

Company registration number 07657235 (England and Wales)

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND ACCOUNTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

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LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Elsie Hogan-Edem Alembari Aadum (Appointed 4 November 2023) Liverpool Lighthouse Limited, represented by Helen Hawley Love and Joy Ministries Ltd, (Tanidabi Omideyi resigned as representative 17 October 2023) Modupe Omideyi Stephanie Murphy (Resigned 4 December 2023) Isoken Terry Andrew-Okunzuwa (Appointed 4 November 2023)
Trustees	Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi (Chair) Marie McConville (Principal) Nobert Osemeke Osoba Otaigbe Rebecca Latus Rebecca Jane Ross-Williams Stephen Allen Harper Anthony Lawson (Staff)
Senior management team	
- Principal	Marie McConville
- Vice Principal	Carl Parkinson
- Assistant Principal	Wynn Ridge
- Assistant Principal	Elizabeth Cunningham
- Assistant Principal	Okaro Onowighose
-	Denise McNeil (resigned 12 November 2024)
- School Business Manager	Lyn Roberts (appointed 13 November 2024)
Company registration number	07657235 (England and Wales)
Registered office	7 Phillimore Road Liverpool Merseyside L6 6DL
Independent auditor	Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited 5 Temple Square Temple Street Liverpool L2 5RH
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland plc 1 Dale Street Liverpool Merseyside L2 2PP

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Solicitors

Bates Wells Braithwaite
10 Queen Street Place
London
EC4R 1BE

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 13-16 serving a catchment area in Merseyside and Cheshire. From September 2021, the pupil capacity expanded to 150; there was a roll of 140 on the school census in May 2024 and 155 by the end of the summer term.

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.

Trustees

The trustees of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. 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

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance is the EFA Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA) and provides £10 million cover (2023: £10 million) on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £3,450 (2023 £3,150).

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

In accordance with the Articles of Association, the trust must appoint up to 9 governors (minimum of 3). The Principal is an ex-officio governor. In addition staff and parent governors may be elected, and further governors may be co-opted.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

All new governors will undergo an induction. They will be given a tour of the Free School and the opportunity to meet with staff and students. Policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets and other documents will be available to governors to enable them to undertake their role. Induction is informal and tailored specifically to the needs of the individual. Training will be provided in identified areas, and will depend on the needs and existing experience of the governing body.

Organisational structure

The board of governors and administrative details of the Free School are detailed on page 1. Since the Academy opened on 1 April 2013, full Governing Body meetings are held at least once a term to ensure that the Free School is run in an efficient and professional manner. The board has appointed four sub-committees: Quality of Education; Arts and Community; Finance and Resources and Audit (the members of the Finance and Resources Committee meet separately as the Audit Committee). The Pay Committee is convened once a year. Currently, the business of the Arts & Community Committee is included as an item on the agenda of the Quality of Education Committee.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

In line with national pay scales STPCD (School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document); and recommendations by the STRB (School Teachers' Review Body).

Trade union facility time

The Trust has no relevant trade union officials.

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Love and Joy Ministries Limited and Liverpool Lighthouse Limited are corporate members of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The Academy is an Outstanding Alternative Education School for students in Years 9 – 11. It has a Christian ethos that is based on values of trust, respect, compassion and forgiveness which permeate every aspect of school life.

Their aim is to provide every student with a Vision for Life through a personalised curriculum enabling them to fulfil their potential in education, life and employment.

Objectives, strategies and activities

Harmonize Academy aims to provide an outstanding alternative education for Key Stage 3 and 4 students across Merseyside and Cheshire underpinned by Christian values. Harmonize promotes an inclusive community where everyone feels safe, valued and secure; where students achieve their potential both educationally and personally. This is achieved through high quality teaching and learning in a caring, dynamic environment, where a variety of educational pathways exist to enable all students to achieve the academic success and the maturity of character which will enable them to succeed in adult life.

Public benefit

The governors confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Academy's aims, planning strategy and future activities. Our activities in 2023/24 demonstrated in all accepted definitions that Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust provides charitable services that are of public benefit through the preparation to provide secondary education, to advise and support other providers of such secondary education, and to make available the facilities and resources of the Academy for the local community and other charitable purposes. We continue to hold the delivery of public benefit as both central and fundamental to our core activities.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The Trust successfully opened in April 2013 and became one of the first Alternative Provision Free Schools of its kind in the UK. The Academy commands widespread respect and appreciation for its impact on young people and is a popular and credible option for schools and local authorities across Merseyside.

In March 2015, the Academy was graded as 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and in January 2020, the Academy retained its 'Outstanding' status. It has twice been awarded the highest accolade of 'Outstanding' by Ofsted and is one of only a handful of secondary schools in Liverpool to achieve this status.

From September 2021, the Academy officially increased the number of students from 104 to 150. The expansion has been expertly overseen by the Principal. The additional classrooms and learning spaces have now been integrated into the curriculum and timetable. The additional increase in student population from 104 to 150 has been seamlessly absorbed whilst maintaining the ethos and care that underpin the values and operation of the Academy.

The trust is part of the AP Forum and The Difference and shares best practice with other AP providers; the Principal is a member of the LASH New Headteacher Support Group and has linked up with the new headteacher from Everton Free School to support her. The academy continues to have a high profile both locally and nationally with many individuals and organisations being referred to the school by the DfE as a beacon of excellence in the AP sector. The trust has also established strategic partnerships with Liverpool Hope University, Liverpool John Moores University, Edge Hill University and the University of Liverpool, and provides placements for trainee teachers in English, Maths and Science, and for students of Child and Adolescent Mental Health.

Harmonize Academy has once again had a successful year under the leadership and guidance of its Principal who has twenty-two years of experience working in the sector and is now in her seventh year as Principal. She is widely respected for her vision and delivery of opportunities for young people who have fallen out of mainstream schooling. The Academy is headed into its twelfth year of operation and is rated as outstanding by Ofsted, it has experienced a decade of opportunity, achievement, transformation and growth. Its expansion has been successfully managed both in terms of pupil numbers, and the addition of classrooms and other learning spaces through a building programme. At the same time, the budgetary position has been improved and financial resilience increased. This has been done whilst ensuring the Christian ethos, vision and values of the Academy have been maintained for students and staff and this is reflected in the positive relationships between students and staff.

Students have benefited from an enhanced curriculum provision that engages and promotes academic success. The expansion has allowed additional staff to be employed and existing staff to be promoted into leadership positions. The wide ranging CPD provision supports all staff whatever stage of their career that they are at. CPD is viewed as critical to the quality of Teaching, staff are proud to work at the school. Many have developed their careers at the school. Some staff who joined as teaching assistants are now qualified teachers. Some teachers have completed leadership qualifications, and have gained promotion. Staff value highly the support that they receive from senior leaders. While the application to open a new school was not successful, other opportunities working directly with local authorities are being explored and this process is ongoing starting with Sefton, Knowsley and Salford.

The evidence presented shows the school commands widespread respect and appreciation for its impact on young people placed in it from across the city region. Student numbers have met and exceeded the targets set. The school is highly valued locally and in the wider city region for the work it undertakes and the opportunities it provides for young people. The curriculum offer continues to expand to provide engagement and qualifications for students as they progress to their next steps. These include art, photography, statistics, psychology and the LAMDA oracy qualification. Mathematical achievement has been brought in line with English through interventions to fill gaps in basic knowledge. In addition, students now sit Level 2 Functional Skills Maths as well as their GCSE. Literacy has been supported by the creation of a quiet reading space and a continued focus on oracy.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Attendance continues to improve back to pre-covid levels and now exceeds the AP sector average of 67% by 15%. It did not meet the 85% aspirational target but sits at 82% currently. This figure, it should be noted, is comparable with some mainstream schools in the city. Students, parents/carers and commissioners view the school as a safe place where standards of behaviour are prioritised to ensure a positive environment to learn in. Strong and respectful relationships between students and staff are key to a calm and supportive learning environment. The quality of teaching is regularly reviewed and shows high quality outstanding lessons helping students to progress. The academic results continue to be impressive allowing students to transition to college, apprenticeships, training and employment. The **"Move On Move Up"** programme scaffolds this move. CPD is available to all staff, and they are encouraged to gain qualifications that allow them to develop professionally and personally. There is very little staff turnover - a strong indicator of a healthy organisation.

Finally, the Principal working in partnership with the governors and staff is providing a life changing opportunity for students. The Principal has created a culture of shared beliefs and values expressed through policies and practices that underpin the operation of HA. She oversees an environment that nurtures young people emotionally, spiritually and academically so that that they can move forward in their lives and achieve their full potential.

Key Performance Indicators

The trust considers the following to be the key performance indicators for the period of 2023-24 which relate to the aims and objectives of the Academy.

- Ofsted rating
- Academy achieving target number of 150 students on roll
- Examination Results and Academic Progress
- Outstanding Financial Management

Governors and Senior Team Leaders agree that the Academy's ethos and values of trust, respect, compassion and forgiveness are evident throughout the school. Definitions have now been established for each value and these are communicated by every means possible - through induction of new staff, induction of new leaders and governors, signage (outside and around the school), documentation, website, and presentations. There is clarity about what our values mean and what the expectations are. Our values are demonstrated by staff through symbolic conduct in their everyday interactions with colleagues and students. This develops the moral character of our students and staff going forward.



LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Curriculum and Qualifications available 2023-24:

The school's broad curriculum continues to offer a range of GCSE and vocational qualifications. These include the core subjects of English, Maths, Biology, PE, Speaking and Listening and PSHE, supplemented with GCSEs in Art, Dance, Drama, Photography, Psychology, PE, Physics, Statistics, English Literature and vocational qualifications in PSHE, Performance Skills, Beauty, Childcare, Design Technology, Food Technology, Health & Social Care and Music Technology. These options underpin the school's ethos of 'A Vision for Life' and its values of *Trust, Respect, Compassion and Forgiveness* permeate through the whole school.

Enrichment offers the students many choices which include art, beauty and jewellery making, dance, film and photography, food and cookery, music and singing, music technology, book club and reading club, gardening, well-being, cultural trips, P.E, bowling, football, horse riding, table tennis; as well as 1.1 English, Maths and Science and, community engagement with a local OAP home and food bank for families in need.

