

**Company Registration Number: 07698914 (England & Wales)**

**QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS****Members**

Mrs E Barnes

Mrs J Shepherd

Mr M Mallender (resigned 30 January 2023)

Mr M Betteridge

Mr H Tresidder, Vice Chair and Chair of Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

Mrs A Martin, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer

Mr S Smith

Mr K Wesley

Mrs V Longson (resigned 5 September 2022)

Mr P Stanyer, Co-Chair of Performance Committee

Mrs S Hall, Chair of Trustees and Co-Chair of Performance Committee

Mr T Collis

Mrs S Forsyth

**Company registered  
number**

07698914

**Company name**

QEGSMAT

**Principal and registered  
office**QEGSMAT  
The Green Road  
Ashbourne  
Derbyshire  
DE6 1EP

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Company secretary** Mrs L Key**Chief executive officer** Mrs A Martin**Executive leadership  
team**

Mrs A Martin, Chief Executive Officer (CEO)  
Mrs L Key, Chief Operating Officer (COO)  
Mr D Hudson, Secondary Director of Education  
Mrs V Hall, Secondary Director of Education  
Mrs C Peat, Primary Director of Education

**Independent external  
auditors**

PKF Smith Cooper Audit Limited  
Prospect House  
1 Prospect Place  
Millenium Way  
Derby  
DE24 8HG

**Bankers**

Lloyds  
Compton  
Ashbourne  
Derbyshire  
DE1 1BX

**Solicitors**

Knights Solicitors  
26 Orient Way  
Pride Park  
Derby  
Derbyshire  
DE24 8BY

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

The Charitable Company was incorporated on 8 July 2011 and commenced trade as a single academy trust and academy sponsor, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School Ashbourne Academy (known as Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School) on 1 August 2011. On 1 April 2017, Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School (QEGS) converted from a single academy trust to a multi academy trust, QEGSMAT (the Academy Trust), with Waterhouses CE Primary Academy. Since then, the Academy Trust has grown steadily with the following schools joining:

School	Date joined	Type
Springfield Junior School	1st June 2017	Sponsored
City of Derby Academy	1st September 2017	Sponsored
Castle View Primary School	1st February 2018	Converter
St John's CE Primary School	1st January 2021	Converter
Chellaston Academy	1st June 2021	Sponsored

Sponsored schools are those sponsored by the Academy Trust to improve their performance.

Converter schools are those previously assessed as performing well which have chosen to convert to academy status.

#### **Structure, governance and management**

##### **. Constitution**

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

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.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Structure, governance and management (continued)**

##### **. Trustees' indemnities**

Subject to the provisions of the Companies Act 2006 and the Academy Trust's Articles of Association, every Trustee shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgment is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default, breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to the affairs of the Academy Trust.

The Academy Trust's schools are members of the Government's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to commercial insurance.

##### **. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees**

The Academy Trust recruits and appoints Trustees in accordance with its Articles of Association which state:

- a) Up to 7 shall be appointed by the Members;
- b) No less than 1 shall be appointed by the Derby Diocesan Board of Education;
- c) No less than 1 shall be appointed by the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education; and
- d) Up to 2 shall be appointed by the Old Trust.

The total number of Trustees appointed by the Derby and Lichfield Diocesan Boards of Education shall not exceed 25% of the total number of Trustees, and the CEO shall be a Trustee, being the only employee of the Academy Trust who may be a Trustee.

The term of office for any Trustee shall be 4 years, save this time limit shall not apply to the CEO who shall serve for as long as they hold office.

Trustees are recruited following a rigorous process, which includes an initial introductory discussion, an informal CV review and an interview with Trustees, including the Chair of the Board. Appointments are made based on skills and experience, and for the Trust Board to operate effectively, the following mix of skills is required: education, safeguarding, health and safety, finance, commercial, human resources, information technology, estate and facilities management, marketing, public relations. In line with safer recruitment practices, the Trust carries out Enhanced DBS and right to work in the UK checks prior to appointing Trustees.

The Trust Board carries out an annual skills audit to identify strengths and skills gaps. These are used to inform recruitment processes and training and development programmes.

In the period under review, there have been vacancies on the Board of Trustees:

- 2 of which should be appointed by the Members;
- 1 of which should be appointed by the Derby Diocesan Board of Education; and
- 1 of which should be appointed by the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education.

The Academy Trust is working hard to fill these vacancies with suitably skilled and experienced persons, ideally from an education background.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Structure, governance and management (continued)**

##### **. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees**

The induction and training provided to Trustees is tailored to their needs and is dependent on their skills and experience.

New Trustees attend an induction meeting as soon as practicable after their appointment, at which the following information about the Academy Trust is provided:

- Vision, values and goals
- Strategic and operational plans
- Organisational structure
- Details of other Trustees
- Terms of Reference
- Scheme of Delegation
- Articles of Association
- Academy Trust Handbook
- Accounting Officer letters from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)
- Calendar of meetings and activities
- Minutes of the two most recent meetings
- Latest performance report to Trustees
- Code of Conduct
- List of Academy Trust policies and how to access them

Trustees are invited to attend a range of in-house courses developed by the Trust's Executive Leadership Team covering the following topics: welcome to governance, safeguarding, Pupil Premium, special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), budget and financial management and understanding data. They are also required to complete Keeping Children Safe in Education (KCSIE) and child protection training and are encouraged to visit as many of the Academy Trust's schools as is practicable to meet pupils, students, staff and Local Governors. The same training is also offered to Local Governors.

Reviews are undertaken regularly to ensure effective governance and there is an on-going commitment to training and development. An external review of governance is planned for the Autumn Term 2023.

## QEGSMAT

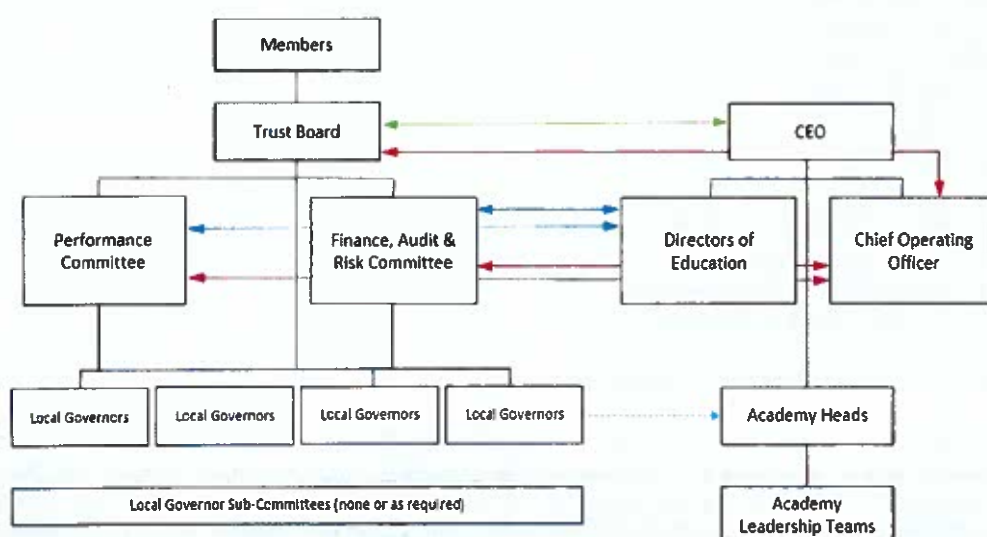
(A company limited by guarantee)

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### Structure, governance and management (continued)

##### . Organisational structure

The Academy Trust is a single organisation operating across multiple sites, in different contexts and in three local authority areas, Derbyshire, Derby City and Staffordshire. This does not come without complexities, and the organisational structure (shown below) is designed to ensure Trustees and Executive Leaders maintain a sharp focus on the strategic needs of the organisation as a whole, and on the needs of each school, to support the delivery of rapid and sustained school improvement.



The Board of Trustees has appointed two sub-committees to ensure robust oversight of the Academy Trust is maintained:

- The Performance Committee, which is responsible for overseeing the quality of education provided by the Trust and its schools.
- The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, which is responsible for overseeing the Academy Trust's financial performance, and for ensuring resources are used efficiently and effectively to maximise outcomes for pupils and students. The committee also provides assurance to the Board on the adequacy of the internal financial control framework including financial and non-financial controls and risk management, along with responsibility for overseeing data protection within the Trust.

The scope of each committee's work is set out in clear, written terms of reference which are reviewed at least annually. The sub-committees provide rigorous scrutiny of the educational and financial performance of the Trust and its schools.

Additionally, each school has its own Local Governing Body, responsible for the quality of teaching and learning and the achievement and standards in their school. They ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction, providing support and challenge on educational performance.

The CEO is responsible for leading the Academy Trust's Executive Team, who work to ensure the Academy Trust and its schools are sustainably successful over time. As a system leader, the CEO represents the Academy Trust with a wide range of stakeholders and partners. They are also the Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust, responsible for ensuring it meets its statutory and legal requirements.



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Structure, governance and management (continued)**

Executive Leaders provide high level strategic leadership and management across all aspects of the Academy Trust's activities, and ensure resources and people are used efficiently and effectively to provide high quality education to all pupils and students and keep the Academy Trust's cash and other assets safe and secure.

A governance and leadership framework is in place, with clear lines of accountability and communication at all levels, and a written Scheme of Delegation sets out the decision making responsibilities.

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

The Academy Trust's key management personnel are its Members, Trustees, Executive Leaders and Headteachers.

The Members and Trustees receive no pay or remuneration for their work and discharge their responsibilities wholly voluntarily.

Whilst the CEO is remunerated, this is for their work as an employee of the Academy Trust and in accordance with their contract of employment. It is not for their role as a Trustee.

The Trust Board reviews the pay and remuneration of all employees, including the Executive Leaders and Headteachers annually. It does so in accordance with the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document, the Academy Trust's Pay and Appraisal policies, and the employment contracts of employees.

**. Trade Union Facility Time**

The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017 came into force on 1 April 2017. Under the provisions of those regulations the Academy Trust provides the following information for the period under review:

**Relevant Union Officials**

Number of employees who were relevant trade union officials during the period	Full time equivalent number of employees
11.00	10.50

**Percentage of time spent on facility time**

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	6.00
1-50%	5.00
51-99%	0.00
100%	0.00

**Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time**

Total cost of facility time	£2,882
Total pay bill	£23,365,426
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facilities time	0.01%

**Paid trade union activities**

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	0.00%
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## **QEGSMAT**

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### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Structure, governance and management (continued)**

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##### **. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations**

In the period under review, there was only one related party transaction. The Academy Trust paid £935 to the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education (LDBE) for the provision of Christian distinctiveness support at both Waterhouses and St John's. Note, that whilst the LDBE has the right to appoint one Trustee to the Board, the position has been vacant since 5 September 2022.

