

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

(A company limited by guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants
Auditor
Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
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Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

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Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Reference and Administrative Details

Members	A R Arnold M Gittner M Corney D Donnelly
Trustees (Directors)	P Steadman, Chair K Hartshorne, Vice Chair P Bagley H Harrison
Chief Executive Officer	H Wood
Company Secretary	L Baldwin-Smith
Senior Management Team	H Wood, Chief Executive Officer & Accounting Officer R Ward, Headteacher (Parkside Primary Academy) A Steadman, Headteacher (Carlton Primary Academy) L Tabbner, Headteacher (Summerfields Primary Academy) J Wyrill, Head of Teaching and Learning A Dobrucki, Chief Finance Officer
Principal and Registered Office	PACT Head Office Carlton Primary Academy Fish Dam Lane Barnsley South Yorkshire S71 3HF
Company Registration Number	08255683
Auditors	Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants Auditor Waynflete House 139 Eastgate Louth Lincolnshire LN11 9QQ 8 June 2021
Bankers	The Royal Bank of Scotland PLC 747 Attercliffe Road Sheffield S9 3RF
Solicitors	Browne Jacobson LLP Mowbray House Castle Meadow Road Nottingham Nottinghamshire NG2 1BJ

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2021. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates three primary academies in Barnsley, South Yorkshire. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 630 and had a roll of 699 in the school census in October 2020. All three schools are oversubscribed. One of our academies has agreed to accept numbers above its PAN to assist the local authority with increased numbers in the catchment area (bulge years).

Two of our academies have early years nursery provision. Both have capacity to take 52 children and offer part-time and full-time places. Of the 104 places available 64 are taken.

During this reporting period the trust has responded to the global COVID-19 pandemic. In January 2021, following government guidance, the trust's academies offered provision for vulnerable and key worker children. All other pupils remained at home and were taught via remote learning. In March 2021, following government guidance, our academies fully reopened and welcomed all children back to school. Throughout the pandemic the trust has adhered to government guidance and received professional support from the DfE, local public health teams and the trust's health and safety consultants, ProActive. We have:

- developed detailed risk assessments which include site specific control measures and,
- maintained our budget functions following the guidelines produced by the ESFA

The trust continues to operate effectively. The pandemic has not adversely affected the budgeted reserves and we continue to provide good provision for all our pupils.

Due to there being a clear focus on operational day-to-day management some aspects of the trust's work were not undertaken. This included:

- developing the trust's growth model
- the ability to fundraise

Much work was undertaken in relation to supporting our children, their families, and our staff members. Ongoing support was offered to those deemed to be extremely clinically vulnerable or clinically vulnerable. During lockdown, phased return and full return, the trust focussed on the health and mental wellbeing of all its key stakeholders. An audit of staff well-being was undertaken in the summer term. A summary of findings including national benchmarking has been shared with trustees, local governors and staff. An action plan has been generated to deal with the key priorities.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The company registration number is 08255683.

The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

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

Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the charitable company in the event of it being wound up while they are a member, or within one year after they cease to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £1 for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Trustees' indemnities

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the charitable company's expense to cover the liability of the trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of negligence, default of breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the trust provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the trustees knew to be a breach of trust or a breach of duty or which was committed by the trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as directors of the charitable company.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

All new trustees are appointed by the members. Full details relating to the appointment and removal of trustees are contained in the articles of association with a summary given below.

The academy trust shall have the following trustees as set out in its articles of association and funding agreement with their term of office being four years (except for the executive principal / CEO):

- The executive principal/CEO (ex-officio)
- Up to five trustees appointed by the members
- Trustees can appoint co-opted trustees

The board of trustees has appointed a local governing body (LGB) for each academy, which has delegated powers to oversee the day to day running of that academy. That LGB constitutes a total of nine governors to be:

- 1 headteacher
- 1 staff
- 4 parent/carer representatives
- 2 co-opted governors
- 1 community governor

Local governors will have a term of office of 4 years, apart from the headteacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of trustee or governor any trustee or governor may be re-appointed or re-elected.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

All trustees and governors have access to training as required; including local governor training provided by Rotherham School Improvement Service (RoSIS) Governor Training Services. The academies are members of Barnsley Governors' Association which also provides training and development programmes. Trustees and governors are encouraged to access all their training requirements. Trustee and governor CPD are regular agenda items on Board and LGB meetings.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Organisational structure

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) consists of a board of trustees who have the overall responsibility to ensure the effective and efficient running of the academies. The trust has committees who report to the board of trustees these being: A local governing body (LGB) at each academy and an audit and finance committee. Each LGB and committee has delegated roles and responsibilities along with the headteachers at each academy. These are detailed in the scheme of delegation and the academies handbook. All the committees including LGB's are reviewed annually, and a skills-based audit is carried out when appointing new members.

The trustees are responsible for setting general policy, adopting a development plan and forecast budgets, monitoring the academies through close liaison and reporting from the headteachers, making major decisions about the strategic direction of the academies including capital expenditure and involvement in staff appointments in consultation with the CEO.

The trustees are appointed in line with Articles 50 - 64 within the memorandum of association. When appointing new trustees, the board recognises the need to have a wide range of skills amongst the trustees.

The accounting officer of the academy trust is Mr H Wood. He is supported in this role by Mrs A Dobrucki as chief finance officer.

Our trustees ensure that PACT complies with charity and company law. The board of trustees has two core functions which are to set the strategic direction of the organisation and to ensure financial probity. As a multi-academy trust, the trustees are responsible for all the academies within the trust. They do this by delegating functions to the local governing body (LGB) of each academy through a scheme of delegation. The level of delegation may be proportionate to the strength of the academy – an 'earned autonomy' model.

The core business of the LGB is to review and monitor:

- the academy improvement plan;
- the standards of attainment and progress;
- the curriculum and educational provision; and,
- the individual academy budget.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The trust reviews its pay policy annually and all salary pay scales are set out in the policy. The criteria for pay groups, bands and pay progression are set out in the Teachers Pay and Conditions document which forms the remit for the academy trust's pay structure for its key management personnel.

Academy trustees are non-executives and are not remunerated for their role as a trustee.

Trade union facility time

The academy trust works positively with trade unions, however there are currently no trade union officials requiring facility time, therefore the cost is zero to the academies during the year.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Risk management

The trustees have assessed the major risks to which the academy is exposed, and a risk register has been established. The trustees are implementing systems to assess risks that the academy faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g., in relation to teaching, educational trips, child protection, health and safety) and to the control of finance. The trust's audit committee review the risk register on a termly basis. Where significant financial risk remains, they have ensured that adequate insurance cover is in place.

