Causeway House 1 Dane Street Bishop's Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 3BT 16 December 2015

ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 August 2013 and further to the requirements of the Education Funding Agency (EFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2014 to 2015, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School during the year 1 September 2014 to 31 August 2015 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 St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and EFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and EFA 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 St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and EFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL'S ACCOUNTING OFFICER AND THE REPORTING ACCOUNTANT

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 August 2011, and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2014, 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 2014 to 2015. 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 2014 to 31 August 2015 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 2014 to 2015 issued by EFA. 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.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Trust, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity.
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, propriety and compliance in particular checking that selected items were appropriately authorised, and appropriate.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANTS' ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION 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 2014 to 31 August 2015 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Gary Miller (Reporting Accountant)

Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants

16 December 2015

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

				Restricted		As restated
		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds	fixed asset funds	Total funds	Total funds
		2015	2015	2015	2015	2014
	Note	£	£	£	£	£
INCOMING RESOURCES						
Incoming resources from generated funds: Voluntary income	2	14,119	251,469		265,588	280,174
Activities for generating funds Investment income	3	187,263 5,785	231,409 - -	- - -	187,263 5,785	184,433 4,813
Incoming resources from charitable activities		-	5,433,558	125,226	5,558,784	6,149,681
TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES		207,167	5,685,027	125,226	6,017,420	6,619,101
RESOURCES EXPENDED						
Charitable activities Governance costs	7	115,243 -	5,830,405 12,825	180,796 -	6,126,444 12,825	6,673,624 16,000
TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED	5	115,243	5,843,230	180,796	6,139,269	6,689,624
NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE						
TRANSFERS		91,924	(158,203)	(55,570)	(121,849)	(70,523)
Transfers between funds	16	-	(62,691)	62,691	-	-
NET EXPENDITURE FOR THE YEAR		91,924	(220,894)	7,121	(121,849)	(70,523)
Actuarial gains and losses on defined benefit pension schemes		-	199,000	-	199,000	(317,000)
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS FOR THE YEAR		91,924	(21,894)	7,121	77,151	(387,523)
Total funds at 1 September 2014		1,046,673	(1,026,131)	582,974	603,516	1,512,499
Prior year adjustment (Note 15)			521,460		521,460	
TOTAL FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2015		1,138,597	(526,565)	590,095	1,202,127	1,124,976

All activities relate to continuing operations.

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 22 to 37 form part of these financial statements.

ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 07694563

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2015

			2015		As restated 2014
	Note	£	£	£	£
FIXED ASSETS					
Tangible assets	12		590,095		582,975
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	13	617,108		797,212	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,691,774		1,778,814	
		2,308,882		2,576,026	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year	14	(236,850)		(479,025)	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			2,072,032		2,097,001
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			2,662,127		2,679,976
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	21		(1,460,000)		(1,555,000)
NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION SCHEME LIABILITY			1,202,127		1,124,976
FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY					
Restricted funds :					
Restricted funds	16	411,975		528,869	
Restricted funds - donation in kind					
(see note 23)	16	521,460		521,460	
Restricted fixed asset funds	16	590,095		582,974	
Restricted funds excluding pension liability		1,523,530		1,633,303	
Pension reserve		(1,460,000)		(1,555,000)	
Total restricted funds			63,530		78,303
Unrestricted funds	16		1,138,597		1,046,673
TOTAL FUNDS			1,202,127		1,124,976

The financial statements were approved by the Academy Trustees and authorised for issue, on 15 December 2015 and are signed on their behalf, by:

Mr P Hay

Chair of Academy Trustees

The notes on pages 22 to 37 form part of these financial statements.

CASH FLOW STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

	Note	2015 £	2014 £
Net cash flow from operating activities	18	(30,135)	205,305
Returns on investments and servicing of finance - interest received		5,785	4,813
Capital expenditure		(62,690)	(76,056)
(DECREASE)/INCREASE IN CASH IN THE YEAR		(87,040)	134,062

RECONCILIATION OF NET CASH FLOW TO MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

	2015 £	2014 £
(Decrease)/increase in cash in the year	(87,040)	134,062
MOVEMENT IN NET FUNDS IN THE YEAR	(87,040)	134,062
Net funds at 1 September 2014	1,778,814	1,644,752
NET FUNDS AT 31 AUGUST 2015	1,691,774	1,778,814

The notes on pages 22 to 37 form part of these financial statements.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' published in March 2005 (SORP), the Academies Accounts Direction 2014 to 2015 issued by EFA, applicable accounting standards and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Company status

The Academy is a company limited by guarantee. Those Members who are Academy Trustees are noted on page 3.

