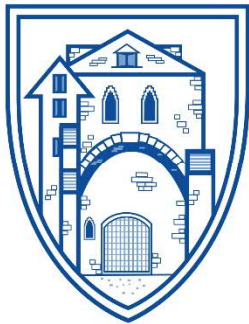


The Priory Primary Academy Trust
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
Annual Report and Financial Statements
Year ended 31 August 2024

Company Registration Number:
07498234 (England and Wales)



**The Priory
Primary School**
Inspiring a Love of Learning

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

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The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Members

J Pender

J Dwerryhouse

R MacDonald

P Sahota

Trustees

P Sahota (Chair)

K Butler (appointed 1 September 2024)

M Clare

J Dwerryhouse

J Farrow-Gent

S Leggett (appointed 1 September 2024)

R MacDonald

J Rooth

M Walsh

Senior Management Team

M Walsh, Headteacher

D Adams, Deputy Headteacher

L Philpott, CFO

Company Name

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Principal and Registered Office

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Pamber End

Tadley

Hampshire

RG26 5QD

Company Registration Number

07498234 (England and Wales)

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Reference and Administrative Details

Independent Auditor

Hopper Williams & Bell Limited

Statutory Auditor

Highland House

Mayflower Close

Chandlers Ford

Eastleigh

Hampshire

SO53 4AR

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc

2 Winchester Street

Basingstoke

Hants

RG21 7EB

Solicitors

Phillips Solicitors

Town Gate

38 London Street

Basingstoke

RG21 7NY

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The Academy Trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving a catchment area in North Hampshire. It has a pupil capacity of 203 and had a roll of 190 in the school census on 3 October 2024.

Structure, Governance and Management

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of The Priory Primary Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as The Priory Primary Academy Trust.

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

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act, every Trustee or other officer of the Academy shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust is a member of the RPA with unlimited indemnity for Trustees' and officers. The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The management of the academy is the responsibility of the Trustees who are elected and co-opted under the terms of the Articles of Association and funding agreement as follows:

- Up to five Trustees, appointed by the Members
- The Headteacher
- A minimum of two Parent Trustees, appointed by the Members
- Any Staff Trustee, appointed by the Members, provided that the maximum number of Staff Trustees does not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees
- Up to three co-opted Trustees appointed by the Trust board
- Up to one Trustee appointed by the local authority
- Any Trustees appointed by the Secretary of State for Education

The term of office for any Trustee is four years. The Headteacher's term of office runs parallel with their term of appointment. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee may be reappointed or re-elected.

Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

When appointing new Trustees, the Board will give consideration to the skills and experience required to complement and enhance those of the Trustees in order to ensure that they have the necessary skill set to contribute fully to the development of the Academy. On appointment, induction and training will be provided depending on experience. Where necessary an induction provides training on charity and educational, legal and financial matters. All new Trustees are given a tour of the Academy and the chance to meet with staff and pupils. All Trustees have access to the Trust's Dropbox containing copies of policies, procedures, minutes, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to understand their role as Trustees and directors of the Academy. In addition, each Trustee is actively encouraged to visit the Academy during the school day.

Organisational Structure

The Academy has established a management structure to enable its efficient running. The structure consists of two levels: the Trustees and the executives who are the Senior Leadership Team.

The Governing Body has considered its role thoughtfully and decided that the role of the Trustees is to approve the strategic direction and objectives of the Academy and monitor its progress towards these objectives.

The Governing Body has approved a scheme of delegation which sets out a statement on the system of internal control, responsibilities, standing orders, a scheme of delegation and terms of reference. The Headteacher is directly responsible for the day to day running of the Academy and is assisted by a Senior Leadership Team.

Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the Academy by use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy, including capital expenditure and senior staff appointments. The Headteacher assumes the Accounting Officer role.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Priory Primary Academy Trust will follow the agreed pay policy. This policy is approved annually by the Governing Body.

Following the annual performance management meetings for the Headteacher (comprising of HTs Performance Management Governors) pay recommendations within the recommended School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document are sent to the Finance, Pay and Risk Committee members along with a summary of outcomes.

The performance management of the other members of the Senior Management Team has been delegated to the Headteacher. Pay recommendations are made to the Finance, Pay and Risk Committee of the Board and awarded accordingly.

Trade union facility time

No employees were relevant union officials in the year and no time was spent on Trade Union activities.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

The Priory Primary Academy Trust has no related parties or connected entities.

Objectives and Activities

Objects and Aims

The principal object and activity of The Priory Primary Academy is to provide a broad and balanced education for pupils of all abilities in the Pamber End area and wider catchment. The Trust remains the heart of the school community, promoting cohesion and supporting the needs of children, the parents and the broader community. The school has hosted local council meetings, local events and supported community fundraising in addition to the integral educational support it provides.

The Trust continues to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that inspires, challenges and promotes progress in all subject areas.

In its most recent OFSTED inspection, the school was graded as 'Good' with 'Outstanding' features in reference to the personal development of its pupils. This highlights the care and attention the Trust provides its students. The individual needs (social, emotional, developmental and academic) of every pupil are of the highest concern. SEND pupils are fully included into the learning and their provision is tailored to the pupils' specific needs.

The school carefully monitors what pupils are charged for. Where possible trips and visits are subsidised via the PTA and parents are only required to donate towards the transport. The school has reviewed school uniform providers to ensure costs are at a minimum. Parents / Carers are never charged for the education provided by the school; support costs or specific resources for SEND provision. Fundraising boosts curriculum development.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Objects and Aims (continued)

The Trustees have referred to the guidance issued by the Charity Commission in respect of public benefit when reviewing the aims and objectives of the Academy.

In accordance with the articles of association, the academy has adopted a "Scheme of Government" approved by the Secretary of State for Education.