Qualification List 2023-2024

GCSEs		Marking Scheme	Equivalent Qualifications		Marking Scheme
Eduqas English Language	CORE	9-1	NCFE FS EL, L1, L2 Certs English	CORE	Pass, Fail
CIE IGCSE English Language	CORE	9-1			
AQA/Eduqas English Literature	OPTION	9-1			
Edexcel Maths (Foundation / Higher)	CORE	9-1	NCFE FS EL, L1, L2 Certs Maths	CORE	Pass, Fail
Exexcel Statistics (Foundation / Higher)	OPTION	9-1			
AQA Biology (Foundation / Higher)	CORE	9-1			
AQA Chemistry (Foundation / Higher)	OPTION	9-1			
AQA Physics (Foundation / Higher)	OPTION	9-1			
AQA Drama	OPTION	9-1	LAMDA Public Speaking Grades (Oracy)	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
AQA Dance	OPTION	9-1	NCFE L2 Cert Performance Skills	OPTION	Pass, Fail
AQA Art and Design (Art, Craft and Design)	OPTION	9-1	NCFE L2 Cert Music Technology	OPTION	Pass, Fail
AQA Photography	OPTION	9-1	Arts Award Bronze / Silver (Music Technology, Drama)	OPTION	Pass, Fail
			SLQ Dance Leadership	OPTION	Pass, Fail
Eduqas Physical Education Full/Short Course	OPTION	9-1	NCFE Level 1 Award in Creative Craft	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
Edexcel Psychology	OPTION	9-1	NCFE Level 2 Award in Creative Craft	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
			NCFE Level 2 Certificate in Creative Craft	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES			NCFE L1/L2 Cert Food and Cookery Skills	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
			NCFE L1/L2 TA Food and Cookery Skills	OPTION	L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*
TEAM UP: English, Lit, Maths, Science, Vocational, Psychology Careers			Edexcel L2 BTEC Personal Growth and Wellbeing	PSHE CORE	Pass, Fail
Basketball / Fitness / Football / Free-running / Golf / Horse-riding / Rounders / Trampolining / Volley-ball			Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award KS3 / KS4	SMSC	Achieved
Drama / Dance			NCFE CACHE L1/2 Technical Award Child Development & Care EY	OPTION	L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*
Band Workshops / Rap / DJ-ing			NCFE CACHE L1/2 Technical Award Health & Social Care	OPTION	L1P, L1M, L1D, L2P, L2M, L2D, L2D*
Singing / Gospel Singing			VTCT L1 Award Introduction to Hair & Beauty Sector	OPTION	Pass, Fail
Art / Textiles / Photography			VTCT L1 Cert Introduction to Hair & Beauty Sector	OPTION	Pass, Fail
Beauty / Body-Art / Jewellery			VTCT L2 Award Hair & Beauty Skills	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
Cookery			VTCT L2 Ext Award Hair & Beauty Skills	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
Computing / Computer Coding			VTCT L2 Ext Cert Hair & Beauty Skills	OPTION	Pass, Merit, Distinction
Games			NCFE L1 Award Photography	ENRICHMENT	Pass, Fail
Graphics / Design Technology			NCFE L2 Certificate Photography	ENRICHMENT	Pass, Fail
Statistics			Duke of Edinburgh Award Bronze, Silver	ENRICHMENT	Pass, Fail
Chaplaincy			RDA Riding & Horse Care Certificates Grades 1/2 Proficiency Tests	ENRICHMENT	Pass, Fail
Well-being			Trinity: ESOL Grade 5	Literacy	Pass, Merit, Distinction
Gardening					
Student Focus Group					

Examinations

The academic year of 2023-24 continued the full return to externally assessed examinations. It was not necessary for students to memorise formulae for GCSE mathematics and equations for GCSE physics and combined science. Students were provided with support materials in the form of formulae and revised equations sheets for GCSE mathematics, physics and combined science exams.

GCSE and Vocational Qualification Results 2023

It has been another great year for KS4 outcomes for the vast majority of students in the school. Harmonize Academy works hard to ensure that our students are given the opportunity to get back on track in education and achieve highly in a variety of GCSE and vocational qualifications. Whilst we understand that not all achievements are academic, we recognise that having good exam results is often what is required to re-engage young people in education in order for them to successfully progress on to further education, employment and training. Offering an exciting broad and balanced curriculum is important to ensure that our students are not disadvantaged in any way. Harmonize Academy consistently demonstrates that our students can, and do achieve qualifications like their peers, often achieving more than they would have in mainstream school.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Exam Highlights 2024

- Strategy successfully implemented by Head of Maths to tackle deficits in basic Maths and opportunity for students to sit L2 Functional Skills exam as well as the GCSE allowing them two opportunities to gain the highest-level qualification gave great results.
- Achieved 19% in English and 19% in Maths, the combined achievement was 10%.
- Achieved uniformity with English and Maths 9-4 achievement for the first time in the school's history.
- Average number of KS4 qualifications students entered for in 2024 was 10. This is higher than previous years 2019 (9), 2018 (7), 2017 (6)
- Achieved 220 average point score which is significantly above the national rate for schools in similar circumstances and has increased from previous year.

Some of the achievements for our 60 year 11 students this year include:

- 100% of students achieving a nationally recognised qualification.
- 95% of students achieving 5+ GCSE or equivalent
- 19% GCSE grade 4 and above in English
- 19% GCSE grade 4 and above in Maths
- 37% GCSE grade 4 or above in Drama
- 25% GCSE grade 4 or above in Art, 4 students achieved grade 4 or above in Photography
- 2 students achieving grade 4 or above in GCSE Dance
- 26 students achieving GCSE passes in PE
- 12 students achieving GCSE passes in Psychology
- 16 students achieving GCSE passes in Statistics
- 11 students achieving GCSE passes in Physics
- 4 students achieved GCSE passes in English Literature
- Nearly all students passing their L2 vocational qualifications in their options for Food Tech, Design Tech, Beauty, Performing Arts, Music Tech and Childcare
- All students achieving many qualifications in PSHE inc, RSE, Mental Health Awareness and Archbishop of York Young Leaders Award

The table below shows the continued year by year progress the school and pupils are making:

Exam Data 2024

	Number of end of key stage 4 pupils	No of Quals	Percentage of pupils entered for 5+ GCSEs or equivalent ³	Percentage of pupils at the end of key stage 4 achieving					Average GCSE and equivalents point score per pupil at the end of key stage 4	
				5+ GCSE at 9-4 or equivalent	5+ 9-4 including English and mathematics GCSEs	5+ GCSE at 9-1 or equivalent	Level 2 English and mathematics skills	Level 1 English and mathematics skills	A pass in any qualification	
Harmonize Academy 2023/2024	60	611	98.3	38.3	10	97.0	18.3	97.0	100	220.5
Harmonize Academy 2022/2023	60	539	95.0	26.4	1.9	94.3	13.2	94.3	100	202.5
Harmonize Academy 2021/2022	42	460	95.4	26.2	7.1	97.7	15.5	97.7	100	228.0
Harmonize Academy 2020/2021	45	472	100.0	44.7	33.3	100.0	44.7	100.0	100	227.1 (No Exams)
Harmonize Academy 2019/2020	47	496	89.4	35.7	26.6	100.0	46.8	100.0	100	226.2 (No Exams)
Harmonize Academy 2018/2019	43	484	81.4	11.4	11.4	96.9	22.4	96.9	100	183.5
Harmonize Academy 2017/2018	43	389	74.4	9.4	3.1	87.5	13.2	94.7	100	164.2
Harmonize Academy 2016/2017	39	362	72.5	13.8	10.3	89.7	15.0	77.5	100	152.5
Harmonize Academy 2015/2016	39	306	76.3	13.8	13.8	55.2	32.8	63.8	100	124.9
Harmonize Academy 2014/2015	26	151	84.6	0.0	0.0	84.6	11.4	81.8	100	100.9
Harmonize Academy 2013/2014	19	97	68.4	21.1	10.5	47.4	25.0	70.0	100	96.5
Liverpool 2014/2015	147		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	32.7	17.5
Knowsley 2014/2015	17		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.3	88.2	51.0
Sefton 2014/2015	26		19.2	x	x	19.2	x	15.4	73.1	75.3
Manchester 2014/2015	118		28.0	5.9	2.5	25.4	4.2	43.2	72.9	88.1

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Academic Progress

Students arrive at Harmonize Academy at different times during KS3 and KS4, therefore for us to demonstrate the progress our students make we must compare their starting point or baseline figures. We baseline students using a mixture of GCSE subject papers, reading tests and teacher assessments. 3 levels of progress over 5 years equates to 0.66 levels of progress annually. If students at HA make **0.66 levels of progress as an average annually**, they will be making “expected progress”.

Students are assessed by teaching staff every 6 weeks these assessments are based on the GCSE 9 – 1 level. This level is then compared with the student’s baseline level from their entry point at Harmonize, in each subject. From this we work out the full levels of progress since arrival; we can then use this data to produce an average possible progress annually by dividing this figure by number of weeks at Harmonize then multiplying by 38 (Academic weeks in a year).

English - 60% met or surpassed their target grade. The average attainment grade is level 3, average baseline as a level 2. Therefore, on average students made 1 level of progress while at Harmonize Academy. This equates to 0.71 levels of progress on average annually in English. 27% of students made 1 level of progress and 12% made 2 levels of progress and 8% made 3 and 4 levels of progress in English.

71% LAC or PLAC met or surpassed their target grade with 20% of them achieving a grade 4. For the SEND students 81% met or surpassed their target grades with 27% achieving grade 4 or above in English.

Maths – 50% met or surpassed their target grade. The average attainment grade is level 2, average baseline as a level 1.7. Therefore, on average students made 0.55 levels of progress while at Harmonize Academy. 22% of students made 1 level of progress and 5% made 2 levels of progress and 12% made 3 and above levels of progress in maths.

70% LAC or PLAC met or surpassed their target grade with 30% achieving a grade 4. 81% of SEN students met or surpassed their target grades with 9% achieving a grade 4.

Given the backgrounds of the children who are referred to Harmonize Academy, this represents rapid progress from their starting points on entry to the Academy.

Attendance

Achieved 75% attendance above national rate for schools in similar circumstances, currently 82% attendance this year which is back to pre-Covid levels. There is a well-planned system of rewards which provides real incentives for students to improve their behaviour and attendance and stay focused on learning. Each student belongs to one of eight houses and has their own individual mentor with whom they have a timetabled meeting once a week to review achievements, behaviour and to set targets for the following week.

