

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2019

Forrester Boyd
Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

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St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	K Daly (appointed 1 September 2018) S Gillespie (appointed 1 September 2019) Rev M Hardy (resigned 31 August 2019) G Krawiec (appointed 1 September 2018) D Lawes (appointed 1 September 2019) Bishop P McKinney S J Noon (appointed 1 September 2018) E Poyser (resigned 31 August 2019) J Rodden (appointed 1 September 2018)
Trustees (Directors)	S J Noon, Chair of Trustees J D Anderson (resigned 30 September 2018) P P A Bateman P Blitz (resigned 30 September 2018) A N Chukwudebe (resigned 11 March 2019) M F Cummins (appointed 1 September 2018) Fr J Daly (appointed 1 October 2018) M T Delahunty F J Fay (resigned 30 September 2018) L Freeman, Headteacher (resigned 30 September 2018) Rev M J Hardy (resigned 30 September 2018) C Lawe (resigned 30 September 2018) S Minford, Headteacher (resigned 30 September 2018) B Monaghan (resigned 30 September 2018) C R Murphy, Headteacher (resigned 30 September 2018) C B A Reynolds T K Smith B Underwood (appointed 1 September 2018) G Weaver (resigned 30 September 2018)
Chief Executive Officer	N Lockyer
Company Secretary	J A Barnacle
Finance Director	M Hobbs
Executive Management Team (Key Management Personnel)	N Lockyer, Accounting Officer M Hobbs, Finance Director (Chief Financial Officer) R Hurcombe, Director of Performance and Standards M Fitzwilliam, Director of Performance and Standards A Bouwens, Business Services Director

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

**Registered and
Principal Office** Unit 5
Charnwood Edge Business Park
Syston Road
Cossington
Leicester
LE7 4UZ

**Company Registration
Number** 08090890

Auditors Forrester Boyd
Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

Bankers Lloyds Bank Plc
Birmingham OSC
Ariel House
2138 Coventy Road
Sheldon
Birmingham
B26 3JW

Solicitors Browne Jacobson
Mowbray House
Castle Meadow Road
Nottingham
Nottinghamshire
NG2 1BJ

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details (continued)

Directory of Academies

Christ the King Catholic Voluntary Academy
De Lisle College: A Catholic Voluntary Academy
English Martyrs' Catholic School, A Voluntary Academy
Holy Cross Catholic School, A Voluntary Academy, Leicester
Holy Cross Primary School, A Catholic Voluntary Academy, Whitwick
Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy, Leicester
Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy, Loughborough
St Charles Catholic Primary Voluntary Academy
St Clare's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
Saint Francis Catholic Primary School
Saint John Fisher Catholic Voluntary Academy
St Joseph's Catholic Academy, Leicester
St Joseph's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Market Harborough
Saint Martin's Catholic Voluntary Academy
St Mary's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
Saint Patrick's Catholic Voluntary Academy
St Paul's Catholic School, a Voluntary Academy
Saint Peter's Catholic Primary School, A Voluntary Academy, Hinckley
Saint Peter's Catholic Voluntary Academy, Earl Shilton
St Thomas More Catholic Voluntary Academy
St Winefride's Catholic Voluntary Academy

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019

This Trustees' Report includes the additional content required of larger charities.

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2019. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The St Thomas Aquinas Multi Academy Trust (the Trust) operates 17 Catholic primary academies and 4 Catholic secondary academies in Leicester and Leicestershire. Its academies have a combined pupils on roll of 8,418 in the school census on 17 January 2019.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Trust. The Trustees of the Trust are also the Directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust.

Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The Trust has purchased the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) which is extended to indemnify Trustees.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Board of Directors is constituted as laid down in its Articles of Association. The Diocesan Bishop appoints Foundation Directors for a term of 4 years (or shorter if specified at the time of appointment).

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese provides a significant amount of training for Trustees that Trustees are expected to attend. The training takes place throughout the year on a variety of governance topics. The Chair of the Board also receives training through the Department for Education brokered training programme for Trustees.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Organisational structure

The Board is responsible for the core functions:

- ensuring clarity of vision, Catholic ethos and strategic direction;
- holding the Chief Executive Officer (CEO), who is also the Accounting Officer, to account for the educational performance of the Trust's academies and their pupils, and the performance management of staff;
- overseeing the financial performance of the Trust and making sure its money is well spent.

The Board has 5 committees: Standards, Finance & Estates, HR & Staffing, Pay & Performance Management and Audit.

Each academy has a Local Governing Body (LGB). The principle role of the LGB is to support and challenge the Principal/Head teacher with a focus on the School Development Plan.

The Board appoints the CEO, to whom it delegates responsibility for delivery of the vision and strategy, and will hold the CEO to account for the conduct and performance of the Trust, including the performance of the academies within the Trust, and for its financial management. In turn, the CEO line manages other senior executives and the Principals/Head teachers, setting their targets and performance managing them.

The Principal/Head teacher at each Academy is responsible for the day to day management of the Academy and is managed by the CEO but reports to the LGB on matters which have been delegated to it including monitoring and scrutiny of the School Development Plan.

Head teachers have delegated authority to approve single items of expenditure up to £2,000. The Trust approves expenditure over £2,000 and all staffing appointments.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Diocese provide support and advice regarding pay and remuneration of key management personnel, taking into account benchmarking data and DfE guidance. All key management personnel are on a pay spine. Progression up the pay spine is agreed following robust performance management by the Trust's Pay and Performance Committee. Cost of living rises are aligned with the Local Government negotiations.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
13	10.20

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	9
1%-50%	4
51%-99%	-
100%	-

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

2019

£

Provide the total cost of facility time

1,287

Provide the total pay bill

26,529,243

Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) x 100

-

Paid trade union activities

2019

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period ÷ total paid facility time hours) x 100

-

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Trust has a very close relationship with the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese. The Diocese provides (at cost) services that can only be delivered by the Diocese, which provide essential functions fundamental to the religious character and ethos of the Trust.

The Trust also has a very close relationship with the 3 other Catholic Multi Academy Trusts within the Nottingham Diocese:

- St Ralph Sherwin Catholic Multi Academy Trust
- Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust
- St Therese of Lisieux Catholic Multi-Academy Trust

The 4 Trusts have a shared payroll function, shared HR Director and share the costs of the finance system. This has led to significant cost savings for each Trust.

Related party transactions (since 1 April 2019) have been declared to (or approval sought from) the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA).

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Trust's objective is restricted to the advancement of the Catholic religion in the Diocese by such means as the Diocesan Bishop may think fit and proper. In particular, the establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing of Catholic schools conducted in accordance with the principles, and subject to the regulations and discipline of the Catholic Church.

Objectives, strategies and activities

2018-19 was the first year of existence of the enlarged Trust as a result of 2 Catholic Multi Academy Trusts and 8 Local Authority Catholic Maintained Schools joining the Trust. The Trust currently contains 21 academies (17 primary and 4 secondary), and works closely with another primary which will join the Trust in due course. Given the early stage in the enlarged Trust's development, there was very significant work needed in Year 1 to establish policies, procedures and practices within the organisation.

Our key objectives for the year included:

'Core business': To improve the life chances of all young people within the Trust's schools by -

- Maintaining, supporting and nurturing the Catholic life of the academies within the Trust, including the development of chaplaincy.
- Ensuring the highest standards of safeguarding and child protection for all young people within the Trust's academies.
- Establishing sustainable, productive subject and aspect networks ensuring the continual professional development of staff within the Trust.
- Supporting the establishment of Leicester Catholic Teaching School Alliance (LCTSA).
- Developing and implementing a strategy for alignment & consistency in specific aspects of school leadership and management, including but not limited to: self-evaluation; SEND provision; support to improve life chances of the most disadvantaged pupils; curriculum development; and, reporting to LGBs.
- Directing and supporting LGBs in adjusting to their new role within the Trust structure, including the practical implementation of the Scheme of Delegation.
- Embedding a sustainable, reliable and consistent practice of school improvement work through the new role of Director of Performance & Standards, including but not limited to: academy visits, monitoring of standards and providing advice; reporting to academy leaders and local governors; creating and sharing of Trust-wide resources; the Teaching & Learning conference (January 2019); supporting new Head teachers; and, working with the LCTSA to provide high quality training.
- Ensuring that academies are supported in preparation for both Diocesan Canonical and Ofsted inspections.