The Scheme of Government specifies, amongst other things, that the Trust will be at the heart of the community promoting community cohesion and sharing facilities; the basis for admitting students to the Trust, that the curriculum should be broad and balanced; there will be an emphasis on the needs of individual pupils including pupils with SEN; the basis for charging pupils.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

The Academy has undertaken self-evaluation activities to correctly identify objectives for the next year. These objectives are:

- Enhance pupil attainment and progress for all pupils resulting in outcomes that are above/well above national averages;
- Continue to develop high impact teaching and learning strategies that result in improved outcomes in the short, medium and long term;
- Fully integrate a broad, inclusive, linked curriculum where all subjects have a strong profile and identity with challenge and rigour;
- Forge, develop and sustain effective community links to raise the school profile and reputation within the local and regional community establishing pupil numbers at a level that allows financial stability;
- Implement further capacity to monitor and develop staff and student wellbeing, including developing Equality, Diversity and Inclusion across the school;
- Develop the school site with a focus on improving road safety and parking capacity outside of school and to develop learning spaces to accommodate increase in pupil numbers; and
- Further develop a culture of high-quality middle leadership and stakeholder accountability.

The main strategy is encompassed in the Academy's Aims, which are to develop students who are:

- Active Citizens
- Prepared for their future
- Happy, healthy and safe
- Caring individuals
- Responsible learners

At the heart of the Academy there is a strong and well-developed ethos where:

- Every child is capable of extraordinary achievement and is able to realise their inner potential;
- Every child is able to develop a lifelong love of learning;
- Every child has an absolute right to an equal opportunity to flourish;
- Every child is able to develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes to realise their own dreams through a positive contribution to their community and wider society; and
- Ultimately the Academy's vision is to inspire a love of learning for all of its community.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Objectives, Strategies and Activities (continued)

The long-term well-being of our pupils is dependent on a sustainable economy, society and environment. Therefore, we teach our children to be able to contribute to achieving that sustainability as adults.

It is the responsibility of all of the staff in The Priory Primary Academy Trust to remove any barriers to promoting children's development and create the conditions in which they are able to love and enjoy learning.

It is the responsibility of all of the staff in The Priory Primary Academy Trust to reach out and raise and support the aspirations of their community to believe in their children's potential.

The main activities for achieving objectives the academy will undertake will be:

- To continue to maintain and further develop a broad and balanced curriculum that will challenge, inspire and enrich;
- To continue to ensure that all children make very good levels of attainment and progress through strengthening the current assessment procedures and ensure that high standards are maintained;
- To continue to ensure that all children develop and that pupil wellbeing is fully embedded across the curriculum; and
- To continue to engage in rigorous self-evaluation procedures that will ensure the best outcomes for all the school community.

We believe in preparing children for the next stage of their education and we expect all children to be active citizens who:

- Participate in a range of community activities;
- Have opportunities for leadership in all Key Stages;
- Understand the importance of and contribute to pupil voice activities through the School Councils;
- Demonstrate local, national, global, social and environmental awareness; and
- Understand that in any society there are limits to individual freedom for the wellbeing of the society as a whole.

The children are prepared for their future by:

- Developing their ability to adapt to change;
- Developing a broad range of transferable skills;
- Developing a knowledge of the world of work;
- Developing life skills and academic and personal independence;
- Understanding the economic realities of their and others lives and ways to manage financial responsibilities.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Objectives, Strategies and Activities (continued)

The children are kept happy, healthy and safe by:

- Understanding the importance of healthy eating for physical and mental wellbeing;
- Understanding the importance of exercise for physical and mental wellbeing and acting on awareness of healthy lifestyle choices;
- Taking advantage of and enjoying a range of extra-curricular activities;
- Developing a knowledge of health issues, including sexual, mental and drug related, to enable informed decisions and choices;
- Safely enjoying new technologies, experiences and environments.

The children are caring individuals. They:

- Respect everyone and welcome differences;
- Are aware of the consequences of their actions, however small, for themselves and others;
- Understand the nature of friendship;
- Learn to be good listeners & communicators;
- Respect other's opinions and beliefs;
- Respect themselves.

The children are responsible learners. They:

- Recognise that making mistakes is a key part of successful learning and develop perseverance;
- Enjoy and cultivate a positive approach to, and accept responsibility for, their learning;
- Are able to enjoy applying knowledge and understand a wide range of situations;
- Work successfully in teams and as individuals;
- Take responsibility to achieve beyond their potential;
- Reflect on both achievements and setbacks and learn from their experiences;
- Think and learn creatively.

The academy's aims will be reviewed and edited as required.

Public Benefit

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

As an Academy we make the best use of our skills, expertise and experience with regards to the community. Some examples of this are:

- Raising money for local, national and international charities, such as the Rotary shoebox project;
- Arranging activities that benefit the local environment, such as battery recycling; and
- Providing community events such as sports days, assemblies and Christmas performances.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Strategic Report

Achievements and Performance (including Key Performance Indicators)

The Priory Primary Academy opened as a converter Academy in February 2011. Its last inspection in February 2020 judged the school to be good, with an outstanding classification in the personal development of its pupils.

In terms of school performance and pupil attainment in statutory tests, we aim to be above national attainment averages and benchmarks.

The most recent statutory assessment data 2023-4 shows:

Stage	Assessment	School 2024	National 2024
Reception	EYFS Profile - Good level of Development GLD	72%	(67% 2023)
Year 1	Phonics Y1	86%	(79% 2023)
Key Stage 2	Y4 MTC full marks	59%	(31% 2023)
Key Stage 2 SAT	Reading Writing and Maths Combined EXS+ *	64%	61%
	Reading EXS+	86%	74%
	Writing EXS+	73%	72%
	Maths EXS+	82%	73%
	GPS EXS+	73%	72%
	Science	91%	81%

*EXS+ means 'achieving the expected standard or higher'

The school's roll remained at 190 in the October 2024 census.