The trustees have established key controls to manage risk:

- agendas for all meetings including sub-committees
- terms of reference for all committees
- strategic planning, budgeting, and management reporting
- a formal organisational structure
- written policies and procedures
- authorisation and approval levels
- DBS checks
- risk register

Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Currently there are the three founding academies within the trust: Parkside Primary Academy, Carlton Primary Academy and Summerfields Primary Academy.

The academies work in collaboration with the local authority which places pupils and funds SEND top-up and Looked After Children (LAC) elements for pupil placements.

There are no related parties which either contract or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the academy trust. There are no sponsors with the academy.

All trustees have disclosed their pecuniary interests and at each meeting there is an agenda item to allow for pecuniary interests to be declared.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

Objectives

The academy trust's objects are specifically restricted to the following:

- To advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing schools ("the academies") offering a broad and balanced curriculum.
- To promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Barnsley and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship, or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants.

Mission Statement

We work as a united network of partners and pioneers, who are ambitious and challenge boundaries to provide every opportunity for children through:

PASSION, ACHIEVEMENT, CONNECTION and TRUST

Our mission is to establish a network of good, aspirational academies that are committed to educational excellence, where teaching and learning is paramount to ensure that all our pupils are successful. We will recruit high quality individuals, at all levels, and will encourage and support each of our academies to be a beacon of best practice; looked to by others as an agenda setter for education.

We aim for Pioneer Academies Community Trust to be a leading light for the collaborative development and innovation of excellent practice for all young people, their families, and local communities, where we create and foster a culture of high aspirations for every pupil regardless of their backgrounds. Through ensuring effective use of funding through efficiencies in the provision and procurement of goods and services, the trust is confident that it can provide the best learning environments for all its pupils to flourish.

Vision and Values

'Every child, every opportunity, every day'

The trust is founded on shared values and a commitment to improving all our pupils' life chances by raising their aspirations and attainment. Through a committed focus on school improvement, we aim to strengthen high quality teaching and learning by offering colleagues the opportunities to share effective practice, to learn from each other, to share resources, and to access the quality CPD which will improve outcomes for all our children. At PACT, we believe that every school is unique and thus, we promote the concept of 'collaborative autonomy.' This ensures that our academies work together with common aims of excellence, yet still value and celebrate their autonomy and uniqueness.

PACT key professionals work across our academies, promoting our shared values within a climate of trust and respect. They build purposeful learning environments which provide a strong framework for the social and academic development of both practitioners and pupils and ensure the children in our schools become successful learners, confident individuals, and responsible citizens.

Our academies share common values and a collaborative approach to learning, focused on the social and academic development of our pupils. These clearly established values promote an orderly, purposeful, and harmonious environment and a climate of truth and respect.

The trust believes every young person deserves the best possible start in life – a positive, exciting, and enjoyable education aimed at helping the children in PACT academies become successful learners, confident individuals, and responsible citizens.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) aims to ensure that it provides a high-quality education for all the pupils that attend its academies, giving regard to quality of learning, safety, and care. It aims to raise the standard of educational achievement for all pupils, as well as ensure value for money for all expenditure implemented, ensuring resourcing is adequately provided.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Objectives, strategies and activities

Aims and Objectives

We value and celebrate the unique identities of our academies. We believe this ensures our academies have strong networks and a strong voice in their future development. We encourage our academies to be innovative and creative and to develop a curriculum that is best suited to the pupils it serves. We also encourage and expect our academies to share their good practice within the trust and across wider networks because we want others to learn from them. Our highly professional teams are committed to an expectation of the highest levels of achievement from all our pupils.

We aim to ensure that each academy in our trust:

- offers a good education through an exciting, innovative, and personalised curriculum
- adds value to the attainment of its pupils
- continues to develop its own unique characteristics and ethos, maintaining its individual identity within the local community
- removes the barriers of low aspiration and achievement in all our academies and communities in which we work
- provides an ordered, purposeful, and stimulating learning environment
- works in partnership with pupils, parents, and the wider community to achieve success for all
- works closely with all PACT academies to create a sustainable model of education for all pupils
- is recognised nationally as an educational organisation of high quality, producing good results within an inclusive culture

The objective of PACT is to improve the life chances of every child in every school within the multi-academy trust (MAT) by developing sustainable, successful partnerships throughout the trust in a wide range of carefully designed social and educational activities which are tailored to raise aspirations and make meaningful contributions to the development of every individual child.

The main objectives between 1 September 2020 and 31 August 2021 were:

- to raise the standard of educational attainment and achievement for all groups of learners
- to provide a broad and balanced curriculum that provides inspiring and motivating learning opportunities
- to continue to develop the expertise of all staff so that they can deliver the best learning opportunities to our children
- to develop effective self-evaluation and accountability frameworks
- to formulate effective and meaningful data analysis that impacts on pupils learning that raises standards
- to develop partnerships and networks

Specific examples include:

- the introduction of a rigorous self-evaluation tool (iAbacus)
- joint CPD, to support the development and implementation of consistent teaching
- training in and implementation of maths mastery approach
- the development of a rigorous benchmarking process
- developmental coaching to improve the quality of teaching
- establishing and maintaining links with local schools and other multi-academy trusts
- further development of EYFS provision
- supporting the academy trust's pastoral care team to ensure all children's needs are met
- enabling wider opportunities through sport and music

Public benefit

The trustees confirm that the trust has complied with the requirement in the charities commission's public benefit requirements during the period.

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the trustees have 'carefully considered the charity commission's general guidance on public benefit.'

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report

Achievements and performance

For the last two years the DfE has not published any national data. However, the trust generated detailed data for 2020 (published in last year's report). The first COVID lockdown was initiated in March 2020 and by this point the trust had completed detailed assessments and held moderation events prior to children finishing school. Children had been in school for two full terms and lockdown was implemented only a few weeks before children were due to start their SATs. The trust believes that its 2020 outcomes are reliable and provide an insight into its improving provision. Unfortunately, this last academic year has seen further disruption and as a result, the trust is not publishing any data for 2021.

The trust continually builds in moderation events throughout the year, so teachers are adept at discussing, moderating, and monitoring the attainment and progress of their pupils. Present at these moderation events are practitioners from across the trust including qualified LA moderators and practitioners from schools within our wider network of collaboration. To support the accurate moderation and projection of pupil achievement, the trust has developed half termly progression documents which are used alongside standardised testing, teacher judgement and evidence presented to reach a collective judgement of projected end-of-year attainment for each child.

