

**Hall Cross Academy Trust  
Annual Report and Financial  
Statements**

**For the Year Ended  
31 August 2014**

**Company Limited by Guarantee  
Registration Number 07902880  
(England and Wales)**

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

<b>CONTENTS</b>	<b>PAGE</b>
Reference and Administrative Details	1-2
Trustees' Report	3-13
Governance Statement	14-16
Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance	17
Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities	18
Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements	19-20
Independent Accountant's Report on Regularity	21-22
Statement of Financial Activities Incorporating Income and Expenditure Account	23
Balance Sheet	24
Cash Flow Statement	25
Notes to the Financial Statements, incorporating:	
Statement of Accounting Policies	26
Other Notes to the Financial Statements	29

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Reference and Administrative Details

#### Members

Mr R M Williams  
Mrs J Foxtan  
Mr B Marshall

#### Trustees

Mr P Marshall	(Chair) (until 21 September 2014)
Rev K Armstrong	Community Trustee
Mr P Benstead	Staff Trustee
Mr D Cox	Community Trustee - (Vice-Chair) (Chair from 22 September 2014)
Ms P Dodgshon*	Headteacher and Accounting Officer
Mrs J Flynn	Staff Trustee
Mrs J Foxtan*	
Mr D George	Parent Trustee
Mr B Marshall*	(Chairman Finance & Resources Committee)
Mrs E Morriss	Parent Trustee
Mr P Round	Staff Trustee
Mr A Townsend*	Parent Trustee (appointed 1 September 2013)
Mr R M Williams	

\* Members of the Finance and Resources Committee

#### Company Secretary

Mr M E Swift

#### Senior Management Team

Ms P Dodgshon	(Principal and Accounting Officer)
Mr M E Swift	(Business Manager)
Mr S J Swain	(Deputy Principal)
Mrs A Whittaker	(Deputy Principal)
Mrs S M Carroll	(Assistant Principal)
Mr M J Cattrall	(Assistant Principal)
Mr T Goodchild	(Assistant Principal)
Mr J Harris	(Assistant Principal)
Miss S W Stockham	(Assistant Principal)
Mrs J Baldwin	(Associate Assistant Principal)
Mr P Bradbury	(Associate Assistant Principal)
Mrs K Miles	(Associate Assistant Principal)
Mr P R Round	(Associate Assistant Principal)
Mrs C Smith	(Associate Assistant Principal)
Mr N Watts	(Associate Assistant Principal)
Mr N Wilde	(Associate Assistant Principal)

#### Principal and Registered Office :

Thorne Road  
Doncaster  
DN1 2HY

#### Company Registration Number:

7902880 (England and Wales)

**Hall Cross Academy Trust****Reference and Administrative Details****Independent Auditor**

Allotts Business Services Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Registered Auditors  
Sidings Court  
Lakeside  
Doncaster  
DN4 5NU

**Bankers**

Barclays Bank PLC  
Ten Pound Walk  
Doncaster  
DN4 5HJ

**Solicitors**

Wrigleys Solicitors  
19 Cookridge Street  
Leeds  
LS2 3AG

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Trustees' Report

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the Charitable Company for the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The principal activity of the Charitable Company is the operation of Hall Cross Academy to provide education for pupils and students of a range of ability between the ages of 11-18 serving a catchment area in central Doncaster. The Academy operates from two sites at Thorne Road, Doncaster (Upper School) and St. Michael's Road, Doncaster (Lower School). This is the primary object of the Academy Trust as set out in paragraph 4 of the Articles of Association of the Company Limited by Guarantee.

### **Structure, Governance and Management**

#### Constitution

The Academy Trust was incorporated on 9 January 2012 and opened as an Academy on 1 February 2012. The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of Hall Cross Academy Trust also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company is known as Hall Cross Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

#### Members' Liability

The liability of the members of the Academy Trust is limited. Every member of the Academy Trust undertakes to contribute such amount as may be required (not exceeding £10) to the Academy Trust's assets if it should be wound-up while he or she is a member or within one year after he or she ceases to be a member and of the costs, charges and expenses of winding-up, and for the adjustment of the rights of the contributories amongst themselves.

#### Trustees' Indemnities

As required by Chapter 7, Section 236 of the Companies Act, we disclose that every Trustee or other officer or auditor of the Academy Trust shall be indemnified out of the assets of the Academy Trust against any liability incurred by them in that capacity in defending any proceedings, whether civil or criminal, in which judgement is given in favour or in which they are acquitted or in connection with any application in which relief is granted to them by the court from liability for negligence, default breach of duty or breach of trust in relation to affairs of the Academy Trust.

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5,000,000 in any one year.

#### Method of Recruitment and Appointment or Election of Trustees

The Academy Trust has the following capacity for Trustees:

- A minimum of two Parent Trustees which have to be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Academy.
- Staff Trustees – the Members may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine, provided that the total number of Trustees (including the Headteacher) who are employees of the Academy Trust does not exceed one third of the number of Trustees.
- Up to three Trustees can be co-opted by the Board of Trustees.
- The Headteacher (deemed Principal).
- Members can then appoint up to eight Trustees.
- Whilst additional Trustee(s) can be appointed by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State has not exercised this right for the Hall Cross Academy Trust.

The number of Trustees shall be not less than three but shall not be subject to any maximum.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Trustees' Report (Continued)

#### Policies and Procedures Adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience.

Where necessary induction will include training on educational, legal and financial matters. All new Trustees will be given the opportunity to tour the Academy and have the chance to meet with staff and students.

All Trustees are also provided with copies of key documents, such as policies, procedures, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents they need to undertake their role. Since there is expected to be only a small number of new Trustees a year, induction will be carried out informally and will be tailored specifically to the individual.

#### Organisational Structure

The Academy's organisational structure consists of two primary levels: the Trustees and the Senior Management Team. Below the Senior Management Team is the Middle Leaders Group which consists of Heads of Department, senior Pastoral Staff and other staff holding teaching & learning responsibility points.

The Board of Trustees' primary role is to approve the strategic direction and objectives of the Academy and monitor its progress towards those objectives. To do this effectively, the Board of Trustees has created various committees:-

- Strategic Committee – includes the Chair of Trustees, the Vice-Chair and the Chair of each Committee
- Finance and Resources Committee (meets at least four times per year)
- Standards & Progress (meets at least four times per year)
- Provisions Committee (meets at least four times per year)
- Pupil Welfare Committee (meets at least four times per year)

All of these committees report to the Full Board of Trustees which meets four times per year.

The Trustees have approved a scheme of financial delegation that allows budgetary responsibility to be delegated, through the Principal, to the lowest level. Trustees are responsible for setting general policy, approving the strategic plan, adopting and approving the annual plan and budget and making major decisions about the direction of the Academy including capital expenditure and major staff appointments.

The Senior Management Team control the Academy at an executive level, implement the policies approved by Trustees and report to Trustees through the various Committees and at the Full Board of Trustees' meetings.

The Principal is the Academy Accounting Officer.

