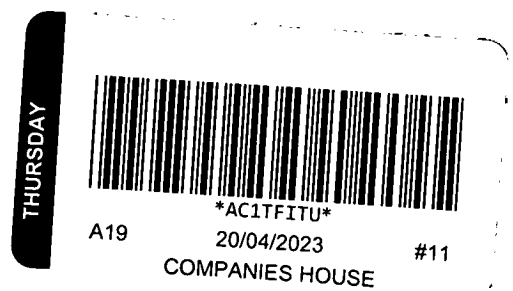


**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**CONTENTS**

	Page
<b>Reference and administrative details</b>	1 - 2
<b>Trustees' Report</b>	3 - 11
<b>Governance Statement</b>	12 - 16
<b>Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance</b>	17
<b>Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities</b>	18
<b>Independent Auditors' Report on the financial statements</b>	19 - 22
<b>Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity</b>	23 - 24
<b>Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account</b>	25
<b>Balance Sheet</b>	26 - 27
<b>Statement of Cash Flows</b>	28
<b>Notes to the financial statements</b>	29 - 55

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

<b>Members</b>	The Right Reverend A Williams The Brentwood Diocesan Trust Mr S Gleeson
<b>Trustees</b>	Miss E Heaphy, Headteacher Mr S Gleeson, Chair of Governors, Foundation Governor Mrs S Ennifer (appointed 1 June 2022) Mrs J Delves, Chair of Finance, Community Governor Mr J Collins, Chair of Audit, Foundation Governor Mrs N Balloqui, Foundation Governor Mrs K Hay, Chair of Curriculum and Pupils, Chair of Admissions, Foundation Governor Mrs M Hicks, Chair of Canteen & Premises, Foundation Governor Father B Soley, Foundation Governor Mrs S Ahmed-Holloway, Parent Governor Mr G Osei, Staff Governor Ms S Martino, Parent Governor (resigned 11 March 2022) Mr S Whelan, Staff Governor, Health & Safety Governor Mr K Jennings, Foundation Governor (appointed 1 September 2021)
<b>Company registered number</b>	07694563
<b>Company name</b>	St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School
<b>Registered and principal office</b>	Tipton Road Harlow Essex CM18 6AA
<b>Company Secretary</b>	Mrs O Akinsanmi
<b>Accounting Officer</b>	Miss E Heaphy
<b>Senior Strategic Leadership Team</b>	Miss E Heaphy, Headteacher Mr J Taylor, Associate Headteacher Mrs O Akinsanmi, Business Manager
<b>Independent Auditors</b>	Price Bailey LLP Chartered Accountants Causeway House 1 Dane Street Bishop's Stortford Hertfordshire CM23 3BT

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**Bankers**

Lloyds TSB  
East Gate  
Harlow  
PO BOX 1000  
BX1 1LT

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

The Governors present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditor's Report of St Mark's West Essex Catholic School (the Trust or the Academy) for the year ended 31 August 2022. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Governors' Report, and a Directors' Report under company law.

The Trust operates an Academy School for pupils aged 11 to 18 serving a catchment area in Harlow and the surrounding villages. It has a pupil capacity of 860 for year 7 to 11 plus the Sixth Form and had a roll of 865 and a Sixth Form of 214 (1,079 in total) in the 2021 autumn school census.

**Structure, Governance and Management**

The Academy is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are its primary governing documents. The Governors of the Charitable Company are also the Directors for the purposes of company law. The terms Trustee, Director and Governor are interchangeable. The Charitable Company is known as St Mark's West Essex Catholic School (the school).

Details of the Governors who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details section.

**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.

**Governors and Officers' Indemnities**

The Trust has opted to be covered under the Government's Risk Protection Arrangements (RPA) scheme to protect Trustees, Governors and Officers, from claims arising from negligent acts, omissions or errors whilst performing Trust business.

**Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Governors**

The arrangements are as set out in the Articles and Funding Agreement. Governors are appointed for a fixed term; the Foundation Governors being appointed by the Diocese. The Headteacher is an ex officio Member of the Governing Body. Parent Governors and the staff Governors are elected to office or appointed if there are insufficient candidates offering themselves for election. The Articles of Association make provision for 20 Governors (11 Foundation, 4 Parents, 2 staff, 2 others plus the Headteacher).

**Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Governors**

The Trust is committed to providing adequate opportunities for Governors to undertake and receive suitable training so as to enable them to perform their role effectively. To this end the school provides access to an internal programme of continued professional development led by School staff and links with a number of local training providers.

All new Governors complete an induction to the role, according to their need, which may include, introductory sessions, mentoring and formal courses. This process involves a meeting with the Chair of Governors and Headteacher followed by a tour of the school. All Governors are provided with a handbook plus copies of policies and procedures documents that are appropriate to the role they undertake as Governors. Each Governor is automatically a member of all committees, but will be asked to indicate a specific committee in which they have a particular interest to ensure that each committee has a regular core membership.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**Organisational Structure**

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

The Board of Governors, which meets on at least 3 occasions per year, is supported by each individual committee which meet at least 3 times per year, and is responsible for the strategic direction of the Academy. The Board reviews progress towards educational objectives and results; approves major expenditure requests; sets the budget for the following year; sets the organisational staffing structure; agrees the performance objectives of the Headteacher with the Diocesan Secondary School Improvement Partner and reviews them.

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

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

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

Key management personnel include Academy Governors and those staff to whom the Governors have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day-to-day running of the Academy.

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel is decided by a variety of contributory factors, such as the school group size; ISR, the pay scales for each role and the level of experience of each staff member. In addition, pay levels may be affected by nationally agreed pay awards, the ability to recruit and retain in post, all of which are in accordance with the Academy's pay policy.

All amendments to key management's pay and remuneration are approved by the appropriate sub-committee and ratified by the Board of Governors.

**Trade union facility time**

The number of employees who were relevant union officials during the period was 2 (2020/21: 2). The full-time equivalent was 2 (2020/21: 2).

During the year there was no time spent on facility time.

**Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations**

Owing to the nature of the Academy's operations and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time-to-time transactions will take place with organisations in which Governors may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where the Governor may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academies Trust Handbook.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

The Academy cooperated with the following organisations during the academic year in pursuit of its charitable activities:

- Diocese of Brentwood
- The Brilliant Club
- YCT
- Paringdon Education and Training Ltd

The Academy does not have a formal sponsor.

**Objectives and Activities**

**Objectives and Aims**

The principal object and aim of the Trust is the operation of the school to provide free education and care for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 11 and 18. Specifically to enable each child to realise his or her full academic, creative and physical potential and to develop positive social and moral values.

**Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

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

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

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

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

**Strategies and Activities**

During the year, the Academy has continued to work towards achieving these aims by:

- ensuring that every child enjoys the same high-quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care; this continued during the national lockdown by providing pupils with work for each subject according to their timetable and welfare calls to ensure their safety and care;
- raising the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- improving the effectiveness of the Academy by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- providing value for money for the funds expended;

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

- complying with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements;
- conducting the Academy's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity;
- designing the curriculum to meet the needs of the pupils;
- using performance management to target pupil improvement;
- recruiting and retaining highly qualified staff;
- adapting and applying skills for flexible life-long learning;
- providing value for money for the funds expended;
- development planning to focus resources on School improvement; and
- conducting the Academy's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity.

Our success in fulfilling our aims can be measured by:

- Ofsted inspection, October 2017: very positive and reconfirmed the school as GOOD: Section 48 Inspection judged the school to be outstanding in November 2018;
- an increase in the size of the school roll in years 7 -13;
- GCSE results are expected to be in line with national averages when full data is published;
- The successful provision of schooling for vulnerable and Key Worker children during lockdown;
- The provision of remote learning for all pupils during the national lockdown period;
- The welfare calls and checks made to ensure all pupils were safe;
- The management of the examination / assessment process for GCSE and A level subjects in line with Ofqual regulations.

**Public Benefit**

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

**Strategic Report**

**Achievements and Performance**

The Academy continued its mission to ensure that pupils were given the opportunities to achieve their potential in public qualifications; provided with a broad and balanced curriculum, taking into account the effect of Covid-19; developed and retained suitable staff and guided pupils in appropriate progression routes when they left the school.

During 2017 and again in 2018, we had successful Ofsted inspections where we were confirmed as a good/ outstanding school.

**Key Performance Indicators (KPI)**

The Governors receive regular information to enable them to monitor the performance of the school compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

In October 2017, the School had a section 8 Ofsted inspection and was again confirmed to be a good school. In November 2018, the School had a section 48 Inspection and was judged to be outstanding.

As funding is based on pupil numbers this is a key performance indicator. Pupil numbers for January 2022 were 1,073, which represents an increase from the previous year.

Another key financial performance indicator is staffing costs as a percentage of total income. For 2021/22 this was £5,142,283, (77% of income, excluding capital and notional rent, against 75% in 20/21). The Board of Trustees is confident that staffing levels are closely monitored to agreed Full Time Equivalent and staffing structures all approved by them.

The Finance and Premises Committees also monitor premises costs to General Annual Grant (GAG) income, capitation spend for curriculum departments to GAG income, total income less grants and cash flow on a regular basis to ensure that the budget is set and managed appropriately. All of the above KPI's were within the parameters set by the Board.

**Pupil performance:**

68% of pupils achieved a 4+ in Maths and English - which is comparable with the last exam results of 2018 and 2019.

48% of students achieved a 5+ in Maths and English, which is again comparable with the last years that public exams took place.

62% of students entered the Ebacc - a figure that is well above the national average.

Against this measure 39% achieved a Standard pass and 26% a Strong pass.

At post 16, 97% of students passed their A Levels and the A\*-C headline figure matches that of 2018 and is higher than 2019.

**Going Concern**

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

**Financial Review**

The principal source of funding for the Academy is the GAG and other grants that it receives from the Education, Skills Funding agency (ESFA). For the year ended 31 August 2022, the Academy received £6,706,489 of GAG and other funding (excluding capital funding and notional rent). A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Academy's primary objective of the provision of education. During the year, the Academy spent £6,386,051 on general running expenses (excluding depreciation, notional rent and capital). The Academy brought forward from 20/21, £416,755 restricted funds (excluding donation in kind) and £1,255,118 unrestricted funding. The carry forward for 21/22 is £531,265, restricted funding and £1,193,590 unrestricted funding.

During the year, more funds were spent on supply teachers to cover staff who were absent either due to being ill with Covid or having to isolate. However, these did not have a huge impact on our financial position because the accounts were managed very well and the school has a healthy reserve.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

A summary of the Trust's financial results is set out below:

	Restricted General Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Fixed Asset Fund	Donation in Kind	Pension Reserve	Total
Incoming Resources	6,455,484	251,005	1,139,632	231,000	-	8,077,121
Resources Expended	(6,073,518)	(312,533)	(1,289,264)	(231,000)		(7,906,315)
LGPS Charge					(446,000)	(446,000)
Depreciation			(120,614)			(120,614)
Employer contributions paid					180,000	180,000
Total Resources Expended	(6,073,518)	(312,533)	(1,409,878)	(231,000)	(266,000)	(8,292,929)
Assets Purchased from GAG	(267,456)	-	267,456			-
Actuarial Gains					2,645,000	2,645,000
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	114,510	(61,528)	(2,790)	-	2,379,000	2,429,192
Balance at 1 September 2021	416,755	1,255,118	1,130,803	-	(3,065,000)	(262,324)
Balance at 31 August 2022	531,265	1,193,590	1,128,013	-	(686,000)	2,166,868

Due to the accounting rules for the Local Government Pension Scheme under FRS102, the Academy is recognising a significant pension fund deficit of £686,000. This does not mean that an immediate liability for this amount crystallises and such a deficit generally results in a cash flow effect in the form of increased employer contributions over a number of years. While there has been a significant reduction in the opening deficit of £3,065,000 resulting from the application of actuarial assumptions and does not guarantee that contribution rates will reduce and ease the cash flow effect on the Trust.