In the event of the Academy being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per Member of the Academy.

1.3 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 Academy Trustees.

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the DfE.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

1.4 Incoming resources

All incoming resources are included in the Statement of Financial Activities when the Academy has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability. For legacies, entitlement is the earlier of the Academy being notified of an impending distribution or the legacy being received.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of 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 year for which it is receivable and any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general fund.

Capital grants are recognised when receivable 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.

Any donated services and gifts in kind provided to the Academy are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the Academy can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy's policies.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt 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.

ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.5 Resources expended

Expenditure is recognised in the period in which a liability is incurred and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

Charitable activities are costs incurred in the Academy's educational operations.

Governance costs include the costs attributable to the Academy's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and Academy Trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.6 Going concern

The Academy 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 Academy Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

All assets costing more than £1,000 are capitalised.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the Government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and are carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy's depreciation policy.

A review of impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate the value of the asset may not be recoverable.

Tangible fixed assets are stated at cost less depreciation. Depreciation is provided at rates calculated to write off the cost of fixed assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives on the following bases:

Motor vehicles - 5 years straight line Fixtures, fittings and equipment - 4 - 10 years straight line

During the period the computer equipment depreciation policy was amended as a result of a change in the finance regulations to write off the equipment over one year. This is deemed more appropriate as the school looks to renew the equipment on a frequent basis

1.8 Operating leases

Rentals under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (continued)

1.10 Pensions

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

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 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 quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in note 21, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the Academy is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy 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 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 gains and losses on the settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a pension interest adjustment in Note 7. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

2. OTHER VOLUNTARY INCOME

	Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015	Total funds 2015 £	As restated Total funds 2014 £
Donations Notional rent (see note 23)	14,119 - —————	77,649 173,820	91,768 173,820	106,354 173,820
Voluntary income	14,119	251,469	265,588	280,174
3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS				
		Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
Catering income Rental income Other income		170,491 1,153 15,619	170,491 1,153 15,619	166,412 1,153 16,868
		187,263	187,263	184,433

To comply with regulations this income is stated gross and associated costs are included within note 6.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

4. FUNDING FOR ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS

St Mark's	West	FSSEX	Catholic	School

	St Mark's West Essex Catholic	School				
			Unrestricted funds 2015 £	Restricted funds 2015	Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
	DfE/EFA grants					
	General Annual Grant (GAG) Other DfE / EFA grants		-	5,228,247 253,161	5,228,247 253,161	5,486,843 557,891
			-	5,481,408	5,481,408	6,044,734
	Other government grants					
	Local Authority grants		-	77,376	77,376	104,947
			-	77,376	77,376	104,947
			-	5,558,784	5,558,784	6,149,681
5.	RESOURCES EXPENDED					As restated
		Staff costs	Non pay Premises	y expenditure Other costs	Total	Total
		2015 £	2015 £	2015 £	2015 £	2014 £
	Direct costs Support costs	3,695,343 855,953	- 682,726	426,502 465,920	4,121,845 2,004,599	4,207,244 2,466,379
	Charitable activities	4,551,296	682,726	892,422	6,126,444	6,673,623
	Governance	-	-	12,825	12,825	16,000
		4,551,296	682,726	905,247	6,139,269	6,689,623

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

6. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES

DIDECT COOTS	Total funds 2015 £	As restated Total funds 2014 £
DIRECT COSTS		
Wages and salaries National insurance Pension cost Educational supplies Examination fees Staff development Technology costs Travel & subsistence Other costs Supply teaching	3,021,420 244,347 429,576 136,366 109,752 12,413 14,052 88,195 41,685 24,039	2,951,131 238,828 447,017 148,833 95,803 14,329 13,511 119,133 19,165 159,494
	4,121,845	4,207,244
SUPPORT COSTS		
Wages and salaries National insurance Pension cost Depreciation LGPS adjustment Technology costs Travel & subsistence Other costs Recruitment & support Maintenance of premises & machinery Cleaning Rates Energy Insurance Security Catering Occupancy costs Bank interest & charges Telephone costs Printing, postage & stationery Professional services Notional rent (see note 23)	714,484 32,542 108,927 55,570 54,000 97,838 5,400 24,597 15,393 236,924 11,636 21,058 91,542 49,960 8,073 115,243 28,603 1,960 7,826 97,810 51,393 173,820	732,424 34,039 103,773 54,543 51,000 208,780 6,586 39,934 23,444 582,031 6,764 20,587 96,306 52,301 10,572 111,172 29,258 1,763 6,510 71,677 49,095 173,820
	2,004,599	2,466,379
	6,126,444	6,673,623