The Academy Trust continues to benefit from strong partnerships with other organisations for the benefit of its pupils and students.

The CEO, a Fellow of the Chartered College of Teaching, continued to work as a National Leader of Education (NLE) and Link Advisor for Derbyshire Local Authority, providing school improvement support to schools including Tibshelf Community School and Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School. They also continued to be part of the network of National Coaches for Women Leading in Education.

Other Executive Leaders continued working with other Trusts via local, regional and national networking events.

The Academy Trust continued to have flourishing relationships with a wide range of other partners including the Department for Education (DfE), the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), the University of Derby, the Spencer Teaching Schools Hub, Ambition Leadership, a specialist primary NLE and the Derby and Lichfield Diocesan Boards of Education, to support the delivery of its education priorities and improve outcomes for its young people. Similarly, the Trust's schools maintained their involvement with a wide range of partners including the Derbyshire Headteachers group, the Derby City collaboration of schools, the Leek Education Partnership, the Swadlincote School Improvement Partnership, the Highfields cluster of schools and St Wilfrid's English Hub.

During the period under review, the Academy Trust worked hard to provide its pupils and students with a wide range of enrichment opportunities and maintained its excellent relationships with its Friends, Parent and Teacher Associations, the Old Trust (The Trustees and Assistants of Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School), the Woodroffe Benton Foundation and the Old Ashburnian Society.

##### **. Engagement with employees (Including disabled persons)**

The Academy Trust actively engages with its employees. Employees are encouraged to have a voice concerning the Academy Trust, its performance and management, via a variety of methods including staff voice surveys and consultations. Trustees and Executive Leaders listen to the opinions of employees and take appropriate action to ensure the Academy Trust is a rewarding and stimulating place to work and a place where staff, pupils and students thrive.

The Academy Trust continues to offer vacancies to all, making sure that if an individual has a disability, they are appropriately supported and reasonable adjustments are made, to ensure they can fulfil their role and responsibilities safely and effectively.

In accordance with the Equality and Equal Opportunities in Employment Policies, the Academy Trust has established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, training, support and retention of disabled staff.

## **QEGSMAT**

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### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Structure, governance and management (continued)**

##### **. Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Academy Trust**

Effective engagement with suppliers, customers and others is integral to the success of the Academy Trust. Regular pupil, student, staff and parent voice surveys are carried out to help the Board keep abreast of the Academy Trust's strengths and areas for improvement and enable robust decision-making.

Clear and timely communication with stakeholders is critical, and the Academy Trust shares relevant and timely information via social media, newsletters and bulletins. Many opportunities are also provided for parents and the wider community to visit the Academy Trust's schools to meet face to face with staff and Local Governors, including coffee mornings, meet the teacher events and open days.

The Academy Trust also builds effective relationships with its suppliers. It chooses them with care, having regard to their ability to provide the highest value for money and uphold the Academy Trust's values and ethos. Where possible, local suppliers are selected in order that local communities may benefit.

#### **Objectives and activities**

##### **. Objects and aims**

The Academy Trust aims to provide high quality education and care to every young person so they can reach their potential. It recognises the importance of high-quality teaching and learning and operates a robust school improvement system with the ultimate aim of doing something exceptional for the young people in its schools. Its purpose is to ensure the best possible educational outcomes for all pupils and students in a safe, vibrant environment in which they can thrive and develop.

The actions to **Question, Explore, Give and Succeed** drive the provision of consistent world-class education and care. The Academy Trust's vision is to enable every young person to enjoy learning and reach their full potential.

##### **. Objectives, strategies and activities**

To achieve its purpose and vision, the Academy Trust's goals are to:

- Offer a broad, balanced and creative **curriculum**, which enables all our young people to achieve the very best outcomes and leave education well prepared for the next steps in their lives;
- Deliver **high quality teaching**, learning and assessment and effective leadership at all levels;
- Develop the **culture** and individuality of our academies and Trust, building a strong community in and around us;
- Offer a rewarding and stimulating **workplace** for staff; and
- Provide a strong, safe and financially **sustainable environment**.

In developing the Academy Trust's purpose, vision and goals, the Board of Trustees carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The Academy Trust's schools share these goals and strive to achieve them in a way relevant to their own context, as set out in their detailed Academy Improvement Plans.

## **QEGSMAT**

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### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Objectives and activities (continued)**

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##### **. Public benefit**

The Academy Trust's schools are non-selective and non-fee paying, and as such operate entirely for the public benefit. In addition to striving for and achieving the highest educational standards and attainment for all pupils and students, the Academy Trust engages in partnership working with others, particularly in Derbyshire, Derby City and Staffordshire.

The Academy Trust also has links with many local and national businesses that provide support for a wide range of enrichment and careers activities and opportunities for the benefit of its pupils and students. There are also links with the local churches in Ashbourne, and with the Derby and Lichfield Diocesan Boards of Education.

The Academy Trust works for the benefit of the communities it serves and hires out its facilities, including halls, sports halls, sports pitches and swimming pool to local community groups.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Strategic report**

##### **Achievements and performance**

No new schools joined the Academy Trust in the period under review. As at 31 August 2023, 659 people (756 posts) were employed in both teaching and non-teaching roles, including 128 relief staff, and there were approximately 4,700 pupils and students on roll aged between 2 and 18 at the Summer 2023 census.

The Academy Trust implemented a curriculum led approach to financial planning to ensure each school continued to provide a broad, balanced and creative curriculum, designed to promote academic excellence and develop individual talents and interests through enrichment and extra-curricular activities and opportunities, and reflect national and local priorities.

In December 2022, Ofsted carried out a special measures monitoring visit at Chellaston Academy, during which inspectors spoke to a wide range of stakeholders, including students, about the actions that had been taken to improve the school since the graded inspection in May 2022. They also visited lessons, reviewed responses to the Ofsted surveys and scrutinised documents relating to safeguarding, behaviour and attendance.

It was their conclusion that leaders had made progress to improve the school. They acknowledged:

- The new Headteacher had brought renewed ambition, clarity and energy to the school. They had ensured the school's values of integrity, care and excellence were at the heart of the work to improve the school and that improving the quality of education and care for all students was their focus. They had prioritised improving the provision for students with SEND and had taken swift action to improve the school's behaviour, attendance and safeguarding arrangements. Other senior leaders, staff and students were responding well to the new Headteacher and staff were working together with hope and purpose.
- A new Assistant Headteacher and new SEND leaders had been appointed. The new SEND team were working effectively to improve the provision for students with SEND and teachers were getting better information and guidance about meeting their needs in lessons. SEND leaders had made significant progress reviewing the provision for students with education, health and care plans (EHCPs) and were focused on working with students and parents to get their views.
- Significant changes had been made to the structure of the school's care and guidance team. Leaders and staff had set about restoring relationships and raising expectations in the school. Together, they had devised a new Relationships Policy which teachers were applying consistently to reward good behaviour and address negative behaviour. Students and staff agreed that behaviour during most lessons was much better.
- Leaders were implementing their plans to improve and promote reading. They had trained staff to improve all students' reading in lessons and form time and students needing help to read were being supported by well-qualified staff.
- Leaders had introduced clear procedures for managing attendance and were ensuring the staff were implementing these consistently. The support provided to those students not attending school as often as they should was effective. Attendance had improved and truancy and lateness to lessons had reduced significantly, meaning teachers and students were able to make the most of lesson time for learning.
- The support for students needing help to behave well had been transformed. Students struggling to settle in lessons used 'reset' to get ready to learn and a new on-site alternative provision had been established, where students could maintain their learning with support from expert staff. Staff were also supporting students to manage their behaviour better.
- An entirely new Local Governing Body had been established which was committed to the school. Appropriate training was helping members to carry out their duties effectively.
- QEGSMAT had increased its capacity to support the school. Both Trust and school leaders were working together to continuously monitor and evaluate provision. Leaders were ensuring the staff were receiving the right training to consistently implement new ways of working. The staff felt valued and welcomed opportunities to work together in new ways.
- The school's arrangements for safeguarding were effective. Staff had received effective training and understood their role in safeguarding all children. They knew what to look out for and how to report concerns. Leaders were knowledgeable, worked effectively with external agencies and ensured students received good support with their mental health. Through lessons and assemblies, students were learning how to keep themselves and others safe.

## QEGSMAT

(A company limited by guarantee)

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### Strategic report (continued)

##### Achievements and performance (continued)

Chellaston's improvements are continuing with pace and the Academy Trust is confident the school is moving towards being good at the next graded inspection, expected to be early in the 2023/24 academic year.

In November 2022, the Academy Trust was notified by the DfE that Castle View met the legal definition of a coasting school (a school not making the necessary improvements). This was because in the previous two Ofsted inspections, in March 2015 and June 2022, the overall effectiveness of the school was requires improvement.

Whilst the DfE were encouraged by the targeted actions that were being taken by the Academy Trust and school leaders to improve the school, the impact was not yet evidenced. Consequently, on 3 March 2023, the DfE issued a termination warning notice to the Academy Trust for Castle View. Since May 2023, the Academy Trust has worked alongside Yorkshire based Delta Academies Trust to drive further fast-paced school improvement.

##### a. Key performance indicators

The performance of the Academy Trust will always be determined by the achievements of the pupils and students.

##### KS1 Headline Data

	Number of students	Expected +				Greater Depth			
		Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined
Castle View	22	59%	59%	59%	45%	9%	0%	18%	0%
Waterhouses	15	60%	9%	41%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
St John's	29	62%	68%	73%	64%	14%	0%	9%	0%
National		72%	69%	61%	56%				

##### Strengths

- The proportion of pupils at St John's achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and Maths combined was above the national average.
- The phonics outcomes in all three primary schools improved in 2023.

##### Areas for development

- Writing in all three primary schools, but particularly at Waterhouses.
- Writing at greater depth.



