

Company registration number 08449062 (England and Wales)

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

P Carter (Resigned 13 September 2024)
S Hall
E Fletcher (Appointed 23 January 2024)
S Willmott (Resigned 31 August 2024)
L Sebagh (Appointed 1 September 2024)

Trustees

P Carter (Chair until 11 September 2024) (Resigned 11 September 2024)
M McHugh (Vice chair until 11 September 2024 and Chair 12 September 2024)
L McNally (Accounting Officer)
N Elliott
J Rainsford
C Georgiou (Appointed 13 November 2023 and resigned 15 March 2024)
A M Ocampo Lucumi (Appointed 13 November 2023)
P Thompson (Resigned 22 January 2024)
E Fletcher (Resigned 22 January 2024)
K Allan (Appointed 22 May 2024)
P Monaghan (Appointed 10 July 2024)

L Sebagh - Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd (Resigned 31 August 2024)
L Robinson - Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd

Senior management team

- CEO	L McNally
- Director of School Improvement	V Elliott
- Head of Safeguarding, Inclusion & School Improvement	M Kennedy
- Head of School - Business	J Renwick
- Head of School - TAN	M Flint
- Head of School - TANB	S Armstrong (Appointed 1 September 2023 and resigned 31 March 2024)
- Head of School - TSA & TPSL	S Stuart

Company registration number

08449062 (England and Wales)

Registered office

Condercum Road
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE4 8XJ

Academies operated

Trinity Academy Newcastle
Trinity Solutions Academy
Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd
Trinity Academy Newbridge

Location

Newcastle upon Tyne
Newcastle upon Tyne
Sunderland
Newcastle upon Tyne

Principal

M Flint
S Stuart
S Stuart
S Armstrong

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Independent auditor

RSM UK Audit LLP
1 St. James' Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne
United Kingdom
NE1 4AD

Bankers

Lloyds Bank PLC
Grey Street
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE99 1SL

Solicitors

Muckle LLP
Time Central
32 Gallowgate
Newcastle upon Tyne
NE1 4BF

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT

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

The Trust operates three academies and a private limited company.

- Trinity Academy Newcastle – Special Academy – Trinity Academy Newcastle educates learners aged 5 – 16, who have an Education, Health and Care Plan for Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH). Serving a regional wide catchment area. The Academy has a learner capacity of 195 and a roll of 196 learners in the school census in May 2024.
- Trinity Academy New Bridge – Special Academy – Trinity Academy New Bridge educates learners aged 11 – 16, who have a Statement of Special Educational Needs or Education, Health and Care Plan for Social, Emotional and Mental Health (SEMH). Again, serving a regional wide catchment area. The Academy has a learner capacity of 134 and a roll of 130 learners in the school census in May 2024.
- Trinity Solutions Academy – Post 16 Mainstream Academy provides a vocational study programme for learners aged 16 – 19 serving a wide regional catchment area. It has a learner commissioned allocation capacity of 56, which includes 19 higher needs commissioned places and had a roll of 113 learners of the ILR return (R13 Return). The Academy continues to work relentlessly to improve its learner numbers.
- Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited – Private limited company - Specialist Post-16 Institution (SPI) offering bespoke educational programmes to 19-25 learners with learning disabilities (LLDD) learners serving a wide regional catchment area. It has a learner commissioned allocation capacity of 7 and had a roll of 19 learners on the ILR return (R13 return).

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

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 Trinity Academy Newcastle are also the charitable company's directors for company law. The charitable company is known as Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust.

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

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

Members' and Trustees' indemnity provisions are detailed in note 12 of the financial statements.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Articles of Association, 50-64 state:

50. The Members may appoint up to 3 Trustees.

50A. The Members may appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine.

50B. The total number of Trustees (including the principal) who are employees of the Academy Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

51. Not used.

52. Not used.

53. Subject to Article 57, the Parent Trustees shall be elected by parents of registered pupils at the Special Academy. A Parent Trustee must be a parent of a pupil at the Special Academy at the time when he/she is elected.