The Academy ended up with a rather large GAG carry forward as the £150,000 set aside for the Academy's contribution toward CIF bids was not spent because the bids were unsuccessful. There were also funds allocated to furnishing the new building CIF bid which were not expended as the building work is yet to commence due to delay in the approval of the bid, and the need to re-apply for planning permission.

### Reserves Policy

The Governors are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs and always aim to set a balanced budget with annual income balancing annual expenditure. The Governors monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures via the monthly reports from the Business Manager. The budget plan identifies how any carry forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds earmarked for a specific project or purpose.

The Trustees are holding funds of at least £631,000 which is the equivalent of one and a half months gross salary expenditure. The Trustees consider this appropriate for in year contingencies and always plan to have sufficient carry forward to assist the Governors in making strategic decisions to keep in line with national funding changes and curriculum needs.

The Trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £1,193,590. This has been built up from a mixture of locally raised income and balances transferred from the predecessor school.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

The Trust's balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds at 31 August 2022 was £1,724,855.

The cash balance of the Trust has been very healthy all year, ending the year with a balance of £2,600,490. A significant proportion of this cash is held against specific projects and is not available to meet normal recurring expenditure.

**Investment Policy**

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

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

£718,782 of the cash balance is held in a fixed term deposit account in accordance with the Trust's investment policy.

**Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

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

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

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

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

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

- The Academy has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA and there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms;
- Failures in governance and/or management - the risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Academy's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns, etc. The Governors continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks;
- Reputational - the continuing success of the Academy is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk, Governors ensure that pupil progress and outcomes are closely monitored and reviewed;

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

- Safeguarding and child protection - the Governors continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline;
- Staffing - the success of the Academy is reliant on the quality of its staff and the Governors monitor and review policies and procedures and recruitment to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning;
- Fraud and mismanagement of funds - the Academy has appointed Azets to carry out independent and external checks on financial systems and records as required by the Academy Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep up to date with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area;
- Financial instruments – the Academy only deals with bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. The risk in this area is considered to be low;
- Defined benefit pension liability – as the Government has agreed to meet the defined benefit pension liability of any school ceasing to exist the main risk to the Academy is an annual cash flow funding of part of the deficit. Governors take these payments into account when setting the annual budget plan; and
- Uncontrollable event such as Covid-19 pandemic and the increase in energy bills – the Academy has a Covid-19 risk assessment in place. The electricity contract has been fixed for two years from October 2022 and the gas contract is still on the lower rate as the fixed term does not run out until October 2023. The Finance committee monitor income and expenditure on a regular basis.

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

### **Fundraising**

The Academy did not hold any fundraising event for charity during the year. The Academy does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year, no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events.

### **Plans for Future Periods**

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

The Governors continue to work at enhancing and developing facilities in pursuance of the School's commitment to ensure that all pupils achieve their potential. It is recognised that to achieve this, pupils with differing abilities and aptitudes will have differing curricula requirements and that a range of learning experiences will be required to deliver these, and this is reflected in the budget allocations. The Sixth Form Partnership had initially led to the expansion of the Sixth Form. However, funding and staffing constraints in partner Schools has limited effectiveness in the last few years and led to them having to withdraw from teaching subjects. However, partnership Schools remain supportive and continue to promote the Sixth Form.

Governors have taken every opportunity to bid for additional capital resources resulting in significant improvements to the fabric of the school. They continue to work closely with the Academy architects to submit timely CIF bids. Although the CIF bids submitted during the year were unsuccessful, the School was successful in its bid for the Department of Education's School Rebuilding Programme. The Technology Block will be replaced with a possibility of other areas of the school being re-built as well.

Governors are aware of the funding pressures that may arise in future years and will continue to aim to produce

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

balanced budgets in the light of changes to the allocation, particularly concerning the 16 to 18 funding levels. Budget projections and models are reviewed to reflect these changes and the challenge of changing provision in the town.

**Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others**

The Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 Bursary Funds from the ESFA. Payments received from the 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. Where the funds have not been fully applied in the accounting period then an amount will be included as amounts due to the ESFA.

**Provision of Information to Auditors**

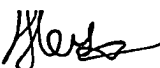
Insofar as the Trustees are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditors are unaware, and the Trustees have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Auditor is aware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

**Auditors**

**Insofar as the Governors are aware:**

- There is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditor is unaware.
- The Governors have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by the Board of Trustees  
on 19 Dec 2022 and signed on its behalf by:

  
S Gleeson (Dec 19, 2022, 11:56am)  
**Mr S Gleeson**  
Chair of Trustees

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**Scope of responsibility**

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that St Mark's West Essex Catholic School has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives, and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between St Mark's West Essex Catholic School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

**Governance**

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 3 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Miss E Heaphy, Headteacher	3	3
Mr S Gleeson, Chair of Governors	2	3
Mrs S Ennifer	1	1
Mrs J Delves	3	3
Mr J Collins	3	3
Mrs N Balloqui	0	1
Mrs K Hay	3	3
Mrs M Hicks	2	3
Father B Soley	1	3
Mrs S Ahmed-Holloway	2	3
Mr G Osei	1	3
Ms S Martino	0	1
Mr S Whelan	1	3
Mr K Jennings, Foundation Governor	3	3

**Review of year:**

During the year, we had the resignation of Mrs Sarah Martino and Mrs Nicole Balloqui and there were two new appointments – Mr Kevin Jennings and Ms Suzanne Ennifer.

The governors returned to meeting in person at the school this year.

Documents for committee meetings are given out beforehand and governors are given the opportunity to comment.

Some committee members met outside of committee meetings to thoroughly go through matters relating to the committee e.g. the chair of finance met with the Business Manager and Headteacher to go through the financial position of the school.