'Essential subsidiary business': To facilitate and enable the improvement of the life chances of all young people within the MAT's schools by -

- Fully centralising the financial functions of the academies within the Trust, thereby removing this workload from academies and achieving both greater consistency in approach, and economies of scale.
- Fully centralising payroll provision in partnership with the other 3 Trusts within the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham to achieve greater consistency and considerable saving for academies.
- Fully centralising the HR provision for academies in partnership with the other 3 Trusts within the Catholic Diocese of Nottingham to give confidence and clarity to academy leaders and managers, and to ensure effective implementation of Catholic Education Service policies.
- Providing a Business Services model to academies in order to remove non-educational responsibilities from academy leaders, thereby creating time and resource to focus on pupil welfare, teaching & learning and staff development. These services include, but are not limited to: the negotiation & renewal of contracts to secure best value for money; procurement; site development, maintenance and capital investment; health & safety audit and training; the establishment of non-educational staff networks (Office Managers, Site Managers, IT Network managers, Catering Managers); and, the oversight of ICT across the Trust's schools.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Public benefit

The Trust has complied with the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

In particular, the Trust has provided Catholic education to over 8,000 pupils throughout Leicester and Leicestershire, and enabled the academy buildings and sporting facilities to be used by the public.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

Pupil outcomes:

Key Stage 2 (KS2):

- 16 out of 17 academies improved their combined % at Age-Related Expectation (including 4 out of 5 'high priority' academies)
- 10 out of 17 academies improved their combined % at Greater Depth (including 4 out of 5 'high priority' academies)
- The Trust average combined % at Age-Related Expectation is 68.5, and 11 out of 17 academies achieved above the 2018 average as a benchmark.
- The Trust average combined % at Greater Depth is 13, and 12 out of 17 academies achieved above the 2018 average as a benchmark.

Key Stage 4 (KS4):

- Indicative Progress 8 measures show improvement for 3 out of 4 academies (including the one 'high priority' academy)
- 3 out of 4 academies are broadly 'average' in terms of progress (including the one 'high priority' academy)
- The other academy is good, bordering on outstanding with a P8 measure of 0.5
- 'Basics' at 4+ improved in one, broadly stayed the same in one and dropped slightly in two; at 5+ improved in two, broadly stayed the same in one and dropped slightly in one.

Key Stage 5 (KS5):

- 2 out of 3 academies improved their position in 2019, with the other maintaining the 2018 position.
- The progress measures (Level 3 Value Added) were all in the 'average' category.

Catholic life:

- Four academies were inspected in the Trust during 2018-19, two of which were deemed to be 'Good', whilst two 'Required Improvement' (albeit one of them with a grade of 'Outstanding' for the Catholic Life element).
- A new Trust Lead Lay Chaplain was employed from May 2019, and has already made significant progress through training for academy staff, resources produced, and the establishment of a academy Chaplains' network.
- A very successful Trust Feast Day was celebrated in January 2019 involving 1,500 young people from all academies within the Trust.

Safeguarding:

- Training was developed and delivered for local governors and Directors within the Trust.
- All staff across the Trust were trained on 'Keeping Children Safe in Education' (2018).
- All Single Central Records were checked and verified as accurate.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Strategic Report

Subject networks

- The following Primary Networks have been established this year: Deputy/Assistant Head teachers; English; Maths; Science; SENCOs; Moderation (all year groups).
- The following Secondary Subject Networks have been established this year: RE (to be enhanced by a Diocese-funded Coordinator next year); English; Maths; Science; Humanities; MFL; Music; Pupil Premium; data; SEND; Careers.
- In addition, the Vice Principals leading on Teaching & Learning in the four secondaries have been brought together to form a network based on observing and sharing the best practice from each of the academies, along with auditing provision in each other's academies.
- Impact - the networks have brought colleagues together from across the Trust and have led to: improvements in the standard and consistency of teaching, learning and assessment; the testing of new approaches and effective action research; improved accuracy in the assessment of pupils' work through wide-reaching moderation; and, the professional development of staff.

Leicester Catholic Teaching School Alliance

- Delegates from all Trust academies and 30 schools from outside the Trust, have attended LCTSA courses this year - mostly primary, some secondary (including one from Mansfield) and the Leicester PRU. The total number of delegates who have attended or are due to attend a course this year is 1,026. A total of 80 courses have been delivered, equating to 50 full days of CPD.
- Courses have been presented by members of the Trust Executive Team; the LCTSA Director; expert teachers from academies across the Trust and external providers from institutions and companies from across the UK.
- Courses have been delivered to LGBs, Head teachers, senior leaders, teachers and support staff.
- Courses have covered: reading, writing, maths, science, EYFS, pupil premium, SEND, data analysis, senior leadership, subject and middle leadership, computing, PE, being a governor in a Catholic school, safeguarding, Prevent, Team Teach, curriculum & timetabling (Secondary) and improving vocabulary.
- The LCTSA has worked with a range of outside bodies including: Diocese of Nottingham Education Service; Nottingham Catholic TSA, Leicester City Teaching Schools Group, EMSYHTSA, Leicester & Leicestershire SCITT and the Leicestershire TSAs.
- Impact - 92% of delegates reported that the course they had attended would have a positive impact on the outcome of pupils back in school. 96% of delegates reported that the course they had attended would enhance their practice.

Use of central school improvement resources

Around £100k of central funding has been budgeted and spent on school improvement activities during 2018-19. This has included:

- A significant investment in CPD, as well as a significant investment in social work support for one of our academies with the highest needs in this area.
- The January Teaching and Learning Conference involving all 800 teachers and teaching assistants. The keynote speaker was Sir John Dunford who shared thoughts on providing for the most disadvantaged in our schools, along with a wide range of workshops run, in the main, by members of staff from within our academies.
- The Trust Feast Day celebrations at the end of January involving 1,500 young people and staff from all 22 schools in the Trust. Mass was concelebrated and led by Bishop Patrick, and academies shared large postcards outlining the things worthy of celebration with each other, also forming 'prayer partnerships.'
- Supporting all of the network activity outlined above
- Supporting all of the Head teacher monthly meetings and 'New to Headship' meetings
- Impact - quality assurance and evaluations have demonstrated high levels of positive impact in relation to the CPD programme, and the social work provision at the academy referred to has also been very well-received; staff evaluations from the Teaching & Learning Conference were very strong indeed with any negative feedback focusing on one or two logistical aspects of the day, whereas the content and impact of the sessions were very positively viewed; the Feast Day mass was a great success bringing together young people from the Trust academies for the first time and developing the spiritual links between the academies.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Strategic Report

Preparation for inspection

- There were three Ofsted inspections during the year; two academies were rated as 'Good', and one 'Requires Improvement'.

Key financial performance indicators

KPI	Target	Actual 2018/2019
Current Ratio (current assets divided by current liabilities)	Greater than 1.0	2.29
Staff costs as a % of income	Less than 80%	77.9%
Reserves (days) (reserves divided by approx. daily expenditure)	Minimum 30 days	28.8

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of 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.

Financial review

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the Department for Education in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. Around 80% of income is spent on staffing, with the remaining 20% spent on maintenance, educational resources and staff training. This expenditure enables the Trust to fulfil its objective of providing Catholic education to over 8,000 pupils, for example by enabling students to be taught by qualified teachers and supported by teaching assistants, premises staff and administrative staff. The funding enables the academies to be equipped with ICT and other resources that enhance the learning environment. The grants and associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The Trust also receives Condition Improvement Funding for fixed assets from the Department for Education via the Diocese. This funding enables academy buildings to be improved and larger maintenance work undertaken. The grants are shown in the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities. The restricted fixed asset fund is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

The combined restricted general funds, excluding pension reserves, plus unrestricted funds show an in-year surplus of £2,037,000. The actual reserves (restricted general funds, excluding pension reserves, plus unrestricted reserves) as at 31 August 2019 was £2,823,000.

On 1 September 2018, 6 schools and 7 academies joined the Trust. A further 2 schools joined the Trust on 1 October 2018. Collectively, these schools brought £2.4 million into the Trust as one-off donations from the predecessor school's Local Authority or Trust.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Strategic Report

Reserves policy

The Trust's "free reserves" are its funds after excluding restricted funds. Free reserves are therefore the resources the Trust has or can make available to spend for any or all of the Trust's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. More specifically, free reserves represent income to the Trust which can be spent at the discretion of the Board in furtherance of any of the Trust's objects but which has not yet been spent, committed or designated.