The Academy's attendance was above 97% as of October 2024 (above national average).

The number of fixed term exclusions remains at zero.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Going Concern

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

Financial Review

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the period ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

During the period, ESFA/LA revenue grants received totalled to £953,124 (2023: £954,390). Other income included within restricted funds totalled to £8,825 (2023: £10,785). Restricted fund expenditure (including restricted pension fund expenditure) totalled to £1,005,867 (2023: £958,336).

The main source of unrestricted income is catering, educational visits, lettings and donations, totalling to £80,757 (2023: £63,246). Fundraising activities during the period included film nights and after school stay and play sessions.

The Academy also receives a grant from Hampshire County Council to support pupils who are eligible for SEN Funding through an Education Health Care Plan (EHCP). This grant is treated as restricted income.

In this financial year the Local Government Pension Scheme actuarial valuation reflects a surplus. Under FRS102 an entity shall recognise plan surpluses as a defined benefit plan asset only to the extent that it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. The Trustees acknowledge their responsibilities requiring them to make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent. As such, the Trustees deem it prudent not to recognise a defined benefit plan at the year-end on the basis that the extent of future contributions cannot be reliably quantified.

Overall, the Academy has a healthy balance sheet and cash flow and will be using the reserves to maintain the current assets and also to invest back into the school in the form of additional resources and facilities both in the long term and short term in conjunction with the school development plan and school aims. The Governing Body receives financial budget v actual v committed reports throughout the year to compare against budgets submitted to the Education and Skills Funding Agency. The FPR Committee discusses, and reviews longer term financial plans and organise resources most effectively to fulfil the aims of the academy.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Reserves Policy

The definition of reserves in the SORP is 'that part of a charity's income funds that is freely available for its general purposes.' This definition of reserves therefore normally excludes:

- restricted income funds
- any part of unrestricted funds not readily available for spending, specifically income funds which could only be realised by disposing of fixed assets held for charitable use

Reserves are therefore the resources the Academy has or can make available to spend for any or all of the Academy's purposes once it has met its commitments and covered its other planned expenditure. More specifically 'reserves' are income which becomes available to the Academy and is to be spent at the Trustees' discretion in furtherance of any of the Academy's objects (sometimes referred to as 'general purpose' income) but which is not yet spent, committed or designated (i.e. is 'free').

The level of reserves held takes into account the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them with commitments, including future capital projects, and the nature of reserves. The Trustees will keep this level of reserves under review at each Board meeting and aim to build and maintain the reserves level by entering into cost effective agreements whilst in keeping with the principal object of the Academy.

Total revenue reserves at the end of the period amounted to £207,029 (2023 £199,766). This balance includes unrestricted funds (free reserves) of £177,701 (2023 £174,733) being 17% of annual revenue income, which is considered appropriate for the Academy Trust, and restricted funds of £29,328 (2023 £25,033) and a pension deficit of £nil (2023 £15,000). The Local Government Pension Scheme showed a surplus as at 31 August 2024, which has not been recognised in reserves.

If there were a pension surplus included in the restricted fund this would not create an immediately realisable asset that can be released straight away and expended for the specific purposes of that fund. Users should also note that a surplus or deficit position of the pension scheme would generally result in a cash flow effect for the Trust in the form of an increase or decrease in employers' pension contributions over a period of years. The Trust thus takes this fact into account when reviewing current business plans and budgets, ascertaining how the pension costs might affect budgets in the future. On the basis that increased pension contributions should generally be met from the Trust's budgeted annual income, whilst the deficit might not be eliminated, there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the fund or direct impact on the unrestricted reserves of the Trust due to the recognition of the deficit.

The Governing Body have recognised that salary costs are currently higher than GAG funding and have therefore enacted an action plan to raise pupil numbers, restrict staffing costs where possible and to raise the profile of the Trust via increased fundraising and marketing. A limit has been set relative to salary costs being a sum equivalent to one to two month's payroll approximately £100,000 to cover the uncertainties of future Government spending. The reason for this reserve is to provide sufficient working capital and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Investment Policy

Investment policies are determined by the Trust Board. This ensures the level of funds the Trust holds can cover any immediate expenditure, without exposing the Trust to additional risk. Should any potential investment opportunity arise this would be escalated to the Trust Board for consideration.

As at 31 August 2024, no investments were held.

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

The Trust is exposed to a number of financial risks including credit, cash flow and liquidity risks. Given the Trust's exposure to financial instruments being limited, the exposure principally relates to bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. The Trust's system of internal controls ensures risk is minimal in these areas.

A risk register has been established and is updated regularly. Where appropriate, systems or procedures have been established to mitigate the risks the Trust faces. Internal control risks are minimised by the implementation of procedures for authorisation of all transactions and projects.

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Trust, and its finances. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Academies face, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls (see below) in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk still remains, they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover.

The Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the Governance Statement.

It should also be noted that procedures are in place to ensure compliance with the health and safety regulations, pertaining to both staff and pupils.

The Trustees also are fully aware of their responsibilities to ensure that the Trust's estate is safe, well maintained and compliant with the relevant regulations.

Please refer to the Reserves Policy above for a description of the defined benefit pension scheme, in which there was a deficit at 31 August 2023. Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of Academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Trustees' Report

Fundraising

As part of its work within the community, the Academy Trust undertakes fundraising activities, for example through fetes, cake sales, non-uniform days, stay and play after school sessions etc. The Academy Trust raises funds in order to support its own operations and also to make donations to local and national charities. The Academy Trust undertakes all such activities itself, with the help of its students and their families. We confirm that when fundraising:

- No unsolicited approaches are made to members of the public.
- No commercial participators are used.
- No regularity schemes or standards are applicable.
- No complaints were made to the Academy Trust during the year.