The Academy's Development Plan is reviewed annually and has established specific targets in the following areas:

- **Achievement:** the climate in the school engenders a desire to do one's best and provides the conditions for continual progress.
- **The Quality of Teaching:** teaching provides a range of stimulating and engaging learning experiences and promotes independent learning and personal growth. Teaching is always at least good and students make rapid and sustained progress.
- **Leadership:** the climate established by the school leadership is one of collective, purposeful professionalism, based on mutual respect and clearly linked to common aims.
- **The Climate for Learning:** students and staff work in a mutually tolerant, positive and safe environment which in turn elicits good responses and provides the conditions for engagement and collaboration. People are recognised for their efforts and feel valued.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Trustees' Report (Continued)

#### Connected Organisations including Related Party Relationships

The Academy operates within an Umbrella Trust with Horbury Academy, Ossett Academy and 6<sup>th</sup> Form College, in Wakefield and Armthorpe Academy in Doncaster.

The Yorkshire Education Trust, which is a partnership of the four secondary schools, is used to provide additional opportunity for the staff and students of Hall Cross Academy and contributes to a mutual accountability framework. Projects are established within the partnership of schools, involving a range of staff, to review outcomes for different cohorts of learners and use findings to improve delivery of teaching and learning. There is a development plan for the Consortium, ensuring its growth and providing the basis for each partner to achieve excellence.

The Trust is currently supporting Armthorpe Academy in special measures.

In addition, the Academy operates within other partnerships, including:-

- ITT Consortium (DRAFTTs) of 11 Doncaster secondary schools, formed to deliver School Direct and SCITT – currently supporting 30 trainees – 4 at Hall Cross. A bid for 10 trainees for 2014/15 has been submitted to the DfE.
- Collaboration with Wickersley Teaching School Alliance/Learners First to access, design and deliver NPQML. Subscription for 2013-14 to the Leadership Licence potentially providing access to training at all career stages from pre-entry in to the profession to NPQH. Currently supporting staff on NPQML & NPQSL programmes.
- Delivery of MLDP through the Doncaster South MLDP partnership with Hexthorpe Primary School.
- A partnership with Horbury Academy, Ossett Academy and 6th Form College and Armthorpe Academy on various projects including shared training day activities, NQT and middle leader collaboration.
- The Central Learning Partnership with three other Doncaster schools; Danum Academy, Armthorpe Academy and Outwood Academy for the delivery of 'PRU' programmes for students with behavioural needs at key stage 4.

## **Objectives and Activities**

### Objects and Aims

The principal aim and activity of the Academy Trust is to advance for public benefit the provision of education in the United Kingdom. In doing so it meets the requirements of the Funding Agreement signed by the Secretary of State for Education.

We aim to raise standards of learning by providing students with the knowledge, skills and understanding that they need to make healthy, positive life and lifestyle choices; enabling them to play an active and constructive role in their school and local community.

It provides a balanced and broad curriculum and meets the requirements of the Schools Admissions Code.

Our Mission in support of all our learners:

- To develop and define a sense of identity as they move from childhood to young adulthood and to take their place in the World.
- To refine their interests academically so that they can move confidently towards identified goals.
- To be able to participate fully in an exciting community and feel valued for their contributions.
- To make sense of the World as global citizens.
- To have access to wide ranging opportunities and experiences beyond the classroom.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Trustees' Report (Continued)

- To enjoy a safe, secure and positive environment, confident that the adults know them and care for them as individuals.
- To experience success and be recognised and rewarded.

We believe that we must all hold each other to account to contribute to a dignified and mutually respectful environment. The belief underpins the standards and expectations we have for everyone at the Academy.

#### Academic Mission

- At our core is aspiration for academic success. Building on our proud history, we offer a diverse modern curriculum, personalised to the preferences and aspirations of every learner.
- Learners are supported in their progress and in their choices by experienced and well qualified professionals to advise and guide them in their next steps.
- Our teaching aims to stimulate authentic enjoyment of learning that is resilient and cultivates life-long interests.
- Results have risen rapidly over the last few years and are now significantly above National Averages in key categories.
- Our teachers see themselves as part of a professional learning community, pursuing continuous innovation and improvement on behalf of the students.

#### Variety of Experience

We aim to be more than just a school for our young people, with excellent opportunities for enrichment and personal development. Our dedicated staff provide many opportunities for participation beyond the classroom, including:-

- A wide range of high quality sporting activities and teams
- Creative, presentation and performance opportunities
- Leadership development and taking responsibility
- Work related learning and enterprise
- Curriculum and extra-curricular trips and visits
- Community and charity involvement
- Global citizenship and links with international schools

#### Collaboration

Students are encouraged to work collaboratively, to identify their strengths as team contributors, cultivating:

- Mutual respect and support
- Personal confidence
- Skills to express oneself and ideas appropriately
- The ability to represent diverse viewpoints
- A culture of caring

#### Happy and Successful

- We believe that when we share in the celebration of individuals' success, we are all elevated and feel pride in ourselves and the school. Everyone participates in celebrations and awards events.
- We promise to see each person as an individual and allow them to shine and to feel valued for who they are, recognising whatever skills and talents they possess.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

**Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

The Trustees recognise that equal opportunities should be an integral part of good practice within the workplace.

Our aim is an Academy which provides an atmosphere for learning based on equal opportunities for all and which incorporates the multi-cultural nature of the school and society.

- To give all students equal access to the whole curriculum and amenities of the school in order to achieve their full potential.
- To help pupils to understand the world in which they live and its cultural diversity.
- To prevent pupils being stereotyped or discriminated against in any way - by race, religion, gender or disability.
- To increase staff awareness of all aspects of equal opportunities and associated under-achievement.
- To involve all staff and all pupils in the effective implementation of the Equal Opportunities policy.

**Public Benefit**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

The key public benefit delivered by the Trust is the provision of a high quality of education to its students. The Academy seeks to provide the cultural, physical, spiritual as well as academic development of students.

The Academy is used heavily as a resource by the local community. Both sites are frequently used by community groups ranging from swimming clubs and churches to theatre groups, conferences and meetings. The Academy's lettings policy provides discounted rates for community groups.

**Strategic Report**

**Achievements and Performance**

***Ofsted Inspection Report***

Following our Ofsted inspection on 30th April and 1st May we were very pleased to announce that the Ofsted Inspectors judged Hall Cross Academy to be good in all categories.