As at 31 August 2019, Trust reserves are:

	£
Restricted General Funds	2,104,000
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	8,507,000
Unrestricted Funds	805,000
Restricted Pension Fund	(17,705,000)
Total reserves	(6,289,000)

The Trust Board carefully considered the level of restricted general and unrestricted reserves that should be held. It was agreed that a minimum of 30 days' expenditure should be held as reserve to provide sufficient working capital, cover delays between receiving funding and spending, and deal with any unexpected issues. This equates to a target of approximately £3.4 million.

Work continues to review each academy's operating model to ensure that sufficient reserves are being maintained to comply with the policy.

Investment policy

The Trust's Articles (5Cm) gives the Board the power "to deposit or invest any funds of the Company not immediately required for the furtherance of its Objects (but to invest only after obtaining such advice from a financial expert as the Directors consider necessary and having regard to the suitability of investments and the need for diversification)."

The Board has agreed investment objectives:

- to achieve best financial return available whilst ensuring that security of deposits takes precedence over revenue maximisation.
- Only invest funds surplus to operational need based on all financial commitments being met without the Trust bank account becoming overdrawn.
- By complying with this policy, all investment decisions should be exercised with care and skill and consequently be in the best interests of the Trust, commanding broad public support.

Surplus funds are currently deposited in an overnight and/or 32-day notice account linked to the Trust's main bank account providing a higher rate of interest than would otherwise be achieved.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Strategic Report

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust has conducted a comprehensive risk assessment. The main business risks identified are:

- Failure to recruit and retain high quality Catholic Leaders.
- Failure to monitor and react accordingly to the risks associated with competitor establishments.
- Failure to ensure that the quality of management Information produced by/for the academies within the Trust is of a high quality and is timely.
- Failure to meet requirements of GDPR legislation.
- Failure to secure required funding for buildings and maintenance.
- Failure to ensure that the Trust's financial systems and controls are maintained.

The Trust regularly considers risks for the whole Trust and for individual academies. Where risks are likely to materialise, or do materialise rapid action is taken.

There are no significant credit, cash flow or liquidity risks. The main financial instruments that are dealt with are bank balances, cash, trade creditors and very limited trade (and other) debtors. Debtors represent approximately 0.1% of the Trust's annual turnover.

Fundraising

The Trust has not used professional fundraisers, and fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trust. Individual academies raise funds from local parishioners, friends and family known as 'planned giving'. Such donations are completely voluntary with no pressure put on anyone to donate. Funds raised are used for the benefits of students and their education.

Plans for future periods

The Trust will continue to embed the new systems and processes introduced during 2018/19 leading to a well financially managed and governed Trust. Intensive school improvement work will be taking place at any academy that is not meeting the agreed educational standards, and the Trust is using 3 experienced School Improvement Head teachers part-time to bring about rapid improvement where needed.

We expect Bishop Ellis Catholic Primary School to convert to academy status and join the Trust within the next 2 years (following completion of their new school building).

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

Employment of disabled persons

The Trust carries out its duties under the Equality Act (2010) by:

- promoting equality of opportunity for disabled people: pupils, staff, parents, carers and other people who use the Trust or may wish to
- publishing a disability equality scheme which clearly identifies the employer responsibility regarding disabled staff, as well as disabled pupils, governors, parents and visitors.

The Trust is fortunate to have a talented and dedicated workforce. Staff, parents and pupils are valued by what they bring to the Trust community. All our staff are committed to empowering our students to make positive contributions by opening opportunities to learning. We will continually ensure that all members of our Trust community understand that they can confidentially raise concerns in connection with their personal needs or disability equality at any time.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

Forrester Boyd were appointed as auditors for a 3 year period from 2018/19.

Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, approved by order of the Members of the Board of Trustees on 5 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



S J Noon

Chair of Trustees

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that the 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 Trustees have delegated the day-to-day responsibility to N Lockyer, 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 the 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 reviews

A governance review was carried out by the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service during the expansion of the Trust. The review output was to have an effective Board that provides confident, strategic leadership to the Trust and create robust accountability, oversight and assurance for the Trust's educational and financial performance.

The impact of the review has seen a significant number of changes to the Board. The Board now comprises of people with broad experience including education, legal and finance.

Governance will be reviewed again during 2019/20 to ensure the structure continues to be fit for purpose and can effectively hold the Executive Management Team to account.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board has formally met 7 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S J Noon	7	7
B Underwood	6	7
T K Smith	5	7
Fr J Daly	2	7
M F Cummins	4	7
M T Delahunty	4	7
C B A Reynolds	5	7
P P A Bateman	5	7
A N Chukwudebe	0	4

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

The Finance and Estates Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board. Its purpose is to ensure that the Trust's finances are managed effectively. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S J Noon	5	5
T K Smith	3	3
P P A Bateman	5	5
Fr J Daly	1	1

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board. Its purpose is to assist the Trustees in fulfilling their oversight into the quality, reliability and integrity of the financial statements. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S J Noon	3	3
B Underwood	2	3
T K Smith	3	3

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer 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 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:

- renegotiating key contracts such as data systems, audit, Health and Safety, and reprographics saving circa £100k.
- reviewed and challenged staffing costs, leading to one academy recovering its cumulative deficit and another turning around a potential deficit to creating a surplus of over £200k that can now be used to target areas of most need.
- introduced cashless systems in all schools (that will be embedded during 2019/20) leading to less work for staff, less risk and more timely reporting of income.

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 Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in the Trust for the year ended 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2019 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board;
- regular reviews by the Finance and Estates 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 has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- to appoint Leicestershire County Council as internal auditor

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

- testing of internal financial control within schools and the central Trust
- testing of purchase systems
- testing of control account / bank reconciliations
- segregation of duties

Auditor reports were shared direct with the Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee as received and discussed at the next available committee meeting, with a summary of issues identified included in Board meeting reports.

There were no material control or other issues reported by the internal or external auditors.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Governance Statement (continued)

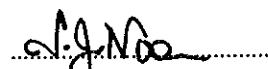
Review of effectiveness

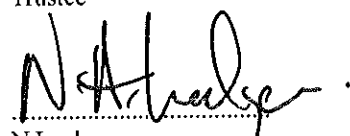
As Accounting Officer, N Lockyer has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the external auditor;
- the work of Leicestershire County Council internal audit reviews;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- a review of Financial Management and Governance using the ESFA's FMGS and SRMA frameworks.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 5 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:


S J Noon
Trustee


N Lockyer
Accounting officer
Chief Executive Officer

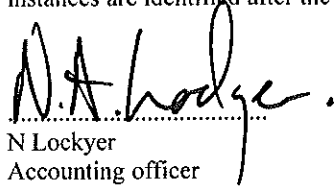
St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of the Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Trust, under the funding agreement in place between the 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 2018.

I confirm that I and the Trust the Board are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

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 and ESFA.:



N Lockyer
Accounting officer

5 December 2019

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees who 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 published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare 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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019;
- 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 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 the 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 on 5 December 2019 and signed on its behalf by:



S J Ngan
Chair of Trustees

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust (the 'Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2019, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities incorporating Income and Expenditure Account, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (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 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 2019 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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 Trust's 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 (covers the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance Statement)

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 other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the 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.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust (continued)

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 Strategic Report and Trustees' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Strategic Report and Trustees' 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 company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Strategic Report and Trustees' Report.

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 Trustees remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 20], the Trustees 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 Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

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 judgement 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 than 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 on the effectiveness of the Trust's internal control.
- 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 Trust's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our 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 our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Trust to cease to continue as a going concern.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

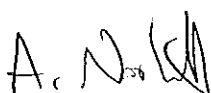
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust (continued)

- 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.
- Obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the financial information of the entities or business activities within the Trust to express an opinion on the financial statements. We are responsible for the direction, supervision and performance of the Trust audit. We remain solely responsible for our audit opinion.