Plans for Future Periods

The Trust has an ongoing programme of repairs and maintenance and a prioritised improvement plan.

Considering the increase in the Trust's Planned Admission Number in recent years, the Trustees are considering an expansion/remodelling of the upper Key Stage 2 classrooms.

The school's flat roof sections – which has been the source of several unsuccessful CIF bids - is an ongoing project, which is currently being maintained through constant repairs by the Trust's Site Manager.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

The Academy Trust and / or its Trustees did not act as Custodian Trustee during the current or previous period.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 7 December 2024 and signed on the Board's behalf by:



Prubjyot Sahota
Chair of Trustees

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Scope of Responsibility

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

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 The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

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

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Meetings attended</u>	<u>Out of a possible</u>
P Payne-Sahota (Chair)	5	6
M Walsh	6	6
J Derryhouse	6	6
R MacDonald	5	6
M Clare	5	6
J Rooth	3	6
J Farrow-Gent	5	6
K Butler	0	0
S Leggett	0	0

Two new Trustees (K Butler and S Leggett) joined the Board on 1 September 2024.

The Governing Body had one sub-committee during the 2023-24 academic year: Finance Pay and Risk committee. For the 2024-25 academic year there continues to be one sub-committee: Finance, Pay and Risk Committee.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Governance (continued)

Conflicts of interest:

The Trust has a robust policy on managing conflicts of interest. This is a standing agenda item at all meetings. In addition, Trustees complete a register of pecuniary interests annually. This information is regularly reviewed and published on the Trust website. The Trust also has a register of related party transactions.

Governance reviews:

In the last year, governors have:

- carried out benchmarking of pupil progress and attainment to ensure there is appropriate challenge and support for pupils;
- monitored school improvement through the SIP and visits;
- monitored the use of safeguarding practice and procedures to protect pupils;
- implemented measures holding Leaders to account for health and safety;
- supported our staff wellbeing;
- planned stakeholder engagement;
- challenged attendance and interventions;
- ensured financial viability;
- challenged the Headteacher on pupil progress and attainment; and
- evaluated how the school is using Pupil Premium, Sports Premium.

The Governing Body have recently completed a skills audit and have recruited two new members to the Board.

The Finance, Pay and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to advise the Board on matters relating to the Trust's finance and audit arrangements, systems of internal control, certain statutory functions relative to Personnel, Pay and Risk and to advise and aid the Board to ensure sound management of the Trust's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity. Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

<u>Trustee</u>	<u>Meetings attended</u>	<u>Out of a possible</u>
R MacDonald	7	7
M Walsh (non-member)	7	7
P Payne-Sahota	7	7
J Dwerryhouse	7	7
M Clare	1	4

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Governance Statement

Review of Value for Money

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

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

- continuing to balance the existing staff vs GAG funding by reducing the overall cost of teaching, support and admin costs;
- reviewing suppliers' charges and sourcing competitively priced consumables;
- supporting the Trust's drive to raise pupil numbers.

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in The Priory Primary Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy 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 Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Governance Statement

The Risk and Control Framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance, Pay & Risk 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 considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an auditor for this purpose. However, the Trustees have appointed R MacDonald, a Trustee, to carry out a programme of internal checks.

The reviewer's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial and non-financial areas. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Employee expenses and petty cash
- New supplier form/changes to supplier details
- Fixed assets and the fixed asset register
- Charge card process
- Estates management
- IT systems and cyber security

On an annual basis, the auditor / reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees, through the Finance, Pay and Risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of 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 agreed schedule of work has been delivered as planned. One high priority recommendation has been made, namely the creation of an estates management plan.

Health & Safety

Annual fire risk assessments and health and safety reports are conducted by external agencies. The conclusions and proposed actions of these audits are reports to the governing body. The Trustees have appointed M Clare, a Trustee, to carry out a programme of health and safety checks in line with the compliance requirements for these audits.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Governance Statement

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 reviewer
- the work of the external auditor
- the school resource management self-assessment tool
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework

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

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the Finance, Pay and Risk Committee and the Accounting Officer, the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the Academy Trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 7 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Prubjyot Sahota
Chair of Trustees



Matt Walsh
Accounting Officer

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of The Priory Primary Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023.

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



Matt Walsh
Accounting Officer
7 December 2024

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education & Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 7 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Prubjot Sahota
Chair of Trustees

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Priory Primary Academy Trust ('the charitable company') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities (including the Income and Expenditure Account), the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, 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 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education & Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been properly prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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 charitable company'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.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Other information

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. It includes the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report (including the Strategic Report), and the Governance Statement. 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 for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Trustees' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' 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;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns;
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not obtained all the information and explanations necessary for the purposes of our audit.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Responsibilities of the Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities, 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 charitable company'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 charitable company or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our 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 a Report of the Independent Auditors 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 obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that are applicable to the Academy Trust, and the sector in which it operates. These include but are not limited to compliance with the Companies Act 2006, 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, the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.
- We obtained an understanding of how the Academy Trust is complying with these frameworks through discussions with management.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Priory Primary Academy Trust

- We enquired with management whether there were any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations or whether they had knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. These enquiries are corroborated through follow-up audit procedures including but not limited to a review of legal and professional costs, correspondence and a review of board minutes.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Academy Trust's financial statements to material misstatement, including the risk of fraud and management override of controls. We designed our audit procedures to respond to this assessment, including the identification and testing of any related party transactions and the testing of journal transactions that arise from management estimates, that are determined to be of significant value or unusual in their nature.
- We assessed the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team, including consideration of the engagement team's knowledge and understanding of the sector in which the Academy Trust operates in, and their practical experience through training and participation with audit engagements of a similar nature.