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

7. **GOVERNANCE COSTS**

••	COVERNMENT COOLS		
		Total funds 2015 £	Total funds 2014 £
	Auditors' remuneration Auditors' non audit costs (including Internal Audit) Legal and professional	6,500 6,325 -	6,250 4,350 5,400
		12,825	16,000
8.	NET INCOMING / (OUTGOING) RESOURCES		
	This is stated after charging:		
		2015 £	2014 £
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: - owned or leased by the Academy	55,570	54,543
9.	STAFF		
	a. Staff costs		
	Staff costs were as follows:		
		2015 £	2014 £
	Wages and salaries Social security costs Other pension costs	3,711,865 276,889 538,503	3,524,061 272,867 550,790
	Agency supply teacher costs	4,527,257 24,039	4,347,718 159,494
		4,551,296	4,507,212
	b. Staff numbers		
	The average number of persons (including the Senior Leadership Team) e year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:	mployed by the Acad	lemy during the

	2015 No.	2014 No.
Teachers	60	56
Administration and support Management	49 7	53 7
	116	116

ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

9. STAFF (continued)

c. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments fell within the following bands was:

	No.	2014 No.
In the band £ 60,001 - £ 70,000	1	3
In the band £ 70,001 - £ 80,000	3	2
In the band £ 80,001 - £ 90,000	0	1
In the band £ 90,001 - £100,000	1	0

2015

2014

The above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31 August 2015, pension contributions for these staff amounted to £52,677 (2014 - £56,902).

10. ACADEMY TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

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

E Heaphy (Accounting Officer)

Remuneration £90,000-£95,000 (2014: £85,000-£90,000)

Employer's Pension contribution £10,000-£15,000 (2014: £10,000-£15,000)

P Plowman (Community Trustee - member of staff)

Remuneration £15,000-£20,000 (2014: £15,000-£20,000)

Employer's Pension contribution £0-£5,000 (2014: £0-£5,000)

R Harding (Staff Academy Trustee)

Remuneration £45,000-£50,000 (2014: £45,000-£50,000)

Employer's Pension contribution £5,000-£10,000 (2014: £5,000-£10,000)

J Baker (Staff Academy Trustee)

Remuneration £35,000-£40,000 (2014: £35,000-£40,000)

Employer's Pension contribution £5,000-£10,000 (2014: £5,000-£10,000)

During the period 31 August 2015, no Academy Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses for their role as Academy Trustees (2014: £0).

Other related party transactions involving the Academy Trustees are set out in note 23.

11. ACADEMY TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect Academy Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

12. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

	Motor vehicles	Fixtures, fittings and equipment £	Total £
Cost			
At 1 September 2014 Additions	21,943	868,971 62,690	890,914 62,690
At 31 August 2015	21,943	931,661	953,604
Depreciation			
At 1 September 2014 Charge for the year	9,810 3,346	298,129 52,224	307,939 55,570
At 31 August 2015	13,156	350,353	363,509
Net book value			
At 31 August 2015	8,787	581,308	590,095
At 31 August 2014	12,133	570,842	582,975

The Academy Trust occupies land and buildings provided to it by the Diocesan Trustees under a license (also referred to as a Church Supplemental Agreement) which contains a two year notice period. Having considered the fact that the Academy Trust occupies the land and buildings by a license that transfers to the Academy no rights or control over the site save that of occupying it at the will of the Diocesan Trustees under the agreement, the Diocesan Trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the Academy Trust will not be recognised or valued within fixed assets.

13. DEBTORS

Due after more than one year Notional rental debtor (see note 23)	2015 £ 347,640	As restated 2014 £ 347,640
·	017,010	017,010
Due within one year Notional rental debtors (see note 23) VAT recoverable Prepayments and accrued income	173,820 28,302 67,346	173,820 82,014 193,738
	617,108	797,212
14. CREDITORS: Amounts falling due within one year		
	2015 £	2014 £
Other creditors Accruals and deferred income	174,247 62,603	298,791 180,234
	236,850	479,025

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

14. CREDITORS:

Amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Deferred income	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2014 Resources deferred during the year Amounts released from previous years	30,532 24,632 (30,532)
Deferred income at 31 August 2015	24,632

Resources deferred at the period end relate to Devolved Formula Capital grants and contributions towards future educational visits.

15. PRIOR YEAR ADJUSTMENT

A prior year adjustment has been made to recognise a donation in kind receivable which represents the commitment by the Diocese of Brentwood to provide land and buildings on a rent free basis for 36 months which had not been previously recognised.