Key financial performance indicators

The academy trust operates a rigorous school improvement and benchmarking strategy including target setting, quality assurance and external review that feed into each academy's improvement cycle. Currently one of our academies is judged as good with the other two both receiving RI judgements for overall effectiveness. Improvement priorities have been identified and strategies to address these are detailed in the individual academy improvement plans.

The number of children on roll at the schools is a key performance indicator as funding is based on pupil numbers. Pupil numbers have risen over the last three years in all academies.

Another key performance indicator is salary costs which are currently 82% of total educational income; this is in line with the trust's aims and objectives.

The main financial performance indicator is the level of reserves held at the balance sheet date. This needs to be carefully managed to ensure that the maximum amount of current year funding is spent for the benefit of pupils in that year.

During the COVID pandemic, the effective governance of schools has remained a priority and, given the challenges that schools have had to respond to, the trust continues to balance its responsibility to hold senior leaders to account with providing much needed support. During this unprecedented period the trust board has met on 5 occasions. These remote meetings have provided trustees with an opportunity to interrogate all financial elements (central funds as well as academy accounts). The newly appointed CFO has presented these documents since her appointment in January 2021. Prior to this it was our financial consultants; Hart Shaw LLP. Monthly management accounts have also been shared regularly with the chair of the trust board. To this end the board has maintained good financial oversight throughout the pandemic.

During the summer term of 2021, the trust participated in a review by a School Resource Management Advisor (SRMA). The trust team welcomed the opportunity to work with an allocated ESFA advisor. During this audit, the trust was able to show its financial effectiveness. Areas where financial savings could be made were already known and work had commenced to address these. Where leadership costs were listed as a high cost when benchmarked with similar schools this was because the trust was supporting additional leadership capacity to help improve provision and raise standards.

See Financial Review section below for details of the key financial performance indicators.

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report

Financial review

The academy trust's accounting period is from 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2021.

Most of the academy trust's funding is obtained from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants. This funding is recognised as restricted due to its specific purposes. Any ESFA funding received for fixed assets is shown in the statement of financial activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the useful life of the assets concerned as defined in the academy trust's accounting policies.

The grants from the ESFA and associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities. The academies also receive high needs and early years funding from the Local Authority. The high needs funding supports pupils who are eligible for additional support based on their special educational needs. The early years funding is based on the hours taken by pupils in our two nurseries. These grants are treated as restricted income.

The trust each year will bid for conditional improvement funding (CIF) and where successful will be treated as restricted income.

During the period ended 31 August 2021 total expenditure of £3,775,172 (2020: £3,667,849) was covered by recurrent grant funding from the ESFA and other incoming resources together totalling £3,835,588 (2020: £3,687,569). The surplus of income over expenditure was £60,416 (2020: £19,720) for the period ended 31 August 2021. All figures exclude movements in the fixed asset reserves and pension liability reserve. The balance as at 31 August 2021 of the restricted general funds, excluding pension reserves, plus the unrestricted funds amounted to £853,313 (2020: £830,784), after transfers to the restricted fixed asset fund.

Overall increase in balances will allow headteachers sufficient financial support to achieve the objectives within their academy improvement plans.

5.3 Reserves policy

The trustees review the reserve levels of the trust annually. Our aim is to use the funds each year for the full benefit of the pupils within that year. All surplus funds are currently held in interest bearing accounts and drawn into current accounts as and when needed to meet operational needs.

The trust also considers it necessary to carry forward some reserves:

- to invest in future years priorities for the children of our schools, for example capital projects
- to have a contingency reserve to cover a reduction in pupil numbers
- to cover any unforeseen urgent maintenance

The level of free reserves (total funds less fixed asset and other restricted funds) held on 31 August 2021 was £853,313 (2020: £830,784). This has been reviewed by the trust and is in line with the reserves policy.

The restricted pension fund reserve is in deficit to the value of £3,714,000 as of 31 August 2021 (2020: £3,330,000). A sizable portion of this deficit has been inherited upon conversion to academy status and the trustees will continue to monitor this situation closely

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The finance committee along with the trust's CFO conduct regular reviews of the actual expenditure and income against budget. They regularly report to the trust board via monthly management accounts.

Internal scrutiny services have been commissioned and are conducted by Hart Shaw LLP; their reports are received by the audit committee twice yearly who report to the trustees.

The trustees believe that the academy trust's risk management procedures mitigate as far as reasonably possible the principal risks and uncertainties facing it.

The trust has in place a risk register which is reviewed termly by the audit committee. Each area of risk being ranked as to the likelihood of it occurring and the impact of this. The audit committee scrutinise the risk and determine actions to be taken to address this.

Another area of risk is the standards of attainment at one or more of the trust academies resulting in an inadequate Ofsted judgement. The trust conducts an external annual review of its academies to accurately assess the performance of each academy and take early intervention to address any identified issues.

The academy has fully implemented the requirements of the safer recruitment procedures and all staff have received training in this area in addition to training on child protection.

The academy trust does not have significant trade debtors as invoiced income is a minor ancillary activity. Income from lettings is usually paid in advance mitigating any credit risk.

Cash flow is monitored daily by the academy trust and budgets presented to the board of trustees consider cash flow and liquidity in detail. The individual academies have built up cash reserves which enable the academy trust to plan for future capital projects.

Investment policy

The trustees have determined that all cash balances shall be held in interest earning deposit accounts and drawn into current accounts as and when needed to meet operational expenditure. As a result of the low level of potential returns available in the market, set against the risk of tying up funding for any length of time, there were no investments undertaken during the reporting period.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The main risks and uncertainties faced by the trust are regarding future income. The trust is funded mainly from the ESFA, which is based on pupil numbers. Future pupil numbers are difficult to predict with a great degree of accuracy and this therefore results in an element of uncertainty surrounding future financing. The trust believes the local parental preference along with planned new housing is sufficient to attract the appropriate level of financing and future projections anticipate an increase in demand for places

Cash flow

The trust's CFO regularly monitors cash-flow and account balances to ensure immediate financial day to day commitments can be met and that the current account has adequate funds to meet forthcoming commitments.