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. This description forms part of our Independent Auditor's Report.

Use of our report

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

M Cooper

M Cooper ACA (Senior statutory auditor)
For and on behalf of Hopper Williams & Bell Limited
Statutory Auditor
Highland House, Mayflower Close, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4AR

Date 17 Dec 2024

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 14 May 2024 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Priory Primary Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of The Priory Primary Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Priory Primary Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 February 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Consideration as to whether prior approval was sought from the Secretary of State where it is required by the Academy Trust Handbook (effective from 1 September 2023) (ATH).
- Review of any special payments to staff, including compromise agreements, to consider whether prior approval was sought where required by the ATH and that any payments are in line with the severance guidance published by ESFA.
- Consideration as to whether any borrowings have been made in accordance with the ATH.
- Review of any 'minded to' letters or Notices to Improve which have been issued to the Academy Trust.
- Review of any transactions with related parties to ensure that they have been carried out in accordance with the ATH.
- Review of governance arrangements to determine whether the requirements of the ATH have been met.
- Review of the Academy Trust's internal controls, including whether the general control environment has regard to the regularity of underlying transactions, including fraud management.
- Review of the Academy Trust's procurement policies to determine effectiveness and testing a sample of purchases to confirm that the policies have been correctly implemented.
- Identifying any conditions associated with specialist grant income and determining whether it has been spent as the purposes intended.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to The Priory Primary Academy Trust and the Education & Skills Funding Agency

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

M Cooper

M Cooper ACA
Reporting Accountant
Hopper Williams & Bell Limited
Chartered Accountants
Highland House, Mayflower Close, Chandlers Ford, Eastleigh SO53 4AR

Date 17 Dec 2024

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024

(including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Un-restricted funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Pension Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Income and endowments from:							
Donations and capital grants	3	13,646	-	-	6,059	19,705	28,892
Other trading activities	5	67,075	8,825	-	-	75,900	64,654
Investments	6	36	-	-	-	36	180
Charitable activities:							
Funding for the academy trust's educational operations	4	-	953,124	-	-	953,124	954,390
Total		80,757	961,949	-	6,059	1,048,765	1,048,116
Expenditure on:							
Charitable activities:							
Academy trust educational operations	8	36,576	998,867	7,000	57,346	1,099,789	1,073,166
Net income / (expenditure)		44,181	(36,918)	(7,000)	(51,287)	(51,024)	(25,050)
Transfers between funds	16	(41,213)	41,213	-	-	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses):							
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	24	-	-	22,000	-	22,000	66,000
Net movement in funds		2,968	4,295	15,000	(51,287)	(29,024)	40,950
Reconciliation of funds							
Total funds brought forward		174,733	25,033	(15,000)	1,432,982	1,617,748	1,576,798
Total funds carried forward		177,701	29,328	-	1,381,695	1,588,724	1,617,748

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

Company Number 07498234

	Note	2024 £	2024 £	2023 £	2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		1,374,117		1,423,975
Current assets					
Stock	13	3,911		1,121	
Debtors	14	49,141		43,010	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>271,117</u>		<u>246,187</u>	
		324,169		290,318	
Liabilities					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	<u>(109,562)</u>		<u>(81,545)</u>	
Net current assets			<u>214,607</u>		<u>208,773</u>
Total assets less current liabilities			1,588,724		1,632,748
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	24		-		(15,000)
Total net assets			<u>1,588,724</u>		<u>1,617,748</u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds					
Fixed asset fund	16	1,381,695		1,432,982	
Restricted income fund	16	29,328		25,033	
Pension reserve	16	-		<u>(15,000)</u>	
Total restricted funds			1,411,023		1,443,015
Unrestricted income funds	16		177,701		174,733
Total funds			<u>1,588,724</u>		<u>1,617,748</u>

The financial statements on pages 28 to 53 were approved by the Trustees and authorised for issue on 7 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Prubjyot Sahota
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	19	23,581	5,358
Cash flows from investing activities	20	1,349	9,187
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		<u>24,930</u>	<u>14,545</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2023		246,187	231,642
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2024	21	<u>271,117</u>	<u>246,187</u>

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

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.

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The financial statements are prepared in sterling which is the functional currency of the Academy Trust and are rounded to the nearest £1.

Going Concern

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

Income

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

- 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.

- Grants

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

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

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Income (continued)

- Other Income

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

- Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Expenditure

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

- Charitable Activities

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Tangible Fixed Assets

Assets costing £1,500 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.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than 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:

Freehold Land and Buildings	33 years straight line on buildings; not provided on land
Furniture and Equipment	4-5 years straight line
Computer Equipment	3 years straight line

Where the Academy Trust can identify the value of major components of freehold or leasehold buildings based upon additions following conversion to academy status, the Academy Trust reviews whether one or more such components have significantly different patterns of consumption of economic benefits. In such cases, the Academy Trust allocates the cost of the asset to its major components and depreciates each component separately over its useful life.

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.

Liabilities

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

Provisions

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

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Leased Assets

Rentals under operating leases are charged on a straight line basis over the lease term.

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value. An investment is treated as a cash equivalent when it has a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition.

Financial liabilities

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

Stock

Unsold uniforms and catering stocks are valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

Taxation

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

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

Pensions Benefits

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. 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 Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to net income/(expenditure) are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

A defined benefit plan asset is recognised only to the extent that the Academy Trust expects to be able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan.

Fund Accounting

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

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

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The assumptions used are disclosed in note 24.

Critical areas of judgement

A defined benefit plan asset of £9,000 (2023: £nil) has not been recognised as the Academy Trust does not expect to be able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan. There are no other critical areas of judgement.