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.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Trustees, 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 Trustees 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 Trust and its Trustees, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



.....
Alan Nesbitt BA FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd, Statutory Auditor

Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

5 December 2019

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity to St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 9 May 2019 and further to the requirements of the Education Funding Agency (EFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2018 to 2019, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy 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 St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the Governing Body's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of the Board of Trustees's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 29 June 2012 and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2018, 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 2018 to 2019. 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 from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

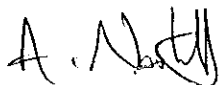
- evaluating the systems and control environment
- assessing the risk of irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance;
- confirming that the activities of the academy are in keeping with the Trust's framework and the charitable objectives; and
- obtaining representations from the Accounting Officer and key management personnel.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity to St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust and the Education & 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 from 1 September 2018 to 31 August 2019 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



.....
Alan Nesbitt BA FCA

For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd, Chartered Accountants

Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

5 December 2019

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2018/19 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and capital grants	2	833,000	-	1,248,000	2,081,000
Transfer from local authority on conversion / transfer from existing academy trusts		-	(5,722,000)	4,809,000	(913,000)
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	40,646,000	-	40,646,000
Teaching schools	27	19,000	60,000	-	79,000
Other trading activities	4	1,379,000	-	-	1,379,000
Investments	5	7,000	-	-	7,000
Total		<u>2,238,000</u>	<u>34,984,000</u>	<u>6,057,000</u>	<u>43,279,000</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	937,000	6,000	-	943,000
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	795,000	43,125,000	666,000	44,586,000
Teaching schools	27	2,000	88,000	-	90,000
Total		<u>1,734,000</u>	<u>43,219,000</u>	<u>666,000</u>	<u>45,619,000</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		504,000	(8,235,000)	5,391,000	(2,340,000)
Transfers between funds		-	(155,000)	155,000	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	(4,299,000)	-	(4,299,000)
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		504,000	(12,689,000)	5,546,000	(6,639,000)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2018		<u>301,000</u>	<u>(2,998,000)</u>	<u>3,047,000</u>	<u>350,000</u>
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2019		<u>805,000</u>	<u>(15,687,000)</u>	<u>8,593,000</u>	<u>(6,289,000)</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2018 (including Income and Expenditure Account)


	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2017/18 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and capital grants	2	314,000	50,000	216,000	580,000
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	10,345,000	-	10,345,000
Other trading activities	4	340,000	52,000	-	392,000
Investments	5	1,000	-	-	1,000
Total		655,000	10,447,000	216,000	11,318,000
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	334,000	-	-	334,000
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	379,000	10,693,000	295,000	11,367,000
Total		713,000	10,693,000	295,000	11,701,000
Net expenditure		(58,000)	(246,000)	(79,000)	(383,000)
Transfers between funds		(100,000)	90,000	10,000	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	734,000	-	734,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(158,000)	578,000	(69,000)	351,000
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2017		449,000	(3,566,000)	3,116,000	(1,000)
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2018		291,000	(2,988,000)	3,047,000	350,000

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

(Registration number: 08090890)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	12	-	1,000
Tangible assets	13	8,021,000	3,045,000
		<u>8,021,000</u>	<u>3,046,000</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	2,444,000	339,000
Cash at bank and in hand		3,695,000	962,000
		<u>6,139,000</u>	<u>1,301,000</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(2,681,000)	(502,000)
Net current assets		<u>3,458,000</u>	<u>799,000</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		11,479,000	3,845,000
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(63,000)	(12,000)
Net assets excluding pension liability		11,416,000	3,833,000
Pension scheme liability	24	(17,705,000)	(3,483,000)
Net (liabilities)/assets including pension liability		<u>(6,289,000)</u>	<u>350,000</u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund		2,018,000	485,000
Restricted fixed asset fund		8,593,000	3,047,000
Restricted pension fund		(17,705,000)	(3,483,000)
		<u>(7,094,000)</u>	<u>49,000</u>
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund		805,000	301,000
Total funds		<u>(6,289,000)</u>	<u>350,000</u>

The financial statements on pages 26 to 64 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 5 December 2019 and signed on their behalf by:


S J Noon
Chair of Trustees

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the Year Ended 31 August 2019

	Note	2019 £	2018 £
Net cash outflow from operating activities	20	(394,000)	(100,000)
Cash transferred on conversion to an academy trust		2,401,000	-
Cash flows from financing activities		-	-
Cash flows from investing activities	21	<u>726,000</u>	<u>135,000</u>
Increase in cash in the year	22	<u><u>2,733,000</u></u>	<u><u>35,000</u></u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019

1 Accounting policies

General Information

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity incorporated in England & Wales. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Trust. The company registration number is 08090890.

The address of its registered and principal office is:

Unit 5
Charnwood Edge Business Park
Syston Road
Cossington
Leicester
LE7 4UZ
Unit Kingdom

These financial statements cover the individual entity, St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust only.

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the 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 2018 to 2019 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

These financial statements have been prepared in sterling, the functional currency, and have been rounded to the nearest thousand.

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 company to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the 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.

Income

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

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the 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 in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grants are reflected in the balance sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are spent on capital projects in line with the terms and conditions of the grant. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Other income

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period it is receivable and to the extent the Trust has provided the goods or services.

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

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

Donated fixed assets

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

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure

All 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.

All resources expended are exclusive of VAT except where irrecoverable.

Expenditure on raising funds

This includes all expenditure incurred by the Trust to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading such as trip costs, adult meals expenditure and school uniforms expenditure.

Charitable activities

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

Intangible fixed assets

Intangible assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment. Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Computer software	straight line over 3 years

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. The related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful lives, per the table below.

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.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Long leasehold land	straight line over 125 years
Leasehold Improvements	straight line over 20 years
Furniture and equipment	straight line over 3 years
Computer equipment	straight line over 3 years

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Liabilities

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

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

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.

Leased assets

Rentals applicable to operating leases where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership remain with the lessor are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Long term leasehold land and buildings:

The land and buildings are held on a 125 year lease with Leicestershire County Council. They were recognised as an asset on conversion and are being depreciated accordingly.

Taxation

The Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Pension benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the 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. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the 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 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.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Trust at the discretion of the 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 with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

The 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 24, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2019. 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.

Agency accounting

The Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 26.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Transfer on conversion	-	(5,722,000)	4,809,000	(913,000)	-
Other voluntary income					
Educational trips and visits	725,000	-	-	725,000	310,000
Capital grants	-	-	1,248,000	1,248,000	216,000
Other donations	108,000	-	-	108,000	54,000
	<u>833,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,248,000</u>	<u>2,081,000</u>	<u>580,000</u>
Total voluntary income	<u>833,000</u>	<u>(5,722,000)</u>	<u>6,057,000</u>	<u>1,168,000</u>	<u>580,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
DfE/EFA capital grants			
Start up grant	-	-	68,000
DfE/EFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant	35,361,000	35,361,000	9,512,000
Universal Infant Free School Meals	714,000	714,000	127,000
Pupil Premium	1,446,000	1,446,000	314,000
Other DfE / EFA grants	898,000	898,000	117,000
Post 16 Bursary	22,000	22,000	14,000
Teacher's Pay Grant	309,000	309,000	-
	<u>38,750,000</u>	<u>38,750,000</u>	<u>10,084,000</u>
Other government grants			
High Needs / SEN	916,000	916,000	112,000
Early Years	259,000	259,000	-
Other Local Authority income	465,000	465,000	-
Other Government Grants	153,000	153,000	-
	<u>1,793,000</u>	<u>1,793,000</u>	<u>112,000</u>
Non-government grants and other income			
Other income	<u>103,000</u>	<u>103,000</u>	<u>81,000</u>
Total grants	<u>40,646,000</u>	<u>40,646,000</u>	<u>10,345,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Hire of facilities	80,000	80,000	15,000
Catering income	778,000	778,000	246,000
School shop sales	29,000	29,000	-
Recharges and reimbursements	-	-	52,000
Other sales	492,000	492,000	79,000
	<u>1,379,000</u>	<u>1,379,000</u>	<u>392,000</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Short term deposits	<u>7,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>1,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

6 Resources expended

				Total	Total
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	2019 £	2018 £
Expenditure on raising funds - direct costs	-	-	943,000	943,000	334,000
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	28,201,000	-	1,619,000	29,820,000	7,473,000
Allocated support costs	8,067,000	2,757,000	3,942,000	14,766,000	3,894,000
	<u>36,268,000</u>	<u>2,757,000</u>	<u>5,561,000</u>	<u>44,586,000</u>	<u>11,367,000</u>
Teaching schools expenditure					
Direct costs	56,000	-	11,000	67,000	-
Allocated support costs	10,000	7,000	6,000	23,000	-
	<u>66,000</u>	<u>7,000</u>	<u>17,000</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>36,334,000</u>	<u>2,764,000</u>	<u>6,521,000</u>	<u>45,619,000</u>	<u>11,701,000</u>
Net incoming/outgoing resources for the year include:					
				2019 £	2018 £
Operating leases - other leases				87,000	17,000
Fees payable to auditor - audit				31,000	25,000
- other audit services				16,000	2,000
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets				1,000	1,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				<u>361,000</u>	<u>151,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