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Strategic report (continued)****Achievements and performance (continued)****. Key performance indicators****KS4 Headline Data****Attainment Outcome**

<b>A8 APS</b>	<b>Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School</b>	<b>5.9</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>4.8</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>5</b>
	<b>City of Derby Academy</b>	<b>3.6</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>3.5</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>3.7</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>3.5</b>
	<b>Chellaston Academy</b>			<b>5.6</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>5.4</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>5.7</b>
<b>9-5% EM</b>	<b>Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School</b>	<b>58.2%</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>56.2%</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>54.5%</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>43.6%</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>54.7%</b>
	<b>City of Derby Academy</b>	<b>21.1%</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>24.9%</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>23.4%</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>19.2%</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>25.8%</b>
	<b>Chellaston Academy</b>			<b>65.0%</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>57.8%</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>65.5%</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>70.4%</b>
<b>9-4% EM</b>	<b>Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School</b>	<b>78.9%</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>77.4%</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>77.5%</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>69.1%</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>84.0%</b>
	<b>City of Derby Academy</b>	<b>42.3%</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>49.8%</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>39.4%</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>35.2%</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>47.8%</b>
	<b>Chellaston Academy</b>			<b>84.2%</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>78.0%</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>79.6%</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>92.3%</b>
<b>EBACC APS</b>	<b>Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School</b>	<b>5.26</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>4.68</b>	<b>217</b>	<b>4.71</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>4.15</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>4.21</b>
	<b>City of Derby Academy</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>175</b>	<b>3.29</b>	<b>201</b>	<b>3.18</b>	<b>188</b>	<b>2.47</b>	<b>182</b>	<b>2.91</b>
	<b>Chellaston Academy</b>			<b>5.19</b>	<b>266</b>	<b>5.1</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>4.67</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>4.89</b>
<b>EBACC Entry %</b>	<b>Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School</b>	<b>36.6</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21.7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>27.7</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>16.6</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>15.5</b>
	<b>City of Derby Academy</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>21.4</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>5.5</b>	<b>10</b>	<b>5.5</b>
	<b>Chellaston Academy</b>			<b>63.5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>71.6</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>57</b>	<b>20.1</b>

**Progress Outcomes**

	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
<b>Chellaston</b>	<b>0.2</b>	<b>0.2</b>
<b>CoDA</b>	<b>-0.3</b>	<b>-0.8</b>
<b>Queen Elizabeth's</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.1</b>
<b>QEGSMAT</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>-0.1</b>
<b>National Average</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Local Average</b>	<b>-0.1</b>	<b>-0.2</b>

**Strengths**

- Academic outcomes fell nationally; however, at Chellaston outcomes improved.
- Students at Chellaston and Queen Elizabeth's made more progress, on average, than students nationally, and significantly more than students locally.
- Outcomes were strongest for students with over 95% attendance.
- The higher ability and English as additional language sub-groups were the best performing.

**Areas for development**

- The gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged students.
- English and Maths outcomes.

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Strategic report (continued)**

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**Achievements and performance (continued)****KS5 Headline Data**

	Year	Chellaston	Queen Elizabeth's
Average A-Level grade	2023	C+	B-
	2022	B	B
	2019	C+	B+
Average Applied Grade	2023	D	D*
	2022	D*	D*
	2019	D*	D

**Strengths**

- Again, despite a national dip, outcomes remained strong.
- There was no disadvantaged gap.
- Students moving on to higher education and apprenticeships were successful in securing a place in the setting of their choice.
- Across the Academy Trust, Product Design, Business Studies, Psychology and Biology performed significantly above the national average.

**Areas for development**

- The accuracy of grade predictions must be improved. This has been somewhat challenging in recent years because of the many changes that have been experienced by the sector.
- Geography and Computer Science will be the focus of quality assurance in 2023/24.



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Strategic report (continued)****Achievements and performance (continued)**

Further detail on each individual school follows:

**Chellaston Academy****Context**

Number of Y11s	Disadvantage	SEND	EAL
202	39%	12%	53%

**Headline comparison**

	2022	2019	FFT50	FFT20
9-5% EM	58	63	52	60
9-4% EM	77	80	73	80
EBACC APS	5.1	5.1	NA	NA
Average Point Score	5.4	5.4	5.1	5.5

**Disadvantaged focus**

	2022	FFT50	FFT20	National Non-dis.
9-5% EM	37	37	46	51
9-4% EM	61	61	70	73
Average Point Score	4.5	4.5	4.9	7.3

**QEGSMAT**  
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**Strategic report (continued)**

**Achievements and performance (continued)**

**CoDA**  
**Context**

Number of Y11s	Disadvantage	SEND	EAL
202	39%	12%	53%

**Headline comparison**

	2022	2019	FFT50	FFT20
9-5% EM	23.1	16.8	26	34
9-4% EM	38.7	40.6	48	57
EBACC APS	3.1	3.1	NA	NA
Average Point Score	3.5	3.4	3.9	4.3

**Disadvantaged focus**

	2022	FFT50	FFT20	National Non-dis.
9-5% EM	7.1	16	22	51
9-4% EM	17.7	35	48	73
Average Point Score	3.0			5.3

**Queen Elizabeth's**  
**Context**

Number of Y11s	Disadvantage	SEND	EAL
214	14%	17%	1%

**Headline comparison**

	2022	2019	FFT50	FFT20
9-5% EM	54	54	51	60
9-4% EM	77	72	73	80
EBACC APS	4.6	4.6	NA	NA
Average Point Score	5.3	5.2	5.1	5.5

**Disadvantaged focus**

	2022	FFT50	FFT20	National Non-dis.
9-5% EM	35	39	47	51
9-4% EM	59	59	68	73
Average Point Score	4.2	4.5	4.9	7.3

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Strategic report (continued)****Achievements and performance (continued)****Primary Outcomes****KS1 (Year 2) SATs Results**

These are set out below. Note, the tables show the same information, the first is the number of pupils and the second is the percentage of pupils.

	Number of students	Expected + (number of students)				Greater Depth (number of students)			
		Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined
Castle View	22	13	13	13	10	2	0	4	0
Waterhouses	15	9	2	9	0	0	0	0	0
St John's	29	18	15	16	14	3	0	2	0

	Number of students	Expected +				Greater Depth			
		Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined	Reading	Writing	Maths	Combined
Castle View	22	59%	59%	59%	45%	9%	0%	18%	0%
Waterhouses	15	60%	9%	41%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
St John's	29	62%	68%	73%	64%	14%	0%	9%	0%
National		72%	69%	61%	56%				

Results were broadly below the national average apart from at St John's where the proportion of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and Maths combined was above the national average.

No school met the expected standard for writing so this will be a focus for the school and Academy Trust leaders in the new academic year.

**KS1 (Year 1) Phonics Outcomes**

The outcomes for pupils in year 1 are shown below:

Phonics	Number of students	Average score	Percentage meeting Exp+
Castle View	14	28.8	57%
Waterhouses	29	24	82%
St John's	8	34	80%
National			75%

Pleasingly, phonics outcomes at St John's and Waterhouses were higher than the national average. At Castle View, had just three more pupils met expected standards, they would have achieved the national average.

## QEGSMAT

(A company limited by guarantee)

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### Strategic report (continued)

#### Achievements and performance (continued)

#### KS2 (Year 6) SATs Trust Headlines

The focus is on reading and Maths and then the combined and individualised outcomes of each school regrading reading, writing and Maths. It begins looking at the overall picture of the Academy Trust's schools and then looks at each component individually.

#### Headline overview 2022/23

	Number of students	Reading scaled score	Maths scaled score	% at expected standard + RWM	Number of QEGSMAT pupils	% greater depth RWM	Number QEGSMAT pupils
Castle View	21	102	98	14	3	3	1
Springfield	60	100	100	37	22	2	1
St John's	25	105	104	60	15	4	1
Waterhouses	9	107	103	56	5	0	0
QEGSMAT Average		102	101	39		3	
National Average		105	104	59			

The Academy Trust's primary schools fall into two groups. St John's and Waterhouses are broadly in line with national averages for all measures. However, both Castle View and Springfield are below for all measures, particularly when it comes to the proportion of pupils achieving the expected standard in reading, writing and Maths combined.

The success of a school cannot be measured purely by comparing its outcomes to the national picture. Other factors should be taken into consideration such as its context and demographics. For example, Castle View have twice as many SEND pupils on roll compared to the national average and more than double the number of children who the school receive the Pupil Premium for. These are not excuses but do provide some context.

#### . 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 they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.



## **QEGSMAT**

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### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Strategic report (continued)**

#### **Achievements and performance (continued)**

##### **. Promoting the success of the company**

The Trustees promote the success of the Academy Trust and have regard to the:

- Likely long-term consequences of their decisions;
- Interests of the Academy Trust's employees;
- Need to foster the Academy Trust's business relationships with suppliers, customers and others;
- Impact of the Academy Trust's operations on the community and the environment;
- The Academy Trust's reputation for high standards of business conduct;
- Need to act fairly.

Trustees are diligent in their scrutiny of information and the performance of the Academy Trust. They undertake school visits as often as possible, and meet with leaders, other staff, pupils, students and Local Governors to gain a wider comprehension of each school's culture and ethos, and the needs of the communities they serve. This equips them to understand the impact of their decisions.

Trustees appreciate the importance of recruiting and retaining the very best employees, and work hard to provide a safe, stimulating and rewarding work environment. Periodic staff surveys are undertaken, and consultations with employees and their professional associations take place. Trustees act upon the feedback they receive.

The Trustees and employees of the Academy Trust maintain the highest standards of conduct at all times to safeguard the reputation of the Academy Trust.

#### **Financial review**

##### **. Current year review**

Incoming resources totalled £35,954,000, made up:

	<b>£000</b>
DfE / ESFA grants	30,085
Capital grants	3,574
Local Authority income	1,098
Income from educational operations	575
Donations	328
Other trading activities	259
Investment income	35

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Current year review (cont.)**

The Academy Trust receives most of its funding from the ESFA. Its main source of income is the General Annual Grant (GAG) of which £26,665,000 was received. This revenue grant is determined largely by the number of pupils on roll in each school. Other significant revenue grants received from the ESFA in the period were the:

- Schools Supplementary Grant of £1,040,000 allocated to help schools meet the cost of the Health and Social Care Levy and wider costs.
- Pupil Premium of £1,519,000 to improve educational outcomes for disadvantaged pupils (defined as those who have been eligible for free school meals at any point in the last six years).
- Mainstream Schools Additional Grant (MSAG) of £368,000 allocated by the Chancellor following the Autumn 2022 budget.