The Chair of Governors visited the school on a few occasions to review matters such as Health and Safety and Safeguarding.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Governance (continued)**

**Governance reviews:**

During the year, the governors instructed Azets to carry out two internal reviews based on the ESFA 'musts' and Governance and Internal Financial Controls and Procedures, in addition to the external audit carried out by Price Bailey LLP.

The overall opinion given by the internal auditors was that the school's internal control and risk framework is very good. However, there was a red point given for not including a Balance Sheet in the monthly report. This issue has now been resolved and a Balance Sheet is sent with every monthly management report.

We have a register of business interests, these forms are completed at the beginning of each financial year and when a new Governor is appointed. Business interests is an agenda item at every meeting.

Transactions may take place with organisations in which a Trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures. Any transaction where the Trustee has a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the at cost principle stated in the Academy Trust Handbook.

The Board of Trustees has formally met three times during the year. The Board met fewer than six times during the year, although it is satisfied that through the use of sub-committees it maintains effective oversight.

**Committees**

The Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Constantly review and monitor all aspects of the School's finances and considers possible risks to this.
- Analyse the monthly expenditure profiles and cumulative expense analysis and take corrective action if the urgency of the situation demands it.
- Have control over re-prioritising of expenditure from any budget surplus.
- Make or anticipate the making of decisions concerning the virement of funds in accordance with the authority vested in the Committee.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs J Delves, Chair of Finance Committee	3	3
Mr S Gleeson	2	3
Mr G Osei	2	3
Miss E Heaphy	3	3
Mrs M Hicks	1	1
Mr J Collins	3	3

The Audit Committee is also a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to:

- Constantly review and monitor all aspects of the School's finances and considers possible risks to this.
- Meet annually with the School's Auditors to discuss the annual accounts and management letter.
- Refer all recommendations with financial implications to the Finance Committee.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Governance (continued)**

- Consider the reports from the Internal Review carried out by the Internal Auditors.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr S Gleeson	1	3
Mrs J Delves	2	3
Mrs K Hay	1	1
Miss E Heaphy	3	3
Mrs M Hicks	2	2
Mr J Collins, Chair of Audit Committee	3	3

**Review of value for money**

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

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

- Increase in pupil numbers.
- Allocated money by the governors to CIF bids which would not have been awarded if this has not been given the financial support.
- DfE School Rebuilding Programme.

**The purpose of the system of internal control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of 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 St Mark's for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

**Capacity to handle risk**

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**The risk and control framework**

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees.
- regular reviews by the Finance Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes.
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has decided to employ Azets as internal auditor.

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

- checking compliance with the 'musts' in the Academy Trust Handbook
- website review
- new governors Induction Pack
- year-end procedures
- monthly management reporting
- related parties
- bank procedures
- payroll
- joiners and leavers
- procurement
- gifts and hospitality
- expenses
- tendering

On a bi-annual basis, the Internal Auditor reports to the Board of Trustees through the Audit Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

The Internal Auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned and the following issue has arisen from their work:

- A balance sheet is not included in the monthly management reports  
Remedial Action: Monthly management reports now include a balance sheet

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

**Review of effectiveness**

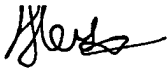
As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the Internal Auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external Auditors;

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

Approved by the Board of Trustees on 19 Dec 2022

and signed on their behalf by:



S Gleeson (Dec 19, 2022, 11:56am)  
**Mr S Gleeson**  
Chair of Trustees



E Heaphy (Dec 19, 2022, 3:22pm)  
**Miss E Heaphy**  
Accounting Officer

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

As Accounting Officer of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School I have considered my responsibility to notify the Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2021.

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

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



---

Miss E. Heaphy (Dec 19, 2022, 3:22pm)  
Accounting Officer

Date: 19 Dec 2022

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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 Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

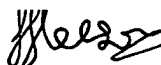
The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the Charitable Company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from ESFA/DfE have been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

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

Approved by the Board of Trustees on  
on its behalf by:

19 Dec 2022

and signed



S Gleeson (Dec 19, 2022, 11:56am)  
**Mr S Gleeson**  
Chair of Trustees

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

**Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 Academy's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

**Conclusions relating to going concern**

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST.  
MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

**Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report. 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. 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 course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

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

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

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

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

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' 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 Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST.  
MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

**Auditors' 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 Auditors' 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.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below:

We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Academy and the sector in which it operates and considered the risk of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included those regulations directly related to the financial statements, including financial reporting and tax legislation and academy sector regulations including GDPR, employment law, health and safety and safeguarding.

The risks were discussed with the audit team and we remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We carried out specific procedures to address the risks identified. These included the following:

- We reviewed systems and procedures to identify potential areas of management override risk. In particular, we carried out testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of any large or unusual transactions to determine whether they were significant to our assessment.
- We reviewed key controls, authorisation procedures and decision making processes for any unusual or one-off transactions.
- We reviewed minutes of Trustee Board meetings and other relevant sub-committees of the Board such as the Finance Committee and agreed the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- We have made enquiries of the Accounting Officer and senior management team to identify laws and regulations applicable to the Academy. We assessed details of any breaches where applicable in order to assess the impact upon the Academy.
- We have reviewed any correspondence with the ESFA / DfE and the procedures in place for the reporting of incidents to the Trustees including reporting of any serious incidents to the Regulator if necessary.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ST.  
MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

**Use of our Report**

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

**Tom Meeks FCCA (Senior statutory auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**Price Bailey LLP**

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Causeway House

1 Dane Street

Bishop's Stortford

Hertfordshire

CM23 3BT

Date: 19 December 2022



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 06 July 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and 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. Mark's West Essex Catholic School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School's Accounting Officer and the Reporting Accountant**

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 August 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**Approach**

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

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

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

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

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance
- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and how the Academy complies with the framework of authorities.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Academy, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity, propriety and compliance
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, in order to support the regularity conclusion, including governance, internal controls, procurement and the application of income.

**Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Reporting Accountant  
**Price Bailey LLP**

Date: 19 December 2022

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	233,550	1,139,632	1,373,182	870,577
Other trading activities	5	4,799	80,069	-	84,868	37,741
Investments	6	764	-	-	764	3,207
Charitable activities	4	245,442	6,372,865	-	6,618,307	6,393,452
<b>Total income</b>		<b>251,005</b>	<b>6,686,484</b>	<b>1,139,632</b>	<b>8,077,121</b>	<b>7,304,977</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities	7	312,533	6,570,518	1,409,878	8,292,929	6,710,068
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>312,533</b>	<b>6,570,518</b>	<b>1,409,878</b>	<b>8,292,929</b>	<b>6,710,068</b>
<b>Net income/ (expenditure)</b>		<b>(61,528)</b>	<b>115,966</b>	<b>(270,246)</b>	<b>(215,808)</b>	<b>594,909</b>
Transfers between funds	17	-	(267,456)	267,456	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds before other recognised gains</b>		<b>(61,528)</b>	<b>(151,490)</b>	<b>(2,790)</b>	<b>(215,808)</b>	<b>594,909</b>
<b>Other recognised gains:</b>						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	2,645,000	-	2,645,000	21,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(61,528)</b>	<b>2,493,510</b>	<b>(2,790)</b>	<b>2,429,192</b>	<b>615,909</b>
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward		1,255,118	(2,648,245)	1,130,803	(262,324)	(878,233)
Net movement in funds		(61,528)	2,493,510	(2,790)	2,429,192	615,909
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>1,193,590</b>	<b>(154,735)</b>	<b>1,128,013</b>	<b>2,166,868</b>	<b>(262,324)</b>

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of these financial statements.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 07694563**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	775,371	628,529
<b>Current assets</b>			
Debtors	14	1,055,607	778,954
Investments		718,782	718,064
Cash at bank and in hand		1,881,708	1,447,493
		<u>3,656,097</u>	<u>2,944,511</u>
Creditors: falling due within one year	15	(1,116,600)	(422,724)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>2,539,497</u>	<u>2,521,787</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>3,314,868</u>	<u>3,150,316</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after 1 year	16	(462,000)	(347,640)
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>		<u>2,852,868</u>	<u>2,802,676</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	(686,000)	(3,065,000)
<b>Total net liabilities</b>		<u><u>2,166,868</u></u>	<u><u>(262,324)</u></u>
<b>Funds of the Academy</b>			
<b>Restricted funds:</b>			
Fixed asset funds	17	1,128,013	1,130,803
Restricted income funds	17	531,265	416,755
		<u>1,659,278</u>	<u>1,547,558</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension liability			
Pension reserve	17	(686,000)	(3,065,000)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		<u>973,278</u>	<u>(1,517,442)</u>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	17	1,193,590	1,255,118
<b>Total funds</b>		<u><u>2,166,868</u></u>	<u><u>(262,324)</u></u>

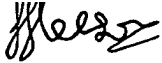
**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 07694563**

**BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 25 to 55 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:



---

S Gleeson (Dec 19, 2022, 11:56am)  
Mr S Gleeson

Date: 19 Dec 2022

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	19	(438,007)	58,137
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	20	872,940	684,594
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		434,933	742,731
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,165,557	1,422,826
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	21, 22	<u>2,600,490</u>	<u>2,165,557</u>

The notes on pages 29 to 55 form part of these financial statements

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**1. Accounting policies**

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

**1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements of the Academy, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

**1.2 Company status**

The Academy is a Company limited by guarantee. The Members of the Company are named on page 1. In the event of the Academy being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per Member.

The Academy's registered office is St. Mark's West Essex Catholic School, Tripton Road, Harlow, Essex, CM18 6AA

**1.3 Going concern**

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The Trust derives the majority of its income from local and national Government grant funding which is secured for a number of years, under the terms of the Academy Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education. This will ensure that the Trust can continue operating for a period of at least 12 months following the date of this Report. The financial statements do not contain any adjustments that would be required if the Trust were not able to continue as a going concern.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.4 Income**

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

- **Grants**

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the year is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants, as a church Academy, can recognise when they are received. Unspent amounts of capital grants are reflected in the Balance Sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are recognised when they are received and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

**1.5 Expenditure**

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

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**1.6 Government grants**

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the related expenditure is incurred.



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.7 Fund accounting**

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

Designated funds comprise unrestricted funds that have been set aside by the Trustees for particular purposes. The aim and use of each designated fund is set out in the notes to the financial statements.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the 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.

**1.8 Interest receivable**

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

**1.9 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. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Capital Improvements to Diocesan owned property are recognised as expenditure.

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

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

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.9 Tangible fixed assets (continued)**

Furniture and equipment	- 4 - 10 years straight line
Motor vehicles	- 5 years straight line

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

**1.10 Investments**

Fixed asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the Balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of financial activities.

**1.11 Debtors**

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

**1.12 Cash at bank and in hand**

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account.

**1.13 Liabilities**

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

**1.14 Financial instruments**

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 15 and 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**1. Accounting policies (continued)**

**1.15 Operating leases**

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

**1.16 Pensions**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of 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 Academy in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit 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.

**1.17 Agency arrangements**

The Academy acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 Bursary Funds from the ESFA. Payments received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Academy does not have control over the charitable application of the funds.

Where the funds have not been fully applied in the accounting period then an amount will be included in the Balance Sheet as an other creditor.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**2. 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 Trustees make estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The Academy occupies land and buildings provided to it by the Diocesan Trustees under a license (also referred to as a Church Supplemental Agreement) which contains a two year notice period. The value of the donation and the associated rent charge is the amount that the Academy would otherwise have had to pay to secure premises sufficient for its operations for the period (in effect, to rent them). In practice it is unlikely that in most cases there will be a rental market for exactly comparable facilities. The Trustees have made an estimate based on their assessment of the fair value of the leasehold interest in the school land and buildings, pro rated for the number of years which the Trust has the right to occupy at the balance sheet date. This fair value is based on the replacement cost of the land and buildings. Increases or decreases to this fair value would impact the income, expenditure, asset and liability recognised in the financial statements at each Balance Sheet date.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**3. Income from donations and capital grants**

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Donations	2,550	-	2,550	2,500
Notional rent	231,000	-	231,000	173,820
Capital grants	-	1,139,632	1,139,632	694,257
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>233,550</b>	<b>1,139,632</b>	<b>1,373,182</b>	<b>870,577</b>
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>176,320</b>	<b>694,257</b>	<b>870,577</b>	

In 2021, income from donations was £2,500 of which all was restricted.