Overall effectiveness	Good	2
Achievement of pupils	Good	2
Quality of teaching	Good	2
Behaviour and safety of pupils	Good	2
Leadership and management	Good	2

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

***Academic results***

In the period leading up to 31<sup>st</sup> August 2014 the following were achieved:

- At Key Stage 4, 53% of Pupils achieved 5 A\*-C including English & Maths.
- 70% of Pupils achieved 5 A\*-C GCSEs.
- Levels of progress in English and Maths were as follows:-

3 or more levels of progress in English	58%
3 or more levels of progress in Maths	73%
4 or more levels of progress in English	22%
4 or more levels of progress in Maths	36%

***Sixth Form Developments***

The following measurable improvements have happened in the Sixth Form:

- Improved 6th form attendance.
- Improved AS results, likely to lead to improved A2.
- Improved retention.
- Better quality of pastoral support.
- Better and timelier intervention for those who are not progressing well.
- Increased proportion of good and better lessons at KS5.
- More opportunities for 6th formers to participate in wider school life

These improvements are attributable in part to the following actions:

- More effective and rigorous deployment of 6th form team.
- Reorganisation of pastoral staffing and their roles.
- Better social and emotional support for students.
- More effective and timely involvement of parents.
- Reorganisation of staffing and activities for IAG.
- Better use of data for tracking and intervention.
- Introduction of more user-friendly transition matrices for Post 16 progress.
- Providing cover for 6th form lessons for absent staff.
- Introduction of a study skills training programme.
- Specific staff training and sharing best practise for delivering 6th form lessons.
- Deployment of the "professional learning team" in support of those whose 6th form teaching is not yet good.
- Programmes of activity for the more able.

***Rewards***

At Hall Cross Academy we place great emphasis on the importance of helping our students develop personal and social skills, leadership skills and a desire to help others in our school community. Our Rewards System is one way in which we celebrate students' achievements in these areas. By helping at school events, taking part in sporting activities, competitions, concerts, organising activities, mentoring younger students, achieving excellence or making great improvement, students can be awarded certificates and gift vouchers.

We hold an annual whole school awards evening, termly achievement reward assemblies for each year group and a graduation ceremony for Year 7s for our Hall Cross Baccalaureate programme.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

***Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme - DoE***

The DoE Award Scheme is offered to students at Key Stage 4 & 5 working towards the Bronze, Silver and Gold award helps create independent, socially aware team workers. Now in its fifth year of operating, this very popular programme now has 120 students enrolled.

***Magistrates Court Mock Trial Competition***

Students in Year 8 and 9 have continued to represent the school in the local and regional heat of the Mock Trial Competition. For the past five years the school has won the Doncaster heat and most recently this year the school was asked to select students to participate in the Youth Chairmanship Programme. This involved students from Year 7, 8 and 9 helping in the training of Magistrates for the Youth Court.

***Sport***

The Academy has a sporting tradition, with very large numbers of students engaged in extra-curricular sport and frequently represent in regional and national competitions in disciplines including Hockey, Netball, Tennis, Swimming and Athletics. We have held a very successful annual 'Olympics' in the local athletics stadium for the last three years and our student sports leaders help out in local primary and special schools.

***Flowers 125 Health Programme***

We continue to run the Flowers 125 Health Programme for years 8 and 9. This is a structured 12 week course delivered through interactive workshops, using action based methods and activities. Aimed at those more vulnerable students or those with low self-esteem it has been effective in reducing problematic behaviours that produce barriers to learning.

***Enterprise***

A busy and successful year involving numerous activities including:-

- Numerous cake sales to raise money for charity.
- T-Shirt design competition – run by Technology.
- Performing Arts Gala evening.
- Printing Mugs, Water bottles, t-shirts and celebration plaques to raise money.
- Designing, producing and selling tops for cans.
- Designing and constructing bird boxes to sell - led by Duke of Edinburgh students.
- Furniture up-cycling - led by Duke of Edinburgh students.

All these events were hugely successful and very well supported.

In addition, there were very successful Enterprise days held for Years 7, 10 and 11.

***Capital Developments***

During the period under review, the school completed the following projects:-

- Bio Mass boilers on each site.
- Provision of new café facilities at the Lower site.
- Upgrades to Maths and English areas.
- Purchase of additional iPads for use throughout the Academy.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

**Key Financial Performance Indicators**

The Academy acknowledges that its ability to continue to provide for students the continuing advancement of education is reliant upon the agreed public funding levels, distributed to the Academy in the form of a General Annual Grant (GAG) and it pays due regard to the known future reduction in that funding for students who are in school years 12 and 13 (aged 16-18).

The Academy accepts that its planned level of expenditure must not exceed its known income now and the future forecast income. In doing so it pays due regard to the high proportion of costs based on salaries and any forces influencing rising wage costs.

**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 on page 26.

**Financial Review**

Most of the Academy's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grant, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes and included within the Funding Agreement between the Secretary of State for Education and Hall Cross Academy Trust.

The grants received from the DfE during the period ended 31 August 2014 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2005) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2014, such grants are 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 expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the period ended 31 August 2014 the Academy received income of £11,494K (2013: £11,415K) from the DfE in respect of General Annual Grant and other Government funding, and £334K (2013: £974K) in the form of DfE capital and maintenance grants. It also generated its own income of £732K (2013: £624K) as shown in note 3 to the accounts.

Total expenditure for the period amounted to £13,211K (2013: £12,923K) which included £1,295K (2013: £1,148) of depreciation.

The net deficit for the period before actuarial movements arising from the Local Government Pension Scheme was £588K (2013: surplus of 499K).

At 31 August 2014 the net book value of fixed assets was £18,529K and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 12 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the Academy.

The Academy held total fund balances at 31 August 2014 of £16,228K (2013: £16,419K) comprising a surplus of £329K on restricted general funds, a surplus of £360K on unrestricted general funds and £18,529K on the fixed asset funds. The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) was in deficit by £2,990K at the year end.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

**Reserves Policy**

The Board of Trustees reviews the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually at the year-end and as a part of its budget planning process. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. Trustees determine what the level of uncommitted reserves should be. The aim is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

As a part of its monitoring of in-year financial performance the Board of Trustees reviews the forecast impact on reserves and considers this as a part of its medium term financial planning. During 2014 the Board of Trustees planned to establish a reasonable level of restricted general reserves at the year-end in order to enable it to both manage unforeseen emergencies and also to enable planned use over the medium term to lessen any budget shortfalls.

As at 31 August 2014 the Academy Trust held total restricted general funds of £329K, which it plans to use in part as a component of that medium term financial plan.

Under Accounting Standard FRS17 it is necessary to charge projected deficits on the Local Government Pension Scheme that is provided for our non-teaching staff to a specific restricted reserve. As at 31 August 2014 the deficit on this reserve amounted to £2,990K. It should be noted however that this does not present the Academy Trust with a current liquidity problem.

**Investment Policy**

The Trustees have resolved to invest any funds available in a short term and low risk bank deposit account.

**Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Academy Trust established a Risk Management Strategy and Risk Register last year as reported within the Statement of Internal Control. Top financial risks that it has identified and are managing include: the ever present difficulties in achieving planned increases in student numbers and inability to deliver forecast necessary savings over the medium term and maintain sustainable improvements in student performance. The Academy Trust has initiated actions in order to mitigate these risks.

**Risk Management**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Academy, and its finances. The Trustees are satisfied that systems and procedures are in place to mitigate the exposure to major risks.