Enrichment

Enrichment trips and activities continue to offer high quality learning and enrichment experiences on a daily basis. Throughout the year students benefited from many different learning opportunities and trips to enrich their educational experience, these included:

Enrichment Trips and Activities

- Art: Hugh Baird visit.
- Beauty: Jake’s Place; RARE Fashion College show and tour; Liverpool City College visit; End of Year Photoshoot with professional fashion photographer, Sarah Kennedy which offered an industry realistic working activity in make-up/fashion; Industry standard masterclasses & workshops with make-up artist, Charlotte Jones, and hairdresser, Kaydee Moignard.
- Career Event: *The National Apprenticeship Show, Liverpool Exhibition Centre.*
- Design Technology: Two police representatives talked with a group of students about a county lines campaign and the students created designs for a specific target audience.
- Food: Liverpool City College, Duke Street Campus.
- Music and Photography: A range of cultural venues and green space parks and gardens.
- Performing Arts: *Liverpool Empire - Grease; Swan Lake; Wicked – The Musical; The Floral Pavilion – Blood Brothers.*
- Sports & Fitness: *Various local sports centres – boxing, football, free-running, rock climbing, trampolining.*
- Health & Wellbeing activity days to promote positive mental health.
- School Council made up and delivered Christmas hampers and parcels for families in need.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

- PSHE Fundraising for L6 Food Bank.
- Duke of Edinburgh Award: Barnstondale Leisure Centre overnight stay.
- End of term trips to *Alton Towers, Liverpool Christmas Market, Ninja Warrior adventure, go-karting, ice-skating, paint-balling, Zapp Graffiti Art.*

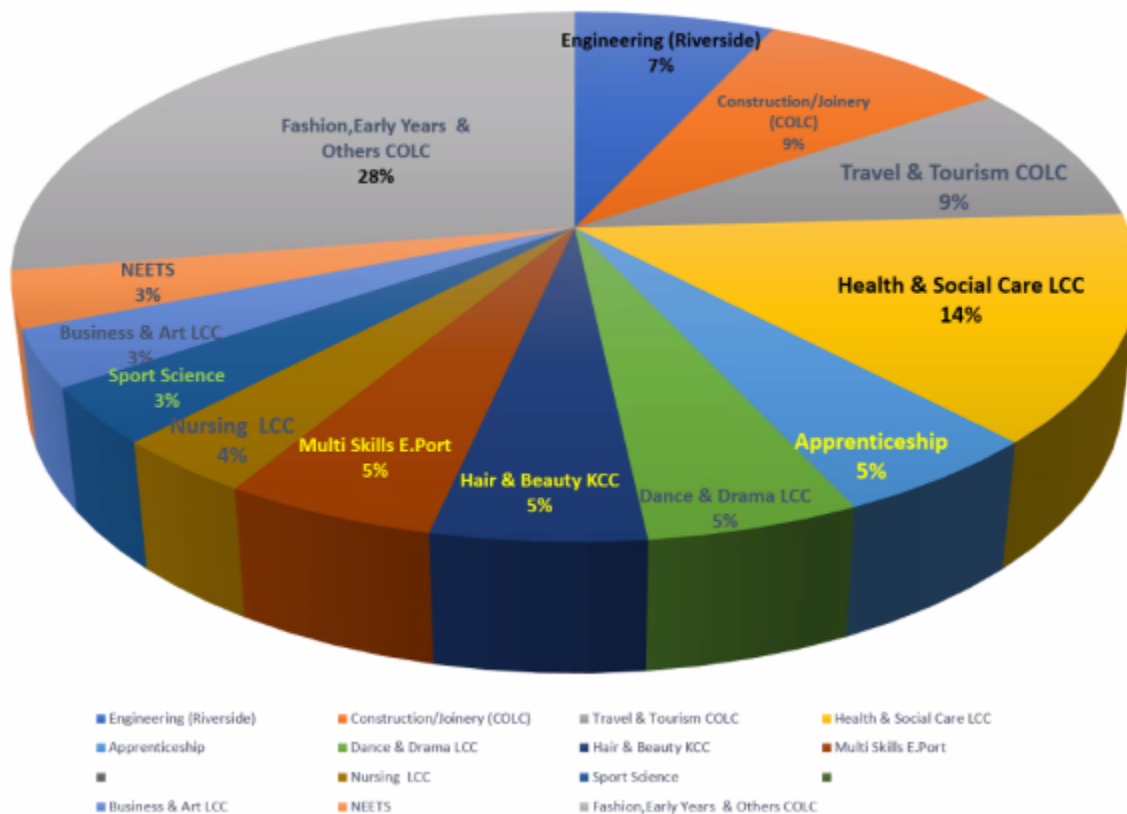
Harmonize Productions:

- Annual Christmas Service and Performance at Liverpool Lighthouse
- Vocational Department Showcase (Art & Photography, Beauty, Food Technology, Design Technology)

Year 11 Destinations

Students who left the Academy in summer 2024 went into education, employment or training, or received ongoing support from *Career Connect*. Many of our leavers enrolled at regional Further Education, Sixth Form Colleges and school sixth forms. Once again, learning and career choices included progression to a diverse range of vocational fields and popular sectors included *Construction Industries, Dance & Drama, Engineering, Fashion, Hair & Beauty, Health & Social Care and Nursing, Travel and Tourism, as well as Apprenticeships.*

Post Harmonize Academy Destination Data 2023/24



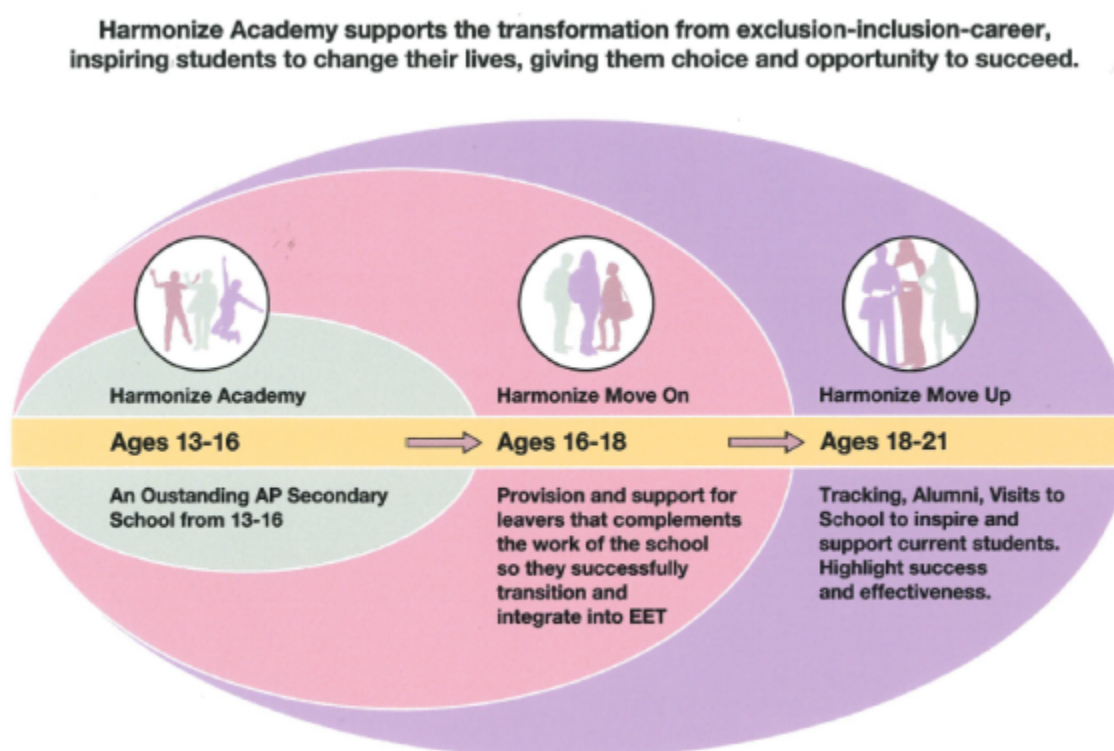
LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Harmonize Academy Move On and Move Up

Harmonize Academy supports the transformation from **exclusion-inclusion-career**, inspiring students to change their lives, giving them choice and opportunity to succeed. Due to Covid and the disruption to students' education in previous years, we have continued to support our year 11 students over the summer holidays and the following autumn term to ensure they moved on to continued education, employment and training. Through offering this additional support, we have seen the need to develop a programme of support for students once they **Move On** from Harmonize and, an alumni tracking programme for students who **Move Up** to their careers to come back into school to inspire and support our students.



Activities

Mrs Marie McConville, the Principal gave the following account of activities throughout the year.

- From September 2023 the school's capacity was 150.

We welcomed the following new staff:

- **Pastoral Support** cover: Miss Helen McCullen
- **Maths Teacher:** Mr Adam Roberts
- **Receptionist:** Mrs Margaret Kearns
- **Teaching Assistant:** Mr Ben Lapointe
- **Teaching Assistant:** Ms Kaydee Moignard
- **Teaching Assistant Intern:** Miss Millie Brown
- **Cleaner:** Ms Amanda White

Other Staff Changes

- **Assistant Principal:** Mr Karo Onowighose
- **SENDCo:** Miss Emily Maxwell
- **Student Support Co-ordinator:** Ms Ali Thompson

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Leavers:

- Mrs Denise McNeil, School Business Manager after 8 years of service
- Mrs Lynn Gandy, Cleaner after 10 years of service
- Mr Billy Beet, Teaching Assistant
- Miss Holly Kilvington, Teaching Assistant
- Mr Tom Miello, Teaching Assistant
- Miss Molly Penrose, Teaching Assistant Intern
- Mr Joseph Smith, Teaching Assistant Intern

Continuing Professional Development:

- SLT Ethical Leadership Training with Jane Holmes, SIL
- NPQML: Achieved by Beauty Teacher/VQ IQA; two teaching staff working towards
- QTS: Achieved by one Maths Teacher
- Certificate of Education: Achieved by one Science Teacher and the Childcare Teacher
- L2 Certificate Counselling Skills achieved by one Teaching Assistant
- Classroom staff completed PREVENT training, Behaviour Management and Invigilation training

Partnerships

Over the past year we have worked successfully with the following organisations:

- **Beechley Riding Stables**
- **Career Connect** - Individual Careers advice service offered in school to all year 11s to assist progression; and a careers fair for years 9, 10 and 11 held in school in January attended by local employers and training providers.
- **Careers:** ASK Apprenticeship Scheme; Life Skills, Barclays Bank;
- **dot-art Schools Liverpool** – online schools art competition
- **EBD Schools Football League**- Football Tournaments
- **Everyman Theatre, Liverpool**
- **Karma (Therapies.Training.Courses)** – Beauty Courses Verification
- **Liverpool Dyslexia Centre**- Individual support for students 2 days per week
- **Liverpool Lighthouse**
- **Liverpool Learning Partnership**
- **L6 Food Bank**
- **Positive Futures**
- **Resonate- Liverpool's Music Hub**- Enrichment Music lessons
- **Rowan Garth Nursing Home**
- **Royal Court 'Reckless'** Royal Court theatre production about Hate Crime, and **'Eve's Story'** Royal Court theatre production about Child exploitation.
- **Odd Arts** - Mixed Up: A production with a focus on mixed unstable unclear ideology and also an exploration of the online space and identity challenges.
- **University student placements:** 13 student/trainee long-term and short-term placements from local and regional universities
- **Virtual Schools, Liverpool and regional** - Looked after Children
- A range of multi-agency support including:
Barnardos, Catch 22, Family First Knowsley, We Are With You, YPAS

The following Awards were achieved:

- Quality in Careers Award
- RHS Level 2 School Gardening Award

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

VIP and Education Visitors and Events 2023-24

- Mr Gavin Batie, Durham Gateway
- Ms Margaret Mulholland, ASCL, SEND and Inclusion Policy Specialist
- Mr Nigel Langford, The Bible Society
- Rev Osoba Otaigbe, Governor
- Ms Sarah Devo, Headteacher, ContinU Plus Academy, Kidderminster
- Ms Cathy Starbuck, Director of Education and Inclusion and Ms Dani Lang, School Improvement Officer Attendance & Inclusion, Salford City Council
- Ms Laura Stanforth and Stacey Ward, Aspire Academy, Hull
- Ms Anna Hudson, Lead Teacher PD/PSHE & RSE, Meadow Park School
- Ms Julie Onimole and Mr Martin King, Department for Education
- Pastor Tani Omidoyi
- Ms Anna Lancaster, Lancaster Foundation
- Mr Timothy Lucas, actor performing in Blood Brothers
- Ms Tracy McKeating, Sefton Council
- Mr Alan Thompson, We Are With You, based around addiction and criminality

Regular Individual Facilitators:

- **Sandra Andrew** – Liverpool Dyslexia Centre
- **James Dodd** and **Matt Humphries** - Resonate
- **Carla Jane** – Choir Tutor
- **Leanne Morrey** – Career Connect
- **Pastor Fola Olaoye** - Chaplaincy
- **James Reader** – Frontrow Films and Photography Tutor
- **Matt Rutter** – Drama Facilitator
- **Corey Williams** – Renew Therapy

The following schools placed students at Harmonize Academy during 2023-24:

The Alsop High School, Archbishop Beck Catholic College, Archbishop Blanch School, Bellerive FCJ Catholic College, The Belvedere Academy, Birkenhead High School, Birkenhead Park School, Broughton Hall High School, Calderstones School, Cardinal Heenan Catholic High School, Childwall Sports & Science Academy, Clifford Holroyde College, De La Salle School St Helens, Deyes High School, Dixons Broadgreen Academy, Dixons Fazakerley Academy, Gateacre School, The Grange Academy, Halewood Academy, Helsby High School, Hillside High School, Holly Lodge Girls' College, Holy Family Catholic High School, King's Leadership Academy Hawthornes, Kings Leadership Liverpool, Kirkby High School, Liverpool College, Liverpool Life Sciences UTC, LIPA, Lord Derby Academy, North Liverpool Academy, Notre Dame Catholic College, Ormiston Bolingbroke Academy, Ormiston Chadwick Academy, Prenton High School for Girls, The Prescot School, Rainhill High School, Sacred Heart Catholic Academy, St Edward's College, The Academy of Saint Francis of Assisi, St Francis Xavier's College, St Hilda's CE High School, St John Bosco Arts College, St Julie's Catholic High School, The Academy of St Nicholas, The Studio School Liverpool, Upton by Chester High School, Wade Deacon High School, Weatherhead High School, West Derby School, Whitby High School.

The following Local Authorities placed students at Harmonize Academy during 2023-24:

Liverpool City Council Alternative Provision Team, Liverpool SEN, Liverpool Virtual School, Cheshire West & Chester Council, Cheshire West & Chester Virtual School, Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council, Wirral SEN.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Parent/Carer Support

We were able to host our usual parent/carer review day in July for students in years 9 and 10. This is always a highlight of the year and was a great success with a high turnout of students, parents and carers. A review afternoon for year 11 students and their parents/carers was held earlier in the year. These events were very worthwhile and a model that we will continue to follow. We received many positive comments including the following:

A selection of comments from parents, carers and students during 2023-24:

Feedback from Parents/Carers

- Thank you to all my daughter's teachers for pushing her and ensuring she becomes the best version of herself - never giving up, always believing and giving her the chance to believe in herself. You are all truly amazing.
- Harmonize has been the making of my son's education progress. The care and specific attention to his needs have been key to making him feel valued and focussed. He has had his challenges but would not be the person he is without Harmonize.
- My daughter has come on leaps and bounds - I am so proud of her – thank you for supporting her in everything.
- I am elated at the comments given to my daughter from her teachers. Thank you for all you have done to support her.
- My son is so happy at Harmonize. The staff are absolutely amazing with him and he is doing so well and achieving his full potential.
- I could not be happier or prouder of my daughter's achievement at Harmonize in such a short time period – complete 180 turn around!
- I'm really pleased with my son's progress – he is doing brilliant.
- I'm so pleased with my daughter's progress here, I cannot thank everybody enough for all your support. She has settled down so much since starting here. Thank you.
- Great school and staff who have been supportive to us and our daughter.
- I am so proud of my son. All the teachers' comments were amazing. They are so supportive. Thank you so much.
- Overall, we are happy with our son's report. We want to see him apply himself more in year 11 and pass his exams.
- We are really happy with the way the school encourages our daughter. She has made brilliant progress.
- I am extremely happy with my son's progress and how well he has settled in the school. I thank the teachers massively for their help and dedication towards him. Well done, son, keep it up!
- I am so proud of my daughter's progress and the hard work she puts into every lesson.
- Our son has come along really well and this is evident in his effort and behaviour. Thank you for all your support.
- I'm very happy with all the comments from teachers and looking forward to my daughter progressing.
- I am proud of what my son has achieved since joining the school. Today I have learnt what a credit he is – keep up the great work.
- My son thoroughly enjoys Harmonize and I am so very grateful for all the fantastic staff who have supported him.
- Overall, my daughter's report is positive and it is good to see her doing well in respect of her school work.
- I am so pleased with my daughter's report. I am beyond proud of her and the changes she has made in this school.
- I am pleased that my son is making good progress here. He is much happier and focussed since transferring here.
- Delighted! My son is so happy at this school and this is down to the staff. Thank you.
- I can't thank Harmonize staff enough for helping my son meet his potential academically and socially.

Feedback and highlights from students

- I absolutely love Harmonize! Ever since I came here everyone has been so kind and I have enjoyed all my lessons. Drama, Dance and Art have been my favourite lessons and the trips are phenomenal. [Year 10]
- I enjoyed Harmonize because it helped me and my behaviour. I will miss Harmonize. [Year 11]
- I enjoyed my time at Harmonize Academy and I thank you for pushing me to my hardest and trying to help me pursue my dreams. [Year 11]
- My final two years in Harmonize changed my whole perspective. I am happy with my report and glad that I finally found a school who helped me. [Year 11]
- I really enjoyed coming here, everyone was so kind and I wish I had come here before. Thank you for everything. [Year 11]
- The teachers are so lovely and welcoming. I love enrichment as it helps to calm me after school. I love the endless options and I always enjoy all my lessons. [Year 10]
- I have enjoyed Harmonize a lot and I hope that I can stay until I finish in year 11. [Year 9]
- I have improved my attitude and behaviour; I concentrate and listen more. My highlights are making friends, getting along with the teachers, and listening and understanding more. [Year 10]

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

- Highlights: PE is fun – the food is good most of the time – the teachers are nice. [Year 10]
- The staff are very understanding and amazing. [Year 10]
- Good school and good opportunities. [Year 10]
- I think the school has had a positive impact on my life and there is nothing I would change. [Year 10]
- It has been a very fun time at Harmonize. [Year 9]
- I found this year the best I have had in any school and my highlights are the trips, banter with the staff and high grades. [Year 10]

The following feedback is from others

- It was great to come and see you, and to see the young people so focused on their education. I really appreciate the time you took to show us round.
Mr Martyn King, Team Leader, DfE Liverpool City Region, Warrington and Cheshire, North West Regions Group
- I really appreciate you taking the time to speak so positively to Ofsted about our relationship, the feedback from them about Harmonize was excellent and we made sure that we told them what a strong provider you are.
Ms Rachael Fidler, School Trust Leader and Principal, Dixons Broadgreen Academy
- Thank you so much for your time and support, you are, of course, our favourite AEP....
Mr Andy Keen, Headteacher, Holly Lodge Girls' College, Liverpool
- Many thanks for the work that you do with our students, it is much appreciated.
Mr E Barford, Headteacher, Whitby High School
- **Life Skills at Harmonize Academy**
It was great working with the students today, some real characters and some who really came out of their shells, overall it felt like the sessions were well received. Thank you and your staff for the support in the classrooms too, always fab to have teachers so active in the sessions.
Ms Jeanette Percival, Actor/Voice Over and Freelance Facilitator
- Dear ITE colleagues, many thanks to those of you who took the time to respond to the mentor survey which was sent out during the PGCE developmental placement. Many thanks once again for your feedback and for all the work undertaken with our trainees on their ITE journey.
Dr Sjay Patterson-Craven EdD., SFHEA Assistant Head of Area, Edge Hill University
- Rachel and I are incredibly grateful to have such a great working relationship with you that allows us to see the wonderful support you and Harmonize provide to the families you work with.
Ms Margaret Kirk, EHAT Team Manager, Early Help Children's Services
- Thank you from our side also for the support you've provided to students, both in Liverpool and further a-field. Looking forward to working with you and the school next academic year.
Mr David Wilcoxson, Senior SEND Casework Officer, Liverpool City Council

Multi Academy Trust Status

LHET submitted a bid in February 2023 as the lead applicant partnering with Sefton Local Authority to open an alternative provision free school in Sefton. An interview by the DfE, which was the second stage of the process, took place on 3rd July 2023. The outcome of the application process was communicated on 6th March 2024. In spite of an earlier indication to the contrary, LHET's application was not approved. The Trust is still committed to expanding into a MAT, and is exploring doing so through the LA Presumption Process, in partnership with Sefton and other interested local authorities.