Capital grants received during the year were made up of:

- S106 agreement monies of £1,615,000:
  - o £842,000 from Derby City Council for spending on redesigning and extending the teaching space at Chellaston Academy. Works commenced Summer 2023 and are due for completion Spring 2024.
  - o £773,000 from Derbyshire County Council to provide more teaching space at Queen Elizabeth's. The new building is expected to be ready and occupied by Easter 2023.
- School Condition Allocation (SCA) - £1,141,000 was received to maintain and improve the condition of school buildings to ensure children can learn in a safe and effective environment.
- Connect the Classroom Funding - £470,000 was received from the Government to improve internet speeds and upgrade wi-fi points and network switches in four of the Academy Trust's schools, Chellaston, City of Derby Academy, Castle View and Springfield. The upgrades are due to be completed in the Autumn Term 2023.
- Energy Efficiency Funding - £190,000 was provided for investment in energy efficiency upgrades to future-proof against high energy bills.
- Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) – a total of £107,000 was received and spent mostly on delivering the Academy Trust's IT Strategy and equipment refresh programme.
- Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) – £51,000 was received in the period, from the ESFA, to complete some roof replacement works at Queen Elizabeth's started in a previous period.

The Academy Trust also received:

- Funding from Derbyshire County Council, Staffordshire County Council and Derby City Council to support those children with SEND and for the children in the Academy Trust's nurseries - £1,098,000
- School trip income - £379,000
- Income from general sales and hire of facilities - £259,000
- Learning resources recovered income - £135,000
- Donations – £328,000, £294,000 of which was donated by Ashbourne Rugby Union Football Club towards the expansion of the Boothby building and facilities at Queen Elizabeth's.
- Catering income - £51,000

No new schools joined the Academy Trust in the period under review, so there were no transfers from Local Authorities or other Trusts.

Resources expended in the period totalled £34,413,000, inclusive of the following non-cash items:

- Depreciation of £2,060,000 due to the high valuation on the Academy Trust's buildings; and
- A movement of £235,000 on the Academy Trust's Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) deficit. This comprised a £147,000 net interest charge for the year plus a £87,000 excess on the current service cost calculated by the actuary when compared to the contributions made during the year.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

In addition to the Academy Trust's usual running costs, there was capital expenditure on the buildings as follows:

- Refurbishing and expanding the teaching spaces at Chellaston Academy and Queen Elizabeth's, and on fixtures and fittings - £2,612,000
- Improving internet speeds and wi-fi upgrades – £427,000
- Improving the condition of school buildings - £144,000
- Energy efficiency upgrades - £89,000

There was also some significant investment in IT, particularly on replacing aged equipment with new desktop computers and portable devices and on improving the infrastructure.

Cash balances rose by £399,000 to £7,218,000 during the period, inclusive of £2,503,000 restricted fixed asset funds (funds given to the Academy Trust for a specific purpose such as the capital grants).

Net current assets totalled £6,087,000; an increase of £565,000.

#### **. Reserves policy**

The reserve levels of the Academy Trust are kept under review by the Board of Trustees and its Finance, Audit and Risk Committee. It is the Academy Trust's policy to carry forward a prudent level of funding (a minimum of 5% and a maximum of 10% of the GAG) to ensure long term cyclical needs can be met, assets can be renewed and unforeseen circumstances such as emergency building repairs can be managed efficiently and effectively.

Unrestricted fund reserves as at 31 August 2023 were £442,000, made up largely of lettings income generated since August 2011, when the Academy Trust first began operating, and income for the before and after school clubs. This figure is not 'profit' since not all the associated costs were attributed to the unrestricted fund. These reserves will be used solely for the purpose of the Academy Trust's charitable objects and to efficiently improve educational outcomes for all pupils and students.

Restricted income funds as at 31 August 2023 were £3,135,000, derived mostly from grants from the DfE.

The pension reserve deficit as at 31 August 2023 reflects the present value of the defined benefit liability determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The liability therefore only becomes due over the lifetime of the pension scheme. Parliament has agreed to a guarantee to meet these outstanding liabilities in the event of the Academy Trust closure. Many of the assumptions on which the valuation is based relate to factors outside of the Academy Trust's control, and these factors have contributed to a decrease in the deficit of £1,393,000 in the year under review to £2,013,000.

#### **. Investment policy**

In accordance with the Academy Trust's Investment Policy, investments can only be made when approved by the Board of Trustees and only low risk investments will be approved. In the year under review £2,250,000 was held in fixed rate deposit accounts with Lloyds Bank, the Academy Trust's bankers, for an improved return on cash balances.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **. Principal risks and uncertainties**

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The Academy Trust maintains a register of the risks to which it is exposed and has established internal control systems and procedures to mitigate these. The risk register and control arrangements are reviewed by the Board of Trustees at least annually.

The Academy Trust's principal financial risks and uncertainties are:

- Levels of funding – the Academy Trust is reliant on grants from the DfE, and these can be affected by changes in Government and Government policy. Levels of funding can therefore be uncertain making financial planning with any confidence difficult. This risk is mitigated in the following ways:
  - o The Academy Trust retains a modest reserve each year;
  - o Cash flow is carefully managed and cash balances are tightly controlled;
  - o Since Government funding is determined largely by the number of pupils/students on roll, the Academy Trust works hard to recruit and retain pupils and students. It strives to maintain a reputation for strong education performance, and to provide all pupils and students with high quality teaching and learning and great opportunities. Quality assurance processes are rigorous and pupil/student progress is routinely monitored. Where required, interventions are swift and effective in ensuring that all pupils and students make progress and achieve.
- Rising costs - the Government continues to provide grants to help offset the higher-than-expected pay increases for teachers. However, schools are still facing cost pressures due to high inflation. At present, the Academy Trust has sufficient cash reserves to meet these pressures. However, if prices continue to rise faster than core school funding, there will be a detriment to the quality and range of opportunities the Academy Trust can provide its pupils and students which may affect outcomes. To mitigate this risk:
  - o Trustees and leaders maintain robust financial oversight;
  - o Financial plans, based on realistic assumptions, are prepared and monitored, and budget variances are identified and acted upon as appropriate;
  - o The Academy Trust takes a curriculum-led approach to financial planning to ensure the funding it has available is used efficiently, effectively and economically to provide the best curriculum for its pupils and students and deliver its educational priorities;
  - o The Academy Trust manages its cash position robustly and maintains very effective systems of internal financial control;
  - o Trustees and leaders ensure spending decisions represent value for money.

The Academy Trust invests its School Condition Allocation in ensuring the estate is safe, well maintained and compliant with relevant regulations. In January 2022, building condition surveys were carried out across the Academy Trust and used to inform a programme of repairs and maintenance to address the Academy Trust's short, medium and long-term building condition priorities.

#### **Fundraising**

The Academy Trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****Streamlined energy and carbon reporting**

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023	1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	4,010,433 kWh	3,262,972 kwh
Energy consumption break down (kWh) (optional)		
Gas (and oil/biomass)	2,079,401 kWh	1,570,465 kwh
Electricity	1,906,720 kWh	1,672,917 kwh
Transport fuel	24,312 kWh	19,590 kwh
<u>Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Gas (and oil/biomass) consumption	379.57	299.57
Owned/Leased transport – mini-buses	5.99	6.12
Total scope 1	386.61	305.69
<u>Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Purchased electricity	368.75	355.21
<u>Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e</u>		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	6.22	3.74
Total emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	759.77	664.66
<u>Intensity ratio</u>		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.16	0.14
<p><b><u>Quantification and Reporting Methodology:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2023 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Intensity measurement</u></b></p> <p>The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.</p> <p><b><u>Measures taken to improve energy efficiency</u></b></p> <p>Over the summer holidays the Academy Trust have invested heavily in upgrading LED of the main teaching block at Queen Elizabeth's (some 400+ fittings). In addition at Queen Elizabeth's we have upgraded the hockey pitch lighting to LEDs with significantly lower power requirements.</p> <p>We have also completed an LED conversion at Castle View, across the whole site, in addition to the installation of new solar powered external lighting. This has a significant saving, as such we will be looking to roll the solar powered lights out across the Academy Trust during 2023/2024 with Springfield also planned for a total LED conversion. It would be expected that a saving in electricity would be seen from these changes.</p>		

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **Plans for future periods**

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The Academy Trust's core purpose remains to provide the best possible educational outcomes for children and young people, regardless of their starting points and for all children and young people to develop and thrive in an environment which supports pupils, students, staff and the community.

Through the actions of Question, Explore, Give and Succeed, the Academy Trust is driven to improve the life chances of all, to provide high quality education and care to enable every child and young person to develop the knowledge and skills they need to become successful and responsible citizens in modern Britain.

To achieve its purpose and vision the Academy Trust will again focus on its five key goals and will continue to work in collaboration with others including Delta Academies Trust to drive improvements in pupil outcomes at Castle View. The priority for our schools is to drive forward consistent curriculum implementation, ensure high quality teaching, fully implement quality assurance, ensure all students and pupils attend school and are well prepared for examinations and can successfully progress to the next stage of their lives, regardless of their starting points, and embed the wider curriculum offer and extra-curricular provision.

The Academy Trust's emphasis will be building on the many strengths in our schools and addressing the areas for development, with the support of external partners where needed. The Academy Trust will focus on providing high quality teaching, learning and leadership at all levels, whilst ensuring well-being remains at the heart of the provision and wherever possible continue to embed cross school collaboration. The curriculum is the most important element of provision, and we will be working tirelessly to ensure all young people are in school to benefit from teaching, learning, social, emotional, spiritual and mental health and well-being in all settings. A remaining priority is to continue to have a strong focus on improving attendance in all settings. External validation is important and improving schools to be Ofsted 'good or better' will underline the achievements and improvements above.

Investing in the professional development of our staff and planning for succession remain priorities, particularly in the current educational climate with challenges in recruitment and retention. We will continue with the delivery of our recently launched trust-wide 'Leadership Development Programme' for leaders at all levels within our organisation as well as supporting those on National Professional qualifications. In-school professional learning will also be driven by school leadership teams.

There has been and will continue to be some investment in improving the condition of our school buildings over the coming years. For example, working with Derby City Council to deliver refurbishment plans to Chellaston Academy is a priority for the coming year. The Academy Trust continues to deliver on the capital spending programme outlined in its Estate Strategy. The improvements will be funded from a capital grant of circa £1m from the Government known as the School Condition Allocation.

The Academy Trust's work with Derby City and Inclusion, and the network of organisations involved, will continue, alongside the CEO working as a National Leader of Education and providing bespoke school to school support to others, specifically in Derbyshire. The Academy Trust will also continue to work with a range of Educational Improvement Consultants to provide external quality assurance where appropriate.

The Academy Trust is committed to improving pupil and student outcomes, not only in its schools but much wider. The Academy Trust is in discussion with other schools in the area about the educational benefits of being part of QEGSMAT, as the Academy Trust seeks to grow and develop.