Fundraising

Fundraising events are planned throughout the year which fall into two categories; one being the activities around the highly publicised national events for example, sports relief, comic relief and children in need, where all donations go to the charity event. These are internally organised by academy staff. Secondly, we have fundraising events where academies, together with a group of volunteers, parents, and carers, arrange summer and Christmas fairs. Funds raised from these events help purchase additional resources over and above those that would not normally be available from the school budget. Some of these have not been able to take place due to the Coronavirus pandemic and restrictions on visitors and group gatherings on school sites.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Strategic Report

Plans for future periods

Pioneer Academies Community Trust will strive to meet key objectives and deliver outstanding opportunities for its pupils. There will be a strong focus on governance, leadership, succession planning and accountability. After a thorough consultation process, the board of trustees appointed Mr. Harry Wood as its new Chief Executive Officer. Mr. Wood will collaborate with the trustees to formulate the trust improvement plan.

The trust is committed to achieving and sustaining 'good' Ofsted judgements and working towards 'outstanding' in all academies. The trust is now in a position where it needs to consolidate and show sustained improvement.

Strategic aims have been agreed which set out the approach to sustained improvement across the trust and the measurable actions for achieving them.

1. Sustain progress and ensure best value for all partner schools:

- invest in CPD and leadership programmes for existing staff to be ready for expansion
- expand our networks and partnerships including school to school support
- continue to recruit talented workforce through engaging with ITT; Teach First and School Direct

2. Ensure governance structures are robust, effective, and appropriate in the context of public accountability:

- review effectiveness of governance at all levels
- provide training for local governing bodies in skills needed to hold schools to account
- ensure clearly understood accountability frameworks

3. Accelerate the pace of academy improvement to ensure that all the trust academies deliver the best outcomes for pupils:

- ensure that attainment and progress for all our learners is above national average
- ensure that best practice is shared amongst our schools and that every teacher aspires to be outstanding
- encourage collaboration between schools
- agree and implement robust school improvement strategy

4. Seek to expand the trust when the right opportunities arise

- continue to develop an infrastructure which provides management / administration support to schools, offering value and leaving schools to focus on pupils, learning and teaching
- increase school improvement and leadership capacity
- explore opportunities for schools to become associate members of the trust

5. Maintain and improve our buildings to ensure that we offer outstanding facilities

- engage services of professionals to submit CIF bids on behalf of the trust based on individual academy property data survey
- apply for conditional improvement funding for mechanical works (heating system) and fire safety

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

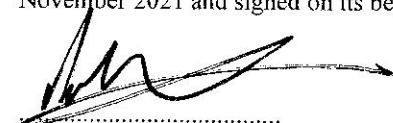
Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The trustees' report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the board of Trustees on 30 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
P Steadman
Chair of Trustees

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Governance Statement

Scope of responsibility

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

The board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to H Wood, 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 Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of Trustees has formally met 5 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
K Hartshorne, Vice Chair	4	5
P Bagley	4	5
P Steadman, Chair	5	5
H Harrison	5	5

The board continues to review its structure and remit. The trust's scheme of delegation was updated and approved in June 2021. The board has continued to undertake its duties and functions throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Virtual meetings have been held to undertake all the necessary safeguarding required to review risk assessments and control measures. The board has adhered to the revised requirements and timelines published by the ESFA and DfE. Key external national assessment data was not available for the board to interrogate this academic year due to the government postponing these assessments. The trust's CEO and director of teaching & learning have shared key performance data and trustees have challenged the rigour of moderation and are satisfied that it:

- reflects pupils' attainment
- highlights future gaps in learning

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Governance Statement (continued)

Governance reviews

Trust leadership has looked at three key documents to help draw up its governance audit framework. These documents include:

- the competency framework for governance (DfE)
- documentation on trusts being part of civic structures with responsibilities to work with partners and other civic actors to advance education in the public interest in their locality. (CST)
- twenty-one questions to support MAT board review (NGA)

PACT's governance improvement capacity framework adopts the sixteen core competencies as a basis to assess its corporate capacity and effectiveness. Our self-evaluation process is thorough, robust, and challenging and is matched against the key features of effective governance. A self-review has been undertaken, producing a summary report and action plan. Key aspects of this framework include:

1. Setting the direction
2. Culture, values, and ethos
3. Decision-making
4. Collaborative working and civic responsibility
5. Risk management
6. Educational improvement
7. Analysis of data
8. Financial frameworks and accountability
9. Financial management
10. Staffing and performance management
11. External accountability
12. Building an effective team
13. Structures of governance
14. Statutory/contractual requirements
15. Self-review
16. Board effectiveness

Other self-evaluation audits completed by trust senior leaders include:

- completion of the Edurio staff survey
- leadership self-review audit using frameworks based on DfE, Ofsted and CST frameworks

All reviews have been collated on iAbacus and shared with trustees as part of termly CEO reports. As a result of these reviews the trust has generated its key priorities for the forthcoming academic year. These are.

- clarity of purpose
- building capacity for improvement
- recruiting, developing, and retaining talent

The trust board and local governing bodies continue to review annually their skills and effectiveness. The next review and self-evaluation will take place in autumn 2021 as part of a strategic approach to trustee and governor recruitment.

An external audit of governance is planned for the spring term 2022.

Effective oversight of funds

The full Board has met less than 6 times in the year. The Board considers to have effective oversight of funds as monthly management accounts are shared on a monthly basis by the Chief Financial Officer, and any queries raised are communicated at that point in time.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

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 achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

1. Ensuring a focus on targeted improvement linked to each academy improvement plan to ensure maximum impact for pupils. This has included supporting the academies to deliver the new curriculum fully and correctly and in an engaging way which enables its pupils to thrive.

2. Investing in the curriculum as an element of the budget which has a direct impact on outcomes for pupils. This includes:

- joint training days for all staff to ensure a consistent approach to support teaching and learning
- the staffing structure is regularly reviewed to ensure staff are efficiently deployed and are appropriately qualified and experienced
- the academy has invested in further developing effective tracking systems in relation to the new curriculum to record all aspects of student data including progress through the school; ensuring interventions and support are targeted to achieve value for money
- staff recruitment to the trust and its academies supporting deployment based on support and need
- engagement with Teach First for recruitment of high-quality trainee teachers
- strategic deployment of the director of teaching and learning to support the development of high-quality provision across the trust through CPD and training

3. Regular maintenance and refurbishment to the fabric of the buildings ensuring that an attractive and stimulating environment is provided for the pupils.