The key controls used by the Academy Trust include:

- Formal agendas for Trustees' meetings.
- Detailed terms of reference for all committees
- A clear Development Plan identifying key strategic planning objectives and the resources required to achieve it.
- Comprehensive budget planning, monitoring and review.
- Clear financial delegation levels.
- Formal written policies reviewed on a regular basis.
- Performance Management and Staff Training programme.
- Clear safeguarding and vetting procedures as required by law to protect children and young people.
- Rigorous review of educational achievement to ensure continuing high standards.
- Comprehensive planning and review of admissions processes.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Trustees' Report (Continued)

#### Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

In the previous year the Academy formalised its risk management arrangements. In the Spring term 2014 it both approved a Risk Management Strategy and reviewed the Strategic Risk Register. The Strategic Risk Register will be reviewed at least annually by the Trustees Finance & Resources committee.

The Risk Management Policy forms part of the Academy's internal control and governance arrangements and aims to identify the likelihood of a risk occurring, its impact and actions that are being taken to mitigate the risk.

Risks included on the Register are varied but include:-

- Strategic and Reputational
- Operational
- Compliance
- Financial

In addition the register records existing and proposed controls to minimise risk. The Academy also has a Data Disaster Recovery Policy in case of ICT failure. Some significant financial risks such as public and employee liability are covered by Insurance.

The Academy operates systems of internal financial control and checks and these are examined periodically by the Academy Trust's auditors and Responsible Officer. During 2014 a number of improvements were put in place to strengthen the Academy's internal controls. The Academy regularly and closely monitors its current and projected cash/liquidity position and requirements.

The Academy also produces a Statement of Internal Control which relates to financial management and effectiveness of financial systems.

#### **Plans for Future Periods**

The Academy will continue striving to improve the levels of performance of its students in all areas and will continue its efforts to ensure all students are secure in their next steps on leaving the Academy with regard to employment or continuing in training or formal education. The Academy continuously strives to be at the forefront of innovation in education and we are perpetually revising our curriculum offer to suit the needs of our students.

As the Academy continues to go from strength to strength, we are better able to exploit partnerships with local schools. We are keen to further develop our partnerships with our local primary schools, to work on innovative models of delivery and share our expertise and facilities.

For the forthcoming financial year, the Academy plans to implement the following key objectives:

- Continue to refine the Key Stage 3 and Key Stage 4 curriculum changes.
- Sixth Form Development including, Study Sessions, the Pathways Programme and a Work Experience Week

#### **Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others**

Hall Cross Academy Trust and its Trustees do not act as third party custodial trustees.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**Trustees' Report (Continued)**

**Employees and disabled persons**

The Academy Trust is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all who learn and work here. We respect positively differences in race, gender, sexual orientation, ability, class and age. We strive vigorously to remove conditions which place people at a disadvantage and we actively combat bigotry.

The Academy Trust considers all applications from disabled persons, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the individuals concerned. Where an existing employee becomes disabled, every effort is made to ensure that employment with the Trust continues. The Trust's policy is to provide training, career development and opportunities for promotion, which are, as far as possible, identical to those for other employees.

The Academy Trust works with employee trade unions and professional associations and engages in consultation, as required, to ensure that all aspects of the academy affecting its employees, including financial and economic factors, are discussed, conveyed and consulted on with them.

**Auditor**

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

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

Allotts Business Services Ltd, having expressed their willingness to continue in office, will be deemed reappointed for the next financial year in accordance with section 487(2) of the Companies 2006, unless the Charitable Company receives notice under section 488(1) of the Companies Act 2006.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 15<sup>th</sup> December 2014 and signed on its behalf by:



.....  
Mr D Cox  
(Chair)

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Governance Statement

#### Scope of Responsibility

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Hall Cross Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education.

They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the statement of Trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met five times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Mr P Marshall	4	5
Rev K Armstrong	4	5
Mr P Benstead	5	5
Mr D Cox	5	5
Ms P Dodgshon	5	5
Mrs J Foxton	5	5
Mrs J Flynn	3	5
Mr D George	5	5
Mr B Marshall	5	5
Mrs E Morriss	5	5
Mr P Round	5	5
Mr A Townsend	5	5
Mr R M Williams	5	5

#### Review of Governance:

The current members of the Trust completed a Skill Audit in January 2014. The audit revealed a great deal of expertise and specialist knowledge across the Governing Body but had identified the particular areas for development as curriculum design and English as an Additional Language issues along with procurement, legal and health services and public relations and marketing as possible areas for training. It was agreed training would be provided in the areas identified.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Governance Statement (Continued)

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

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

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Finance & Resources Committee was as follows:

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
Ms P Dodgshon	3	4
Mrs J Foxtan	2	2
Mr B Marshall [Chair]	4	4
Mr A Townsend	4	4
<b>Associate members;</b>		
Mrs S M Carroll	3	4
Miss S Stockham	3	4
Mr M Swift	4	4

### **The Purpose of the System of Internal Control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives; it can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness.

The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically.

The system of internal control has been in place in Hall Cross Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

### **Capacity to Handle Risk**

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Governance Statement (Continued)

#### **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 & Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. The Trustees have appointed Allotts Business Services Ltd to fulfil the RO role within the Academy.

The RO's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy Trust's financial systems. On a termly basis, the RO will report to the Finance and Resources Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.

No material control issues have been identified.

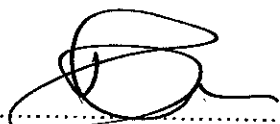
#### **Review of Effectiveness**

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

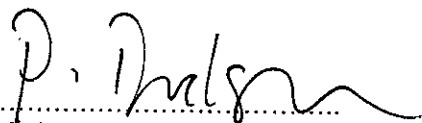
- the work of the Responsible Officer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 15 December 2014 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr D Cox  
(Chair)



Ms P Dodgshon  
(Accounting Officer)

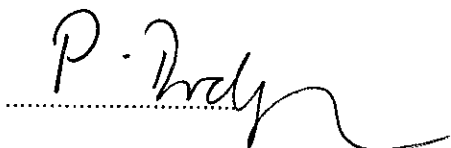
## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance

As Accounting Officer of Hall Cross Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with EFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook.

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 with the Academies Financial Handbook.

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 EFA.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'P. Dodgshon', written over a horizontal dotted line.

Ms P Dodgshon  
(Accounting Officer)

15 December 2014

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

The Trustees (who act as Governors of Hall Cross Academy Trust and 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 Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- make judgments and 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 to the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the EFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 15 December 2014 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr D Cox  
(Chair)

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Board of Trustees of Hall Cross Academy Trust

We have audited the financial statements of Hall Cross Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2014 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and the related notes. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and the Accounts Direction 2013 to 2014 issued by the Education Funding Agency.

This report is made solely to the academy trust's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the academy trust's members those matters we are required to state to them in an 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 trust and its members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of trustees and auditor**

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out on page 18, the trustees (who are also the directors of the academy trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view.

Our responsibility is to audit and express an opinion on the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland). Those standards require us to comply with the Auditing Practices Board's (APB's) Ethical Standards for Auditors.