7 Charitable activities

	Total	Total
	2019	2018
	£	£
Direct costs - educational operations		
Teaching and educational support staff costs	28,201,000	6,867,000
Technology costs	93,000	59,000
Educational supplies	426,000	309,000
Examination fees	398,000	102,000
Staff development	230,000	74,000
Educational consultancy	408,000	-
Other direct costs	64,000	62,000
	<u>29,820,000</u>	<u>7,473,000</u>
Support costs - educational operations		
Support staff costs	6,476,000	1,787,000
LGPS Service cost adjustment	1,591,000	351,000
Depreciation and amortisation	362,000	152,000
Technology costs	632,000	82,000
Maintenance of premises and equipment	976,000	266,000
Cleaning	261,000	60,000
Rent, rates and utilities	852,000	258,000
Insurance	306,000	130,000
Recruitment and support	57,000	31,000
Security and transport	116,000	38,000
Catering	1,393,000	146,000
Bank interest and charges	24,000	9,000
Interest on defined benefit pension scheme	333,000	98,000
Professional fees	494,000	146,000
Other support costs	845,000	313,000
Governance costs	48,000	27,000
	<u>14,766,000</u>	<u>3,894,000</u>
Total direct and support costs	<u>44,586,000</u>	<u>11,367,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

7 Charitable activities (continued)

	Educational operations £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	8,067,000	8,067,000	2,138,000
Depreciation and amortisation	362,000	362,000	152,000
Technology costs	632,000	632,000	82,000
Premises costs	2,395,000	2,395,000	714,000
Other support costs	3,262,000	3,262,000	781,000
Governance costs	48,000	48,000	27,000
Total support costs	14,766,000	14,766,000	3,894,000

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2019 £	2018 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	26,908,000	6,734,000
Social security costs	2,513,000	596,000
Pension costs	6,386,000	1,534,000
	35,807,000	8,864,000
Supply teacher costs	494,000	140,000
Staff restructuring costs	33,000	6,000
	36,334,000	9,010,000
	2019 £	2018 £
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy payments	8,000	6,000
Severance payments	25,000	-
	33,000	6,000

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Academy during the year was as follows:

	2019	2018
	No	No
Charitable Activities		
Teachers	465	118
Administration and support	718	165
Management	79	13
	<u>1,262</u>	<u>296</u>

Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose emoluments exceeded £60,000 was:

	2019	2018
	No	No
£60,001 - £70,000	15	4
£70,001 - £80,000	4	1
£80,001 - £90,000	3	-
£90,001 - £100,000	1	-
£130,001 - £140,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the Executive Management Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £559,108 (2018: £591,911).

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

9 Central services

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

- Finance and Accounting
- Payroll
- Internal and External Audit
- School Improvement
- Business Services
- Health and Safety
- Legal
- HR

The academy trust charges for these services on the following basis:

- flat percentage of income (5% of GAG)

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
De Lisle College - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	290,000	-
Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Whitwick	32,000	-
Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy - Loughborough	40,000	-
St Clare's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	39,000	-
St Mary's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	42,000	-
St Winefride's Catholic Voluntary Academy	34,000	-
St Martin's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	153,000	-
St Peter's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Hinckley	39,000	-
St John Fisher Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	41,000	-
St Joseph's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	53,000	-
Sacred Heart Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	88,000	-
St Thomas More Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	49,000	-
St Joseph's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	39,000	-
Christ The King Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	99,000	-
English Martyrs' Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	269,000	-
St Peter's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Earl Shilton	41,000	-
St Paul's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	260,000	-
St Francis Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	45,000	-
St Charles Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	27,000	-
Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	45,000	-
St Patrick's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	42,000	-
	<u>1,767,000</u>	<u>-</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

10 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the Trust. The Headteacher and other staff 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 Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

C Davies (Headteacher & Accounting Officer (resigned 25th May 2018)):

Remuneration: £Nil (2018 - £60,000 - £65,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2018 - £10,000 - £15,000)

L Freeman (Headteacher (resigned 30th September 2018)):

Remuneration: £0 - £5,000 (2018 - £55,000 - £60,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2018 - £5,000 - £10,000)

P Jordan (Headteacher (resigned 31st August 2018)):

Remuneration: £Nil (2018 - £50,000 - £55,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2018 - £5,000 - £10,000)

S Minford (Headteacher (resigned 30th September 2018)):

Remuneration: £0 - £5,000 (2018 - £55,000 - £60,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2018 - £5,000 - £10,000)

C R Murphy (Headteacher (resigned 30th September 2018)):

Remuneration: £5,000 - £10,000 (2018 - £60,000 - £65,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £0 - £5,000 (2018 - £10,000 - £15,000)

L Atkins (Headteacher (resigned 31st August 2018)):

Remuneration: £Nil (2018 - £60,000 - £65,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £Nil (2018 - £10,000 - £15,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2019, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £298 (2018 - £Nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2018 - 0).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 25.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The Trust have opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA) for Trusts from 1st September 2018. This scheme provides unlimited cover. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

In the year ended 31st August 2018, the trust had purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The insurance provided cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31st August 2018 was £1,182.

12 Intangible fixed assets

	Computer software £	Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2018	2,000	2,000
At 31 August 2019	2,000	2,000
Amortisation		
At 1 September 2018	1,000	1,000
Charge for the year	1,000	1,000
At 31 August 2019	2,000	2,000
Net book value		
At 31 August 2019	-	-
At 31 August 2018	1,000	1,000

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Leasehold improvements £	Total £
Cost						
At 1 September 2018	1,442,000	-	125,000	436,000	2,169,000	4,172,000
Additions	86,000	378,000	165,000	-	12,000	641,000
Inherited assets	<u>2,342,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>11,000</u>	<u>14,000</u>	<u>2,329,000</u>	<u>4,696,000</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>3,870,000</u>	<u>378,000</u>	<u>301,000</u>	<u>450,000</u>	<u>4,510,000</u>	<u>9,509,000</u>
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2018	84,000	-	125,000	383,000	535,000	1,127,000
Charge for the year	<u>27,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>54,000</u>	<u>43,000</u>	<u>237,000</u>	<u>361,000</u>
At 31 August 2019	<u>111,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>179,000</u>	<u>426,000</u>	<u>772,000</u>	<u>1,488,000</u>
Net book value						
At 31 August 2019	<u>3,759,000</u>	<u>378,000</u>	<u>122,000</u>	<u>24,000</u>	<u>3,738,000</u>	<u>8,021,000</u>
At 31 August 2018	<u>1,358,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>53,000</u>	<u>1,634,000</u>	<u>3,045,000</u>

The individual academies within the Trust also occupy land and property owned by the Diocesan Trustees. Where there is no formal lease in place, these assets are not included in the above figures, as they are held based on an informal "licence to operate" in the properties owned by the Diocese. Enhanced detail is contained in the Related Party disclosure (number 25).

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

14 Debtors

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade debtors	257,000	33,000
Prepayments	306,000	52,000
Accrued grant and other income	1,556,000	194,000
VAT recoverable	302,000	60,000
Other debtors	23,000	-
	<u>2,444,000</u>	<u>339,000</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2019	2018
	£	£
Trade creditors	1,034,000	3,000
Other taxation and social security	597,000	157,000
Other creditors	27,000	6,000
Pension scheme creditor	307,000	103,000
Loans	17,000	4,000
Accruals	492,000	189,000
Deferred income	207,000	40,000
	<u>2,681,000</u>	<u>502,000</u>
	<u>2019</u>	<u>2018</u>
	£	£

Deferred income

Deferred income at 1 September 2018	40,000	-
Resources deferred in the period	207,000	40,000
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>-</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2019	<u>207,000</u>	<u>40,000</u>

Amounts totalling £111,000 (2018: £40,000) were received for educational trips and visits in advance during the year. £86,000 (2018: £nil) of deferred income relates to grants from the EFSA/DfE/Local authority. The remaining £10,000 of deferred income relates to Planned Giving income (2018: £nil)

Loans of £13,000 from Salix Loan which is provided on the following terms: An interest free loan was granted at the following schools within the trust:

- De Lisle College - interest free loan for a period of 8 years from March 2016 - fixed repayments are made every 6 months in arrears including the principal and interest until the loan is repaid
- Christ The King Primary School - interest free loan for a period of 6 years from February 2019 - fixed repayments are made every 6 months in arrears including the principal and interest until the loan is repaid
- St Patrick's Primary School - interest free loan for a period of 7 years from April 2019 - fixed repayments are made every 6 months in arrears including the principal and interest until the loan is repaid

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year (continued)

Loans of £5,000 from Condition Improvement Fund Loan which is provided on the following terms: Included within the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) Loan is:

- De Lisle College - The CIF loan is a 5 year loan with an interest rate of 1.97% per annum repayable by monthly instalments of £238.
- Saint John Fisher - This is an interest free Salix loan within the CIF budget repayable by bi-annual instalments of £500.
- Saint Martin's - This is an interest free Salix loan within the CIF budget repayable by bi-annual instalments of £424.