4. All expiring contracts are appraised and where appropriate renegotiated in a timely manner assessing value for money. The academies ensure that multiple tenders are sourced where appropriate to ensure value for money. The trust has developed procedures for assessing need and obtaining goods and services which provide best value in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost:

- competitive tendering procedures
- procedures for accepting best value quotes, which are not necessarily the cheapest
- annual review of finance procedures, termly audits and office staff meetings to ensure consistency and efficiencies are being sought across the trust
- joint procurement across the trust for EWO, Health and Safety, HR, ICT support, Legal advice, Educational Psychologist and Specialist support for Hearing and Visual Impaired.

The CEO has benefitted this year by receiving the support of a SRMA who completed a review of the trust's procedures and protocols.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) for the year ended 31 August 2021 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Governance Statement (continued)

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 ended 31 August 2021 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 and General Purposes Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.

The board of Trustees has decided:

- to employ Hart Shaw LLP as internal auditor

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

- testing of purchasing/procurement systems including ensuring that authorisation and value for money policies are adhered to;
- testing of payroll systems;
- testing of the receipt of income systems;
- testing of bank controls and reconciliation procedures;
- testing of VAT reporting;
- testing of procedures for the recording of financials and reporting to governors; and
- testing of the website requirements per the Academies Financial Handbook.

On a termly basis, the auditor reports to the board of Trustees, through the audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of Trustees's financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

There were no material control or other issues reported by the Responsible Officer to date.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Governance Statement (continued)

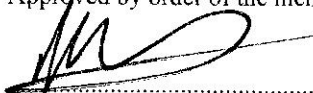
Review of effectiveness

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

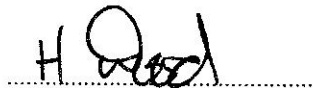
- the work of the internal auditor ;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assesment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Trustees on 30th November, 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



P Steadman
Chair of Trustees



H Wood
Accounting Officer

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) 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 received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

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.



H Wood
Accounting Officer

30 November 2021

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education 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 apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board on 30 November 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
P Steadman
Chair of Trustees

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2021, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, Balance Sheet, Statement of Cash Flows, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

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 2021 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; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021.

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information (covers the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustees' Report and Strategic Report and the Governance Statement)

The Trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the annual report, other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon.

In connection with our audit of the financial statements, our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the audit or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether there is a material misstatement in the financial statements or a material misstatement of the other information. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) (continued)

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 19], the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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:

- Discussions with management, including consideration of known or suspected instances of non-compliance held.
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made within significant accounting estimates and judgements such as depreciation and the local government pension scheme liability.
- Testing of income, bank, purchases and payroll, systems and controls and providing conclusions on the regularity of samples chosen.
- Identification of key laws and regulations central to the academies operations and review of compliance with such laws including a review of the Academy Trust Handbook 2020 and correspondence with solicitors to identify any on-going litigation.
- Testing of journal entries and potential override of systems.

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. The risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) (continued)

Use of our report

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



Adam Millson ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants, Statutory Auditor

Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

30 November 2021

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 June 2021 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) during the period 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 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 Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we may state to Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT) and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

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

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of the board of Trustees's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated and the Academies Financial Handbook extant from 1 September 2020, 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 2020 to 2021. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

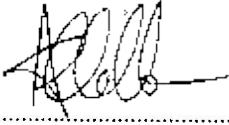
- evaluation the systems and control environment;
- assessing the risk of irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance;
- confirming the activities of the Academy are in keeping with the Academy's framework and the charitable objectives; and
- obtaining representations from the Accounting Officer and Key Management Personnel.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Pioneer Academies
Community Trust (PACT) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)**

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 1 September 2020 to 31 August 2021 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



.....
Adam Millson ACA, Reporting Accountant

For and on behalf of Forrester Boyd Chartered Accountants, Chartered Accountants

Waynflete House
139 Eastgate
Louth
Lincolnshire
LN11 9QQ

30 November 2021

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2021
(including Income and Expenditure Account)**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2020/21 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	18,127	-	20,201	38,328
Other trading activities	4	42,516	960	-	43,476
Investments	5	84	-	-	84
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	3,753,700	-	3,753,700
Total		60,727	3,754,660	20,201	3,835,588
Expenditure on:					
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	34,442	3,976,730	193,649	4,204,821
Net income/(expenditure)		26,285	(222,070)	(173,448)	(369,233)
Transfers between funds		-	(17,686)	17,686	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	(148,000)	-	(148,000)
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		26,285	(387,756)	(155,762)	(517,233)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2020		406,199	(2,905,415)	5,746,238	3,247,022
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2021		432,484	(3,293,171)	5,590,476	2,729,789

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

**Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2020
(including Income and Expenditure Account)**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2019/20 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	2,379	-	20,228	22,607
Other trading activities	4	91,370	-	-	91,370
Investments	5	1,709	-	-	1,709
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	3	-	3,571,883	-	3,571,883
Total		95,458	3,571,883	20,228	3,687,569
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	14,452	-	-	14,452
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	56,248	3,827,149	198,690	4,082,087
Total		70,700	3,827,149	198,690	4,096,539
Net income/(expenditure)		24,758	(255,266)	(178,462)	(408,970)
Transfers between funds		-	(1,359)	1,359	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	(413,000)	-	(413,000)
Net movement in funds/(deficit)		24,758	(669,625)	(177,103)	(821,970)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2019		381,441	(2,235,790)	5,923,341	4,068,992
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2020		406,199	(2,905,415)	5,746,238	3,247,022

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

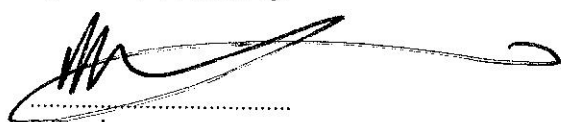
(Registration number: 08255683)
Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2021

	Note	2021 £	(As restated) 2020 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	5,587,551	5,721,543
Current assets			
Debtors	13	120,626	109,771
Cash at bank and in hand		904,725	990,648
		<u>1,025,351</u>	<u>1,100,419</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	14	<u>(169,113)</u>	<u>(244,940)</u>
Net current assets		<u>856,238</u>	<u>855,479</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>6,443,789</u>	<u>6,577,022</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability		6,443,789	6,577,022
Pension scheme liability	23	<u>(3,714,000)</u>	<u>(3,330,000)</u>
Net assets including pension liability		<u><u>2,729,789</u></u>	<u><u>3,247,022</u></u>
Funds of the Academy:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund		420,829	424,585
Restricted fixed asset fund		5,590,476	5,746,238
Restricted pension fund		<u>(3,714,000)</u>	<u>(3,330,000)</u>
		2,297,305	2,840,823
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund		<u>432,484</u>	<u>406,199</u>
Total funds		<u><u>2,729,789</u></u>	<u><u>3,247,022</u></u>
Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses			
		2021	2020
		£	£
Net movement in funds/(deficit) for the year		(517,233)	(821,970)
Prior year adjustment		(627,693)	
Total gains and losses recognised since last annual report		<u><u>(1,144,926)</u></u>	

Prior Year Adjustment

A prior year adjustment is necessary as material repair expenditure was incorrectly included in the balance sheet within Freehold Land and Buildings additions in previous years. A prior year adjustment has also been made to recognise DfE/ESFA grant income in line with the Charities SORP 2019.