#### **Scope of the audit of the financial statements**

An audit involves obtaining evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements sufficient to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or error. This includes an assessment of: whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the academy trust's circumstances and have been consistently applied and adequately disclosed; the reasonableness of significant accounting estimates made by the trustees; and the overall presentation of the financial statements. In addition, we read all the financial and non-financial information in the Trustees' Report to identify material inconsistencies with the audited financial statements and to identify any information that is apparently materially incorrect based on, or materially inconsistent with, the knowledge acquired by us in the course of performing the audit. If we become aware of any apparent material misstatements or inconsistencies we consider the implications for our report.

#### **Opinion on financial statements**

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 2014 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 the Academies Accounts Direction 2013 to 2014 issued by the Education Funding Agency.

Hall Cross Academy Trust

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the  
Board of Trustees of Hall Cross Academy Trust

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

In our opinion the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.

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

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.



Jacqueline Saunders BA FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of  
Allotts Business Services Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Statutory Auditor  
Sidings Court  
Lakeside  
Doncaster  
South Yorkshire  
DN4 5NU

16 December 2014

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity  
to Hall Cross Academy Trust  
and the Education Funding Agency**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 11 August 2014 and further to the requirements of the Education Funding Agency (EFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2013 to 2014, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Hall Cross Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014 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 Hall Cross Academy Trust and the EFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Hall Cross Academy Trust and EFA 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 Hall Cross Academy Trust and EFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

**Respective responsibilities of Hall Cross Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the Reporting Accountant**

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Hall Cross Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 31 March 2012 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2013, 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 2013 to 2014. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014 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 Academies Accounts Direction 2013 to 2014 issued by EFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:


- o enquiry of officers of the academy
- o review and testing of income and expenditure for compliance with funding and other agreements, the Academies Financial Handbook and the academy's system of controls
- o examination of relevant documents
- o review of the activities carried out by the academy
- o review of the delegated authorities set out in the Academies Financial Handbook.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity  
to Hall Cross Academy Trust  
and the Education 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 period 1 September 2013 to 31 August 2014 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Jacqueline Saunders BA FCA DChA  
for and on behalf of  
Allotts Business Services Ltd  
Chartered Accountants  
Reporting Accountant  
Sidings Court  
Lakeside  
Doncaster  
South Yorkshire  
DN4 5NU

16 December 2014

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Statement of Financial Activities For the Year Ended 31 August 2014**

**(Including Income and Expenditure Account and Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses)**

	NOTES	Unrestricted Funds 2014 £000	Restricted General Funds 2014 £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds 2014 £000	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
<b>INCOMING RESOURCES</b>						
<b>Incoming resources from generated funds:</b>						
Voluntary income -transfer from Local						
Voluntary income - other	2	-	2	56	58	403
Activities for generating funds	3	189	543	-	732	624
Investment income	4	5	-	-	5	6
<b>Incoming resources from charitable activities:</b>						
Funding for the Academy's educational operations	5	-	11,494	334	11,828	12,389
<b>TOTAL INCOMING RESOURCES</b>		<b>194</b>	<b>12,039</b>	<b>390</b>	<b>12,623</b>	<b>13,422</b>
<b>RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>						
<b>Costs of generating funds:</b>						
Costs of generating voluntary income	6	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Charitable activities:</b>						
Academy trust educational operations	7	78	11,822	1,298	13,198	12,897
<b>Governance costs</b>	8	-	13	-	13	26
<b>TOTAL RESOURCES EXPENDED</b>	6	<b>78</b>	<b>11,835</b>	<b>1,298</b>	<b>13,211</b>	<b>12,923</b>
<b>NET INCOMING/(OUTGOING) RESOURCES BEFORE TRANSFERS</b>		<b>116</b>	<b>204</b>	<b>(908)</b>	<b>(588)</b>	<b>499</b>
Gross transfers between funds	16	26	(213)	187	-	-
<b>NET INCOME/(EXPENDITURE) FOR THE YEAR</b>		<b>142</b>	<b>(9)</b>	<b>(721)</b>	<b>(588)</b>	<b>499</b>
<b>OTHER RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES</b>						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	397	-	397	175
<b>NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS</b>		<b>142</b>	<b>388</b>	<b>(721)</b>	<b>(191)</b>	<b>674</b>
<b>RECONCILIATION OF FUNDS</b>						
<b>Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2013</b>	16	<b>218</b>	<b>(3,049)</b>	<b>19,250</b>	<b>16,419</b>	<b>15,745</b>
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2014</b>		<b>360</b>	<b>(2,661)</b>	<b>18,529</b>	<b>16,228</b>	<b>16,419</b>

All of the Academy Trust's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.

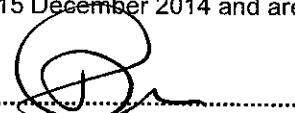
The notes attached form part of these financial statements.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**  
**(Company Number 07902880)**

**Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2014**

	NOTES	2014		2013	
		£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>FIXED ASSETS</b>					
Tangible assets	12		18,529		19,217
<b>CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
Stock	13	4		1	
Debtors	14	246		935	
Cash at bank and in hand		1,012		573	
		<u>1,262</u>		<u>1,509</u>	
<b>LIABILITIES:</b>					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15		<u>573</u>		<u>1,063</u>
<b>NET CURRENT ASSETS</b>					
			<u>689</u>		<u>446</u>
<b>TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES</b>					
			19,218		19,663
Pension scheme liability	22		(2,990)		(3,244)
<b>NET ASSETS INCLUDING PENSION LIABILITY</b>					
			<u>16,228</u>		<u>16,419</u>
<b>FUNDS OF THE ACADEMY TRUST</b>					
<b>RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					
Fixed asset fund	16		18,529		19,250
General fund	16		329		195
Pension reserve	16		(2,990)		(3,244)
<b>TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					
			<u>15,868</u>		<u>16,201</u>
<b>UNRESTRICTED INCOME FUNDS</b>					
General fund	16		360		218
<b>TOTAL UNRESTRICTED FUNDS</b>					
			<u>360</u>		<u>218</u>
<b>TOTAL FUNDS</b>					
			<u>16,228</u>		<u>16,419</u>

The financial statements on pages 23 to 41 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 15 December 2014 and are signed on their behalf by

  
.....  
Mr D Cox  
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes attached form part of these financial statements.