The Academy Trust's growth will be measured, and capacity driven, so that the quality of its school improvement and resource management work is not compromised. The Academy Trust aims to be a centre for high quality continued professional learning for staff, and to be consistent in providing innovative and research-based leadership, learning, teaching and wider curriculum opportunities for the communities it serves. We aim to offer the best education, curriculum, opportunities, and facilities with the resources available.

**QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**Funds held as custodian on behalf of others**

In the period under review, neither the Academy Trust nor its Trustees were acting as custodian Trustees, and no funds were held on behalf of others, other than the post-16 bursary grants as detailed in note 33.

**Disclosure of information to auditors**

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that 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 auditors are aware of that information.

**Auditors**

The auditors, PKF Smith Cooper Audit Limited, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 18 / 12 / 2023 and signed on its behalf by:



**Mrs S Hall**  
(Chair of Trustees)

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### **Scope of responsibility**

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, 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 QEGSMAT and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### **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 6 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr H Tresidder, Vice Chair and Chair of Finance, Audit and Risk Committee	6	6
Mrs A Martin, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer	6	6
Mr S Smith	5	6
Mr K Wesley	4	6
Mrs V Longson	0	0
Mr P Stanyer, Co-Chair of Performance Committee	5	6
Mrs S Hall, Chair of Trustees and Co-Chair of Performance Committee	6	6
Mr T Collis	5	6
Mrs S Forsyth	6	6

All meetings were quorate. To ensure robust decision making and help shape strategy, the Board considered high quality management information from Executive Leaders at their meetings. The data enabled the Board to maintain effective oversight of all aspects of the Academy Trust's performance, including its financial performance, and provided them with an understanding of the strengths and areas for improvement. Trustees visit the schools regularly to experience first hand the matters reported upon and to talk to staff, pupils and students.

During the period under review there were key changes to the composition of the Board.

Mrs Vicky Longson resigned from her role as the Trustee appointed by the Lichfield Diocesan Board of Education on the 5 September 2022. Her replacement is awaited. The Academy Trust also holds a vacancy for the Derby Diocesan Board of Education appointed Trustee. In October 2022, Ms Sara Forsyth moved from being a Member appointed Trustee to being appointed by the Old Trust.

The term of office of Mr Phil Stanyer came to an end on the 8 July 2023. Mr Stanyer was re-appointed by the Members for a further four years.

As aforementioned, the Board of Trustees has appointed two sub-committees to ensure robust oversight of the Academy Trust is maintained, and the scope of their work is set out in clear, written terms of reference. The committees provide rigorous scrutiny of the educational and financial performance of the Academy Trust and its schools.

The Academy Trust is diligent in its approach to managing potential conflicts of interest and ensures compliance at all times with the Academy Trust Handbook in relation to related party transactions. An up-to-date register of interests is maintained and published on the website. The register captures the relevant business and pecuniary interests of Members, Trustees, Local Governors and senior employees, and material interests from close family relationships. In addition to the register, Members, Trustees, Local Governors and senior employees are required to declare any conflicts of interest at the start of all meetings and withdraw from that part of the meeting to ensure impartial decision making.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. The committee met five times during the period, to keep the financial performance of the Academy Trust under review. Financial sustainability and effective financial management was a focus, whilst ensuring the highest value for money and the efficient use of resources to improve education.



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)****Governance (continued)**

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustees and key management	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr H Tresidder (Chair of Finance, Audit and Risk committee)	4	5
Mrs A Martin	5	5
Mr T Collis	3	5
Mr P Stanyer	4	5
Mr S Smith	4	5
Mrs S Hall	4	5
Mrs L Key	5	5
Mr S Garrity	1	1
Mr J Harrison	2	2

All meetings were entirely quorate with the exception of the meeting on 17 May 2023, which was not quorate for the first hour. No decisions were made by the committee until the meeting became quorate. The Headteacher of Queen Elizabeth's attended this meeting to present the school's proposal to restructure the pastoral team. The Trust's Head of Estates and Facilities also attended to discuss Estate Strategy and plans to improve the condition of school buildings. He attended again on the 19 June 2023 to provide the committee with an update on this.

In her capacity as Chair of Trust Board, Mrs Sue Hall had been attending the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee meetings and was formally appointed as a member of the committee on the 19th June 2023.

The Academy Trust's auditors were in attendance at the December 2022 meeting, where the annual audited accounts for the period ending 31 August 2022 were presented for consideration and recommendation to the Trust Board for approval.

The Performance Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. This committee met four times during the year to oversee the educational performance of the Academy Trust and its schools.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee and key management	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr P Stanyer	3	4
Mrs S Hall	4	4
Mrs S Forsyth	2	4
Mr K Wesley	4	4
Mr H Tresidder	4	4
Mrs A Martin	4	4
Mrs L Key	4	4
Mrs V Hall	4	4
Mr D Hudson	4	4
Mrs C Peat	4	4

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### **Review of value for money**

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

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

#### **Targeting its Resources Effectively**

The Academy Trust took a curriculum-led approach to financial planning to ensure its available funding was used efficiently, effectively, and economically to provide the best curriculum for its pupils and students and deliver its educational priorities. Staffing levels were kept under review, workflows were streamlined, and the job roles of some staff were sharpened to improve efficiency and effectiveness. The Pupil Premium, and funding received to support those pupils and students with SEND, was also targeted at the delivery of the curriculum.

There was a continuous drive to improve the quality of teaching and learning through quality assurance, coaching, mentoring, and training and development. The Academy Trust utilised the apprenticeship levy to upskill several of its support staff and a number of teachers and leaders engaged with national professional qualifications. In July 2023, the Academy Trust launched its new Leadership Development Programme, an in-house programme for existing and aspirant leaders. Capital investment was largely targeted at improving the condition of the Academy Trust's buildings, building compliance, energy efficiency, health and safety issues and in ICT equipment.

#### **Purchasing Reviews**

The Academy Trust has stringent purchasing procedures in place, and these were consistently implemented throughout the year. The approved supplier list was kept under review and regular market tests (and tenders where appropriate) were conducted to ensure the highest value for money from suppliers. QEGSMAT continued to use its multi academy trust status to its advantage by combining the commercial requirements of its schools into trust wide contracts to benefit from economies of scale, where possible.

During the period under review, a tender process was carried out for building cleaning services at Chellaston Academy and Springfield Junior School. A number of tenders were received and evaluated resulting in the appointment of Kindred Cleaning at Chellaston for a period of three years with the option of an extension to five years. However, in respect of Springfield, the Academy Trust chose not to award a contract, instead keeping the service in-house since this proved to be much more cost effective.

Also, with the support of its appointed architect and quantity surveyor, the Academy Trust tendered for a building contractor to refurbish and extend the teaching space at Chellaston Academy. The tenders received were fully evaluated and scored on price and quality prior the contract being awarded to the highest scoring tenderer, BSN. The works, largely funded by a grant from Derby City Council, commenced in the Summer 2023. They are due to be completed in the Spring Term 2024.

The Academy Trust spent considerable sums on ICT equipment during the year and chose its suppliers through the Everything ICT Framework, a fully compliant public sector procurement framework approved by the DfE. The Academy Trust's pupils, students and staff benefitted from some significant investment in desktop computers, Chromebooks, laptops and interactive whiteboards to support teaching and learning.

The Everything ICT Framework was also used to select suppliers to deliver some much needed Wi-Fi upgrades at Chellaston, CoDA, Castle View and Springfield. Funding for the upgrade was provided by the DfE, as part of their Connect the Classroom initiative, following successful bids. Works commenced in the Summer 2023, with completion expected in the Autumn Term 2023.

The Academy Trust also made use of the Crown Commercial Service and the Government's 'Get Help Buying for Schools' service where possible, although in some cases, the Academy Trust was successful in negotiating better deals independently, particularly in relation to agency staff.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### **Review of value for money (continued)**

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##### Reviewing Financial Controls

The Academy Trust continued to operate a rigorous and robust internal financial control framework, tested by independent auditors three times per annum. Its financial operations and internal financial control framework were kept under review to ensure its cash and other assets were kept safe and secure.

Robust governance, and oversight and scrutiny of the Academy Trust's finances was a focus. Trustees receive and review comprehensive reports on the Academy Trust's financial performance, and the Board of Trustees remain responsible for all significant financial decisions.

##### **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 address the risks to the achievement of the Academy Trust's 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. During the period under review, and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and Financial Statements, the Academy Trust's system of internal financial control remained strong.

##### **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 year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

##### **The risk and control framework**

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Barber, Harrison and Platt Limited

The Academy Trust chose BHP to deliver its internal scrutiny function due to them being independent, objective, suitably qualified and experienced. A programme of audit testing was agreed with the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee prior to the start of the period, and reports, with recommendations where appropriate were provided.



## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### **The risk and control framework (continued)**

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

- Testing of payroll systems;
- Testing of purchasing systems;
- Testing of control account/bank reconciliations;
- Testing of controls around other areas such as fixed assets, expense claims, credit card transactions, petty cash income, related party transactions and other compliance matters.

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

The Academy Trust's internal auditor has delivered its schedule of work for the 2022/2023 academic year as planned and has raised no material issues as a result of its work.

#### **Review of effectiveness**

As accounting officer, the CEO 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 auditors;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;
- correspondence from ESFA e.g. FNTI/NTI and 'minded to' letters.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on  
their behalf by:

18 / 12 / 2023

and signed on



**Mrs S Hall**  
Chair of Trustees



**Mrs A Martin**  
Accounting Officer

**QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

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As accounting officer of QEGSMAT, 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 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 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

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I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

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.



**Mrs A Martin**

Accounting Officer

Date: 18/12/2023

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on  
18/12/2023 and signed on its behalf by:



**Mrs S Hall**  
(Chair of Trustees)

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF QEGSMAT**

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#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of QEGSMAT (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

#### **Basis for opinion**

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

#### **Conclusions relating to going concern**

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy 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.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF QEGSMAT (CONTINUED)**

#### **Other information**

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy 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 Academy Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF QEGSMAT (CONTINUED)**

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#### **Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

Based on our understanding of the trust and industry, key laws and regulations that we identified included the Companies Act, Charities SORP and guidance included within the Academy Trust Handbook and Accounts Direction.

We identified that the principal risk of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations related to:

- management bias in respect of accounting estimates and judgements made;
- management override of control;
- posting of unusual journals or transactions;
- non-compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook and Accounts Direction.