54. The Governing Body shall make all necessary arrangements for, and determine all other matters relating to, an election of Parent Trustees, including any question of whether a person is a parent of a registered pupil at the Special Academy. An election of Parent Trustees which is contested shall be held by secret ballot.

55. The arrangements made for the election of Parent Trustee shall provide for every person who is entitled to vote in the election to have an opportunity to do so by post or, if he prefers, by having his ballot paper returned to the Academy Trust by a registered pupil at the Special Academy.

56. Where a vacancy for a Parent Trustee is required to be filled by election, the Governing Body shall take such steps as are reasonably practical to secure that every person who is known to them to be a parent of a registered pupil at the Special Academy is informed of the vacancy and that is required to be filled by election, informed that he is entitled to stand as a candidate, and vote at the election, and given an opportunity to do so.

57. The number of Parent Trustees required shall be made up by Parent Trustees appointed by the Governing Body if the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies.

58. In appointing a Parent Trustee, the Governing Body shall appoint a person who is the parent of a registered pupil at the Special Academy; or where it is not reasonably practical to do so, a person who is the parent of a child of compulsory school age.

CO-OPTED TRUSTEES

59. The Trustees may appoint Co-Trustees. A co-opted Trustee means a person who is appointed to be a Trustee by being Co-opted by Trustees who have not themselves been so appointed. The Trustees may not co-opt an employee of the Academy Trust as a Co-opted Trustee if thereby the number of Trustees who are employees of the Academy Trust would exceed one third of the total number of Trustees (including the principal).

60 – 64. Not used.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Potential new Directors - Initial meeting with Chair/Head - Before joining the Governance team, prospective Directors/ Local Governors will be invited to meet with senior members of the Governance team. For prospective Directors, this will usually be a meeting with the Chair of the Board of Directors and the Chief Executive Officer of the Trust. For prospective LAB members, this will usually be a meeting with the Chair of the LAB and the Chief Executive Officer. These meetings will be held on an informal basis and will seek to establish the suitability of the prospective appointee, the potential skills and experience that he or she might bring to the Governance team, the expectations of the role and the support available. Where appropriate, such meetings may also include a short tour of parts of the Academy and its facilities. On occasion, and with the consent of all parties, these meetings may be held via video link.

Appointment Processes - Appointment of all new Directors will be via the processes defined in either the Academy Trust's Articles of Association (for members of the Board of Directors) or the Local Governance Handbook (for member of the Local Advisory Boards). To comply with the Trust's safeguarding and financial processes, all appointments will be subject to completion of appropriate documentation including; DBS checks and a declaration of any pecuniary interests that the potential appointee might have with the Trust, or any of its Academies or associated partner organisations.

DBS and Eligibility - All new Directors must complete an enhanced DBS check, which will be carried out by the HR department within 21 days of appointment. All information on how to complete a DBS will be sent by the Trusts' HR department. Once completed the certificate number and date must be recorded on the single central record. Directors are expected to review their DBS every three years. All costs incurred will be covered by the Trust.

Induction Pack of Information - All new Directors will be provided with an induction pack of supporting documentation to help and support them in their role. This will include key information and data about the Trust and specific academies where needed as well as key guidance documents from the DfE and other professional organisations, such as the National Governance Association (NGA) and Confederation of School Trusts (CST). Wherever documentation will be provided in electronic form unless hard copy versions are specifically requested. The contents of the induction pack are provided in Appendix 1 of this policy.

Provision of Governor Training – (Induction Training) All new Directors are expected to complete the NGA Induction training, which is available as online training via the NGA website.

(Other Training) The Trust has purchased membership of the National Governance Association (NGA) & Confederation of School Trusts (CST). All Directors will have access to the information and training provided by the NGA & CST. Most of the training is provided via online based courses and all Directors are strongly encouraged to partake in the training available. Directors are also asked to notify the Governance Professional about any completed training (and any certificates).