The effect has been to recognise an asset valued at £521,460 in the year ended 31 August 2014.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS

	Brought forward £	Incoming resources	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried forward £
Designated funds						
Sixth form expansion Capital improvements	500,000 290,000	- -	- -	- -	- -	500,000 290,000
	790,000	-	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	-	790,000
General funds						
General funds	256,673	207,167	(115,243)	-	-	348,597
Total unrestricted funds	1,046,673	207,167	(115,243)	- -	-	1,138,597
Restricted funds						
	Brought forward As restated £	Incoming resources	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried forward £
General Annual						
Grant (GAG) Pupil premium	528,869 -	5,228,247 142,094	(5,282,450) (142,094)	(62,691) -	- -	411,975 -
SEN funding Educational visits Other government	-	56,479 77,649	(56,479) (77,649)	-	-	-
grants Donation in kind (see	-	6,738	(6,738)	-	-	-
note 23) Pension reserve	521,460 (1,555,000)	173,820 -	(173,820) (104,000)	- -	199,000	521,460 (1,460,000)
	(504,671)	5,685,027	(5,843,230)	(62,691)	199,000	(526,565)
Restricted fixed asset	funds					
Fixed asset fund	582,974	-	(55,570)	62,691	-	590,095
Capital maintenance funding Devolved formula	-	104,329	(104,329)	-	-	-
capital	-	20,897	(20,897)	-	-	-
	582,974	125,226	(180,796)	62,691	-	590,095
Total restricted funds	78,303	5,810,253	(6,024,026)	-	199,000	63,530
Total of funds	1,124,976	6,017,420	(6,139,269)	-	199,000	1,202,127

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

16. STATEMENT OF FUNDS (continued)

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

Pupil premium

This represents funding to help raise achievement and improve outcomes for pupils from low income families who are eligible for free school meals.

SEN funding

This represents funding from the Local Authority and it is used towards the education of pupils with special educational needs and disabilities.

Educational visits

This represents contributions made by parents to the running of educational visits for the pupils of the Academy and the associated costs of running the visits.

Other government grants

This represents various grants from local and national government bodies for the provision of specific services to pupils of the Academy.

Pension reserve

This reserve represents the Academy's share of the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) transferred to the Academy on conversion from a state controlled school.

Fixed asset fund

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

Capital maintenance funding

This represents funding from the EFA for specific capital maintenance projects.

Devolved formula capital

This represents funding received from EFA specifically for the maintenance and improvement of the Academy's buildings and facilities.

General Annual Grant (GAG)

This represents funding from the EFA to be used for the normal running costs of the Academy, including education and support costs.

Designated funds

This represents funds that have been designated forsixth form expansion and capital improvements.

Donation in kind

This fund represents the rent free occupation of the land and buildings from the Diocese of Brentwood.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2015.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

SUMMARY OF FUNDS

	Brought forward As restated £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Carried forward £
Designated funds	790,000	-	-	-	-	790,000
General funds	256,673	207,167	(115,243)	-	-	348,597
	1,046,673	207,167	(115,243)	-	-	1,138,597
Restricted funds	(504,671)	5,685,027	(5,843,230)	(62,691)	199,000	(526,565)
Restricted fixed asset funds	582,974	125,226	(180,796)	62,691	-	590,095
	1,124,976	6,017,420	(6,139,269)	-	199,000	1,202,127

17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

			Restricted		As restated
	Unrestricted	Restricted	fixed asset	Total	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2015	2015	2015	2015	2014
	£	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	590,095	590,095	582,974
Debtors due after more than 1 year	-	347,640	-	347,640	347,640
Current assets	1,138,597	822,645	-	1,961,242	2,228,387
Creditors due within one year Provisions for liabilities and	-	(236,850)	-	(236,850)	(479,025)
charges	-	(1,460,000)	-	(1,460,000)	(1,555,000)
	1,138,597	(526,565)	590,095	1,202,127	1,124,976

£790,000 (2014 - £790,000) of the £1,138,597 (2014 - £1,046,674) in unrestricted funds have been designated for specific purposes by the Governors.

18. NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES

	2015 £	2014 £
Net incoming resources before revaluations	(121,849)	(70,523)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	(5,785)	(4,813)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	55,570	54,543
Deficit on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	14,160
Decrease in debtors	180,106	657
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(242,177)	95,281
FRS 17 adjustments - interest adjustment	54,000	51,000
FRS 17 adjustments - contribution adjustment	50,000	65,000
Net cash (outflow)/inflow from operations	(30,135)	205,305

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

19. ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS

	1 September	Cash flow	Other non-cash changes	31 August
Cash at bank and in hand:	2014 £ 1,778,814	£ (87,040)	£	2015 £ 1,691,774
Net funds	1,778,814	(87,040)	-	1,691,774

20. 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 £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a Member.