We focussed on those areas that could give rise to a material misstatement in the Academy Trust financial statements. Our procedures included, but were not limited to:

- enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims, including instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance where available;
- reviewing legal expenditure in the year to identify instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations and fraud;
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- performing audit work over the risk of management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for bias. In particular, a review of assumptions used in the valuation of defined benefit pension liabilities;
- a separate limited scope regularity review has been undertaken in respect of compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook and our report in respect of this is contained within these financial statements.

It is the primary responsibility of management, with the oversight of those charged with governance, to ensure that the entity's operations are conducted in accordance with the provisions of laws and regulations and for the prevention and detection of fraud.

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

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

**QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF  
QEGSMAT (CONTINUED)**

**Use of our report**

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

*PKF Smith Cooper Audit Limited*

**James Delve (Senior statutory auditor)**

for and on behalf of

**PKF Smith Cooper Audit Limited**

Statutory Auditors

Prospect House

1 Prospect Place

Millenium Way

Derby

DE24 8HG

Date: 21/12/23



## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO QEGSMAT AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 27 September 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by QEGSMAT during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 QEGSMAT and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to QEGSMAT 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 QEGSMAT and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of QEGSMAT's accounting officer and the reporting accountant**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of QEGSMAT's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 29 July 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, 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 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 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 our conclusion includes:

- Planned our assurance procedures including identifying key risks;
- Carried out a program of substantive testing, including review of the program of work and findings in relation to internal scrutiny;
- Undertook controls testing where considered appropriate;
- Concluded on the procedures undertaken.



**QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO QEGSMAT  
AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

**Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

*PKF Smith Cooper Audit Limited*

Reporting Accountant  
**PKF Smith Cooper Audit Limited**

Statutory Auditors

Prospect House  
1 Prospect Place  
Millenium Way  
Derby  
DE24 8HG

Date: *21/12/23*

**QEGSMAT**

(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £000	Restricted funds 2023 £000	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £000	Total funds 2023 £000	Total funds 2022 £000
<b>Income from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	34	3,868	3,902	2,944
Other trading activities	5	260	-	-	260	225
Investments	6	35	-	-	35	1
Charitable activities: Funding for the academy trust's educational operations		-	31,757	-	31,757	29,700
<b>Total income</b>		<b>295</b>	<b>31,791</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>35,954</b>	<b>32,870</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities: academy trust's educational operations	8	226	31,585	2,602	34,413	32,976
<b>Total expenditure</b>		<b>226</b>	<b>31,585</b>	<b>2,602</b>	<b>34,413</b>	<b>32,976</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		<b>69</b>	<b>206</b>	<b>1,266</b>	<b>1,541</b>	<b>(106)</b>
Transfers between funds	21	(110)	(302)	412	-	-
<b>Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)</b>		<b>(41)</b>	<b>(96)</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>1,541</b>	<b>(106)</b>
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses):</b>						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	29	-	1,853	-	1,853	14,291
Derecognition of LGPS surplus	29	-	(225)	-	(225)	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<b>(41)</b>	<b>1,532</b>	<b>1,678</b>	<b>3,169</b>	<b>14,185</b>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)  
(CONTINUED)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

		<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
	<b>Note</b>					
<b>Reconciliation of funds:</b>						
Total funds brought forward	21	483	(410)	95,970	96,043	81,858
Net movement in funds	21	(41)	1,532	1,678	3,169	14,185
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<b>442</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>97,648</b>	<b>99,212</b>	<b>96,043</b>

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

The notes on pages 45 to 76 form part of these financial statements.

**QEGSMAT**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**  
**REGISTERED NUMBER: 07698914**

**BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	2023 £000	2022 £000
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	16	95,145	93,939
		<u>95,145</u>	<u>93,939</u>
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stocks	17	4	4
Debtors	18	2,187	1,285
Cash at bank and in hand		7,218	6,819
		<u>9,409</u>	<u>8,108</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	19	(3,322)	(2,586)
<b>Net current assets</b>		<u>6,087</u>	<u>5,522</u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		<u>101,232</u>	<u>99,461</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	20	(7)	(12)
<b>Net assets excluding pension liability</b>		<u>101,225</u>	<u>99,449</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	29	(2,013)	(3,406)
<b>Total net assets</b>		<u><u>99,212</u></u>	<u><u>96,043</u></u>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****REGISTERED NUMBER: 07698914****BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)****AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	2023 £000	2022 £000
<b>Funds of the Academy Trust</b>			
<b>Restricted funds:</b>			
Fixed asset funds	21	97,648	95,970
Restricted income funds	21	3,135	2,996
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	21	100,783	98,966
Pension reserve	21	(2,013)	(3,406)
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	21	<b>98,770</b>	<b>95,560</b>
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	21	<b>442</b>	<b>483</b>
<b>Total funds</b>		<b>99,212</b>	<b>96,043</b>

The financial statements on pages 40 to 76 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on  
18 /12 / 2023 and are signed on their behalf, by:

**Mrs S Hall**  
(Chair of Trustees)



The notes on pages 45 to 76 form part of these financial statements.

**QEGSMAT**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

		<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>Note</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash provided by operating activities	23	254	1,790
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	25	150	23
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>	24	(5)	(4)
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year</b>		<b>399</b>	<b>1,809</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		6,819	5,010
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year</b>	26, 27	<b>7,218</b>	<b>6,819</b>

The notes on pages 45 to 76 form part of these financial statements



## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **1. Accounting policies**

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

##### **1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements**

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

QEGSMAT meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are prepared in Sterling which is the functional currency of the Academy Trust and rounded to the nearest £'000.

##### **1.2 Going concern**

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

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

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

Capital grants 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.

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy 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.

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

##### **1.5 Taxation**

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

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

##### **1.6 Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing £2,500 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities and carried forward in the Balance sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of financial activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

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

## QEGSMAT

(A company limited by guarantee)

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

##### 1.6 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold land and buildings	- Over the useful economic life
Leasehold property	- Over the useful economic life or the remaining length of the lease, whichever is shorter.
Improvement to property (included within freehold and leasehold property)	- 10% Straight Line
Furniture and equipment	- 20% Straight Line
Plant and equipment	- 10% Straight Line
Computer equipment	- 33% Straight Line
Motor vehicles	- 25% Straight Line
Asset under construction	- No depreciation charge until the project is completed

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold, leasehold land and buildings or improvements to properties depending on the class of asset.

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.

Certain land occupied and used by Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School belongs to the Old Trust, and as such is not included on the balance sheet of the Academy Trust. No charge is made in the Statement of Financial Activities to reflect the use of this land and it has an infinite life, therefore would not be depreciated. The Old Trust have confirmed that the land will be available for the use of the school for as long as required.

Additional land occupied by Waterhouses CE Primary Academy and St John's CofE Primary are under a church settlement agreement. Under these agreements the land and buildings are not included on the balance sheet of the Academy Trust. No charge is made in the Statement of Financial Activities to reflect the use of this land as the rent is at a peppercorn rate.

##### 1.7 Stocks

Unsold uniforms are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks.

##### 1.8 Debtors

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

##### 1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

The Academy Trust also utilises deposit accounts for surplus funds, these vary from 3 to 12 months fixed term.

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

##### **1.10 Liabilities and provisions**

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.

##### **1.11 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 bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 18. 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 as detailed in notes 19 and 20. 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.

##### **1.12 Operating leases**

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

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **1. Accounting policies (continued)**

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##### **1.13 Pensions**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme, and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of financial activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

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

As a result of the assumptions applied by the actuary, the actuarial valuation at the year end has resulted in a surplus position for two schemes within the Trust. The recognition of a surplus under FRS102 should only be made to the extent that an employer can expect to secure economic benefit from it, either by paying a reduced rate of contributions or taking a refund. It is not anticipated that the next actuarial valuation will result in a reduction to contributions and the Trust has no option to take a refund. The surpluses for the affected schemes have therefore been removed and are shown as a breakeven position at the year-end. The derecognition adjustment is shown as other recognised gains/losses. No offsetting has been applied against the other scheme's LGPS liability present at the year end.

##### **1.14 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 the funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

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

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



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 29, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. 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.

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

	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
Donations	34	294	328	108
Capital Grants	-	2,433	2,433	2,484
School condition funding	-	1,141	1,141	352
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>3,868</b>	<b>3,902</b>	<b>2,944</b>
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>2,916</b>	<b>2,944</b>	

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****4. Funding for Academy Trust's Educational Operations**

	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
<b>Educational operations</b>			
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>			
General Annual Grant	26,665	26,665	25,738
Other DfE/ESFA grants			
Start up grant	-	-	2
Pupil premium	1,519	1,519	1,309
Teachers' pay grant	1	1	41
Rates reclaim	140	140	128
PE sports grant	69	69	114
UIFSM	69	69	54
Teachers' pension grant	110	110	116
Supplementary grant	1,040	1,040	-
Mainstream school additional funding	368	368	-
Other	76	76	38
	<b>30,057</b>	<b>30,057</b>	<b>27,540</b>
<b>Other Government grants</b>			
Local authority grants	1,098	1,098	863
<b>Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>575</b>	<b>948</b>
<b>COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)</b>			
Catch-up Premium	-	-	261
Other COVID funding	27	27	88
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>31,757</b>	<b>31,757</b>	<b>29,700</b>
<b>Total 2022</b>	<b>29,700</b>	<b>29,700</b>	

Included within Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations is £378,736 (2022: £373,716) of School Trip income, £51,263 (2022: £396,921) of catering income and £134,698 (2022: £159,833) of Learning resources recovered income.

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****5. Other Trading Activities**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
General sales	162	162	148
Hire of facilities	98	98	77
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>260</b>	<b>225</b>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>225</i>	<i>225</i>	

**6. Investment income**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
Investment received on short term deposits	35	35	1
<b>Total 2023</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>1</b>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>1</i>	

**7. Expenditure**

	<b>Staff Costs 2023 £000</b>	<b>Premises 2023 £000</b>	<b>Other 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total 2022 £000</b>
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	18,822	2,603	1,970	23,395	21,294
Support costs	6,105	2,462	2,452	11,019	11,682
	<b>24,927</b>	<b>5,065</b>	<b>4,422</b>	<b>34,414</b>	<b>32,976</b>
<i>Total 2022</i>	<i>25,278</i>	<i>3,912</i>	<i>3,786</i>	<i>32,976</i>	

**QEGSMAT**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**8. Analysis of expenditure on charitable activities**

**Summary by fund type**

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £000	Restricted funds 2023 £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Educational operations	226	34,187	34,413	32,976
<i>Total 2022</i>	197	32,779	32,976	

**9. Analysis of expenditure by activities**

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £000	Support costs 2023 £000	Total funds 2023 £000	Total funds 2022 £000
Educational Activities	23,395	11,019	34,414	32,976
<i>Total 2022</i>	21,294	11,682	32,976	

**Analysis of direct costs**

	Total funds 2023 £000	Total funds 2022 £000
Staff costs	17,818	17,327
Depreciation	2,060	1,967
Educational supplies	517	429
Examination fees	512	367
Staff development	127	84
Property impairment (note 16)	543	-
Other direct costs	1,205	577
Other project costs	509	458
Recruitment	104	85
	<b>23,395</b>	<b>21,294</b>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)****Analysis of support costs**

	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
Staff costs	6,105	7,386
Repairs and maintenance	570	620
Cleaning	546	388
Rates	308	263
Heat and light	986	675
Catering	588	720
Legal and professional	269	222
Security	57	-
Insurance	118	113
Transport	140	100
Other support costs	691	579
Technology	609	581
Governance costs	32	35
	<b>11,019</b>	<b>11,682</b>

**10. Analysis of specific expenses**

There were no individual transactions exceeding £5,000 within the above categories.