On occasions, the Trust will also notify Directors about details of other training courses and webinars etc. which are available. All Directors are encouraged to attend these as appropriate and inform the Governance Professional of any completed training.

Mentoring - The Trust believes that it is important all new Directors should be offered the opportunity to have the support of a mentor, to help and offer advice and guidance, especially during the first year of becoming a director. The Chair (of the Board or LAB) will be responsible for arranging for a suitable mentor, who will usually be one of the more experienced members of the relevant governance team. It is not mandatory for a mentor to be appointed, and such an arrangement will only be introduced with the consent of those involved.

Guidance on the role and responsibilities of Governance - All new Directors can expect a meeting with the Chair or Mentor to support them in understanding the roles and responsibilities of Governance within the Trust. This meeting will help to provide new Directors with the following:

- An overview of the Trust and all Academies.
- The current issues facing the Trust and Academies.
- Details and protocols for visiting the Trust and each Academy.
- How the Board and its committee meetings are conducted.
- Child Protection arrangements within the Trust and the Governor's role in supporting safeguarding.
- The relationship between the Senior Leadership Team and Governance Board(s).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

- An overview of the Director's role, including respecting and ensuring confidentiality of information.
- Mechanisms for providing constructive and supportive challenge to the senior leadership team.
- The importance of giving apologies if unable to attend meetings.
- How to propose any agenda items.
- Support with the kind of questions to raise during meetings.

Induction Pack - The induction pack for new Directors will include the following items:

- Details of the Governance structure within the Academy Trust.
- Articles of Association (for Directors) or Local Governance Handbook (for LAB members).
- Scheme of Delegation.
- MAT Growth Strategy.
- Accounts Direction.
- Copy of Latest Annual Reports.
- The latest Trust and specific Academy Improvement / Development Plan(s).
- The latest Ofsted Inspection Report(s).
- The latest Ofsted data (dashboard) information.
- A Code of Conduct for Directors.
- Minutes of the last meeting.
- A list of other members of the Governance Board.
- Details of the Trust website.
- Dates of future meetings.
- Any recent relevant newsletters or bulletins.
- An outline of any available training.
- Details of policies.
- Provision of a Trust email address and details of how to log-in and access information relevant to governance.
- A list of common educational acronyms.
- Organisational chart including staffing responsibilities DfE documents.
- The DfE Governance Handbook & Competency Framework for Governors.
- Academies Trust Handbook.
- Details of NGA & CST website login.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Organisational structure

The current governance structure exercises strong accountability. The model is intentionally structured to support measured and sustainable Trust growth, supported by its Board of Directors. All levels are clearly aware of their responsibilities in line with the Articles of Association, DfE Governance Handbook and competency framework, Academy Trust Handbook, Scheme of Delegation and Terms of Reference.

The management structure consists of distinct groups; the Members, Board of Trustees & their committees and Local Advisory Boards. The Trust's Governance is aligned to DfE's model, with decision making delegated to committees that monitor the performance and management of each academy. The committees support the decision making of the Board of Directors for the quality of education, finance, resource, and operations across the Trust (including Audit and Risk), regularly reporting back to the Board.

The Board of Directors has overall responsibility and is accountable for the academies within the Trust; they hold the Chief Executive (& Accounting Officer) to account.

The Directors, through meetings of the Board and its Committees, are responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust and its individual academies.

The Local Advisory Board undertakes a consultative role and advises the Chief Executive and the Board in respect of matters relating to each individual Academy/SPI.

Trinity Academy Newcastle MAT Senior Management Team consists of the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Finance Officer, Head of School (Business), Director of School Improvement, Trust Head of Safeguarding, Inclusion and School Improvement Lead and 3 Heads of School. The Senior Management Team leads and manages the direction of the Trust in line with strategic plans and developing opportunities.