2 General Annual Grant (GAG)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was subject to limits at 31 August 2024 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% of GAG could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes.

The Academy Trust has not exceeded these limits during the year ended 31 August 2024.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Capital grants	-	6,059	6,059	19,695
Other donations	13,646	-	13,646	9,197
	<u>13,646</u>	<u>6,059</u>	<u>19,705</u>	<u>28,892</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>9,197</u>	<u>19,695</u>	<u>28,892</u>	

4 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
DfE / ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	805,084	805,084	797,555
Pupil Premium	-	14,234	14,234	10,938
UFSM	-	37,976	37,976	33,885
Rates reclaim	-	4,064	4,064	3,533
PE and sports grant	-	17,570	17,570	31,020
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	27,173	27,173	11,322
Teachers' pay grant	-	14,445	14,445	-
Teachers' pension grant	-	7,566	7,566	-
Other DfE grants	-	1,891	1,891	25,705
	<u>-</u>	<u>930,003</u>	<u>930,003</u>	<u>913,958</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	23,121	23,121	40,432
	<u>-</u>	<u>953,124</u>	<u>953,124</u>	<u>954,390</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<u>-</u>	<u>954,390</u>	<u>954,390</u>	

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Hire of facilities	10,480	-	10,480	7,500
Catering income	28,434	-	28,434	23,598
Trip income	24,491	-	24,491	20,507
Other trading income	3,670	8,825	12,495	13,049
	<u>67,075</u>	<u>8,825</u>	<u>75,900</u>	<u>64,654</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>53,869</i>	<i>10,785</i>	<i>64,654</i>	

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Short term deposits	36	-	36	180
	<u>180</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>180</u>	
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>180</i>	<i>-</i>	<i>180</i>	

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non Pay Expenditure		Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
		Premises £	Other £		
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	684,360	-	61,324	745,684	728,477
Allocated support costs	135,141	68,979	149,985	354,105	344,689
	<u>819,501</u>	<u>68,979</u>	<u>211,309</u>	<u>1,099,789</u>	<u>1,073,166</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>	<i>801,999</i>	<i>57,447</i>	<i>213,720</i>	<i>1,073,166</i>	

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Operating lease rentals	541	1,008
Depreciation	54,604	64,053
Fees payable to auditor for:		
Audit	8,250	7,180
Other services	4,025	1,025

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

8 Charitable activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	Total	Total
	£	£
Direct costs – educational operations	745,684	728,477
Support costs – educational operations	354,105	344,689
	<u>1,099,789</u>	<u>1,073,166</u>

Analysis of support costs:

	Educational operations	2023/24	2022/23
		Total	Total
	£	£	£
Support staff costs	135,141	135,141	128,309
Depreciation	54,604	54,604	64,053
Technology costs	23,273	23,273	21,796
Premises costs	68,979	68,979	57,447
Other support costs	59,773	59,773	65,549
Governance costs	12,335	12,335	7,535
Total support costs	<u>354,105</u>	<u>354,105</u>	<u>344,689</u>
<i>Total 2023</i>		<u>344,689</u>	<u>344,689</u>

Premises costs includes £2,742 (2023: £nil) in respect of expenditure on capital projects, which were funded by capital grants from the ESFA.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

9 Staff

a) Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the period were:

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Wages and salaries	651,499	627,920
Social security costs	34,869	48,240
Pension costs	133,133	125,839
	<u>819,501</u>	<u>801,999</u>

b) Staff numbers

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	No.	No.
Teachers	11	11
Administration and support	20	24
Management	2	2
	<u>33</u>	<u>37</u>

c) Higher paid staff

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	No.	No.
£60,001 - £70,000	1	-

d) Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust 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 Trust was £164,431 (2023: £165,220).

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

10 Related Party Transactions – Trustees’ remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust. Remuneration is only paid in respect of services provided undertaking staff roles under contracts of employment.

The value of Trustees’ remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2023/24	2022/23
		£000	£000
M Walsh	Remuneration	60-65	55-60
(Headteacher and staff trustee)	Employer’s pension contributions paid	15-20	10-15

During the period ended 31 August 2024, no Trustees received any reimbursement of expenses (2023: none).

11 Trustees’ and officers’ insurance

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Furniture and Equipment £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2023	1,933,886	462,093	57,311	2,453,290
Acquisitions	-	-	4,746	4,746
Disposals	-	(1,324)	(3,143)	(4,467)
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,933,886</u>	<u>460,769</u>	<u>58,914</u>	<u>2,453,569</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	526,944	450,397	51,974	1,029,315
Charged in year	46,017	5,307	3,280	54,604
Disposals	-	(1,324)	(3,143)	(4,467)
At 31 August 2024	<u>572,961</u>	<u>454,380</u>	<u>52,111</u>	<u>1,079,452</u>
Net book values				
At 31 August 2023	1,406,942	11,696	5,337	1,423,975
At 31 August 2024	<u>1,360,925</u>	<u>6,389</u>	<u>6,803</u>	<u>1,374,117</u>

13 Stock

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Other stocks	<u>3,911</u>	<u>1,121</u>

14 Debtors

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Trade debtors	50	-
VAT recoverable	4,281	9,134
Prepayments and accrued income	44,810	33,876
	<u>49,141</u>	<u>43,010</u>

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Trade creditors	26,264	12,408
Other taxation and social security	10,873	10,133
Other creditors falling due within one year	15,126	12,768
Accruals and deferred income	57,299	46,236
	<u>109,562</u>	<u>81,545</u>