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

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	<b>2023 £000</b>	<b>2022 £000</b>
Operating lease rentals	70	64
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	2,060	1,967
Impairment of tangible fixed assets	543	-
Gain/(loss) on disposal of fixed assets	-	(19)
Fees paid to auditors for:		
Statutory external audit	23	25
Other services paid to external auditor	2	2
Governance internal audit costs	7	5

**QEGSMAT**  
**(A company limited by guarantee)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**12. Staff**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Wages and salaries	<b>17,810</b>	<b>17,177</b>
Social security costs	<b>1,842</b>	<b>1,787</b>
Pension costs	<b>4,271</b>	<b>5,718</b>
	<b>23,923</b>	<b>24,682</b>
Agency staff costs	<b>1,004</b>	<b>564</b>
Staff restructuring costs - including severance payments	<b>-</b>	<b>32</b>
	<b>24,927</b>	<b>25,278</b>

**b. Severance payments**

The Academy Trust paid - severance payments in the year (2022 - 2), disclosed in the following bands:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
£0 - £25,000	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>

**c. Special staff severance payments**

Included in staff restructuring costs is a non-statutory/non-contractual severance payment totalling £Nil (2022: £7,000).

**d. Staff numbers**

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

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>No.</b>	<b>No.</b>
Teachers	<b>292</b>	<b>298</b>
Administration and Support	<b>289</b>	<b>282</b>
Management	<b>40</b>	<b>43</b>
	<b>621</b>	<b>623</b>



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****12. Staff (continued)****e. Higher paid staff**

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

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	7	2
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	5	6
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	2	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	-	2
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	-
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	1	-
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	-	1
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	1	1

The above employees participated in either the TPS or LGPS. During the year ended 31 August 2023, pension contributions for these staff members amounted to £274,207 (2022: £209,698).

**f. Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and all those on the leadership pay scale. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £3,560,957 (2022 - £ 3,694,107).

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****13. Central services**

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- Financial Services
- Education Improvement
- Human Resources
- IT
- Assets and Estates

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

The charge is based on a flat percentage, charged at 5% of GAG for all academies.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School	<b>373</b>	<b>361</b>
Springfield Junior School	<b>58</b>	<b>54</b>
Waterhouses CE Primary School	<b>27</b>	<b>27</b>
City of Derby Academy	<b>325</b>	<b>307</b>
Castlevew Primary School	<b>33</b>	<b>33</b>
Chellaston Academy	<b>476</b>	<b>466</b>
St John's CofE Primary School	<b>40</b>	<b>38</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,332</b>	<b>1,286</b>

**14. Trustees' remuneration and expenses**

One or more 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. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Mrs A Martin, Executive Headteacher / Chief Executive and Accounting Officer	<b>130 - 135</b>	<b>125 - 130</b>
Pension contributions paid	<b>10 - 15</b>	<b>0 - 5</b>

During the year, retirement benefits were accruing to 1 Trustees (2022 - 1) in respect of defined benefit pension schemes.

During the year ended 31 August 2023, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2022 - £NIL).

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****15. Trustees' and Officers' insurance**

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

**16. Tangible fixed assets**

	<b>Freehold land and buildings £000</b>	<b>Leasehold property £000</b>	<b>Freehold improvements £000</b>	<b>Leasehold improvements £000</b>
<b>Cost or valuation</b>				
At 1 September 2022	76,813	22,574	-	-
Additions	-	-	39	153
Disposals	-	-	(25)	(153)
Transfers between classes	(1,236)	2,118	1,236	1,200
At 31 August 2023	<u>75,577</u>	<u>24,692</u>	<u>1,250</u>	<u>1,200</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2022	3,441	4,213	-	-
Charge for the year	1,097	430	133	84
On disposals	-	-	(30)	(148)
Transfers between classes	(88)	(322)	88	322
Impairment charge	-	543	-	-
At 31 August 2023	<u>4,450</u>	<u>4,864</u>	<u>191</u>	<u>258</u>
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2023	<u>71,127</u>	<u>19,828</u>	<u>1,059</u>	<u>942</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>73,372</u>	<u>18,361</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

<b>Assets under construction £000</b>	<b>Furniture and equipment £000</b>	<b>Plant and equipment and computer equipment £000</b>	<b>Motor vehicles £000</b>	<b>Total £000</b>
1,517	110	907	5	101,926
3,108	131	380	-	3,811
-	(15)	(56)	(5)	(254)
(3,318)	-	-	-	-
<b>1,307</b>	<b>226</b>	<b>1,231</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>105,483</b>
-	41	289	3	7,987
-	28	286	2	2,060
-	(15)	(55)	(5)	(253)
-	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	-	543
<b>-</b>	<b>54</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>10,337</b>
<b>1,307</b>	<b>172</b>	<b>711</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>95,146</b>
<b>1,517</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>618</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>93,939</b>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****16. Tangible fixed assets (continued)**

During the year the Academy Trust transferred £1,235,669 and £886,278 from freehold properties and leasehold properties to improvement to freehold and improvements to leasehold, respectively. The amount transferred was the net book value of those assets at 01 September 2022. The remaining transfers in the current year to relate to projects completed in the year that transferred from assets under construction to improvements to freehold and improvements to leasehold.

During the year a £534,000 impairment has been recognised to reflect the changes to a pre-existing building that was modified during a capital project.

The assets under construction represent ongoing capital projects that were incomplete at the yearend.

**Land**

Included in the net book value of property displayed above are the following amounts ascribable to land:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Freehold land	<b>24,540</b>	<b>24,540</b>
Long-term leasehold land	<b>4,976</b>	<b>4,976</b>
	<b>29,516</b>	<b>29,516</b>

**17. Stocks**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Uniforms	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>

**18. Debtors**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>Due within one year</b>		
Trade debtors	<b>450</b>	<b>288</b>
Other debtors	<b>521</b>	<b>274</b>
Prepayments and accrued income	<b>1,216</b>	<b>723</b>
	<b>2,187</b>	<b>1,285</b>

An impairment against trade debtors of £240 has been recognised during the year (2022: £3,165).

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****19. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Other loans	5	5
Trade creditors	1,534	602
Other taxation and social security	429	429
Other creditors	462	436
Accruals and deferred income	892	1,114
	<b>3,322</b>	<b>2,586</b>
	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	544	411
Resources deferred during the year	155	447
Amounts released from previous periods	(343)	(314)
	<b>356</b>	<b>544</b>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds of £90,225 in relation to rates adjustments, £168,578 in relation to school led tuition funding, and £96,734 made up of immaterial deferrals.



**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****20. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Other loans	<b>7</b>	<b>12</b>

Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>Between one and two years</b>		
Other loans	<b>5</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Between two and five years</b>		
Other loans	<b>2</b>	<b>7</b>

The loan is unsecured and was entered into before conversion to an Academy and is an interest free loan entered into with Salix Finance Ltd as part of the energy loans programme. Repayments are made twice a year over an 8 year period.

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****21. Statement of funds**

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General Funds - all funds	483	295	(226)	(110)	-	442
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
Restricted Funds - other	2,996	609	(168)	(302)	-	3,135
GAG	-	26,665	(26,665)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	-	1,519	(1,519)	-	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	1	(1)	-	-	-
Rates reclaim	-	140	(140)	-	-	-
PE sports grant	-	69	(69)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	69	(69)	-	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	110	(110)	-	-	-
Supplementary grant	-	1,040	(1,040)	-	-	-
Mainstream school additional funding	-	368	(368)	-	-	-
Other ESFA	-	76	(76)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	1,098	(1,098)	-	-	-
Other COVID funding	-	27	(27)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(3,406)	-	(235)	-	1,628	(2,013)
	<b>(410)</b>	<b>31,791</b>	<b>(31,585)</b>	<b>(302)</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>1,122</b>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Restricted fixed asset funds - other	93,939	-	(2,602)	3,760	-	95,097
S106 Capital Grant	527	1,956	-	(2,483)	-	-
DfE Group Capital Grants	1,322	1,912	-	(683)	-	2,551

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****21. Statement of funds (continued)**

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2023 £000
CIF Projects	182	-	-	(182)	-	-
	<u>95,970</u>	<u>3,868</u>	<u>(2,602)</u>	<u>412</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>97,648</u>
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	<b>95,560</b>	<b>35,659</b>	<b>(34,187)</b>	<b>110</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>98,770</b>
	<u>96,043</u>	<u>35,954</u>	<u>(34,413)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,628</u>	<u>99,212</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>96,043</b>	<b>35,954</b>	<b>(34,413)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1,628</b>	<b>99,212</b>

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

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Department of Education and only be used for the purpose that the grants were intended. The main grant received within these funds is the GAG.