21. PENSION COMMITMENTS

The Academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teacher's 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 Essex County Council. Both are defined benefit schemes.

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2013.

Contributions amounting to £62,096 were payable to the scheme at 31 August 2015 (2014 - £62,478) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' 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

Not less than every four years 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; and

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

21. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

• 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 year the employer contribution rate was 14.1%. The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4% from September 2015, which will be payable during the implementation period until the next valuation as at March 2016, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019

The pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £350,939 (2014: £349,343).

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

Under the definitions set out in Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 17) Retirement Benefits, the TPS is a multiemployer pension scheme. The Academy has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Academy 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 2015 was £186,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £140,000 and employees' contributions totalled £46,000. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 12.3% for employers and between 5.5% and 7.5% 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.

The amounts recognised in the Balance Sheet are as follows:

	2015 £	2014 £
Present value of funded obligations Fair value of scheme assets	(2,298,000) 838,000	(2,058,000) 503,000
Net liability	(1,460,000)	(1,555,000)
The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows): :	
	2015 £	2014 £
Current service cost Interest on obligation Expected return on scheme assets	(187,000) (85,000) 31,000	(205,000) (73,000) 22,000
Total	(241,000)	(256,000)
Actual return on scheme assets	29,000	47,000

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

21. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

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

	2015 £	2014 £
Opening defined benefit obligation Current service cost Interest cost Contributions by scheme participants Actuarial (Gains)/losses Benefits paid	2,058,000 187,000 85,000 43,000 (60,000) (15,000)	1,429,000 205,000 73,000 46,000 325,000 (20,000)
Closing defined benefit obligation	2,298,000	2,058,000
Movements in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme assets:		
	2015 £	2014 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets Expected return on assets Actuarial gains and (losses) Contributions by employer Contributions by employees Benefits paid	503,000 31,000 139,000 137,000 43,000 (15,000)	307,000 22,000 8,000 140,000 46,000 (20,000)
	838,000	503,000

The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities was £331,000 (2014 - £530,000).

The Academy expects to contribute £140,000 to its Defined Benefit Pension Scheme in 2016.

The major categories of scheme assets as a percentage of total scheme assets are as follows:

	2015	2014
Equities	65.00 %	64.00 %
Gilts	4.00 %	6.00 %
Other bonds	10.00 %	11.00 %
Property	12.00 %	12.00 %
Cash	2.00 %	3.00 %
Alternative Assets	7.00 %	4.00 %
Principal actuarial assumptions at the Balance Sheet date (expressed a	s weighted averages): 2015	2014
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.00 %	3.90 %
Expected return on scheme assets at 31 August	5.30 %	5.30 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.50 %	4.40 %
Rate of increase for pensions in payment / inflation	2.70 %	2.60 %
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.70 %	2.60 %
Inflation assumption (RPI)	3.60 %	3.40 %

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2015

21. PENSION COMMITMENTS (continued)

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

0045

0044

			2015	2014
Retiring today Males Females			22.8 25.2	22.7 25.1
Retiring in 20 years Males Females			25.1 27.6	24.9 27.4
Amounts for the current and previous three pe	riods are as follows	3:		
Defined benefit pension schemes.				
	2015 £	2014 £	2013 £	2012 £
Defined benefit obligation Scheme assets	(2,298,000) 838,000	(2,058,000) 503,000	(1,429,000) 307,000	(1,130,000) 148,000
Deficit	(1,460,000)	(1,555,000)	(1,122,000)	(982,000)
Experience adjustments on scheme assets	139,000	8,000	22,000	(1,000)

22. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS

At 31 August 2015 the Academy had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2015	2014
	£	£
Expiry date:		
Within 1 year	2,312	-
Between 2 and 5 years	3,087	6,820

23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the Academy's operations and the composition of the Board of Academy Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which an Academy Trustees has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. Any transactions where the Academy Trustee has a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle stated in the Academies Financial Handbook.

The Academy operates from land and buildings provided rent free by the Diocese of Brentwood. Under an agreement between the Dioceses, the Academy and the Secretary of State the Diocese would be required to give 24 months notice from the year end if it wished to terminate this agreement. No such notice had been given at the year end and the Diocese is therefore committed to providing the land and buildings rent free for a further 36 months from the year end. The Academy Trustees estimate that the cost of renting equivalent buildings would be £173,820 per annum, on this basis a donation from the Diocese of £173,820 is shown in the accounts together with a notional expense of the same amount. In addition, included within debtors is a donation in kind receivable of £521,460 representing the commitment by the Diocese to provide the land and buildings rent free for a further 36 months.

There were no other related party transactions during the year.