The financial statements on pages 25 to 49 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 30 November 2021 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
P Steadman
Chair of Trustees

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2021

		2021	(As restated) 2020
	Note	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	18	(50,937)	(121,417)
Cash flows from investing activities	19	<u>(34,986)</u>	<u>(13,359)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(85,923)	(134,776)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>990,648</u>	<u>1,125,424</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	20	<u><u>904,725</u></u>	<u><u>990,648</u></u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021

1 Accounting policies

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity incorporated in England & Wales. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Trust. The company registration number is 08255683.

The address of its registered and principal office is:

PACT Head Office,
Carlton Primary Academy,
Fish Dam Lane,
Barnsley,
South Yorkshire,
S71 3HF.

These financial statements cover the individual entity, Pioneer Academies Community Trust.

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2020 to 2021 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

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

Going concern

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

Specifically in connection with the current economic climate, the Trustees have considered the impact of COVID-19 on the Trust and they are satisfied that the Trust has sufficient financial headroom to continue to operate for at least the next twelve months. For this reason, the financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

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.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Grants

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

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

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

The academy trust is benefiting from ESFA's [Free School / Priority Schools Building Programme - tailor as applicable]. The funding for the programme is not recognised as a capital grant until there is unconditional entitlement from costs being incurred, and the development occurring on a site where the academy trust controls (through ownership, lease or licence) [tailor to circumstances] the site where the development is occurring. The expenditure is capitalised in assets under construction until the project is complete.

Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

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

Donated fixed assets

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

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Expenditure

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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/reducing balance] basis over its expected useful life, per the table below. Where an asset comprises of two or more components which have substantially different useful lives, each component is depreciated separately over its useful economic life.

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 or leasehold land and buildings.

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

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Freehold land	Not depreciated
Freehold buildings	Over the remaining life of buildings up to 50 years
Assets under construction	Not depreciated
Computer equipment	33.33% straight line
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	25% reducing balance

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Liabilities

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

Provisions

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

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

Leased assets

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

Taxation

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

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

Pension benefits

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

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

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

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31/08/2021. 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.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Educational trips and visits	6,869	-	6,869	-
Capital grants	-	20,201	20,201	20,228
Other donations	11,258	-	11,258	2,379
	<u>18,127</u>	<u>20,201</u>	<u>38,328</u>	<u>22,607</u>

The income from donations and capital grants was £38,328 (2020: £22,607) which was allocated between the funds as follows; £18,127 unrestricted funds (2020: £2,379), £Nil restricted funds (2020: £Nil), £20,201 restricted fixed asset funds (2020: £20,228) and £Nil endowment funds (2020: £Nil).

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

3 Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Restricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	(As restated) 2019/20 Total £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,855,455	2,855,455	2,672,571
Pupil Premium	251,558	251,558	267,190
Universal Infant Free School Meals	91,959	91,959	167,114
Teacher's Pay and Pension Grant	137,399	137,399	120,835
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	83,134	83,134	64,811
	<u>3,419,505</u>	<u>3,419,505</u>	<u>3,292,521</u>
Other government grants			
High Needs/Special Education Needs - Local Authority	31,734	31,734	54,478
Early Years - Local Authority	239,976	239,976	221,184
Other Local Authority Grants	1,100	1,100	3,700
	<u>272,810</u>	<u>272,810</u>	<u>279,362</u>
Non-government grants and other income			
Non-Government Revenue	2,500	2,500	-
Covid-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)			
Coronavirus Educational Support	58,885	58,885	-
Total grants	<u>3,753,700</u>	<u>3,753,700</u>	<u>3,571,883</u>

The Trust received £58,885 (2020: £nil) of COVID-19 catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £58,885 (2020: £nil).

Following the reclassification in the Academies Accounts Direction 2020/21 of some grants received from the Department for Education and ESFA, the academy trust's funding for Universal Infant Free School Meals and Pupil Premium is no longer reported under the Other DfE Group grants heading, but as separate lines under the Other DfE/ESFA grants heading. The prior year numbers have been reclassified.

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Hire of facilities	-	-	-	2,655
Catering income	28,620	-	28,620	45,310
Supply staff insurance claims	-	960	960	-
Other sales	13,896	-	13,896	29,728
School fund income	-	-	-	10,105
Support for other educational establishments	-	-	-	3,572
	<u>42,516</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>43,476</u>	<u>91,370</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Short term deposits	<u>84</u>	<u>84</u>	<u>1,709</u>

6 Expenditure

Non Pay Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Expenditure on raising funds					
Direct costs	-	-	-	-	14,452
Academy's educational operations					
Direct costs	2,644,297	175,156	200,983	3,020,436	2,827,079
Allocated support costs	<u>751,703</u>	<u>172,452</u>	<u>260,230</u>	<u>1,184,385</u>	<u>1,255,008</u>
	<u>3,396,000</u>	<u>347,608</u>	<u>461,213</u>	<u>4,204,821</u>	<u>4,096,539</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Operating lease rentals	7,811	7,901
Depreciation	189,263	198,690
Fees payable to auditor - audit	8,000	12,400
- other audit services	<u>1,725</u>	<u>24,450</u>

7 Charitable activities

	2020/21 £	(As restated) 2019/20 £
Direct costs - educational operations	3,020,436	2,827,079
Support costs - educational operations	<u>1,184,385</u>	<u>1,255,008</u>
	<u>4,204,821</u>	<u>4,082,087</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

7 Charitable activities (continued)

	Educational operations £	2020/21 Total £	2019/20 Total £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	756,703	756,703	823,817
Depreciation	14,107	14,107	13,204
Technology costs	54,416	54,416	86,862
Premises costs	158,345	158,345	163,746
Other support costs	190,519	190,519	119,503
Governance costs	10,295	10,295	47,876
Total support costs	<u>1,184,385</u>	<u>1,184,385</u>	<u>1,255,008</u>