The transfer from restricted funds to restricted fixed asset funds represent the Academy Trust's contribution to capital projects from GAG and other restricted reserves.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

**QEGSMAT**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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

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

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £000	Income £000	Expenditure £000	Transfers in/out £000	Gains/ (Losses) £000	Balance at 31 August 2022 £000
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>						
General funds	454	226	(197)	-	-	483
<b>Restricted general funds</b>						
Restricted Funds - Other	3,110	2,665	(1,911)	(868)	-	2,996
GAG	-	25,738	(25,738)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	-	1,325	(1,325)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(15,859)	-	(1,838)	-	14,291	(3,406)
	(12,749)	29,728	(30,812)	(868)	14,291	(410)
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>						
Restricted fixed asset funds - other	92,986	-	(1,967)	2,920	-	93,939
S106 Capital Grant	560	1,221	-	(1,254)	-	527
DfE Group Capital Grants	206	1,243	-	(127)	-	1,322
Capital Donations	-	80	-	(80)	-	-
CIF Projects	401	372	-	(591)	-	182
	94,153	2,916	(1,967)	868	-	95,970
<b>Total Restricted funds</b>	81,404	32,644	(32,779)	-	14,291	95,560
<b>Total funds</b>	81,858	32,870	(32,976)	-	14,291	96,043

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****21. Statement of funds (continued)****Total funds analysis by Academy**

Fund balances at 31 August 2023 were allocated as follows:

	2023 £000	2022 £000
QEGSMAT	3,577	3,479
Restricted fixed asset fund	97,648	95,970
Pension reserve	(2,013)	(3,406)
<b>Total</b>	<b>99,212</b>	<b>96,043</b>

**Total cost analysis by academy**

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £000	Other support staff costs £000	Educational supplies £000	Other costs excluding depreciation £000	Total 2023 £000	Total 2022 £000
Waterhouses CE Primary Academy	311	81	70	244	706	706
Springfield Junior School	1,024	126	124	357	1,631	1,655
Queen Elizabeth's Grammar School	5,755	472	202	2,233	8,662	7,943
QEGSMAT	582	446	84	269	1,381	1,088
City of Derby Academy	663	91	73	262	1,089	6,983
Castle View Primary School	4,931	378	630	1,444	7,383	1,049
Chellaston Academy	7,299	656	712	1,708	10,375	10,541
St John's CofE Primary School	756	63	59	248	1,126	1,044
<b>Academy Trust</b>	<b>21,321</b>	<b>2,313</b>	<b>1,954</b>	<b>6,765</b>	<b>32,353</b>	<b>31,009</b>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****22. Analysis of net assets between funds****Analysis of net assets between funds - current year**

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2023 £000</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	95,145	<b>95,145</b>
Current assets	442	6,464	2,503	<b>9,409</b>
Creditors due within one year	-	(3,322)	-	<b>(3,322)</b>
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(7)	-	<b>(7)</b>
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,013)	-	<b>(2,013)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>442</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>97,648</b>	<b>99,212</b>

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

	<b>Unrestricted funds 2022 £000</b>	<b>Restricted funds 2022 £000</b>	<b>Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £000</b>	<b>Total funds 2022 £000</b>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	93,939	<b>93,939</b>
Current assets	483	5,594	2,031	<b>8,108</b>
Creditors due within one year	-	(2,586)	-	<b>(2,586)</b>
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(12)	-	<b>(12)</b>
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,406)	-	<b>(3,406)</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>483</b>	<b>(410)</b>	<b>95,970</b>	<b>96,043</b>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****23. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	<b>1,541</b>	<b>(106)</b>
<b>Adjustments for:</b>		
Depreciation and amortisation charges	<b>2,060</b>	<b>1,967</b>
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed asset	<b>-</b>	<b>19</b>
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	<b>(3,811)</b>	<b>(2,960)</b>
Interest receivable	<b>(35)</b>	<b>(1)</b>
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	<b>89</b>	<b>1,563</b>
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	<b>147</b>	<b>275</b>
Decrease in stocks	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	<b>(902)</b>	<b>93</b>
Increase in creditors	<b>622</b>	<b>939</b>
Property impairment	<b>543</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net cash provided by operating activities</b>	<b>254</b>	<b>1,790</b>

**24. Cash flows from financing activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Repayments of borrowing	<b>(5)</b>	<b>(4)</b>

**25. Cash flows from investing activities**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Interest receivable	<b>35</b>	<b>1</b>
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	<b>(3,753)</b>	<b>(2,938)</b>
Capital grants from DfE	<b>2,872</b>	<b>2,852</b>
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	<b>996</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>Net cash provided by investing activities</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>23</b>

**QEGSMAT**  
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**26. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Cash in hand and at bank	4,790	4,918
Short term deposit accounts	2,428	1,901
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b>7,218</b>	<b>6,819</b>

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

	<b>At 1 September 2022</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31 August 2023</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Cash at bank and in hand	6,819	399	7,218
Debt due within 1 year	(5)	-	(5)
Debt due after 1 year	(12)	5	(7)
	<b>6,802</b>	<b>404</b>	<b>7,206</b>

**28. Capital commitments**

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements</b>		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	348	-

**29. Pension commitments**

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2022.

Contributions amounting to £461,554 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £434,711) and are included within creditors.



## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

#### **29. Pension commitments (continued)**

##### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

##### **Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme**

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors.

The 31 March 2016 TPS actuarial valuation results were implemented from 1 September 2019. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation were:

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

The 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 TPS in the year amounted to £2,995,779 (2022 - £2,921,111).

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

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The Academy Trust 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.

## QEGSMAT

(A company limited by guarantee)

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

#### 29. Pension commitments (continued)

##### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £1,295,000 (2022 - £1,209,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,037,000 (2022 - £965,000) and employees' contributions totalled £258,000 (2022 - £244,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.6 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

As at 31 August 2023, the actuarial valuation for the Trust includes a surplus totalling £225,000. This surplus has not been recognised within the financial statements.

High UK corporate bond yields have resulted in high accounting discount rate which contributed to the closing surplus position. There is no specific guidance in FRS102 in relation to surplus balances, therefore reference has been made to IAS 19. This requires any surplus recognition to be limited to the present value of economic benefits available in the form of either refunds or reduced future contributions (the asset ceiling).

The right to a refund would occur in the form of a credit payable to the Trust, for example on exiting the pension fund. Whether any refund is provided is governed by Regulation 64 of the 2013 Local Government Pension Scheme Regulations and set out in the specific local authority funding strategy statement. The payment of this credit is at the discretion of the local authority based on a variety of pre-determined factors. Given there are no circumstances to suggest an exit from the fund and the determination of any credit is outside the control of the Trust, there is no basis to recognise any surplus.

With regards to reduced contributions, IAS 19 references minimum funding requirements used by certain schemes which limit the scope for contribution reductions. The LGPS administering authority must obtain a rates and adjustments certificate every three years that shows the contributions to be paid by each employer to the pension fund for the following three years, thereby limiting the availability of any contribution reductions. Additionally, the local authority funding strategy statement provides for potential reductions in future contributions, but these would be at the discretion of the local authority with, in the majority of cases, academies being part of a stabilisation approach which sets a limit on any change to contributions e.g., to 1% of pay per year. This suggests minimum funding requirements are applicable to the Trust as determined by IAS19. Actuary asset ceiling calculations which assume minimum funding requirements exist, provide an asset ceiling adjustment resulting in a closing position of £Nil.

Based on the above, it cannot be determined that a flow of future benefits is probable therefore no asset has been recognised

##### Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023 %	2022 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.45 - 4	3.45 - 3.75
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.95 - 3	3.05
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.2	4.25

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****29. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	2023 Years	2022 Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males Derbyshire & Staffordshire	20.8 & 20.7	21.1 & 21.2
Females Derbyshire & Staffordshire	23.8 & 24.4	23.8
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males Derbyshire & Staffordshire	21.6 & 21.7	22.2
Females Derbyshire & Staffordshire	25.3 & 25.6	25.6 & 25.5

**Sensitivity analysis****Derbyshire pension fund:**

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	405	414
Discount rate -0.1%	(405)	(414)
Mortality assumption 1 year increase	(690)	(681)
Mortality assumption 1 year decrease	690	681
Salary rate +0.1%	(44)	(45)
Salary rate -0.1%	44	45
Pension increase CPI rate +0.1%	(368)	(373)
Pension increase CPI rate -0.1%	368	373

**Staffordshire pension fund:**

	2023 £000	2022 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	27	31
Discount rate -0.1%	(27)	(31)
Mortality assumption 1 year increase	(40)	(43)
Mortality assumption 1 year decrease	40	43
Salary rate +0.1%	(4)	(5)
Salary rate -0.1%	4	5
Pension increase CPI rate +0.1%	(23)	(26)
Pension increase CPI rate -0.1%	23	26

**Share of scheme assets**

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****29. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	<b>At 31 August 2023 £000</b>	<b>At 31 August 2022 £000</b>
Equities	10,866	9,602
Bonds	3,578	3,331
Property	1,297	1,027
Cash	477	712
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>16,218</b>	<b>14,672</b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £782,000 (2022 - £738,000).

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

	<b>2023 £000</b>	<b>2022 £000</b>
Current service cost	(1,125)	(2,507)
Past service cost	1	(22)
Interest income	645	247
Interest cost	(792)	(522)
<b>Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities</b>	<b>(1,271)</b>	<b>(2,804)</b>

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

	<b>2023 £000</b>	<b>2022 £000</b>
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>18,078</b>	<b>30,356</b>
Current service costs	1,125	2,507
Past service costs	-	22
Interest cost	792	522
Employee contributions	258	244
Actuarial gains	(1,790)	(15,357)
Benefits paid	(232)	(216)
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>18,231</b>	<b>18,078</b>

**QEGSMAT****(A company limited by guarantee)****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023****29. Pension commitments (continued)**

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

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>14,671</b>	<b>14,497</b>
Interest income	645	247
Actuarial gains/(losses)	63	(1,066)
Employer contributions	1,038	965
Employee contributions	258	244
Benefits paid	(232)	(216)
Derecognition of LGPS surplus	(225)	-
<b>At 31 August</b>	<b>16,218</b>	<b>14,671</b>

**30. Operating lease commitments**

At 31 August 2023 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	<b>2023</b>	<b>2022</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Not later than 1 year	46	40
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	34	32
	<b>80</b>	<b>72</b>

**31. Members' liability**

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

## **QEGSMAT**

**(A company limited by guarantee)**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

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#### **32. Related party transactions**

Apart from certain trustees' remuneration and expenses disclosed in note 13, the following related party transactions took place during the year.

During the year costs totalling £935 (2022: £910) were incurred from Lichfield Diocese, whose member, Reverent Alan Beahan, is a governor at Waterhouses. There were no balances outstanding at the balance sheet date (2022: £NIL).

During the year costs totalling £550 (2022: £Nil) were incurred from Abacus Education Consultants Limited, whose employee, Louise Davies, is a governor at Queen Elizabeth Grammar School. There were no balances outstanding at the balance sheet date (2022: £NIL).

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

#### **33. Agency arrangements**

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for ESFA. In accounting period ending 31 August 2023 the academy trust received £41,376 (2022: £29,139) and distributed £28,433, £17,368 was written forward from the previous year, leaving £30,311 being written forward.