Each organisations' Senior Leadership Team is responsible for the day-to-day operation, and in collaboration also support the wider network and objectives of the Trust.

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited – Private Company Limited by Guarantee- Specialist Post-16 Institution (SPI) has two Company Directors. The directors are responsible for the management of the company's business, for which purpose they may exercise all the powers of the company.

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited –offering bespoke educational programmes to 19-25 learners with learning disabilities (LLDD) learners serving a regional wide catchment area. It has a learner commissioned allocation capacity of 7.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The pay and remuneration of the Executive Leadership Team/Senior Leadership Team (Directors are not remunerated) are set in line with the Trust Pay Policy which has been consulted with staff and recognised Trade Unions; with national Teachers' Pay & Conditions linked to Individual School Ranges (ISRs) or as a result of formal job evaluation and benchmarking arrangements.

From March 2024, pay progression is automatic for all staff within their pay range until they reach the top of their scale. Pay progression is not linked to performance. Performance will be managed in line with the Appraisal Policy and, if appropriate, in line with the Capability Policy.

The Board of Directors will ensure that executive pay (including salary and any other benefits), follow a robust evidence-based process and are a reasonable and defensible reflection of the individual's role and responsibilities. Executive Leaders are not involved in deciding their own remuneration, this is solely the decision of the Trust Board with support from the Finance Director and external Human Resources.

The Board of Directors will discharge its responsibilities effectively, ensuring its approach to pay and benefits is transparent, proportionate, and justifiable, including:

- Process – that the procedure for determining executive pay and benefits is agreed by the Board in advance and documented. The Board ensures that both pay and benefits are kept proportionate.
- Independence – decisions about executive pay and benefits reflect independent and objective scrutiny by the Board and conflicts of interest are avoided.
- Robust decision-making – factors in determining pay and benefits are clear, including whether educational and financial performance considerations, and the degree of challenge in the role, have been considered.
- Proportionality – pay and benefits represent good value for money and are defensible relative to the public-sector market.
- Commercial interests – the Board is sighted on broader business interests held by senior executives and is satisfied that any payments made by the Trust to executives in relation to such interests do not undermine the transparency requirements for disclosing pay in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction.
- Documentation – the rationale behind the decision-making process, including whether the level of pay and benefits reflects value for money, is recorded and retained. A basic presumption that executive pay and benefits should not increase at a faster rate than that of teachers, in individual years and over the longer term.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Trade Union Facility Time

Under the provision of the trade union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017, where an academy trust has more than 49 full time equivalent employees throughout any 7 months within the reporting period, it must include information included in schedule 2 of the Regulations. The information to be published consists of four tables covering the period April 2023 to March 2024:

Relevant Union Officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
1	1

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Total cost of facility time	£436
Total pay bill	£4,977,451
Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	<1%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	<1%
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As per previous years, the Trust did purchase the Local Authority Trade Union Facility time for both Newcastle and Sunderland Local Authority.

The centralised arrangement governed by the ER framework ensures consistency and transparency for employee relations matters. Having dedicated TU representatives available makes for a valuable contribution to resolving employee relations issues (individual and collective) before positions become entrenched and resolutions are more costly and take more time to resolve. Supporting good liaison between employers and Trade Unions and ensuring clear, transparent arrangements are in place for securing entitlement to reasonable paid time off as good management practice.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Related parties, connected charities and co-operation with other organisations

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust is keen to the idea of developing relationships and partnerships, which will aid the Trust in meeting its overall aim to ensure that all our learners leave achieving their full potential.

The Trust has developed strong working partnerships with the local teaching schools, universities and world leading mental health organisations. The Trust has continued during the year to support Leeds Beckett University with delivering coaching sessions as part of the senior mental health lead training totalling £1,920 in the year.