In 2021, income from notional rent was £173,820 of which all was restricted.

In 2021, capital grants of £694,257 were in relation to restricted fixed assets.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**4. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
<b>Provision of Education</b>				
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,884,215	5,884,215	5,484,132
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	111,390	111,390	102,030
Teacher pay grant	-	12,593	12,593	74,467
Teacher pension grant	-	35,587	35,587	210,431
Pupil premium	-	161,943	161,943	166,645
Supplementary Grant	-	67,320	67,320	-
	-	-	6,273,048	6,037,705
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Local Authority grants	-	78,584	78,584	80,230
	-	78,584	78,584	80,230
<b>Catering income</b>	245,442	-	245,442	166,447
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)</b>				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	69,040
Mass Covid Testing	-	21,233	21,233	40,030
	-	21,233	21,233	109,070
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>245,442</b>	<b>6,372,865</b>	<b>6,618,307</b>	<b>6,393,452</b>
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>166,447</b>	<b>6,227,005</b>	<b>6,393,452</b>	

In 2021, income from DfE/ESFA grants was £6,037,705 of which all was restricted.

In 2021, income from other Government grants was £80,230 of which all was restricted.

In 2021, income from catering was £166,447 of which all was unrestricted.

In 2021, income from DfE/ESFA for Covid additional funding was £109,070 of which all was restricted.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**5. Income from other trading activities**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Rental income	1,286	-	1,286	1,273
Other income	3,513	20,702	24,215	14,836
School trips income	-	59,367	59,367	21,632
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>4,799</b>	<b>80,069</b>	<b>84,868</b>	<b>37,741</b>
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>2,930</b>	<b>34,811</b>	<b>37,741</b>	

In 2021, rental income was £1,273 of which all was unrestricted.

In 2021, other income was £14,836 of which £1,167 was unrestricted and £13,179 restricted.

In 2021, school trip income was £21,632 of which all was restricted.

**6. Investment income**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Bank interest	764	764	3,207

In 2021, the total income from investments was all unrestricted.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**7. Expenditure**

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Direct costs	4,189,709	152,868	606,685	4,949,262	4,441,295
Support costs	1,078,912	1,004,492	1,260,263	3,343,667	2,268,773
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>5,268,621</b>	<b>1,157,360</b>	<b>1,866,948</b>	<b>8,292,929</b>	<b>6,710,068</b>
<b>Total 2021</b>	<b>5,132,634</b>	<b>440,342</b>	<b>1,137,092</b>	<b>6,710,068</b>	

In 2022, of total expenditure, £312,533 (2021 - £169,773) was to unrestricted funds, £6,570,518 (2021 - £6,156,991) was to restricted funds and £1,409,878 (2021 - £383,304) was to restricted fixed asset funds.

In 2021, direct expenditure consisted of £4,150,138 staff costs and £5,628 other costs.

In 2021, support expenditure consisted of £982,496 staff costs, £434,714 premises costs and £851,563 other costs.

**8. Charitable activities**

	2022 £	2021 £
Direct costs	4,949,262	4,441,295
Support costs	343,667	2,268,773
	<b>5,292,929</b>	<b>6,710,068</b>



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**Charitable activities (continued)**

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Analysis of support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	1,078,912	982,496
Depreciation	120,614	44,854
Technology costs	37,477	36,792
Premises costs	884,624	564,148
Other support costs	1,206,280	628,697
Governance costs	15,760	11,786
	<u>3,343,667</u>	<u>2,268,773</u>

**9. Net (expenditure)/income**

Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals	6,162	2,223
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	120,614	44,854
Fees paid to Auditors for:		
- audit	9,505	7,310
- other services	6,255	4,735
	<u>132,536</u>	<u>56,122</u>

**10. Staff**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	3,749,587	3,702,194
Social security costs	377,752	364,505
Pension costs	1,014,944	945,506
	<u>5,142,283</u>	<u>5,012,205</u>
Supply teacher costs	126,338	120,429
	<u>5,268,621</u>	<u>5,132,634</u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**10. Staff (continued)**

**b. Staff numbers**

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	57	56
Administration and support	66	64
Management	4	5
	<u>127</u>	<u>125</u>

**c. Higher paid staff**

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	2	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>4</u>

**d. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the Senior Management Team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £447,304 (2021 - £436,754).

Included in this figure are employer national insurance contributions of £41,802 (2021 - £39,421) and employer pension contributions of £68,826 (2021 - £67,630).

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

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

		2022 £	2021 £
Miss E Heaphy, Headteacher	Remuneration	105,000 - 110,000	105,000 - 110,000
	Pension contributions paid	25,000 - 30,000	25,000 - 30,000
Mr S Whelan, Staff Governor	Remuneration	50,000 - 55,000	45,000 - 50,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000 - 15,000	10,000 - 15,000
Mr G Osei, Staff Governor	Remuneration	45,000 - 50,000	40,000 - 45,000
	Pension contributions paid	10,000 - 15,000	10,000 - 15,000

During the year ended 31 August 2022, expenses totalling £615 were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 Trustee (2021 - £NIL to Trustee). These were in relation to miscellaneous items .