Key performance indicators

Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) were identified for the period 2023-24 which related to the aims and objectives of the Academy. Each priority area of the Improvement Plan has identified Key Performance Indicators (KPIs). These were used to evaluate the Academy's success and progress towards achieving these objectives. These included:

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Leadership and governance pursue excellence and outstanding provision for all students.
Self-evaluation leads to effective actions, improving learning and outcomes for students.

1. Maintain and Increase the Student Roll (Overall Effectiveness)

- a. Increase the Academy's roll to 150 by June 2023
- b. Maintain the Academy's roll at 100 in September 2024 June 2023

2. Attendance (Behaviour & Attitudes)

- a. Maintain the historical improvements in attendance (at a minimum of 85%) and reduce PA accordingly for students who completing the 6-week trial period and are enrolled at the Academy.
- b. Punctuality - Work towards 70% of students being registered present in school by 9.15 am.

3. Attainment (Quality of Education - Impact)

- a. GCSE Average Point Score total at 200 points based on a cohort of approx. 60 students in Year 11
- b. Combined English & Mathematics at Grade 9-4 20%
- c. 5 GCSE grades 9-1 or equivalent including English & Mathematics 95%

4. Behaviour (Behaviour & Attitudes)

- a. 0% Permanent exclusions
- b. 2% Fixed term exclusions maximum
- c. 90% Student class behaviour records Good or Outstanding
- d. 2% Student class behaviour records Serious or Unacceptable maximum

5. Progress (Quality of Education - Impact)

- a. All students to make one level of progress or better in all subjects in their time at the academy.
- b. *60% of students to make one level of progress or better from their baseline assessment on entry to HA in English.*
- c. *50% of students to make one level of progress or better from their baseline assessment on entry to HA in Mathematics.*

6. Teaching and Learning (Leadership & Management)

- a. Lesson Observations Target - 90% Judged to be Good or better
- b. Lesson Observations Target - 45% Judged to be Outstanding
- c. Lesson observations Target - 0% Inadequate

7. Leadership & Management (Leadership and Management)

- a. To maintain the Outstanding Ofsted judgement (Jan. 2020) for the overall effectiveness
- b. To continue to support staff on a range of professional development programmes.

Community Strategy and Academy Development Targets

- a. To open Harmonize 2 in September 2025 subject to DfE approval.
- b. Work towards the successful application and establishment of a "new" school and MAT growth plan in conjunction with Sefton LA. Tentative opening dates Sept. 2024 or Sept. 2025
- c. Continue to engage with local and regional agencies.
- d. Continue to maintain the already established and effective working relationships with other AP providers including the Everton F. C. Free School.
- e. Continue to develop, implement and strengthen the Academy's Financial Strategy.
- f. Look to develop a chaplaincy on-site to further support the Christian ethos of the Academy. In addition, look to incorporate the Academy's Christian ethos in Harmonize 2.
- g. Continue to promote and develop the "Move On and Move Up" programme to improve and support the transition and logistical arrangements at 16+. In addition, continue to engage with former Academy students where possible in both the 16-18 and 18-21 age ranges in order to benefit the current cohort groups at the Academy.

Monitoring of the above will take place through the existing management and evaluation procedures in operation at the Academy.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Financial review

The Trust's main income is received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (EFA). This revenue funding is called the general annual grant (GAG) and is received on a monthly basis. This is topped up by income from Liverpool City Council places allocated to provide alternative provision for pupils that have been permanently excluded. Also, we commission places from schools across Merseyside and Cheshire for those pupils in danger of exclusion or for those who cannot cope with mainstream education for a variety of reasons. These schools are invoiced on an individual basis per term.

The Academy's deficit for 2024 is £187k (2023 surplus £51k) after depreciation and amortisation charges of £79k (2023 £93k).

After accounting for the actuarial gain on the local government pension scheme and the restriction on the pension scheme, the net movement in funds for the year is a £269k deficit (2023 surplus £271k).

A financial strategy document is currently under development.

Reserves policy

The governors review the reserve levels of the Free School annually. This review considers the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves.

The governors are looking to develop income streams that would enable the trust to build up reserves to act as a buffer against any changes in funding.

They have decided that it is prudent to try and build a reserve of restricted funds approximately equal to 5% of annual income to safeguard against unforeseen circumstances, late ESFA payments, emergencies and other catastrophes. This is sound commercial practice designed to safeguard the quality of education received at the Trust.

In 2024, the value of restricted general reserves is £191k (2023: £411k) and restricted fixed asset reserves is £2,397k (2023: £2,390k).

Support staff are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme. The academy has not recognised the surplus in accordance with current guidance on the scheme (2023 surplus £59k) and this has a neutral (2023: positive) impact on the overall reserves position. The current position will be evaluated in line with the triennial valuation. This will be monitored by the Finance & Resources Committee.

Investment policy

The governors have yet to devise a formal investment policy, due to not considering one to be necessary given that the only cash investments are the funds held within bank accounts. However, in the future an investment policy will be considered as a part of the Academy's financial strategy.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Principal risks and uncertainties

Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust takes a robust approach to managing risk and maintains a Risk Register to assess its activities and operational risks. This is reviewed on a termly basis.

The risk assessment register is a 'live' document which continually identifies risks and where necessary, agrees and puts in place measures of control and mitigation to manage risk. The Trust's strategic plan makes clear that it is unable to mitigate risks outside of its controls such as adverse economic circumstances.

The following categories are utilised in order that all risks, including the principal risks stated, are subject to governance via the appropriate committee:

- Strategic and Reputational Risks
- Operational Risks
- Compliance Risks
- Financial Risks

The Academy Trust has put controls in place to address these risks:

- Adherence to a cycle of planning agreed by the Governing Body;
- Reviewed security arrangements, logging of assets in a fixed asset register and ensured adequate insurance coverage;
- Cross-training and internal development of staff;
- Documented its authorised policies and procedures which are reviewed annually;
- Financial reports are linked to the Trust's Strategic plan and include accurate projections produced on a termly basis by staff who possess the necessary skills and competencies;
- Identified key legal and regulatory requirements and allocated responsibility for the key compliance procedures, obtaining compliance reports from regulators as appropriate.

The governors have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those related to the strategic planning, operation, finances and reputation of the Trust as well as compliance with legal and regulatory requirements. In as far as they are able, the governors are satisfied that they have put systems in place to identify potential risks and their impact and to mitigate exposure to major risks as well as ensuring changes to legislation are taken into consideration.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the charity, as identified by the charity trustees are listed below, along with a summary of their plans and strategies for managing those risks.

Risk and impact	Strategies/plans for management and mitigation
Loss of experience, skills and knowledge, including loss of a key member of staff or governance team Operational impact on key projects and priorities through the loss of key skills from the Academy Trust	Succession planning is in place; systems are documented. Handover periods are agreed wherever possible. Staff are cross-trained to cover skills shortages. The school has a track record of developing staff internally.
Security of assets Possible loss of assets	The AT has reviewed its assets security arrangements, logged its assets in a fixed asset register, implemented a rolling inspection programme and ensured it has adequate insurance cover.
Server crash or ransomware attack leading to loss or corruption of data.	The AT maintains multiple redundancy sets of data for recovery if required, including on-site systems and an enterprise grade cloud-based system maintained by an external provider. Internet content is filtered, and the Lightspeed Alerts System analyses what users are searching and typing and flags up any concerns.
Destruction of property, equipment or records through fire, flood or similar damage	The AT has a disaster recovery plan and insurance in place. It also has robust fire safety and other H&S inspection and maintenance regimes and preventative measures in place.
Non-compliance with GDPR and associated regulation. A data breach combined with non-compliance with regulation would expose the Trust to financial sanctions and reputational harm.	A Data Asset Register is held to maintain control of Protected Data Assets. A Data Protection Officer is appointed as a role within the Academy. Training is conducted across the Academy at all levels.
An economic event outside of the AT's control has an adverse impact on the AT, leading to loss or closure.	The risk register is a 'live' document updated for changes in legislation and funding. The AT has a well thought out strategic plan so that if such a risk crystallises it is clear that the event was outside of its control.

Fundraising

The Arts and Community Committee in particular was tasked with the responsibility for initiating fundraising activities.

The following grants and donations were received during the year:

- £300 **Liverpool Learning Partnership** for Maths support
- £325 **Liverpool Learning Partnership**
- £750 **PEP Germany** trip travel & accommodation support
- £1,200 **Royal Horticultural Society**
- £500 **RAND Europe** APST Study
- £637.50 **Edge Hill University** for student placement programmes
- £2,000 **Liverpool John Moores University** for student placement programmes

Harmonize Academy would like to thank all of the organisations and individuals who supported our educational activities this year.

During school holidays, Liverpool City Council distributed meals vouchers to families with children eligible for free school meals. We encouraged families who were not already receiving free school meals to apply via their local Council, if they believed they would be eligible. We provided food parcels and vouchers for any families who were in need or struggling at Christmas.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Plans for future periods

We have linked up with local authorities to open other AP Free Schools across the north west starting with Sefton, Knowsley and Salford to submit local authority presumption applications

The Improvement Plan sets the strategic direction and focus of the Academy for 2023 -2026. This will be reviewed annually as part of the monitoring and evaluation cycle.

The Improvement Plan has 4 priority areas which reflect the new Ofsted Inspection Framework (2019). Each priority area has identified Key Performance Indicators and success criteria which will be used by the leadership team to evaluate the Academy's progress.

Auditor

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

A resolution proposing that Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited be reappointed as auditor of the charitable company will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 18 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Modupe Victoria Emrica Omidéyi
Chair

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 4 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi (Chair)	4	4
Marie McConville (Principal)	4	4
Obert Osemeke	4	4
Osoba Otaigbe	2	4
Rebecca Latus	3	4
Rebecca Jane Ross-Williams	3	4
Stephen Allen Harper	4	4
Anthony Lawson (Staff)	2	4

For details of governors' appointments and resignations see page 1.

Governors' training and development is a standing item on every full board agenda. New governors complete a skills audit at induction; this is used to identify initial training and development needs. Training needs, responsibilities and interests are reviewed on an ongoing basis, either as a group or one-to-one with the Chair.

Challenges which the Board faces include:

- Governor recruitment. This is a challenge in the light of the national shortage of governors. Harmonize Academy works hard to recruit governors with relevant skills and expertise, both to expand the board for the future, and to replace governors moving on due to personal circumstances. We use several avenues, including the NGA's Inspiring Governance Service and Governors for Schools.
- Identifying parent governors who are able to make a commitment.