Hall Cross Academy TrustCash Flow Statement for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

	Notes	2014 £000	2013 £000
Net cash inflow from operating activities	1	709	(60)
Returns on investments and servicing of finance:	2	5	6
Capital expenditure:	3	(275)	(706)
<b>Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents</b>	4	<u>439</u>	<u>(760)</u>
<b>Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds</b>			
Net funds at 1 September 2013		573	1,333
<b>Net funds at 31 August 2014</b>		<u>1,012</u>	<u>573</u>

Notes to the Cash Flow Statement

	2014 £000	2013 £000	
<b>1. Reconciliation of net income to net cash inflow from operating activities:</b>			
Net income	(588)	499	
Depreciation charges	1,295	1,148	
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	3	21	
Capital grants received	(334)	(974)	
Interest received	(5)	(6)	
FRS17 pension costs less contributions payable	40	42	
FRS17 pension finance costs	102	109	
Decrease / (increase) in debtors	689	(773)	
(Decrease) in creditors	(490)	(134)	
(Increase) / Decrease in stocks	(3)	8	
<b>Net cash inflow / (outflow) from operating activities</b>	<u>709</u>	<u>(60)</u>	
<b>2. Returns on investments and servicing of finance</b>			
Bank interest received	5	6	
<b>Net cash inflow from returns on investment and serving of finance</b>	<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	
<b>3. Capital expenditure and financial investment</b>			
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(609)	(1,680)	
Capital grants received	334	974	
<b>Net cash (outflow) from capital expenditure and financial investment</b>	<u>(275)</u>	<u>(706)</u>	
<b>4. Analysis of changes in net funds</b>			
	At 1 September 2013 £000	Cash Flows £000	At 31 August 2014 £000
Cash at hand and in bank	<u>573</u>	<u>439</u>	<u>1,012</u>

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

##### a) Basis of Preparation

The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, the Charity Commission 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities' ('SORP 2005'), the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the EFA and the Companies Act 2006. A summary of the principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently, except where noted, is set out below.

##### b) 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 one year from the date of approval of the financial statements.

##### c) Incoming Resources

All incoming resources are recognised when the academy trust has entitlement to the funds, certainty of receipt and the amount can be measured with sufficient reliability.

##### Grants receivable

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 entitlement of receipt its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued. The General Accounting Grant (GAG) has been used for the purpose for which it was intended and in compliance with the academy's funding agreement. Any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general fund. Capital grants are recognised when receivable and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund.

##### Donations

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt 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 goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

##### Donated Services and gifts in kind

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the academy trust are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the academy trust can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with academy trust's policies.

The academy's land and buildings are on a 125 year lease from Doncaster Metropolitan Borough Council. No premium was paid and the rent is one peppercorn. The building was valued on conversion at depreciated replacement cost and is depreciated over the remainder of its expected life. Land was valued at market value and is depreciated over the length of the lease.

Other fixed assets transferred on conversion were valued at original cost less depreciation to the date of conversion.

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)**

**d) Resources Expended**

All expenditure is recognised in the period in which a liability is incurred and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

**Costs of generating funds**

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

**Charitable activities**

These are costs incurred on the academy trust's educational operations.

**Governance costs**

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and Trustees' meetings and reimbursed expenses.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

**e) Tangible Fixed Assets**

Assets costing £2,000 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. 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 such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the academy trust's depreciation policy.

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

Leasehold land	over 125 years, being the length of the lease
Inherited buildings	over 29 years being the remainder of the life of the buildings
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	over 5 years
Computer equipment and licences	over 3 years

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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.

**f) Leased Assets**

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

**g) Stock**

Stock of school uniform is valued at the lower of cost or net realisable value.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES (CONTINUED)

##### h) 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.

##### i) 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 and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy 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 on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in Note 22, the TPS is a multi employer scheme and the Academy Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

The LGPS is a funded 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 method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each balance sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and gains and losses on settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

##### j) Fund Accounting

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education Funding Agency.

Hall Cross Academy TrustNotes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014**2. VOLUNTARY INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
<b>Other voluntary income</b>				
Insurance receipts	-	56	56	401
Private sponsorship	-	-	-	1
Other income	-	2	2	1
	-	58	58	403

**3. ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
Music tuition	-	5	5	7
Catering	-	390	390	340
Trips	-	95	95	74
Uniforms	-	31	31	24
Lettings	120	-	120	110
Exam fees	-	8	8	19
Energy rebate	37	-	37	-
Sundry income	32	14	46	50
	189	543	732	624

**4. INVESTMENT INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
<b>Investment income:</b>				
Bank interest received	5	-	5	6

Hall Cross Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

**5. FUNDING FOR ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted Funds £000	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
<b>DfE/EFA revenue grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	10,603	10,603	10,396
Capital grants	-	334	334	974
Other EFA grants	-	653	653	478
	-	11,590	11,590	11,848
<b>Other government grants</b>				
SEN funding	-	46	46	45
Other grants	-	192	192	496
	-	238	238	541
	-	11,828	11,828	12,389

**6. RESOURCES EXPENDED**

	Staff Costs £000	Premises £000	Other Costs £000	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
Costs of generating voluntary income	-	-	-	-	-
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	8,108	1,295	782	10,185	9,930
Allocated support costs	1,419	803	791	3,013	2,967
	9,527	2,098	1,573	13,198	12,897
Governance costs	-	-	13	13	26
<b>Total</b>	9,527	2,098	1,586	13,211	12,923

**Incoming/outgoing resources for the year include:**

	Total 2014 £000	Total 2013 £000
Operating leases	57	45
Fees payable to auditor	9	9
audit	3	6
other services	6	-
Depreciation	1,295	1,148
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	3	21

Included with resources expended are the following transactions. Individual transactions exceeding £5,000 are identified separately:

	Total £	Individual items above £5,000 Amount £	Reason
Fixed asset losses	3,000	Nil	-

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014**

**7. CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES - ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	<b>Total 2014 £000</b>	<b>Total 2013 £000</b>
<b>Direct costs</b>		
Teaching staff costs	8,108	7,983
Depreciation	1,295	1,148
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	3	21
Student support	53	28
Examination fees	194	182
Staff development	32	35
ICT Costs	94	127
Educational supplies	283	295
Trips	84	67
Other direct costs	39	44
	<b>10,185</b>	<b>9,930</b>
<b>Allocated support costs</b>		
Support staff costs	1,419	1,362
Recruitment and support	22	11
Maintenance of premises and equipment	296	510
Rates and water	121	94
Cleaning	38	26
Insurance	87	85
Utilities	261	209
Security and transport	59	63
Catering	351	327
Other support costs	359	280
	<b>3,013</b>	<b>2,967</b>
	<b>13,198</b>	<b>12,897</b>

**8. GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £000</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £000</b>	<b>Total 2014 £000</b>	<b>Total 2013 £000</b>
Legal and professional fees	-	1	1	11
Auditor's remuneration				
- audit of financial statements	-	9	9	9
- other audit costs	-	2	2	-
- non-audit services	-	1	1	6
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	-	-	-	-
	<b>-</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>13</b>	<b>26</b>

**9. STAFF**

**a. Staff costs**

Staff costs during the period were:

	<b>2014 £000</b>	<b>2013 £000</b>
Wages and salaries	7,628	7,415
Social Security costs	558	546
Pension costs	1,244	1,210
	<b>9,430</b>	<b>9,171</b>
Supply teacher costs	67	144
Staff restructuring costs	30	30
	<b>9,527</b>	<b>9,345</b>

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 9. STAFF (CONTINUED)

##### b. Staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £30,100 (2013: £30,000). Two of the non-statutory/non-contractual payments exceeded £5,000 individually, and these were for £18,550 and £7,970.