During the academic year, the Trust continues to work strategically in partnership with Newcastle City Council on the delivery of support to the SEN Advice and Support Allocation Panel (ASAP) Process. Which sees our Trust Principal Advisor for Mental Health and Trauma providing SEMH supporting and training to local primary schools throughout Newcastle upon Tyne.

There are no related parties which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the Trust.

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited, a subsidiary company, was incorporated on 18 December 2015. Details of the subsidiary, including its results for the year, are included in note 14.

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust are conscious of the need for any person who is responsible for governance within the organisation, or who are employees of the organisation, to declare any relevant business or pecuniary interests and this is particularly the case with related party relationships. The following declarations were made by Trustees: -

- P Carter – Director (Blue Flames Sports and Conference Ltd) & Vice-Chair (West Walker Primary Academy, LGB, NEAT Academy Trust)
- M McHugh – Chair (Benton Scouts Executive Committee)
- E Fletcher – Volunteer (Ocean Youth Trust North), Volunteer (North Tyneside Council), Advisor (Blyth Tall Ship). Employee (Northumbria Violence reduction Unit) (YMCA Northumberland), Visiting Fellow (Newcastle University) & Governor (Ashington Learning Partnership).
- N Elliott – Member (institution of Mechanical Engineers), Member (Royal Naval Reserve) and Family Member is employed as an engagement officer for Together for Children, Sunderland.
- L Sebagh – Governor (First School South Gosforth)
- K Allan – Co-opted Governor (Northumbria Healthcare)
- P Monaghan – Strategic Lead for SEND (EPNE), Armed Forces (Army Reserve)

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objects and aims

The principal object and activity of the Trust is to advance education in the UK by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing its academies specially organised to offer a broad and balanced curriculum with strong emphasis on the specified specialisms of those academies.

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust is committed to the professional development of its Board of Trustees and staff team. Working to a strategic 3-year plan, with strong structures and a central focus on developing high quality teaching and learning, we are continuously improving and developing our service through high quality training for all and through a concerted drive towards distributed leadership and succession planning. Our commitment is evident through our high level of annual investment in training and development.

The Trust will set high standards for all, confident that all can experience success by:

Providing all students/learners an appropriate grounding in literacy and numeracy.

- Prepare all learners for life. Delivering a planned exciting curriculum that looks at each child/young person as a whole person, preparing them for adulthood, relationships, and the possibility that one day they may become a parent.
- Encouraging the development of learners' digital skills to broaden knowledge and wisdom, helping them to make informed life decisions.

The Trust will deliver high standards with a clear focus on a set of core beliefs:

The ethos of parenting provides a culture of safety, creating an environment of trust and cooperation where people can thrive. Where education opens opportunities and relationships are built with discipline and boundaries. We encourage people to understand their own value, grow in confidence, and develop self-efficacy.

What → Being Calm, Kind and Honest

How → By Becoming Trauma-Informed

Why → To create Confident, Competent and Kind Citizens of the Future

The School Improvement Model

Our strong vision, values and school improvement systems are well-established. Having a balance of academies at different starting points in their journey of improvement, ensures we can use the strengths of each academy to build on our good practice and ensure that improving outcomes for children is at the heart of everything we do.

The Trust model:

- Is tailored to each individual organisation and is in response to 'rich' contextual understanding of the challenges faced
- Brings about rapid improvement and builds capacity
- Is recognised as good practice
- Draws upon research and is supported by an evidence base
- Is provided by quality assured professionals who respect and build capacity and confidence
- Maximises the use of school-to-school support
- Articulates high expectations of teachers and learners

Objectives 2022-2024:

The Board of Trustees have agreed four key strategic objectives to steer the Trust's growth and development over the next 3 years.