**12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance**

The Academy has opted into the Department of Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**13. Tangible fixed assets**

	Furniture and equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
<b>Cost or valuation</b>			
At 1 September 2021	1,131,600	21,943	1,153,543
Additions	233,889	33,567	267,456
At 31 August 2022	<u>1,365,489</u>	<u>55,510</u>	<u>1,420,999</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>			
At 1 September 2021	503,534	21,480	525,014
Charge for the year	119,868	746	120,614
At 31 August 2022	<u>623,402</u>	<u>22,226</u>	<u>645,628</u>
<b>Net book value</b>			
At 31 August 2022	<u>742,087</u>	<u>33,284</u>	<u>775,371</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>628,066</u>	<u>463</u>	<u>628,529</u>

**14. Debtors**

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>Due after more than one year</b>		
Notional rent debtor (see note 26)	462,000	347,640
	<u>462,000</u>	<u>347,640</u>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	93	93
VAT recoverable	230,141	123,885
Notional rent debtor (see note 26)	231,000	173,820
Prepayments and accrued income	132,373	133,516
	<u>1,055,607</u>	<u>778,954</u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Trade creditors	404,904	-
Other taxation and social security	86,995	91,162
Notional rent creditor (see note 26)	231,000	173,820
Other creditors	183,322	104,072
Accruals and deferred income	210,379	53,670
	<u>1,116,600</u>	<u>422,724</u>
	2022 £	2021 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	(8,758)	18,739
Resources deferred during the year	36,883	(8,758)
Amounts released from previous periods	8,758	(18,739)
	<u>36,883</u>	<u>(8,758)</u>

As at 31 August 2022 the Academy was holding funds of £36,883 received in advance for school trips booked for 2022/23.

**16. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year**

	2022 £	2021 £
Notional rent creditor (see note 26)	<u>462,000</u>	<u>347,640</u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**17. Statement of funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Designated funds</b>						
Sixth form fund	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Capital improvements	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
Increase in roll fund	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
IT infrastructure	197,484	-	-	807	-	198,291
	<u>847,484</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>807</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>848,291</u>
<b>General funds</b>						
Unrestricted funds	407,634	251,005	(312,533)	(807)	-	345,299
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,255,118</u>	<u>251,005</u>	<u>(312,533)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,193,590</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	347,715	5,884,215	(5,504,236)	(267,456)	-	460,238
Other DfE/ESFA grants	69,040	248,123	(246,136)	-	-	71,027
Pupil Premium	-	161,943	(161,943)	-	-	-
Other government	-	78,584	(78,584)	-	-	-
Educational visits	-	66,618	(66,618)	-	-	-
Notional rent	-	231,000	(231,000)	-	-	-
Other restricted	-	16,001	(16,001)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,065,000)	-	(266,000)	-	2,645,000	(686,000)
	<u>(2,648,245)</u>	<u>6,686,484</u>	<u>(6,570,518)</u>	<u>(267,456)</u>	<u>2,645,000</u>	<u>(154,735)</u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	628,529	-	(120,614)	267,456	-	775,371
DFC	-	22,622	(175)	-	-	22,447
CIF	502,274	1,117,010	(1,289,089)	-	-	330,195
	<u>1,130,803</u>	<u>1,139,632</u>	<u>(1,409,878)</u>	<u>267,456</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,128,013</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>(1,517,442)</u>	<u>7,826,116</u>	<u>(7,980,396)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,645,000</u>	<u>973,278</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>(262,324)</u>	<u>8,077,121</u>	<u>(8,292,929)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,645,000</u>	<u>2,166,868</u>

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

**General Annual Grant (GAG)**

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

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

**Other DfE/ESFA**

This represents non-GAG funding to be used for the normal running costs of the Academy, including education and support costs.

**Pupil Premium**

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

**Other Government**

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

**Educational visits**

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

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

**Pension reserve**

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

**Restricted Fixed asset fund**

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

**Devolved Formula Capital (DfE)/Conditional Improvement Fund (CIF)**

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

**Designated funds**

This represents funds that have been designated for sixth form funding, capital improvements and funds held for increased pupil numbers.

**Notional rent**

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

**Other restricted income**

This represents any other income generated not described above.



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

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

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Designated funds</b>						
Sixth form fund	250,000	-	-	-	-	250,000
Capital improvements	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
Increase in roll fund	200,000	-	-	-	-	200,000
IT infrastructure	189,903	-	-	7,581	-	197,484
	<u>839,903</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>7,581</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>847,484</u>
<b>General funds</b>						
Unrestricted funds	<u>412,404</u>	<u>172,584</u>	<u>(169,773)</u>	<u>(7,581)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>407,634</u>
<b>Total Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>1,252,307</u>	<u>172,584</u>	<u>(169,773)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,255,118</u>
<b>Restricted funds</b>						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	26,035	5,484,132	(5,058,027)	(104,425)	-	347,715
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	495,998	(426,958)	-	-	69,040
Pupil Premium	-	166,645	(166,645)	-	-	-
Other government	-	80,230	(80,230)	-	-	-
Educational visits	-	31,170	(31,170)	-	-	-
Notional rent	-	173,820	(173,820)	-	-	-
Other restricted	-	6,141	(6,141)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(2,872,000)	-	(214,000)	-	21,000	(3,065,000)
	<u>(2,845,965)</u>	<u>6,438,136</u>	<u>(6,156,991)</u>	<u>(104,425)</u>	<u>21,000</u>	<u>(2,648,245)</u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**17. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	660,513	-	(44,854)	12,870	-	628,529
DFC	54,912	22,447	-	(77,359)	-	-
CIF	-	671,810	(338,450)	168,914	-	502,274
	<u>715,425</u>	<u>694,257</u>	<u>(383,304)</u>	<u>104,425</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,130,803</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<u>(2,130,540)</u>	<u>7,132,393</u>	<u>(6,540,295)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>21,000</u>	<u>(1,517,442)</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u><u>(878,233)</u></u>	<u><u>7,304,977</u></u>	<u><u>(6,710,068)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>21,000</u></u>	<u><u>(262,324)</u></u>

**18. Analysis of net assets between funds**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	775,371	775,371
Debtors due after more than one year	-	462,000	-	462,000
Current assets	1,250,770	1,216,547	726,780	3,194,097
Creditors due within one year	(57,180)	(685,282)	(374,138)	(1,116,600)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(462,000)	-	(462,000)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(686,000)	-	(686,000)
<b>Total</b>	<u><u>1,193,590</u></u>	<u><u>(154,735)</u></u>	<u><u>1,128,013</u></u>	<u><u>2,166,868</u></u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**18. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)**

**Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year**

	Unrestricted funds 2021 £	Restricted funds 2021 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £	Total funds 2021 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	628,529	628,529
Debtors due after more than one year	-	347,640	-	347,640
Current assets	1,255,118	839,479	502,274	2,596,871
Creditors due within one year	-	(422,724)	-	(422,724)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(347,640)	-	(347,640)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(3,065,000)	-	(3,065,000)
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,255,118</b>	<b>(2,648,245)</b>	<b>1,130,803</b>	<b>(262,324)</b>

**19. Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities**

	2022 £	2021 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(215,808)	594,909
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation	120,614	44,854
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,139,632)	(694,257)
Interest receivable	(764)	(3,207)
LGPS adjustments	266,000	214,000
Increase in debtors	(105,113)	(33,180)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	636,696	(64,982)
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>	<b>(438,007)</b>	<b>58,137</b>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**20. Cash flows from investing activities**

	2022 £	2021 £
Interest receivable	764	3,207
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(267,456)	(12,870)
Capital grants from DfE Group	1,139,632	694,257
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>	<u>872,940</u>	<u>684,594</u>

**21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	2022 £	2021 £
Cash in hand and at bank	2,600,490	2,165,557
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<u>2,600,490</u>	<u>2,165,557</u>

**22. Analysis of changes in net debt**

	At 1 September 2021 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2022 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,447,493	434,215	1,881,708
Liquid investments	718,064	718	718,782
	<u>2,165,557</u>	<u>434,933</u>	<u>2,600,490</u>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**23. Pension commitments**

The Academy'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 Essex County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £170,166 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021 - £86,298) and are included within creditors.

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

**Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2016. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 5 March 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy);
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million; and
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 2.4% above the rate of CPI, assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2023.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £610,517 (2021 - £616,246).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx>).

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

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £222,000 (2021 - £199,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £180,000 (2021 - £161,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 42,000 (2021 - £38,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 12.3 per cent for employers and 5.5-12.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note 1.16 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Academy at the balance sheet date.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

**Principal actuarial assumptions**

	2022 %	2021 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.00	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation (CPI)	3.00	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65

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

	2022 Years	2021 Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.0	21.6
Females	23.5	23.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.3	22.9
Females	24.9	25.1

As at the 31 August 2022 the Trust had a pension liability of £686,000 (2021 - £3,065,000). The sensitivity analysis detailed below would increase/ (decrease) the closing defined benefit obligation in the following way:

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

**Sensitivity analysis**

	2022 £	2021 £
Discount rate +0.1%	(81,000)	(133,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	83,000	136,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	117,000	253,000
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(114,000)	(243,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	79,000	124,000
CPI rate -0.1%	(77,000)	(122,000)

**Share of scheme assets**

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

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Equities	1,757,000	1,939,000
Gilts	63,000	76,000
Other bonds	125,000	141,000
Property	282,000	211,000
Cash and other liquid assets	94,000	84,000
Alternative assets	471,000	336,000
Other managed funds	314,000	241,000
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>3,106,000</b>	<b>3,028,000</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £8000 (2021 - £554,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	396,000	328,000
Interest income	(51,000)	(38,000)
Interest cost	100,000	83,000
Admin expenses	1,000	-
<b>Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities</b>	<b>446,000</b>	<b>373,000</b>

**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**23. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>At 1 September</b>	6,093,000	5,206,000
Current service cost	396,000	328,000
Interest cost	100,000	83,000
Employee contributions	42,000	38,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(2,688,000)	495,000
Benefits paid	(120,000)	(57,000)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<u>3,823,000</u>	<u>6,093,000</u>

Changes in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
<b>At 1 September</b>	3,028,000	2,334,000
Interest income	51,000	38,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(43,000)	516,000
Employer contributions	180,000	161,000
Employee contributions	42,000	38,000
Benefits paid	(120,000)	(57,000)
Admin expenses	-	(2,000)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<u>3,138,000</u>	<u>3,028,000</u>

**24. Operating lease commitments**

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Within 1 year	6,162	6,162
Between 1 and 5 years	6,162	12,324
	<u>12,324</u>	<u>18,486</u>



**ST. MARK'S WEST ESSEX CATHOLIC SCHOOL**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

**25. Members' liability**

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

**26. Related party transactions**

Owing to the nature of the Academy and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The Academy operates from land and buildings provided rent free by the Diocese of Brentwood. Under an agreement between the Dioceses, the Academy and the Secretary of State, the Diocese would be required to give 24 months notice from the year end if it wished to terminate this agreement. No such notice had been given at the year end and the Diocese is therefore committed to providing the land and buildings rent free for a further 36 months from the year end. The Trustees estimate that the cost of renting equivalent buildings would be £231,000 per annum, on this basis a donation from the Diocese of £231,000 is shown in the accounts together with a notional expense of the same amount. In addition, included within debtors and creditors is a donation in kind receivable and payable of £693,000 representing the commitment by the Diocese to provide the land and buildings rent free for a further 36 months.

During the period, the Academy incurred expenditure of £16,185 (2021 - £16,640) in relation to educational support services from The Brentwood Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. Right Reverend A Williams, a member of St Mark's West Essex Catholic School, is a Director of The Brentwood Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. At the period end no balance was due to The Brentwood Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust. Right Reverend A Williams is entitled to exercise 10% of the voting power of the Brentwood Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust and has no financial or profit share entitlement so transactions with The Brentwood Roman Catholic Diocesan Trust are not subject to the 'at cost' rules set out in the Academies Trust Handbook.

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

**27. Agency arrangements**

The Academy distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2022, the Academy received £7,582 (2021 - £11,374) and disbursed £12,200 (2021 - £42,257) from the fund. The amount disbursed in the prior year included a large historical repayment back to the ESFA for unused amounts. An amount of £13,156 (2021 - £17,774) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to ESFA.