16 Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2019 £	2018 £
CIF over 1 yr	6,000	6,000
Salix over 1 yr	57,000	6,000
	<u>63,000</u>	<u>12,000</u>

Loans of £57,000 from Salix Loan which is provided on the following terms: An interest free loan was granted at the following schools within the trust:

- De Lisle College - interest free loan for a period of 8 years from March 2016 - fixed repayments are made every 6 months in arrears until the loan is repaid
- Christ The King Primary School - interest free loan for a period of 6 years from February 2019 - fixed repayments are made every 6 months in arrears until the loan is repaid
- St Patrick's Primary School - interest free loan for a period of 7 years from April 2019 - fixed repayments are made every 6 months until the loan is repaid

Loans of £6,000 from Condition Improvement Fund Loan which is provided on the following terms: Included within the Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) Loan is:

- De Lisle College - The CIF loan is a 5 year loan with an interest rate of 1.97% per annum repayable by monthly instalments of £238.
- Saint John Fisher - This is an interest free Salix loan within the CIF budget repayable by bi-annual instalments of £500.
- Saint Martin's - This is an interest free Salix loan within the CIF budget repayable by bi-annual instalments of £424.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2018 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2019 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	246,000	35,361,000	(34,096,000)	(155,000)	1,356,000
Other DfE/EFA grants	68,000	1,288,000	(1,356,000)	-	-
Other Restricted	11,000	258,000	(269,000)	-	-
Pupil Premium	55,000	1,446,000	(1,255,000)	-	246,000
Universal Free School Meals	55,000	714,000	(353,000)	-	416,000
Local Authority	-	1,639,000	(1,639,000)	-	-
Grant income from the Diocese	50,000	-	(50,000)	-	-
Transfer on conversion	-	1,546,000	(1,546,000)	-	-
Transfer from existing Academy	-	731,000	(731,000)	-	-
	<u>485,000</u>	<u>42,983,000</u>	<u>(41,295,000)</u>	<u>(155,000)</u>	<u>2,018,000</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/EFA capital grants	1,243,000	580,000	(383,000)	-	1,440,000
Capital expenditure from GAG	60,000	-	(52,000)	155,000	163,000
Inherited assets	1,700,000	4,697,000	(205,000)	-	6,192,000
Capital income from the Diocese	44,000	780,000	(26,000)	-	798,000
	<u>3,047,000</u>	<u>6,057,000</u>	<u>(666,000)</u>	<u>155,000</u>	<u>8,593,000</u>
Restricted pension funds					
Pension reserve	<u>(3,483,000)</u>	<u>(7,999,000)</u>	<u>(1,924,000)</u>	<u>(4,299,000)</u>	<u>(17,705,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	49,000	41,041,000	(43,885,000)	(4,299,000)	(7,094,000)
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>301,000</u>	<u>2,238,000</u>	<u>(1,734,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>805,000</u>
Total funds	<u>350,000</u>	<u>43,279,000</u>	<u>(45,619,000)</u>	<u>(4,299,000)</u>	<u>(6,289,000)</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant	96,000	9,512,000	(9,452,000)	90,000	246,000
Other DfE/EFA grants	-	199,000	(131,000)	-	68,000
Other Restricted	-	133,000	(122,000)	-	11,000
Pupil Premium	48,000	314,000	(307,000)	-	55,000
Universal Free School Meals	58,000	127,000	(130,000)	-	55,000
Local Authority	-	112,000	(112,000)	-	-
Grant income from the Diocese	-	50,000	-	-	50,000
	<u>202,000</u>	<u>10,447,000</u>	<u>(10,254,000)</u>	<u>90,000</u>	<u>485,000</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE/EFA capital grants	1,245,000	85,000	(87,000)	-	1,243,000
Capital expenditure from GAG	131,000	-	(81,000)	10,000	60,000
Inherited assets	1,740,000	-	(40,000)	-	1,700,000
Capital income from the Diocese	-	131,000	(87,000)	-	44,000
	<u>3,116,000</u>	<u>216,000</u>	<u>(295,000)</u>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>3,047,000</u>
Restricted pension funds					
Pension reserve	<u>(3,768,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(449,000)</u>	<u>734,000</u>	<u>(3,483,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>(450,000)</u>	<u>10,663,000</u>	<u>(10,998,000)</u>	<u>834,000</u>	<u>49,000</u>
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>449,000</u>	<u>655,000</u>	<u>(703,000)</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>	<u>301,000</u>
Total funds	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>11,318,000</u>	<u>(11,701,000)</u>	<u>734,000</u>	<u>350,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

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

General Annual Grant (GAG) must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

Other DfE income is made up of grants for insurance costs, rates relief and Pupil Premium.

Pupil Premium may be spent for the educational benefit of pupils registered at that Academy, or for the benefit of pupils registered at other Academies; and on community facilities i.e. services whose provision furthers any charitable purpose for the benefit of pupils at the Academy or their families, or people who live or work in the locality in which the Academy is situated. The grant does not have to be completely spent by Academies in the period.

Universal Free School meals income must be used to provide all pupils in reception, year 1 and year 2 with a free school lunch.

Condition Improvement Funding is allocated to the Trust from the DfE. Its primary purpose is to address significant building condition need and keeping Academy buildings safe and in good working order. This funding is pooled and held by the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese and drawn down for agreed projects by the Trust.

Devolved capital either allocated direct by the DfE or transferred on conversion from the Local Authority must be spent on capital purposes.

Unrestricted fund represent other incoming resources to the Trust applied for the general purposes of the Trust at the discretion of the Trustees.

The inherited assets consist of the fixed assets transferred to the Trust on conversion from the Local Authority. The expenditure is the depreciation of these assets during the year.

A transfer of £155,000 was made during the year to reflect capital additions bought using restricted general funds.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2019 were allocated as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
De Lisle College - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	471,000	289,000
Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Whitwick	113,000	145,000
Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy - Loughborough	70,000	98,000
St Clare's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	1,000	(19,000)
St Mary's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	50,000	55,000
St Winefride's Catholic Voluntary Academy	88,000	84,000
St Martin's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	(221,000)	-
St Peter's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Hinckley	116,000	-
St John Fisher Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	101,000	-
St Joseph's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	181,000	-
Sacred Heart Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	153,000	-
St Thomas More Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	149,000	-
St Joseph's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Market Harborough	172,000	-
Christ The King Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	(191,000)	-
Leicestershire Catholic Teaching School Alliance	(11,000)	-
English Martyrs' Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	410,000	-
St Peter's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Earl Shilton	198,000	-
St Paul's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	433,000	-
St Francis Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	87,000	-
St Charles Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	33,000	-
Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	87,000	-
St Patrick's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	8,000	-
Central services (old)	-	42,000
St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust	<u>325,000</u>	<u>92,000</u>
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	2,823,000	786,000
Restricted fixed asset reserve	8,593,000	3,047,000
Pension reserve	<u>(17,705,000)</u>	<u>(3,483,000)</u>
Total	<u>(6,289,000)</u>	<u>350,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

St Martin's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy is carrying a net deficit of £221000 on these funds because:

The deficit has arisen due to the school growing and not receiving funding for students until the following year. In addition, during the year a lease taken out by the predecessor Trust was paid off creating additional revenue expenditure of circa £86k. The school is over-subscribed and as a result there are no issues with pupil numbers. When funding for the lagged students 'catches up' it should enable the deficit to be cleared within the next 3 years. ICFP principles will be used to ensure that resources are being maximised and the deficit recovered as quickly as possible.

Christ The King Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy is carrying a net deficit of £191000 on these funds because:

The deficit has arisen due to a higher converter deficit inherited from the Local Authority than expected. The school is large, has no issues with pupil numbers and it is expected the deficit will be cleared within 3 years. ICFP principles will be used to ensure that resources are being maximised and the deficit recovered as quickly as possible.