- To continuously improve the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes and attendance across the Trust
- To ensure we have a financially viable and sustainable MAT, and we continue in developing a strong business infrastructure
- To continue to build an effective school improvement team

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

OBJECTIVE	PERFORMANCE
To continuously improve the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance pupil outcomes and attendance across the Trust	<p>The MAT identifies (what works), researches, develops, and trials a single approach to T&L that is underpinned by its core values (the why, how, and what).</p> <p>MAT has a clearly defined approach that differentiates SI support and intervention. This takes the form of a refined, evidence-based approach, with defined qualitative and quantitative Performance criteria.</p> <p>MAT sets consistently high, ambitious expectations for learners of all abilities. We now have a trust wide strategic approach to improve attendance.</p>
To ensure we have a financially viable and sustainable MAT and we continue in developing a strong business infrastructure	<p>Academies have been supported in maximising resources which has enabled capacity for growth. Commissioned staffing review, to bring about better value for money and economies of scale, implementation on track for September 2023. Staffing structures are affordable, sustainable, and fit for purpose with reference to the completed ICFP for each academy. All academies have in place a fully costed school improvement plan and budgets balance whilst meeting the academy priorities. Several developments have taken place across the Trust to reduce energy consumption– measures will continue to be taken annually to reduce carbon footprint. Generated income has increased due to an increase in AP for TSA and TANMAT have been commissioned to provide mental health sessions throughout the year on behalf of Leeds University.</p>
To continue to build an effective school improvement team	<p>The Trust supports career development (focused on shortage of skills) through to Senior Leadership. Progression and promotion are clear and transparent and give staff who demonstrate their effectiveness opportunities to progress. The Trust school improvement team has grown to ensure that standards are maintained and improved and that there is sufficient capacity to bring about rapid progress as required.</p>
To ensure we have effective leadership and governance at all levels	<p>The Board have enhanced governance at LAB level. All levels of governance, includes a single agenda item to update the Trust Strategic Action Plan. The system for LAB to Trust Board communication has been refined. School Improvement is a core part of the cycle of business of a Trust Board and Local Boards and there is strong culture of scrutiny and challenge around school improvement at all levels.</p>

Public benefit

In exercising its powers and duties the Trust has complied with its duty to have due regard to the Charity Commissions' guidance on Public Benefit. The main public benefit delivered by the Trust is the provision of a high quality of education to its learners. This has been evidenced through the results achieved and feedback from external assessments and partnerships.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

STRATEGIC REPORT

Achievements and performance

Ofsted Inspections – Trinity Academy Newcastle

During November 2023 (9th & 10th November 2023) Trinity Academy Newcastle underwent an Ofsted school inspection and was graded Requires Improvement.

What is it like to attend this school?

Trinity Academy Newcastle provides a nurturing environment for all pupils. The school provides specialist support for pupils with social, emotional, and mental health (SEMH) needs. All pupils have an education, health, and care (EHC) plan. Relationships between adults and pupils are positive.

The curriculum in English, mathematics and science is inconsistent. Turbulence in school leadership and staff vacancies has had a negative impact on leaders' ability to monitor curriculum development and delivery. Curriculum quality and provision vary significantly between the lower and upper school sites.

Pupils' behaviour across the school varies. Many pupils engage well in lessons. They interact well with their friends and with the adults who support them. However, there is a small but significant group of pupils who struggle to meet the school's high expectations for behaviour. These pupils disrupt the learning of others and show unacceptable levels of aggression and violence towards staff. Some parents express concern about the impact these behaviours have on their child's well-being.

The school works closely with external professionals, including the local police, to keep pupils safe. Following a tragic incident in 2022, pupils collaborated with police to set up the 'Knives Down League' to help educate the school and the local community about the dangers of carrying knives.

What does the school do well and what does it need to do better?

In the upper school site, teachers implement the curriculum well. Staff tailor learning activities to meet pupils' individual learning needs. This helps to engage pupils in learning. The curriculum in the lower site is less consistent.