8 Staff

Staff costs

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	2,396,981	2,357,951
Social security costs	203,779	160,773
Operating costs of defined benefit pension schemes	<u>717,762</u>	<u>690,187</u>
	3,318,522	3,208,911
Supply staff costs	66,117	53,299
Staff restructuring costs	<u>11,361</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>3,396,000</u>	<u>3,262,210</u>
	2021	2020
	£	£
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy payments	7,574	-
Severance payments	<u>3,787</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>11,361</u>	<u>-</u>

Non statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £3,787 (2020: £Nil). Individually, the payments were:

Non-statutory payments £3,787

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2020/21 No	2019/20 No
Teachers	31	30
Administration and support	81	87
Management	6	5
	<u>118</u>	<u>122</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2021 No	2020 No
£60,001 - £70,000	2	2
£70,001 - £80,000	1	-
	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £425,009 (2020: £396,104).

9 Central services

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

- Finance
- Personnel / HR
- Technology
- Administrative
- Legal

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

5% of their budget to carry forward.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2021/20 £	2020/19 £
Carlton Primary Academy	54,502	99,291
Parkside Primary Academy	44,172	76,373
Summerfields Primary Academy	44,099	42,528
	<u>142,773</u>	<u>218,192</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

10 Related party transactions - trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

J Everett (Executive Principal):

Remuneration: (2020 - £25,000 - £30,000)

Employer's pension contributions: (2020 - £5,000 - £10,000)

The Executive Principal only received remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Executive Principal under their contract of employment, and not in respect of their services as Trustees.

During the year ended 31 August 2021, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil (2020 - £Nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to 0 trustees (2020 - 0).

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 24.

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The Trust have opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA) for Trusts from 1st September 2020. This scheme provides unlimited cover. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme.

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

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost				
At 1 September 2020	6,273,782	544,168	242,436	7,060,386
Additions	8,144	34,637	12,490	55,271
At 31 August 2021	<u>6,281,926</u>	<u>578,805</u>	<u>254,926</u>	<u>7,115,657</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2020	766,920	347,389	224,534	1,338,843
Charge for the year	121,609	53,547	14,107	189,263
At 31 August 2021	<u>888,529</u>	<u>400,936</u>	<u>238,641</u>	<u>1,528,106</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2021	<u>5,393,397</u>	<u>177,869</u>	<u>16,285</u>	<u>5,587,551</u>
At 31 August 2020	<u>5,506,862</u>	<u>196,779</u>	<u>17,902</u>	<u>5,721,543</u>

The freehold land and buildings above includes land totaling £184,000 (2020: £184,000) that has not been depreciated.

13 Debtors

	2021 £	2020 £
Trade debtors	-	1,718
VAT recoverable	23,826	13,674
Prepayments	54,581	47,659
Accrued grant and other income	42,219	46,720
	<u>120,626</u>	<u>109,771</u>

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2021 £	(As restated) 2020 £
Trade creditors	3,726	32,879
Other taxation and social security	48,543	44,973
Other creditors	213	-
Accruals	59,506	62,204
Deferred income	-	51,832
Pension scheme creditor	57,125	53,052
	<u>169,113</u>	<u>244,940</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

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

	2021 £	(As restated) 2020 £
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2020	51,832	154,663
Resources deferred in the period	-	51,832
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(51,832)</u>	<u>(154,663)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>51,832</u>

Amounts included in deferred income for the year ended 31st August 2020 related to unspent Condition Improvement Funding repaid back to the ESFA during the year ended 31st August 2021.

15 Funds

	(As restated) Balance at 1 September 2020 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2021 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	205,848	2,855,455	(2,937,386)	(17,686)	106,231
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	622,935	(527,074)	-	95,861
Other Government Grants	-	272,810	(272,810)	-	-
Other Restricted Funds	<u>218,737</u>	<u>3,460</u>	<u>(3,460)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>218,737</u>
	<u>424,585</u>	<u>3,754,660</u>	<u>(3,740,730)</u>	<u>(17,686)</u>	<u>420,829</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	3,992,778	-	(90,600)	-	3,902,178
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	1,366,324	20,201	(75,472)	-	1,311,053
Capital expenditure from GAG	<u>387,136</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(27,577)</u>	<u>17,686</u>	<u>377,245</u>
	5,746,238	20,201	(193,649)	17,686	5,590,476
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Reserve	<u>(3,330,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(236,000)</u>	<u>(148,000)</u>	<u>(3,714,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	2,840,823	3,774,861	(4,170,379)	(148,000)	2,297,305
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>406,199</u>	<u>60,727</u>	<u>(34,442)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>432,484</u>
Total funds	<u>3,247,022</u>	<u>3,835,588</u>	<u>(4,204,821)</u>	<u>(148,000)</u>	<u>2,729,789</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2019 £	Incoming resources £	Resources expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	(As restated) Balance at 31 August 2020 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	236,473	2,672,571	(2,701,837)	(1,359)	205,848
Other DfE/ESFA Grants	-	619,950	(619,950)	-	-
Other Government Grants	-	279,362	(279,362)	-	-
Other Restricted Funds	218,737	-	-	-	218,737
	<u>455,210</u>	<u>3,571,883</u>	<u>(3,601,149)</u>	<u>(1,359)</u>	<u>424,585</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion	4,083,630	-	(90,852)	-	3,992,778
DfE/ESFA Capital Grants	1,419,449	20,228	(73,353)	-	1,366,324
Capital expenditure from GAG	420,262	-	(34,485)	1,359	387,136
	5,923,341	20,228	(198,690)	1,359	5,746,238
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Reserve	(2,691,000)	-	(226,000)	(413,000)	(3,330,000)
Total restricted funds	3,687,551	3,592,111	(4,025,839)	(413,000)	2,840,823
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	381,441	95,458	(70,700)	-	406,199
Total funds	<u>4,068,992</u>	<u>3,687,569</u>	<u>(4,096,539)</u>	<u>(413,000)</u>	<u>3,247,022</u>

The academy trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

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

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

Other DfE / ESFA grants is made up of income for Pupil Premium, rates relief, teachers' pay, teachers' pensions and Free School Meal supplementary grant (FSM).