Leicestershire Catholic Teaching School Alliance is carrying a net deficit of £11000 on these funds because:

2018/19 was the first year of the Teaching School. Staff costs have been reduced in year 2, and uptake of courses has already been significantly higher than the previous year that should lead to the deficit being fully recovered within 2 years.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

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 Depreciation) £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
De Lisle College - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	4,169,000	930,000	54,000	1,102,000	6,255,000	6,659,000
Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Whitwick	552,000	86,000	8,000	133,000	779,000	736,000
Sacred Heart Catholic Voluntary Academy - Loughborough	642,000	93,000	11,000	200,000	946,000	963,000
St Clare's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	593,000	123,000	7,000	155,000	878,000	950,000
St Mary's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	688,000	113,000	13,000	182,000	996,000	945,000
St Winefride's Catholic Voluntary Academy	552,000	101,000	8,000	152,000	813,000	820,000
St Martin's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	2,428,000	525,000	54,000	662,000	3,669,000	-
St Peter's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Hinckley	608,000	102,000	13,000	217,000	940,000	-
St John Fisher Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	620,000	121,000	7,000	179,000	927,000	-
St Joseph's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	903,000	110,000	10,000	268,000	1,291,000	-
Sacred Heart Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	1,570,000	252,000	25,000	314,000	2,161,000	-
St Thomas More Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	935,000	221,000	17,000	200,000	1,373,000	-
St Joseph's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Market Harborough	593,000	82,000	11,000	170,000	856,000	-
Christ The King Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	1,665,000	275,000	17,000	443,000	2,400,000	-
English Martyrs' Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	4,250,000	975,000	68,000	930,000	6,223,000	-
Leicestershire Catholic Teaching School Alliance	56,000	11,000	-	23,000	90,000	-

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

17 Funds (continued)

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £	Other Support Staff Costs £	Educational Supplies £	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £	Total 2019 £	Total 2018 £
St Peter's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Earl Shilton	722,000	71,000	6,000	153,000	952,000	-
St Paul's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	3,988,000	815,000	66,000	1,115,000	5,984,000	-
St Francis Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	728,000	139,000	3,000	200,000	1,070,000	-
St Charles Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	441,000	66,000	7,000	111,000	625,000	-
Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy - Leicester	865,000	107,000	19,000	245,000	1,236,000	-
St Patrick's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy	701,000	116,000	2,000	162,000	981,000	-
Central services	-	928,000	-	961,000	1,889,000	477,000
Academy Trust	<u>28,269,000</u>	<u>6,362,000</u>	<u>426,000</u>	<u>8,277,000</u>	<u>43,334,000</u>	<u>11,550,000</u>

18 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2019 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	8,021,000	8,021,000
Current assets	805,000	4,762,000	572,000	6,139,000
Current liabilities	-	(2,681,000)	-	(2,681,000)
Creditors over 1 year	-	(63,000)	-	(63,000)
Pension scheme liability	-	(17,705,000)	-	(17,705,000)
Total net assets	<u>805,000</u>	<u>(15,687,000)</u>	<u>8,593,000</u>	<u>(6,289,000)</u>

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

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

18 Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	1,000	1,000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,045,000	3,045,000
Current assets	301,000	999,000	1,000	1,301,000
Current liabilities	-	(502,000)	-	(502,000)
Creditors over 1 year	-	(12,000)	-	(12,000)
Total net assets	<u>301,000</u>	<u>485,000</u>	<u>3,047,000</u>	<u>3,833,000</u>

19 Financial commitments

Operating leases

At 31 August 2019 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2019 £	2018 £
Amounts due within one year	80,000	34,000
Amounts due between one and five years	129,000	108,000
Amounts due after five years	80,000	-
	<u>289,000</u>	<u>142,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

20 Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash inflow/(outflow) from operating activities

	2019 £	2018 £
Net expenditure	(2,340,000)	(383,000)
Amortisation	1,000	1,000
Depreciation	361,000	150,000
Cash transferred on conversion to an academy trust	(2,401,000)	-
Donated capital	(112,000)	-
Fixed Assets transferred on conversion	(4,697,000)	-
LGPS deficit transferred on conversion	7,999,000	-
Donated capital and capital grants	(1,248,000)	(216,000)
Interest receivable	(7,000)	(1,000)
LGPS interest on defined benefit pension scheme	333,000	98,000
LGPS service cost adjustment	1,591,000	351,000
Increase in debtors	(2,105,000)	(169,000)
Increase in creditors	2,231,000	69,000
Net cash outflow from operating activities	<u>(394,000)</u>	<u>(100,000)</u>

21 Capital expenditure and financial investment

	2019 £	2018 £
Interest from investments	7,000	1,000
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(263,000)	(82,000)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	1,360,000	216,000
Assets under construction	(378,000)	-
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>726,000</u>	<u>135,000</u>

22 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2019 £	2018 £
Cash at bank and in hand	<u>3,695,000</u>	<u>962,000</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>3,695,000</u>	<u>962,000</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

23 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.

24 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £(307,000) (2018 - £(103,000)) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS or scheme) is a statutory, unfunded, defined benefit occupational scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. These regulations apply to teachers in schools and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales that are maintained by local authorities. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and, from 1 January 2007, automatic too for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers are able to opt out of the TPS.

Although members may be employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits are set out in regulations made under the Superannuation Act (1972) and Public Service Pensions Act (2013) and are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis - contributions from members, along with those made by employers, are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Acts.

The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pension increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The latest valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme has now taken place, in line with directions issued by HM Treasury and using membership data as at 31 March 2016. As a result of this valuation TPS employers will pay an increased contribution rate of 23.68% from September 2019 (this includes the administration levy of 0.8%). The timing of the implementation is to align its introduction with employers' budget planning cycles. Until then, employers will pay the current rate of 16.48%.

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million giving notional past service deficit of £22,000 million
- the assumed real rate of return is 2.8% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 4.45%

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £2,896,000 (2018: £772,000).
A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded 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.

Scheme changes

The arrangements for a reformed Teachers' Pension Scheme, in line with the recommendations made by Lord Hutton, in particular the introduction of a Career Average Revalued Earnings (CARE) scheme, were implemented from 1 April 2015.

In December 2018, the Court of Appeal held that transitional protection provisions contained in the reformed judicial and firefighter pension schemes, introduced as part of public service pension reforms in 2015, gave rise to direct age discrimination and were therefore unlawful. The Supreme Court, in a decision made in June 2019, have rejected the Government's application for permission to appeal the Court of Appeal's ruling. The case will now be referred to an Employment Tribunal for a decision regarding the remedy which will need to be offered to those members of the two schemes who were subject of the age discrimination.

HM Treasury are clear that the ruling has implications for the other public service schemes, including the Teachers' Pension Scheme. Those implications are currently being considered and any impact on scheme costs is expected to be looked at within the next scheme valuation, which is currently scheduled to be based on April 2020 data and implemented in April 2023.

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2019 was £2,172,000 (2018 - £509,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,749,000 (2018 - £404,000) and employees' contributions totalled £423,000 (2018 - £105,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are per cent for employers and per cent 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

	2019 %	2018 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.30	3.40
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.80	2.80
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	<u>2.30</u>	<u>2.40</u>

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

	2019	2018
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	21.20	22.10
Females retiring today	23.40	24.30
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	22.20	23.80
Females retiring in 20 years	<u>24.70</u>	<u>26.20</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2019	2018
	£	£
Discount rate -0.5%	4,619,000.00	1,039,000.00
Salary increase rate +0.5%	688,000.00	173,000.00
CPI rate +0.5%	<u>3,830,000.00</u>	<u>851,000.00</u>

The Trust's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	2019	2018
	£	£
Equities	12,014,000	3,424,000
Other bonds	6,421,000	1,491,000
Property	1,657,000	497,000
Cash and other liquid assets	<u>621,000</u>	<u>111,000</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>20,713,000</u>	<u>5,523,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £931,000 (2018 - £127,000).