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	22,391	34,564
Released from previous years	(22,391)	(34,564)
Resources deferred in the year	30,460	22,391
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>30,460</u>	<u>22,391</u>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for provisional Universal Infant Free School Meal grants and trip income relating to the forthcoming financial year.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	15,849	805,084	(791,605)	-	-	29,328
Pupil premium	-	14,234	(14,234)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	37,976	(37,976)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	4,064	(4,064)	-	-	-
PE and sports grant	9,184	17,570	(26,754)	-	-	-
MSAG	-	27,173	(27,173)	-	-	-
Teachers' pay grant	-	14,445	(14,445)	-	-	-
Teachers' pension grant	-	7,566	(7,566)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	1,891	(1,891)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	23,121	(23,121)	-	-	-
Other educational activities	-	8,825	(50,038)	41,213	-	-
	25,033	961,949	(998,867)	41,213	-	29,328
Pension reserve	(15,000)	-	(7,000)	-	22,000	-
	10,033	961,949	(1,005,867)	41,213	22,000	29,328
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	1,423,975	-	(54,604)	4,746	-	1,374,117
ESFA capital grants (DFC)	9,007	6,059	(2,742)	(4,746)	-	7,578
	1,432,982	6,059	(57,346)	-	-	1,381,695
Total restricted funds	1,443,015	968,008	(1,063,213)	41,213	22,000	1,411,023
Total unrestricted funds	174,733	80,757	(36,576)	(41,213)	-	177,701
Total funds	1,617,748	1,048,765	(1,099,789)	-	22,000	1,588,724

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

16 Funds (continued)

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

General annual grant

This includes all funding received from the ESFA to carry out the objectives of the academy. It includes the school budget share; minimum funding guarantee; education services grant; insurance; rates; and pre-16 high needs funding streams.

Other DfE/ESFA grants

This is funding received from the ESFA for specific purposes.

Local authority grants

This is funding received from the local authority for specific purposes, for example Special Educational Needs funding.

Other educational activities

This includes all other educational income/expenditure.

Pension reserve

This represents the negative reserve in respect of the liability on the LGPS pension scheme which was transferred to the Academy Trust on conversion. As at 31 August 2024 the Academy Trust's share of the net assets in the scheme is now in surplus, but, as no pension asset has been recognised, the balance on the reserve is £nil.

Fixed asset fund

The fund includes the value of the tangible fixed assets of the academy on conversion, and amounts transferred from GAG or other restricted funds specifically for expenditure on tangible fixed assets, and the annual charges for depreciation of these assets.

DfE/ESFA capital grants

This is funding received from the DfE/ESFA specifically for expenditure on capital improvements.

Transfers between funds

Transfers to the restricted fixed asset fund represent the cost of fixed asset additions which have been funded from restricted or unrestricted general funds.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

16 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Gains and losses £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	797,555	(781,706)	-	-	15,849
Pupil premium	-	10,938	(10,938)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	33,885	(33,885)	-	-	-
PE and sports grant	-	31,020	(21,836)	-	-	9,184
MSAG	-	11,322	(11,322)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	29,238	(29,238)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	40,432	(40,432)	-	-	-
Catch-up premium	5,194	-	(5,194)	-	-	-
Other educational activities	-	10,785	(10,785)	-	-	-
	5,194	965,175	(945,336)	-	-	25,033
Pension reserve	(68,000)	-	(13,000)	-	66,000	(15,000)
	(62,806)	965,175	(958,336)	-	66,000	10,033
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed asset fund	1,477,340	-	(64,053)	10,688	-	1,423,975
ESFA capital grants (DFC)	-	19,695	-	(10,688)	-	9,007
	1,477,340	19,695	(64,053)	-	-	1,432,982
Total restricted funds	1,414,534	984,870	(1,022,389)	-	66,000	1,443,015
Total unrestricted funds	162,264	63,246	(50,777)	-	-	174,733
Total funds	1,576,798	1,048,116	(1,073,166)	-	66,000	1,617,748

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted pension funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	1,374,117	1,374,117
Current assets	177,701	138,890	-	7,578	324,169
Current liabilities	-	(109,562)	-	-	(109,562)
Total net assets	<u>177,701</u>	<u>29,328</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,381,695</u>	<u>1,588,724</u>

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

	Un- restricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted pension funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	-	1,423,975	1,423,975
Current assets	174,733	106,578	-	9,007	290,318
Current liabilities	-	(81,545)	-	-	(81,545)
Pension scheme liability	-	-	(15,000)	-	(15,000)
Total net assets	<u>174,733</u>	<u>25,033</u>	<u>(15,000)</u>	<u>1,432,982</u>	<u>1,617,748</u>

18 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

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

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Amounts due within one year	574	504
Amounts due between one and five years	<u>1,378</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>1,952</u>	<u>504</u>

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Net expenditure for the reporting period	(51,024)	(25,050)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation	54,604	64,053
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(6,059)	(19,695)
Interest receivable	(36)	(180)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	6,000	10,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	1,000	3,000
(Increase) / decrease in stocks	(2,790)	4,107
Increase in debtors	(6,131)	(28,570)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	28,017	(2,307)
Net cash provided by Operating Activities	<u>23,581</u>	<u>5,358</u>

20 Cash flows from investing activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	36	180
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(4,746)	(10,688)
Capital grants from DfE Group	6,059	19,695
Net cash provided by investing activities	<u>1,349</u>	<u>9,187</u>

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

21 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	271,117	246,187

22 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	Acquisition/ disposal of subsidiaries £	New finance leases £	Other non-cash changes £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash	246,187	24,930	-	-	-	271,117
Total	246,187	24,930	-	-	-	271,117

23 Member 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.

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

24 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £14,609 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023: £12,586) 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 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 four years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