##### c. Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Academy during the year expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

	2014 No.	2013 No.
<b>Charitable Activities</b>		
Teachers	204	200
Administration and support	58	47
Leadership and management	8	8
	270	255

##### d. Higher paid staff

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

	2014 No.	2013 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	4	-
£70,001 - £80,000	1	1
£80,001 - £90,000	-	-
£90,001 - £100,000	-	-
£100,001 - £110,000	1	1

The above employees participated in the Teachers' Pension Scheme. During the year ended 31 August 2014, pension contributions for these staff amounted to £59,277 (2013: £24,616).

#### 10. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES

Head teacher and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of head teacher and staff and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees.

The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

	2014	2013
Ms P Dodgshon, Headteacher and trustee	£100,000 - £105,000	£100,000 - £105,000
Mr P Round, staff trustee	£45,000 - £50,000	£45,000 - £50,000
Mr P Benstead	£45,000 - £50,000	£15,000 - £20,000
Ms J Flynn, staff trustee	£25,000 - £30,000	£25,000 - £30,000
Ms J Riordan, staff trustee (resigned 31.03.2013)	Nil	£15,000 - £20,000

There were no trustee expenses paid during the year (2013: Nil).

Other related party transactions involving trustees are set out in note 23.

#### 11. TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £5M on any one claim and the cost for the year was not singularly identifiable (2013: £1,968).

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

**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014**

**12. TANGIBLE ASSETS**

	Leasehold Land and Buildings	Furniture and Equipment	Computer Equipment & Licences	Motor Vehicles	Library Books	Total
	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
<b>Cost</b>						
At 1 September 2013	17,987	1,921	535	12	372	20,827
Additions	-	453	156	-	-	609
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(2)	(2)
At 31 August 2014	<u>17,987</u>	<u>2,374</u>	<u>691</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>370</u>	<u>21,434</u>
<b>Depreciation</b>						
At 1 September 2013	876	431	241	3	59	1,610
Charge for the year	553	475	228	2	37	1,295
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2014	<u>1,429</u>	<u>906</u>	<u>469</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>96</u>	<u>2,905</u>
<b>Net Book Values</b>						
At 31 August 2014	<u>16,558</u>	<u>1,468</u>	<u>222</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>274</u>	<u>18,529</u>
At 31 August 2013	<u>17,111</u>	<u>1,490</u>	<u>294</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>313</u>	<u>19,217</u>

**13. STOCK**

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Clothing and uniforms	4	1
	<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>

**14. DEBTORS ( all due within one year )**

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Trade debtors	21	11
VAT recoverable	77	74
Other debtors	100	813
Prepayments and accrued income	48	37
	<u>246</u>	<u>935</u>

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

	2014 £000	2013 £000
Trade creditors	109	172
Other taxes and social security	160	-
Accruals and deferred income	170	186
Other creditors	134	705
	<u>573</u>	<u>1,063</u>
<i>Deferred income</i>		
Deferred income at 1 September 2013	27	33
Resources deferred in the year	44	27
Amounts released from previous years	(27)	(33)
Deferred income at 31 August 2014	<u>44</u>	<u>27</u>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding trip monies received in advance of £40,000 and bursary income received in advance of £4,000.

Hall Cross Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

**16. FUNDS**

	Balance 01/09/2013 £000	Incoming Resources £000	Resources Expended £000	Gains, Losses & Transfers £000	Balance 31/08/2014 £000
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General annual grant (GAG)	98	10,603	(10,228)	(323)	150
Other EFA grants	11	653	(647)	-	17
Central Learning Centre (CLC)	75	188	(229)	110	144
Other grants	-	50	(47)	-	3
Other Income	11	545	(541)	-	15
Pension reserve	(3,244)	-	(143)	397	(2,990)
	<u>(3,049)</u>	<u>12,039</u>	<u>(11,835)</u>	<u>184</u>	<u>(2,661)</u>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Inherited assets	17,848	-	(774)	-	17,074
EFA grants and insurance receipts	1,114	390	(365)	-	1,139
Capital expenditure from GAG	288	-	(159)	187	316
	<u>19,250</u>	<u>390</u>	<u>(1,298)</u>	<u>187</u>	<u>18,529</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>16,201</u>	<u>12,429</u>	<u>(13,133)</u>	<u>371</u>	<u>15,868</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>	<u>218</u>	<u>194</u>	<u>(78)</u>	<u>26</u>	<u>360</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>16,419</u>	<u>12,623</u>	<u>(13,211)</u>	<u>397</u>	<u>16,228</u>

GAG may only be spent in compliance with the academy's funding agreement.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2014.

Other EFA grants include Pupil Premium, 16-19 Bursary and Summer School funding.

Other grants include the following:

Special Educational Needs grants - for the educational support and development of targeted special needs students.

Staff Funding - this is where the academy has funding to take on graduate teachers or student teachers

CLC - this is funding for a Central Learning Centre (KS3) in collaboration with three other Academy Schools.

**17. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

Fund balances at 31 August 2014 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General Funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total Funds £000	Total Funds 2013 £000
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,529	18,529	19,217
Current assets	360	902	-	1,262	1,509
Current liabilities	-	(573)	-	(573)	(1,063)
Pension scheme liability	-	(2,990)	-	(2,990)	(3,244)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<u>360</u>	<u>(2,661)</u>	<u>18,529</u>	<u>16,228</u>	<u>16,419</u>

**18. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>

Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements

	-	-
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**Hall Cross Academy Trust**

**Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014**

**19. FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS**

**Operating leases**

At 31 August 2013 the Academy had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2014 £000	2013 £000
<b>Land and buildings</b>		
Expiring within one year	-	-
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	-	-
Expiring in over five years	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	-
<b>Other</b>		
Expiring within one year	11	6
Expiring within two and five years inclusive	35	37
Expiring in over five years	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	46	43

**20. CONTINGENT LIABILITIES**

There are no contingent liabilities (2013: Nil).

**21 MEMBERS LIABILITY**

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

**22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS**

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was 31 March 2004 and of the LGPS 31 March 2013.

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

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### Teachers' Pension Scheme

###### Introduction

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010) and, from 1 April 2014, by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies and, from 1 January 2007, automatic for teachers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract, although they are able to opt out.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a 'pay as you go' basis - these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The Teachers' Pension Regulations require an annual account to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pensions' increases). From 1 April 2001, the account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- o employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge (currently 14.1%);
- o total scheme liabilities for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets of £176,600 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million; and
- o an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations.

The new employer contribution rate is applicable from 1 April 2015 and will be implemented for the TPS from September 2015.

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teacher's Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2014/06/publication-of-the-valuation-report.aspx>).

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### **22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)**

##### Teachers' Pension Scheme Changes

Lord Hutton made recommendations in 2011 about how pensions can be made sustainable and affordable whilst remaining fair to the workforce and the taxpayer.