Conflicts of interest

Each meeting is preceded by a declaration of interest by each governor in attendance.

We maintain a register of business interests for governors, members and senior leaders which is updated annually and if a declaration is made during the year.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Governance reviews

Quality of Education Committee

The Quality of Education Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is:

- To consider and advise the governing body on standards and other matters relating to the school's curriculum, including statutory requirements and the School's Curriculum Policy
- To consider curricular issues which have implications for Finance and HR decisions and to make recommendations to the relevant committee or the Governing Body
- to consider and monitor progress against the School Development Plan;
- To make arrangements for the Governing Body to be represented at School Improvement discussions and for reports to be received by the Governing Body
- To oversee arrangements for individual governors to take a leading role in specific areas of provision, eg SEN, Literacy, Numeracy. To receive regular reports from them and advise the Governing Body.
- To oversee arrangements for educational visits, including the appointment of a named co-ordinator
- To keep informed of the current statutory requirements relevant to the school's curriculum offer;
- To approve and monitor the school's systems for assessment and tracking of pupils;
- To receive and discuss the results of all examinations and key assessments in school, including academic, vocational, social and emotional development;
- To receive and discuss Governor visit reports and SIP reports written by SLT;
- To receive and discuss reports on the provision of Special and Additional Educational Needs;
- To maintain an overview of all education-related school policies and review these on a regular basis
- To be kept informed of the staffing situation, to support Principal and Finance and Resources Committee in reviewing staffing structure and assist with appointments where appropriate.

Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:-

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi	3	3
Anthony Lawson	2	3
Marie McConville	3	3
Osoba Otaigbe	0	3
Rebecca Jane Ross-Williams	2	3

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Arts and Community Committee

The Arts and Community Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. It has been agreed that the Arts and Community Committee will not convene separately and that the business of this committee will be included as an item on the agenda of The Quality of Education Committee until further notice. Its purpose is:

- To consider and advise the Governing Body on standards, practice and other matters relating to creative and performing arts at Harmonize.
- To consider and monitor the progress of the Arts Strategy and report to the Governing Body.
- To consider and advise the Governing body on Harmonize arts practice.
- To receive and discuss the arts programme for the academic year.
- To make recommendations on the arts programme including curriculum subjects, arts supporting subjects across the curriculum, enrichment activity and new initiatives to the relevant committee or Governing Body.
- To review results of arts examinations, qualifications and assessments in school.
- To consider the communication of arts internally and externally including representation within Harmonize brand.
- To oversee arrangements for individual governors to take a leading role in specific areas of provision, e.g. Arts programme curriculum/enrichment, Arts in the Community, Progression Routes.
- To consider and monitor training and CPD for staff and Governors in arts and Creative Learning.
- To oversee an arts and community relationships plan and assist with appointments where appropriate.
- To maintain an overview of arts representation in school and review on a regular basis.

In addition, the Free School has ad hoc Committees covering disciplinary and dismissal hearings and appeal hearings in respect of staff.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Finance and Resources Committee

The finance and resources committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees. Its purpose is to:

- To assist the decision making of the Governing Body, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the academy's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity.
- To make appropriate comments and recommendations on such matters by the Governing Body on a regular basis.
- Major issues will be referred to the full Governing Body for ratification.

Finance:

- To consider the academy's indicative funding, notified annually by the DFE, and to assess its implications for the academy, in consultation with the Principal, in advance of the financial year, drawing any matters of significance or concern to the attention of the governing body.
- To consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the academy's budget, at the start of each financial year.
- To consider a budget position statement including virement decisions at least termly and to report significant anomalies from the anticipated position to the Governing Body
- To contribute to the formulation of the academy's development plan, through the consideration of financial priorities and proposals, in consultation with the Principal, with the stated and agreed aims and objectives of the academy.
- To receive and make recommendations on the broad budget headings and areas of expenditure to be adopted each year, including the level and use of any contingency fund or balances, ensuring the compatibility of all such proposals with the development priorities set out in the development plan.
- To liaise with and receive reports from the QoE and A&C committees, as appropriate, and to make recommendations to those committees about the financial aspects of matters being considered by them.
- To monitor and review expenditure on a regular basis and ensure compliance with the overall financial plan for the academy, and with the financial regulations of the DFE, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of the governing body.
- To monitor and review procedures for ensuring the effective implementation and operation of financial procedures, on a regular basis, including the implementation of bank account arrangements and, where appropriate to make recommendations for improvement.
- To consider the financial statement which is to form part of the annual report of the governing body to parents and to be filed in accordance with Companies Act and Charity Commission requirements.
- To ensure, as far as is practical, that Health and Safety issues are appropriately prioritised
- To review all financial policies within its remit as required.

HR

- In consultation with the Principal, to consider/review the staffing structure as required.
- To establish a Salary Policy for all categories of staff and to be responsible for its administration and review.
- To oversee the appointment procedure for all staff.
- To ensure that appropriate performance management policies are in place and are regularly reviewed.
- To oversee the process leading to staff reductions.
- To ensure that all employment policies are regularly reviewed and fit for purpose.
- To review all staffing-related policies.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Assets:

- To advise the Governing Body on priorities, including Health and Safety, for the maintenance and development of the school's premises
- To consider arrangements for repairs and maintenance
- To make recommendations to the Governing Body on premises-related expenditure
- In consultation with the Principal, to oversee premises-related funding bids
- To consider and review arrangements, including Health and Safety, for the use of school premises by outside users, subject to governing body policy.

Disqualification:

Any relevant person employed to work at the school other than as the Principal, when the subject for consideration is the pay or performance review of any person employed to work at the school.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi (Chair)	3	3
Marie McConville (Principal)	3	3
Nobert Osemeke	3	3
Rebecca Latus	2	3
Stephen Allen Harper	3	3

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Audit Committee

The Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. The terms quoted are those to which the Committee will operate to comply with the Academies Financial handbook and to include the Regularity audit. Its purpose is to:

- To advise the Governors on the adequacy and effectiveness of the School's whole system of internal control and its arrangements for risk management, control and governance processes and securing economy, efficiency and effectiveness (value for money).
- To advise the Governors on the appointment, re-appointment, dismissal and remuneration of the financial statements auditor or the internal audit service (if applicable).
- To advise the Governors on the scope and objectives of the Responsible Officer work and the financial statements auditor.
- To consider and advise the Governors on the audit strategy and annual audit plans for the Responsible Officer work.
- To receive auditors' reports and to recommend to the full governing body action as appropriate in response to audit findings.
- To recommend to the full governing body the appointment or reappointment of the auditors of the academy.
- To advise the Governors on Responsible Officer work reports on control issues including the management letters of the financial statements auditor and management's responses to these.
- To consider and advise the Governors on relevant reports by the NAO and the Education Funding Agency and other funding bodies, and where appropriate, management responses to these.
- To monitor, within an agreed timescale, the implementation of agreed recommendations relating to Responsible Officer work reports and the financial statements auditor's management letter.
- To establish in conjunction with the School's management, relevant annual performance measures and indicators, and to monitor the effectiveness of the financial statements' auditor through these measures and indicators and decide, based on this review, whether a competition for price and quality of the audit service is appropriate.
- To produce an annual report for the Governing Body and Accounting officer, this should include the Committee's advice on the effectiveness of the school's risk management, control and governance processes and any significant matters arising from the Responsible Officer work and the financial statements auditor.
- To ensure that all allegations of fraud and irregularity are properly followed up.
- To be informed of all additional services undertaken by the financial statements' auditor.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi (Chair)	3	3
Marie McConville (Principal)	3	3
Nobert Osemeke	3	3
Rebecca Latus	2	3
Stephen Allen Harper	3	3

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the principal 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.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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 or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the Academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- We use Crown Commercial Service (CCS) to purchase best price energy for the school. CCS is the biggest public procurement organisation in the UK and plays an important role helping the public sector save money when buying common goods and services. CCS is currently used by Liverpool City Council.
- Our catering contract continues to be with a local 'not for profit' sustainable school meals company who provides good quality healthy nutritional meals and uses local produce and suppliers. They aim to raise standards and offer quality of choice and ensure compliance with food hygiene and health and safety legislation.
- As a result of careful management of funds that had been set aside from the previous year, we were able to do essential repair work to renew the roof on west wing of the building which was leaking into music suite.
- Cat6 was installed throughout the building improving bandwidth and connectivity for good IT provision in classrooms.
- A refurbishment of downstairs staff toilet facilities to add an extra toilet and wash basin for increased staff numbers.

A full Value for Money Statement can be found at <http://www.harmonizeacademy.org/Value-for-Money>

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 Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

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 ongoing 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 accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

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 and resources committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The board of trustees has decided to employ JD Education Finance Services as internal auditor.

Internal Control enables Academy Trusts to effectively and efficiently develop systems that adapt to changing business and operating environments, mitigate risks to acceptable levels, and support sound decision making and governance of the organisation. Designing and implementing an effective system of internal control can be challenging and with greater use and dependence on technology. The Internal Control Assessor applies judgment as they monitor and assess the effectiveness of the system of internal control. The internal auditor's role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial and other systems.

The audit consisted of a high-level compliance review of the key controls in place in relation to the School's finance function. The consistent application of key controls across the School's main financial processes provides on-going assurance over the financial management of the organisation. The Internal auditor's role is in line with the ESFA's requirement included giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the school's financial systems. In particular the key control areas tested in the current period included:

- Bank reconciliations
- Cash flows
- Petty cash
- Personnel Files / Payroll
- Amendments to payroll
- Creditors/Debtors
- Income
- Purchasing
- Purchase card transactions
- Month end procedures
- Trial Balance

The trustees have agreed a programme of internal scrutiny for the Trust. The Academy had 3 visits during financial year 2023-24. These occurred in January, May and September. On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of trustees through the audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the financial responsibilities of the board of trustees, 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.

Three internal financial assurance and one internal scrutiny report were completed for the year and no material control or other issues were reported.

The Academy trust confirms that the internal auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned. No significant control issues arose as a result of the internal auditor's work and remedial action has been taken to rectify minor issues raised.

Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the principal has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the year in question the review has been informed by:

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the audit committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the audit 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 board of trustees on 18 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi
Chair



Marie McConville
Principal

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

As accounting officer of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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

Marie McConville

Marie McConville
Accounting Officer

18 December 2024

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The trustees (who are also the directors of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the accounts in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the trustees to prepare accounts for each financial year. Under company law, the trustees must not approve the accounts 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 accounts, 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 judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the accounts; and
- prepare the accounts 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 accounts 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 that 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 accounts may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 18 December 2024 and signed on its behalf by:



Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi
Chair

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Opinion

We have audited the accounts of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and notes to the accounts, including significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland' (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the accounts:

- 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 prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the 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 accounts' section of our report. We are independent of the academy trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the accounts 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 academy trust'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.

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the accounts and our auditor's report thereon. The trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the annual report. Our opinion on the accounts 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 accounts 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 accounts 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the accounts are prepared is consistent with the accounts; and
- the trustees' report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts 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 accounts that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the accounts, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the accounts

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the accounts as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these accounts.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

We identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, and then design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Identifying and assessing potential risks related to irregularities

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance;
- the academy's own assessment of the risks that irregularities may occur either as a result of fraud or error;
- the results of our enquiries of management and members of the board of governors of their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
- detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; and
- the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations; and
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud in the following areas:

(i) The presentation of the academy's Statement of Financial Activities, (ii) revenue recognition (iii) the overstatement of salary and other costs (iv) the assumptions used in the calculation of the valuation of the surplus or deficit on the defined benefit pension scheme and the movements for the year. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that the charity operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the UK Companies Act and the Statement of Recommended Practice - 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' issued by the joint SORP making body, along with the Academies Financial Handbook and Accounts direction.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the academy's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. This includes regulations concerning Data Protection and Safeguarding.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Audit response to risks identified

As a result of performing the above, we identified the presentation of the academy's Statement of Financial Activities, revenue recognition and overstatement of wages and other costs as the key audit matters related to the potential risk of fraud. The key audit matters section of our report explains the matters in more detail and also describes the specific procedures we performed in response to those key audit matters.

In addition to the above, our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with relevant laws and regulations described above as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- enquiring of management and members of the board concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing correspondence with relevant authorities where matters identified were significant;
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias; and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions that are unusual or outside the normal course of business.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

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

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: <https://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities>. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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.

Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited.

Philip Griffiths (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited

18 December 2024

Accountants

Statutory Auditor

5 Temple Square
Temple Street
Liverpool
L2 5RH

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

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

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 31 August 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 Lighthouse Harmonize Education 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 Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 March 2016 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.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Reviewing the activities to ensure they are in keeping with the charitable objectives and framework.
- Reviewing declarations of interest and seeking further representations.
- Reviewing the control environment and considering potential weaknesses.
- Reviewing minutes of various committees, management accounts and holding discussions with key personnel.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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.

Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited.

Reporting Accountant

Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited
5 Temple Square
Temple Street
Liverpool
L2 5RH

Dated: 18 December 2024

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
	Notes					
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	8	8	47
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	3,185	-	3,185	3,068
Investments	5	3	-	-	3	3
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total		3	3,185	8	3,196	3,118
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	7	-	3,304	79	3,383	3,067
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total	6	-	3,304	79	3,383	3,067
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net income/(expenditure)		3	(119)	(71)	(187)	51
Transfers between funds	14	-	(78)	78	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	16	-	4	-	4	220
Adjustment for restriction on pension assets	16	-	(86)	-	(86)	-
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net movement in funds		3	(279)	7	(269)	271
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		3	470	2,390	2,863	2,592
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds carried forward		6	191	2,397	2,594	2,863
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Comparative year information		Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
Year ended 31 August 2023		funds	General	Fixed asset	2023
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	-	1	46	47
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	3,068	-	3,068
Investments	5	3	-	-	3
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total		3	3,069	46	3,118
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	7	-	2,974	93	3,067
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total	6	-	2,974	93	3,067
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net income/(expenditure)		3	95	(47)	51
Transfers between funds	14	-	(247)	247	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	16	-	220	-	220
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net movement in funds		3	68	200	271
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		-	402	2,190	2,592
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds carried forward		3	470	2,390	2,863
		<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	11		2,397		2,390
Current assets					
Debtors	12	86		79	
Cash at bank and in hand		179		475	
		<u>265</u>		<u>554</u>	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(68)		(140)	
		<u></u>		<u></u>	
Net current assets			197		414
Net assets excluding pension asset			2,594		2,804
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	16		-		59
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total net assets			2,594		2,863
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	14				
- Fixed asset funds			2,397		2,390
- Restricted income funds			191		411
- Pension reserve			-		59
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total restricted funds			2,588		2,860
Unrestricted income funds	14		6		3
			<u></u>		<u></u>
Total funds			2,594		2,863
			<u></u>		<u></u>

The accounts on pages 39 to 60 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 18 December 2024 and are signed on their behalf by:



Modupe Victoria Emrica Omideyi
Chair

Company registration number 07657235 (England and Wales)

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

		2024		2023	
	Notes	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	17		(220)		146
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		3		3	
Capital grants from DfE Group		8		46	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(87)		(294)	
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		-		1	
Net cash used in investing activities			(76)		(244)
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(296)		(98)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			475		573
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			179		475

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

The accounts 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.

Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in sterling which is also the functional currency of the academy trust.

Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest whole £1,000, except where otherwise indicated.

1.2 Going concern

The trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable 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 accounts 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 accounts.

At the balance sheet date the Academy had net assets of £2.60m (2023: £2.86m) after providing for long term pension scheme commitments of £nil (asset position) (2023: £59k asset) in respect of the support staff defined benefit pension scheme and had net current assets of £197k (2023: £414k).

The trustees have reviewed and approved budgets and cashflow forecasts for 2024/25 and future years and consider in the light of this review that it is appropriate to prepare the financial statements on a going concern basis.

1.3 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.

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 period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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.

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Other income

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

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

This includes all expenditure incurred by the academy trust to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

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.

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £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 that require the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities and carried forward in the balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

Leasehold Land and Buildings	125 years straight line
Leasehold improvements	2% straight line
Computer equipment & software	20-33% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5-10% straight line
Motor vehicles	10% straight line

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

1.6 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.

1.7 Leased assets

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

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. 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.

1.9 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 chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

1.10 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 and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

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. The 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 are 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 or 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.

1.11 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].

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Accounting 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.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 16, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 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.

FRS 102 section 28.22 allows an entity to recognise a surplus within the Local Government Pension Scheme “only to the extent it is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan”. The actuarial report as at 31 August 2024 indicates a defined benefit asset position. A calculation has been done to compare the surplus to the present value of future service costs, only where the surplus is lower has the asset position been recognised. This is on the basis that a surplus following the triennial review would result in the employer being able to reduce contributions, much like a shortfall would result in increased contributions.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Capital grants	-	8	8	46
Other donations	-	-	-	1
	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>47</u>
	<u>-</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>47</u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	1,554	1,554	1,551
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	16	16	21
- Others	-	17	17	26
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,587</u>	<u>1,587</u>	<u>1,598</u>
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	256	256	325
Special educational projects	-	277	277	100
	<u>-</u>	<u>533</u>	<u>533</u>	<u>425</u>
Other incoming resources	-	1,065	1,065	1,045
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,065</u>	<u>1,065</u>	<u>1,045</u>
Total funding	<u>-</u>	<u>3,185</u>	<u>3,185</u>	<u>3,068</u>

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
Short term deposits	3	-	3	3
	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>

6 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2024 £'000	Total 2023 £'000
		Premises £'000	Other £'000		
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	2,251	-	225	2,476	2,154
- Allocated support costs	433	221	253	907	913
	<u>2,684</u>	<u>221</u>	<u>478</u>	<u>3,383</u>	<u>3,067</u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6	Expenditure	(Continued)	
	Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Operating lease rentals	6	24
	Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	79	81
	Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	12
	Fees payable to auditor for:		
	- Audit	9	8
	- Other services	3	2
	Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(6)	4
		=====	=====
7	Charitable activities	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	All from restricted funds:		
	Direct costs		
	Educational operations	2,476	2,154
	Support costs		
	Educational operations	907	913
		=====	=====
		3,383	3,067
		=====	=====
		2024 £'000	2023 £'000
	Analysis of support costs		
	Support staff costs	433	434
	Depreciation	79	93
	Technology costs	18	15
	Premises costs	142	146
	Legal costs	1	4
	Other support costs	149	153
	Governance costs	85	68
		=====	=====
		907	913
		=====	=====

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Wages and salaries	2,099	1,893
Social security costs	209	176
Pension costs	376	330
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Staff costs - employees	2,684	2,399
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	2,684	2,399
Staff development and other staff costs	22	16
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total staff expenditure	2,706	2,415
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Staff numbers

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
Teachers	22	22
Administration and support	35	38
Management	5	5
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	62	65
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2024 Number	2023 Number
£60,001-£70,000	3	3
£70,001-£80,000	-	1
£80,001-£90,000	1	-
£90,001-£100,000	-	1
£100,001-£110,000	1	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Staff

(Continued)

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 key management personnel employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £531,562 (2023: £491,973).

9 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

M McConville (Principal and trustee):

Remuneration - £100,001 - £105,000 (2023: £90,001 - £95,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid - £25,001 - £30,000 (2022: 20,001 - £25,000)

A Lawson (staff governor and trustee):

Remuneration - £45,001 - £50,000 (2023: £40,001 - £45,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid - £5,000 - £10,000 (2023: £0 - £5,000)

During the period ended 31 August 2024, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £nil were reimbursed or paid directly to 1 trustee (2023: £56 to 1 trustee)

10 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £10 million (2023 £10 million) on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £3,450 (2023: £3,150). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

11 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold Land and Buildings	Leasehold improvements	Computer equipment & software	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost						
At 1 September 2023	1,683	966	216	167	19	3,051
Transfer	(214)	214	-	-	-	-
Additions	-	67	4	9	7	87
Disposals	-	-	(8)	-	-	(8)
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2024	1,469	1,247	212	176	26	3,130
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Depreciation						
At 1 September 2023	246	150	177	87	1	661
Transfer	(20)	20	-	-	-	-
On disposals	-	-	(8)	-	-	(8)
Charge for the year	23	25	16	12	4	80
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2024	249	195	185	99	5	733
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net book value						
At 31 August 2024	1,220	1,052	27	77	21	2,397
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
At 31 August 2023	1,437	816	39	80	18	2,390
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

12 Debtors

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trade debtors	-	12
VAT recoverable	1	7
Prepayments and accrued income	85	60
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	86	79
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

13 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Trade creditors	1	-
Other taxation and social security	48	47
Accruals and deferred income	19	93
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	68	140
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	411	1,554	(1,696)	(78)	191
Pupil premium	-	16	(16)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	17	(17)	-	-
Other government grants	-	533	(533)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	1,065	(1,065)	-	-
Pension reserve	59	-	23	(82)	-
	<u>470</u>	<u>3,185</u>	<u>(3,304)</u>	<u>(160)</u>	<u>191</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
LCC Lease	1,288	-	(23)	-	1,265
DfE group capital grants	689	8	(53)	-	644
Capital expenditure from GAG	413	-	(3)	78	488
	<u>2,390</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>(79)</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>2,397</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>2,860</u>	<u>3,193</u>	<u>(3,383)</u>	<u>(82)</u>	<u>2,588</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	3	3	-	-	6
	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6</u>
Total funds	<u>2,863</u>	<u>3,196</u>	<u>(3,383)</u>	<u>(82)</u>	<u>2,594</u>

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the free school was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31st August 2016.