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2019	2018
	£	£
Current service cost	(1,060,000)	(350,000)
Past service cost	(531,000)	-
Interest income	507,000	127,000
Interest cost	<u>(840,000)</u>	<u>(225,000)</u>
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>(1,924,000)</u>	<u>(448,000)</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2019 £	2018 £
At start of period	9,006,000	8,625,000
Conversion of academy trusts	10,629,000	-
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	9,068,000	-
Current service cost	2,809,000	768,000
Interest cost	840,000	225,000
Employee contributions	423,000	105,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	5,230,000	(622,000)
Benefits paid	(118,000)	(96,000)
Past service cost	531,000	1,000
At 31 August	<u>38,418,000</u>	<u>9,006,000</u>

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

	2019 £	2018 £
At start of period	5,523,000	4,857,000
Conversion of academy trusts	6,015,000	-
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	5,683,000	-
Interest income	507,000	127,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	931,000	112,000
Employer contributions	1,749,000	418,000
Employee contributions	423,000	105,000
Benefits paid	(118,000)	(96,000)
At 31 August	<u>20,713,000</u>	<u>5,523,000</u>

	2019 £	2018 £
Net pension scheme liability shown within the financial statements at 31 August:	<u>17,705,000</u>	<u>3,483,000</u>

25 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Board of Trustees may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length where the value of the transactions is below the ESFA's de minimis limit. Any transactions above this limit will be reviewed to ensure that they are conducted on a non-profit basis. In either case the transactions will be conducted in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

25 Related party transactions (continued)

Expenditure related party transactions

During the year the Trust made the following related party transactions:

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service (NRCDES)

(The NRCDES supports schools to ensure that they are successful and act in accordance within the Trust Deed of the Diocese. This involves advice and direction being given on a broad range of educational matters such as RE and curriculum issues, Catholic Life of a school, staffing and recruitment, governance, admissions and capital developments. Bishop Patrick McKinney is a Member of the Trust and a Trustee/Director of the NRCDES. Michael Cummins is a Director of the Trust and a Trustee/Director at the NRCDES)

During the year, the Trust paid £176,054 (2018 : £32,669) to NRCDES for the advice and direction as outlined above. No amounts were due at 31 August 2019.

The 2018 Academies Financial Handbook (s 3.10.20) confirms that contributions made by an academy trust to its diocese for services it receives associated with securing the academy trust's religious character and ethos, which only the diocese can provide, are regarded as meeting the 'at cost' requirement.

In entering into the transaction the Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service (NRCDES) has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due from/(to) Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocesan Education Service (NRCDES) was £206,960 (2018 - £Nil).

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese

(The Trust has a material interest in the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese)

During the year, the Trust made payments for membership costs and training services provided by this organisation totalling £nil (2018: £7,186)

The 2018 Academies Financial Handbook (s 3.10.20) confirms that contributions made by an academy trust to its diocese for services it receives associated with securing the academy trust's religious character and ethos, which only the diocese can provide, are regarded as meeting the 'at cost' requirement.

In entering into the transaction the Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese was £Nil (2018 - £Nil).

Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service (NDCYS)

(NDCYS provides a catholic retreat centre of student trips that is located within the Diocese of Nottingham. There is no contract in place, schools determine whether to visit the retreat centre each year)

During the year, the Trust paid £66,649 (2018 : £nil) to NDCYS for trips as outlined above. No amounts were due at 31 August 2019.

In entering into the transaction the Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service (NDCYS) has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Nottingham Diocesan Catholic Youth Service (NDCYS) was £Nil (2018 - £Nil).

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust

(S Noon and Bishop P McKinney are both Members of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust)

During the year, the Trust paid £407,412 (2018: £nil) to Our Lady of Lourdes CMAT for shared services including payroll, HR and computer software.

In entering into the transaction the Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Multi Academy Trust was £Nil (2018 - £Nil).

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

25 Related party transactions (continued)

Knights Plc

(M Cummins, a Trustee, is also a Partner at Knights Plc)

During the year £890 (2018:£nil) was paid to Knights Plc for employment law advice.

In entering into the transaction the Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2018.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to Knights Plc was £Nil (2018 - £Nil).

Income related party transactions

During the year the academy made the following related party transactions:

Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese

(The Trust has a material interest in the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese)

During the year, the Trust received income totalling £500,929 (2018: £182,079).

The Trust occupies land (including buildings) which are owned by its Trustees who are the Nottingham Roman Catholic Diocese. The Trustees are the providers of St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust . The Trust occupies the land (and buildings) under a mere licence. This continuing permission of their Diocese Trustees is pursuant to, and subject to, the Trustees' charitable objects, and is part of the Catholic Church's contribution since 1847 to provide State funded education in partnership with the State. The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land (and buildings) to the Trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the Trust. The Trustees have given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that they will not give the Trust less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the land (including buildings). Having considered the factual matrix under which the Trust is occupying the land (and buildings) the Trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the Trust will not be recognised on the balance sheet of the Trust.

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

26 Transfer of existing academies into the Trust

Transfer 1 - Saint Dominic's Catholic Academy Trust

	Value reported by transferring academy trust £	Fair value adjustments £	Transfer in recognised £
Tangible fixed assets			
Leasehold land and buildings	2,404,000	-	2,404,000
Leasehold improvements	1,862,000	-	1,862,000
Furniture and equipment	11,000	-	11,000
Computer equipment	7,000	-	7,000
	<u>4,284,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>4,284,000</u>
Other assets			
Debtors due in less than one year	98,000	-	98,000
Cash in bank and in hand	230,000	-	230,000
	<u>328,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>328,000</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors due in less than one year	(283,000)	(3,000)	(286,000)
Pensions			
Pensions – pension scheme assets	1,514,000	-	1,514,000
Pensions – pension scheme liabilities	(2,660,000)	-	(2,660,000)
	<u>(1,146,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(1,146,000)</u>
Net assets/(liabilities)	<u>3,183,000</u>	<u>(3,000)</u>	<u>3,180,000</u>

Transfer 2 - Corpus Christi Catholic Academy

	Value reported by transferring academy trust £	Fair value adjustments £	Transfer in recognised £
Tangible fixed assets			
Computer equipment	8,000	-	8,000
Other assets			
Debtors due in less than one year	214,000	-	214,000
Cash in bank and in hand	704,000	-	704,000
	<u>918,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>918,000</u>
Liabilities			
Creditors due in less than one year	(225,000)	(5,000)	(230,000)

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

26 Transfer of existing academies into the Trust (continued)

	Value reported by transferring academy trust £	Fair value adjustments £	Transfer in recognised £
Pensions			
Pensions – pension scheme assets	4,169,000	-	4,169,000
Pensions – pension scheme liabilities	<u>(6,408,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(6,408,000)</u>
	<u>(2,239,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(2,239,000)</u>
Net liabilities	<u>(1,538,000)</u>	<u>(5,000)</u>	<u>(1,543,000)</u>

Saint Dominic's Catholic Academy Trust and Corpus Christi Catholic Academy transferred into the trust on 1st September 2018. An adjustment was made to recognise loans of £3,000 at Saint Dominic's Catholic Academy Trust and £5,000 at Corpus Christi Catholic Academy which had not previously been included on the balance sheet.

27 Teaching school trading account

	2018/19 £
Income	
Direct Income	
Other income	60,000
Other Income	
Fundraising and other trading activities	<u>19,000</u>
Total Income	<u>79,000</u>
Expenditure	
Direct costs	
Direct staff costs	56,000
Staff development	2,000
Other direct costs	<u>9,000</u>
Total direct costs	<u>67,000</u>
Other costs	
Support staff costs	10,000
Technology costs	2,000
Other support costs	<u>11,000</u>
Total other costs	<u>23,000</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>(90,000)</u>
Deficit from all sources	<u>(11,000)</u>
Teaching school balances at 31 August 2019	<u>(11,000)</u>

St Thomas Aquinas Catholic Multi Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2019 (continued)

28 Agency arrangements

Agency arrangements

The Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2019 the Trust received £21,681 and disbursed £21,681 from the fund.

29 Conversion to an Academy Trust

On 1 September 2018 the following schools converted to Academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to the Trust from the retrospective Local Authority (either Leicestershire County Council or Leicester City Council) for £Nil consideration:

- Christ The King Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
- English Martyrs' Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
- St Peter's Primary School (Earl Shilton) - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
- St Paul's Secondary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
- St Francis Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
- St Charles Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy

On 1 October 2018 the following schools converted to Academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to the Trust from the Leicester City Council Local Authority for £Nil consideration:

- Holy Cross Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy
- St Patrick's Primary School - A Catholic Voluntary Academy

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 net incoming resources in the Statement of Financial Activities 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 SOFA.

	Restricted general fund £	Restricted fixed asset fund £	Total £
Tangible fixed assets			
Leasehold land and buildings	-	405,000	405,000
Budget surplus on LA funds	1,546,000	112,000	1,658,000
LGPS pension deficit	(4,614,000)	-	(4,614,000)
Net (liabilities)/assets	<u>(3,068,000)</u>	<u>517,000</u>	<u>(2,551,000)</u>

The above net liabilities include £2,401,000 that were transferred as cash.