The Government accepted Lord Hutton's recommendations as the basis for consultation with trade unions and other representative bodies. In March 2012 the Department for Education published proposals for the design for a reformed TPS.

The key provisions of the reformed scheme include: a pension based on career average earnings; an accrual rate of 1/57<sup>th</sup>; and a Normal Pension Age equal to State Pension Age, but with options to enable members to retire earlier or later than their Normal Pension Age. Importantly, pension benefits built up before 1 April 2015 will be fully protected.

In addition, the proposed final agreement includes a Government commitment that those within 10 years of Normal Pension Age on 1 April 2012 will see no change to the age at which they can retire, and no decrease in the amount of pension they receive when they retire. There will also be further transitional protection, tapered over a three and a half year period, for people who would fall just outside of the 10 year protection

In his interim report of October 2010, Lord Hutton recommended that short-term savings were also required, and that the only realistic way of achieving these was to increase member contributions. At the Spending Review 2010 the Government announced an average increase of 3.2 percentage points on the contribution rates by 2014-15. The increases were to be phased in from April 2012 on a 40:80:100% basis.

The Department for Education has continued to work closely with trade unions and other representative bodies to develop the reformatted Teachers' Pension Scheme and the regulations giving effect to its coming into force on 1 April 2014. Communications are being rolled out and the reformatted scheme will commence on 1 April 2015.

Under the definitions set out in Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 17) Retirement Benefits, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The academy is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Accordingly, the academy has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 17 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy has set out above the information available on the scheme.

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee administered funds. The total contributions for the period ended 31 August 2014 were £472,000 (2013: £473,000), of which employers contributions totalled £355,000 (2013: £359,000) and employees contributions totalled £117,000 (2013: £114,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 13.8% for employers and between 5.5% and 12.5% for employees.

The academy trust has entered into an agreement to make additional contributions into the scheme of £114,000 per annum for 2014/15, £124,300 per annum for 2015/16 and £134,700 per annum for 2016/17.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions	At 31 August	At 31 August
	2014	2013
	%	%
Discount rate	4.0	5.0
Rate of increase for pensions	2.2	2.4
Rate of increase in salaries	3.95	4.15
Rate of CPI inflation	2.2	2.4
Expected return on assets	6.01	5.86

##### Sensitivity Analysis

The sensitivities regarding the principal assumptions used to measure the scheme liabilities are set out below :

	Central	Sensitivity 1 +0.1% pa discount rate	Sensitivity 2 +0.1% pa inflation	Sensitivity 3 1 year increase in life expectancy
	£000	£000	£000	£000
Liabilities	6,277	6,139	6,417	6,386
Assets	(3,287)	(3,287)	(3,287)	(3,287)
Deficit/ (Surplus)	2,990	2,852	3,130	3,099
Projected Service Cost for next year	420	407	433	429
Projected Expected Return on Assets for next year	(203)	(203)	(203)	(203)
Projected Interest Cost for next year	261	262	267	266

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)

##### Life expectancy assumptions

The average future life expectancies at the age of 65 are summarised below

	At 31 August 2014 years	At 31 August 2013 years
Male current pensioner age 65 now	22.9	21.8
At 65 for a male future pensioner aged 45 now	25.2	23.7
Female current pensioner age 65 now	25.5	24.7
At 65 for a female future pensioner aged 45 now	28.3	26.6

##### Share of assets and rate of return

The academy's share of the assets and liabilities of the scheme and the expected rate of return were:

	Long-term rate of return expected as at 31 August 2014 %	Fair value as at 31 August 2014 £000	Long-term rate of return expected as at 31 August 2013 %	Fair value as at 31 August 2013 £000
Equities	7.0	2,011	7.0	1,878
Property	6.2	355	6.0	294
Government bonds	2.9	431	2.5	426
Other bonds	3.8	217	3.4	204
Cash	0.5	59	0.5	62
Other	7.0	214	7.0	226
Expenses deduction	0.0	-	0.2	-
<b>Total</b>	6.01	3,287	5.86	3,090
		<b>£000</b>		<b>£000</b>
Fair value of assets		3,287		3,090
Present value of liabilities		(6,277)		(6,334)
(Deficit) in the scheme.		(2,990)		(3,244)

The actual return on scheme assets was £381,000 (2013 : £317,000).

The expected rate of return on plan assets is based on market assumptions, at the beginning of the period, for investment returns over the entire life of the related obligation. The assumption used is the average of the assumptions appropriate to the individual classes weighted by the proportion of the assets in the particular asset class.

Hall Cross Academy Trust

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

**22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)**

**Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)**

**Movement in deficit**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
At 1 September 2013	(3,244)	(3,268)
Current service charge	(396)	(401)
Employer contributions	355	359
Past service gain/(cost)	-	-
Net interest/return on assets	(102)	(109)
Actuarial gain/(loss)	397	175
At 31 August 2014	<u>(2,990)</u>	<u>(3,244)</u>

**Net (interest)/return on assets**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Expected return on assets	194	142
Interest on liabilities	(296)	(251)
	<u>(102)</u>	<u>(109)</u>

The actuarial gains and losses for the current year are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The cumulative amount of gains and losses recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities since the adoption of FRS17 is a £168,000 gain.

**Amounts recognised in the statement of financial activities**

	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>£000</b>	<b>£000</b>
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	396	401
Past service cost	-	-
Total operating charge	<u>396</u>	<u>401</u>

**Analysis of pension finance income / (costs)**

Expected return on pension scheme assets	194	142
Interest on pension liabilities	(296)	(251)
Pension finance income / (costs)	<u>(102)</u>	<u>(109)</u>

## Hall Cross Academy Trust

### Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2014

#### 22. PENSIONS AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (CONTINUED)

##### Local Government Pension Scheme (continued)

Movements in the present value of defined benefit obligations were:

	2014 £000	2013 £000
At 1 September 2013	6,334	5,580
Current service cost	396	401
Interest cost	296	251
Employee contributions	117	114
Benefits / transfers paid	(38)	(12)
Actuarial (gain) /loss on liabilities	(828)	-
At 31 August 2014	<u>6,277</u>	<u>6,334</u>

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

	2014 £000	2013 £000
At 1 September 2013	3,090	2,312
Expected return on assets	194	142
Employee contributions	117	114
Employer contributions	355	359
Benefits / transfers paid	(38)	(12)
Actuarial gain / (loss) on assets	(431)	175
At 31 August 2014	<u>3,287</u>	<u>3,090</u>

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2014 is £379,000.

The history of experience adjustments is as follows:

	2014 £000	2013 £000	2012 £000
Present value of defined benefit obligations	(6,277)	(6,334)	(5,580)
Fair value of share of scheme assets	3,287	3,090	2,312
(Deficit) in the scheme	<u>(2,990)</u>	<u>(3,244)</u>	<u>(3,268)</u>

Experience adjustments on scheme assets: Amount £'000	(431)	175	(17)
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Experience adjustments on scheme liabilities: Amount £'000	1,117	-	-
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#### 23. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations 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 a trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account (2013: none).