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

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

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £100,204 (2023: £87,873).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The academy trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the academy trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy trust has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Employer's contributions	26,000	29,000
Employees' contributions	8,000	8,000
	<u>34,000</u>	<u>37,000</u>

The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.9% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of an academy trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
Rate of increase in salaries	3.7%	4.0%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.7%	3.0%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.0%	5.2%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.7%	3.0%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	<u>70.0%</u>	<u>70.0%</u>

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

	2024	2023
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	22.0	22.1
Females	<u>24.7</u>	<u>24.7</u>
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.5	22.6
Females	<u>25.6</u>	<u>25.7</u>

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	Increase/(reduction) in defined benefit obligation	
	2024	2023
	£	£
Discount rate +0.1%	(15,000)	(755,000)
Discount rate -0.1%	15,000	(725,000)
Mortality assumption – 1 year increase	32,000	(710,000)
Mortality assumption – 1 year decrease	(32,000)	(770,000)
CPI rate +0.1%	15,000	(725,000)
CPI rate -0.1%	(15,000)	(755,000)

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Equities	448,000	428,000
Gilts	302,000	232,000
Property	57,000	44,000
Cash and other liquid assets	8,000	22,000
Other	-	(1,000)
Total market value of assets	<u>815,000</u>	<u>725,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was a gain of £69,000 (2023: £29,000).

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Current service cost	32,000	39,000
Interest income	(38,000)	(28,000)
Interest cost	39,000	31,000
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>33,000</u>	<u>42,000</u>

The Priory Primary Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

24 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
At 1 September	740,000	739,000
Current service cost	32,000	39,000
Interest cost	39,000	31,000
Employee contributions	8,000	8,000
Actuarial loss / (gain)	9,000	(65,000)
Benefits paid	(13,000)	(12,000)
At 31 August	<u>815,000</u>	<u>740,000</u>

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

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
At 1 September	725,000	671,000
Interest income	38,000	28,000
Actuarial gain	31,000	1,000
Employer contributions	26,000	29,000
Employee contributions	8,000	8,000
Benefits paid	(13,000)	(12,000)
At 31 August	<u>815,000</u>	<u>725,000</u>

A defined benefit plan asset of £9,000 (2023: £nil) has not been recognised as the Academy Trust does not expect to be able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan.

25 Related party transactions

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 10.



Issuer HWB Chartered Accountants

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Parties involved with this document

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Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:04:44 GMT	Prubjyot Sahota - Signer (ef4f7df53efdd701ac72d34bf7406060)
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:24:08 GMT	Matthew Walsh - Signer (3fbf0a9caa5e2a41efb85815df22fddd)
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	Matt Cooper - Signer (29bf81e872e4f80f74bf32a1b1c183ba)
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	Alan Davies - Copied In (e3def98a43b90a426a84e1b895af58ba)
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	Gemma Wood - Copied In (970a1d75eb31c491fab93945bb180648)

Audit history log

Date	Action
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 10:06:41 GMT	Envelope generated by Accounts Department172.167.47.247
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 10:06:41 GMT	Document generated with fingerprint e99f2c57f48800dbefd83da5ac817446172.167.47.247
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 10:06:41 GMT	Document generated with fingerprint 0bdd017a3f2783d47e05b3cb481c384b172.167.47.247
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 10:10:57 GMT	Sent the envelope to Prubjyot Sahota (prubjyot_sahota@hotmail.com) for signing172.167.47.247
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 10:10:57 GMT	Document emailed to prubjyot_sahota@hotmail.com3.9.18.219
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:02:53 GMT	Prubjyot Sahota opened the document email.217.40.198.174
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:03:19 GMT	Prubjyot Sahota viewed the envelope217.40.198.174
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:04:44 GMT	Prubjyot Sahota signed the envelope217.40.198.174
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:04:45 GMT	Sent the envelope to Matthew Walsh (m.walsh@theprioryprimaryschool.org.uk) for signing217.40.198.174
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:04:45 GMT	Document emailed to m.walsh@theprioryprimaryschool.org.uk13.40.87.78
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:04:45 GMT	Prubjyot Sahota viewed the envelope217.40.198.174
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:04:55 GMT	Matthew Walsh opened the document email.66.249.93.65
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:18:09 GMT	Matthew Walsh opened the document email.66.249.93.67
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:18:18 GMT	Matthew Walsh opened the document email.66.249.93.66
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:18:39 GMT	Matthew Walsh viewed the envelope185.85.58.49

Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:24:08 GMT	Matthew Walsh signed the envelope185.85.58.49
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:24:08 GMT	Sent the envelope to Matt Cooper (Matthew.Cooper@hwb-accountants.com) for signing185.85.58.49
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:24:08 GMT	Document emailed to Matthew.Cooper@hwb-accountants.com13.42.58.145
Tue, 10th Dec 2024 11:24:08 GMT	Matthew Walsh viewed the envelope185.85.58.49
Fri, 13th Dec 2024 10:16:15 GMT	Document emailed to Matthew.Cooper@hwb-accountants.com13.40.163.193
Mon, 16th Dec 2024 10:17:06 GMT	Document emailed to Matthew.Cooper@hwb-accountants.com18.133.219.228
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:04:37 GMT	Matt Cooper viewed the envelope172.166.181.254
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	Matt Cooper signed the envelope172.166.181.254
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	Sent the envelope to Alan Davies (Alan.Davies@hwb-accountants.com) for signing172.166.181.254
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	Sent the envelope to Gemma Wood (gemma.wood@hwb-accountants.com) for signing172.166.181.254
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:38 GMT	This envelope has been signed by all parties172.166.181.254
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:39 GMT	Matt Cooper viewed the envelope172.166.181.254
Tue, 17th Dec 2024 9:52:39 GMT	Document emailed to gemma.wood@hwb-accountants.com18.134.156.92
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