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

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

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

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

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

A transfer of £17,686 (2020: £1,359) was made during the year to reflect capital additions bought using restricted general funds

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 were allocated as follows:

	2021	(As restated)
	£	2020
		£
Carlton Primary Academy	154,603	132,762
Parkside Primary Academy	163,831	90,853
Summerfields Primary Academy	160,639	113,685
Central services	374,240	493,484
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	853,313	830,784
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	5,590,476	5,746,238
Pension Reserve	<u>(3,714,000)</u>	<u>(3,330,000)</u>
Total	<u>2,729,789</u>	<u>3,247,022</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

15 Funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and Educational Support Staff Costs £	Other Support Staff Costs £	Educational Supplies £	Other Costs (excluding Depreciation) £	Total 2021 £	(As restated) Total 2020 £
Carlton Primary Academy	1,012,638	227,041	38,054	146,541	1,424,274	1,332,608
Parkside Primary Academy	791,442	178,813	27,423	123,760	1,121,438	1,094,674
Summerfields Primary Academy	634,371	184,296	28,555	120,186	967,408	963,127
Central services	141,199	54,206	-	71,033	266,438	155,542
Academy Trust	<u>2,579,650</u>	<u>644,356</u>	<u>94,032</u>	<u>461,520</u>	<u>3,779,558</u>	<u>3,545,951</u>

16 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2021 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	5,587,551	5,587,551
Current assets	432,484	589,942	2,925	1,025,351
Current liabilities	-	(169,113)	-	(169,113)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,714,000)	-	(3,714,000)
Total net assets	<u>432,484</u>	<u>(3,293,171)</u>	<u>5,590,476</u>	<u>2,729,789</u>

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

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted general funds £	Restricted fixed asset funds £	(As restated) Total funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	5,721,543	5,721,543
Current assets	406,199	669,525	24,695	1,100,419
Current liabilities	-	(244,940)	-	(244,940)
Pension scheme liability	-	(3,330,000)	-	(3,330,000)
Total net assets	<u>406,199</u>	<u>(2,905,415)</u>	<u>5,746,238</u>	<u>3,247,022</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

17 Long-term commitments, including operating leases

Operating leases

At 31 August 2021 the total of the academy trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2021 £	2020 £
Amounts due within one year	7,811	7,878
Amounts due between one and five years	13,920	22,278
	<u>21,731</u>	<u>30,156</u>

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

	2020/21 £	(As restated) 2019/20 £
Net expenditure	(369,233)	(408,970)
Depreciation	189,263	198,690
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(20,201)	(20,228)
Interest receivable	(84)	(1,709)
Defined benefit pension scheme service cost adjustment	172,000	170,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	59,000	47,000
Defined benefit pension scheme administrative cost	5,000	9,000
Decrease in stocks	-	4,000
Increase in debtors	(10,855)	(13,165)
Decrease in creditors	(75,827)	(106,035)
Net cash used in Operating Activities	<u>(50,937)</u>	<u>(121,417)</u>

19 Cash flows from investing activities

	2020/21 £	2019/20 £
Interest received	84	1,709
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(55,271)	(35,296)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	20,201	20,228
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(34,986)</u>	<u>(13,359)</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

20 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2021 £	2020 £
Cash in hand and at bank	904,725	990,648
Total cash and cash equivalents	904,725	990,648

21 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2020 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2021 £
Cash	990,648	(85,923)	904,725
Total	990,648	(85,923)	904,725

22 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 £1 for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

23 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by South Yorkshire Pension Authority. 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 to the period ended 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £(57,125) (2020 - £(53,052)) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £307,800 (2020: £298,080).

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

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

Local government pension scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2021 was £239,000 (2020 - £269,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £239,000 (2020 - £213,000) and employees' contributions totalled £Nil (2020 - £56,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 12.5 - 30.8 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 an academy trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2021 %	2020 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4.00	3.60
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	2.40
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	1.70	1.80
Inflation assumptions (CPI)	2.80	2.30

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

	2021	2020
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	22.50	22.40
Females retiring today	25.30	25.20
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	24.00	23.90
Females retiring in 20 years	27.20	27.10

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

A sensitivity analysis for the principal assumptions used to measure scheme liabilities is set out below:

	+ 0.1%	0.0%	- 0.1%
Adjustment to discount rate	£	£	£
Present value of total obligation	<u>8,022,000</u>	<u>8,191,000</u>	<u>8,363,000</u>
Adjustment to rate of inflation	£	£	£
Present value of total obligation	<u>8,364,000</u>	<u>8,191,000</u>	<u>8,021,000</u>
Adjustment to mortality age rating assumption	+ 1 Year	None	- 1 Year
Present value of total obligation	<u>8,447,000</u>	<u>8,191,000</u>	<u>7,943,000</u>

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme were:

	2021	2020
	£	£
Equities	2,169,000	1,695,000
Government bonds	617,000	525,000
Other bonds	331,000	314,000
Property	385,000	300,000
Cash and other liquid assets	44,000	128,000
Other	<u>931,000</u>	<u>612,000</u>
Total market value of assets	<u>4,477,000</u>	<u>3,574,000</u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £665,000 (2020 - £196,000).

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

23 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
Current service cost	411,000	383,000
Past service cost	-	4,000
Interest income	(67,000)	(60,000)
Interest cost	126,000	107,000
Admin expenses	5,000	9,000
	<u>475,000</u>	<u>443,000</u>

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
At start of period	6,904,000	5,915,000
Current service cost	411,000	383,000
Interest cost	126,000	107,000
Employee contributions	59,000	56,000
Actuarial (gain)/loss	748,000	549,000
Benefits paid	(57,000)	(110,000)
Past service cost	-	4,000
	<u>8,191,000</u>	<u>6,904,000</u>

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

	2020/21	2019/20
	£	£
At start of period	3,574,000	3,224,000
Interest income	62,000	55,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	600,000	136,000
Employer contributions	239,000	213,000
Employee contributions	59,000	56,000
Benefits paid	(57,000)	(110,000)
	<u>4,477,000</u>	<u>3,574,000</u>

Pioneer Academies Community Trust (PACT)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2021 (continued)

24 Related party transactions

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. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Expenditure related party transactions

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

A Steadman

(P Steadman (Chair of Trustees) is the father of A Steadman, and A Steadman is the headteacher of Carlton Primary School.)

A Steadman receives remuneration for his services as a headteacher. Remuneration (excluding pension) for the year was £61,166 (2020: £57,986). Employer's pension contributions were £14,484 (2020: £13,731)..

In entering into the transaction, the academy trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2020.

At the balance sheet date the amount due to A Steadman was £Nil (2020 - £Nil).

All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying 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.