EFA Lead in Grant and other EFA grants. These have been received for specific purposes throughout the year and include pupil premium and the lead in grant which was fully spent in the year.

Local Authority Grants consist of various support grants received from Liverpool City Council and other schools, for which pupils have been transferred to LHET.

EFA Capital Grant for the building renovation and infrastructure. Depreciation of assets capitalised is to be matched against this income in line with accounting policy.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 Funds

(Continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	531	1,551	(1,424)	(247)	411
Pupil premium	-	21	(21)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	26	(26)	-	-
Other government grants	-	425	(425)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	1,046	(1,046)	-	-
Pension reserve	(129)	-	(32)	220	59
	<u>402</u>	<u>3,069</u>	<u>(2,974)</u>	<u>(27)</u>	<u>470</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
LCC Lease	1,311	-	(22)	-	1,289
DfE group capital grants	712	46	(69)	-	689
Capital expenditure from GAG	167	-	(2)	247	412
	<u>2,190</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>(93)</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>2,390</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>2,592</u>	<u>3,115</u>	<u>(3,067)</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>2,860</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	-	3	-	-	3
	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3</u>
Total funds	<u>2,592</u>	<u>3,118</u>	<u>(3,067)</u>	<u>220</u>	<u>2,863</u>

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	Restricted funds: General £'000	Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,397	2,397
Current assets	6	259	-	265
Current liabilities	-	(68)	-	(68)
	<u>6</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>2,397</u>	<u>2,594</u>
Total net assets	<u>6</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>2,397</u>	<u>2,594</u>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

15 Analysis of net assets between funds

(Continued)

	Unrestricted Funds £'000	General £'000	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £'000	Total Funds £'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	2,390	2,390
Current assets	3	551	-	554
Current liabilities	-	(140)	-	(140)
Pension scheme asset	-	59	-	59
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net assets	3	470	2,390	2,863
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

16 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. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

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

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for teachers in academy trusts. 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.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Pension and similar obligations

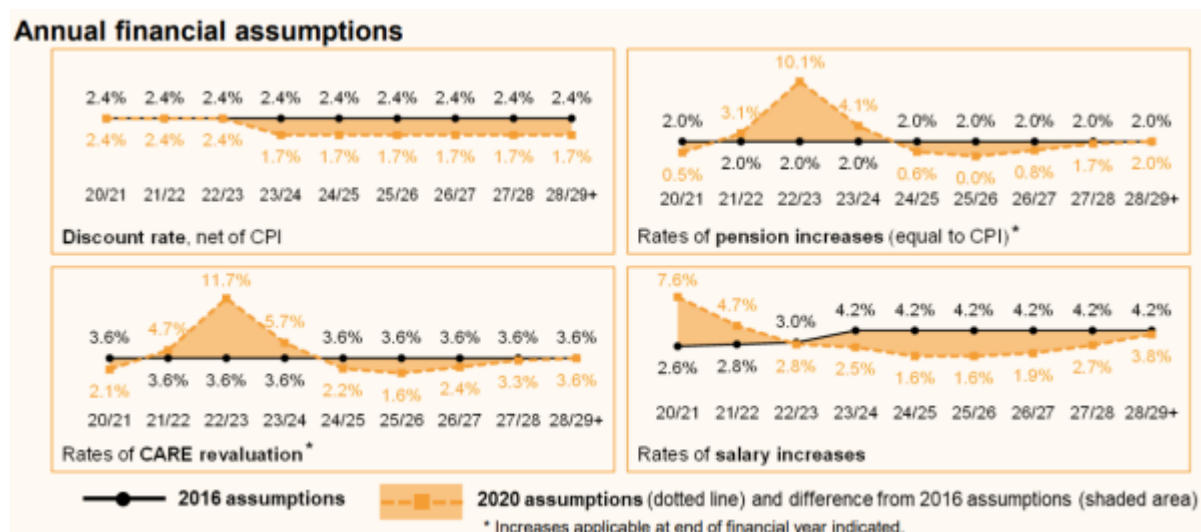
(Continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023.

The 31 March 2020 TPS actuarial valuation results were implemented from 1 April 2024. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation were:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge) – this is an increase of 5% of pensionable pay from the contribution rates paid since 1 September 2019
- 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 SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The other HM Treasury Directed Assumptions are shown in the table below:



The latest actuarial TPS valuation results, as at 31 March 2020, were released in October 2023. The revised employer contribution rate, arising from this valuation, has been implemented from 1 April 2024.

The latest actuarial TPS valuation results, as at 31 March 2020, were released in October 2023. The revised employer contribution rate, arising from this valuation, is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £204,647 (2023: £177,120).

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.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The employer contribution rate is 19.0% until 31 March 2026. The employee contribution rates start at 5.5% increasing to 12.5% depending on earnings.

As the scheme is in deficit the academy trust has entered into an agreement with the scheme trustees to make additional contributions of £45,100 per year in 2023/24 in addition to normal funding levels. These additional contributions are expected to continue for the foreseeable future.

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

Total contributions made	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Employer's contributions	113	93
Employees' contributions	37	32
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	150	125
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Principal actuarial assumptions	2024 %	2023 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.1	4.3
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.7	2.9
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.0	5.4
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.6	2.8
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.8	20.8
- Females	23.4	23.3
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22	22.1
- Females	25.1	25.1
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Sensitivity analysis

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Pension and similar obligations	(Continued)	
	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Discount rate + 0.1%	-21	-18
Discount rate - 0.1%	22	18
Mortality assumption + 1 year	29	23
Mortality assumption - 1 year	-28	-22
CPI rate + 0.1%	22	18
CPI rate - 0.1%	-21	-17
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2024	2023
	Fair value	Fair value
	£'000	£'000
Equities	698	564
Government bonds	63	62
Other bonds	22	20
Cash/Liquidity	20	12
Property	148	130
Other assets	361	297
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total market value of assets	1,312	1,085
Restriction on scheme assets	(86)	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Net assets recognised	1,226	1,085
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
The actual return on scheme assets was £99,000 (2023: £20,000).		
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2024	2023
	£'000	£'000
Current service cost	93	118
Interest income	(62)	(44)
Interest cost	56	48
Administration expenses	3	3
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total amount recognised	90	125
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

The net gain recognised on scheme assets has been restricted because the full pension surplus is not expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Pension and similar obligations	(Continued)
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2023	1,026
Current service cost	93
Interest cost	56
Employee contributions	37
Actuarial loss/(gain)	33
Benefits paid	(19)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	1,226 <hr/>
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2023	1,085
Interest income	62
Actuarial (gain)/loss	37
Employer contributions	113
Employee contributions	37
Benefits paid	(19)
Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses	(3)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	1,312
Restriction on scheme assets	(86)
	<hr/>
Net assets recognised	1,226 <hr/>

LIGHTHOUSE HARMONIZE EDUCATION TRUST

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

	Notes	2024 £'000	2023 £'000
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(187)	51
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(8)	(46)
Investment income receivable	5	(3)	(3)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	16	(17)	28
Defined benefit pension scheme finance (income)/cost	16	(6)	4
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		80	81
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	12
(Increase) in debtors		(7)	(22)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(72)	41
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities		(220)	146

18 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2023 £'000	Cash flows £'000	31 August 2024 £'000
Cash	475	(296)	179

19 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the free school's operations and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trust has an interest. All transactions involving the such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the free school's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in notes 9 and 10.

20 Members' liability

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



Harmonize Academy

Harmonize Academy

7 Phillimore Road

Liverpool L6 6DL

Principal: Mrs Marie McConville

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Mitchell Charlesworth (Audit) Limited
3rd Floor
5 Temple Square
Temple Street
Liverpool
L2 5RH

9th December 2024

Dear Sirs

The following representations are made on the basis of enquiries of management and staff with relevant knowledge and experience such as I consider necessary in connection with your assurance report on regularity to Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) for the year ended 31 August 2024. These enquiries have included inspection of supporting documentation where appropriate and are sufficient to satisfy me that I can make each of the following representations. All representations are made to the best of my knowledge and belief.

General

1. I have fulfilled my responsibilities as accounting officer under the requirements of the funding agreement between Lighthouse Harmonize Education Trust and the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 March 2016 and in accordance with the Academies Trust Handbook 2023.
2. I acknowledge my personal responsibility to Parliament for the regularity and propriety of the public finances for which I am answerable; for the keeping of proper accounts; for effective internal controls; for prudent and economical administration; for the avoidance of waste and extravagance; for achieving value for money; and for the efficient and effective use of all the resources in my charge.
3. I acknowledge my responsibility to notify the governing body and the ESFA of any instances of material irregularity or impropriety, or non-compliance with the terms of the academy trust's funding agreement and have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Trust Handbook 2023 in performing this duty.
4. Any instances of material irregularity, impropriety, or non-compliance discovered to date have been notified to the governing body and the ESFA.
5. Significant matters of which you should be aware have been brought to your attention including any instances of irregularity, impropriety or non-compliance with laws and regulations specific to the academy trust's authorising framework.

A
VISION
FOR
LIFE.

LHET Company Reg. No. 07657235
Registered Address: 7 Phillimore Road L6 6DL



TRUST

RESPECT

COMPASSION

FORGIVENESS



Harmonize Academy

Harmonize Academy

7 Phillimore Road

Liverpool L6 6DL

Principal: Mrs Marie McConville

T: 0151 203 1934

E: admin@harmonizeacademy.org

W: www.harmonizeacademy.org

- 6 Full and free access has been granted to all the records, correspondence, information and explanations that you have considered necessary to enable you to perform your work.

Yours faithfully

Marie McConville

.....

M McConville - Accounting Officer



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TRUST

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