The school prioritises the teaching of reading. A new upper school library provides pupils with a quiet space to enjoy books. Staff help pupils to select books that match their interests or reading ability. Pupils who struggle with their reading benefit from daily phonics sessions. Leaders have provided effective training for the staff leading these sessions. Training for other staff has been less effective.

The school supports pupils' SEMH needs well. Leaders have recently extended the nurture group provision to provide a calmer, more bespoke learning environment for a small group of pupils. In addition, the 'Sanctuary' provides trauma-informed care for pupils with more complex needs. Pupils in the 'Sanctuary' benefit from the regular support of a psychotherapeutic counsellor and educational psychologist.

Rates of attendance are too low. Leaders use alternative provision placements effectively to help re-engage pupils in learning.

Leaders have used the three school values of 'calm, kind and honest' when developing their personal development offer. They tailor the curriculum to meet pupils' needs, including individual lessons on relationships and sex education in key stage 3. The careers education offer is a strength of the school. Leaders have designed a range of opportunities to help pupils develop communication and employability skills. Activities to develop life skills, such as managing budgets, are included in the offer. A range of visits, speakers and work experience opportunities enhance the careers programme.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Safeguarding

Safeguarding continues to be a priority for the Trust. In the first term there was an Ofsted inspection of Trinity Newcastle and as in the inspections at Trinity New Bridge and Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd, safeguarding was again found to be effective across the academy. Throughout the year we continued to work on the three safeguarding key areas of improvement identified from the external assurance review in AY 22/23. Two of these issues were based around the compliance of alternative education placements. During the summer Term, the Trust appointed an Employer Engagement/ AP Teacher at both Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity Academy New Bridge. At Trinity Academy Newcastle the learners on Alternative Provision were all compliant. Trinity Academy New Bridge is a work in progress with the teacher being appointed later, however things were moving in the right direction and there is a confidence that in September 2024 Trinity Academy New Bridge will also be fully compliant. Another focus was Subject Risk Assessments, all have been collected in by the Health and Safety Lead for the areas required across the Trust and are in place now for the coming academic year.

Despite this academic year getting off to a good start with new Designated Safeguarding Leads at both Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity Academy New Bridge, in place, unfortunately after a few weeks into September the DSL at Trinity Academy Newcastle left. As this was not a new position for Trinity Academy Newcastle, the staff team stepped up to support the safeguarding of the learners. The Trust appointed a replacement for the DSL at Trinity Academy Newcastle, with her joining us in January 2023. Both DSLs took refresher DSL training with Safeguarding First. They also attended termly DSL briefings ensuring they had up to date safeguarding knowledge which they could bring back into the Trust.

Unfortunately, during the summer term of this academic year, one of the Trinity Academy Newcastle (upper site) learners was fatally killed in a car accident outside of the academy. The leadership team worked quickly following the Critical Incident policy and other important documents to ensure all our learners and staff were cared for in the correct manner. A review was held by the team involved to look at the process and to learn from this situation.

The sites have continued to embed safeguarding topics into the curriculum which is a crucial step in ensuring the safety and well-being of students. Some of the key topics have included:

- Online Safety: Educating students about safe internet use, recognizing cyberbullying, and protecting personal information.
- Mental Health: Promoting awareness about mental health issues, providing support resources, and reducing stigma.
- Bullying and Harassment: Understanding different forms of bullying, prevention strategies, and reporting mechanisms.
- Healthy Relationships: Teaching about consent, respectful relationships, and recognising signs of abuse.
- Substance Abuse: Information on the risks of drugs, alcohol, and tobacco, and strategies for resistance.

Some areas of curriculum integration where safeguarding topics have been embedded into subjects include:

- PSHE: Directly addresses many safeguarding issues.
- ICT: Covers online safety and digital literacy.
- Science: Discusses physical and mental health.
- Physical Education: Promotes physical well-being

Across the academy each site is currently working on a safeguarding curriculum plan which will be published on our website. This will show that each half term three safeguarding topics will be delivered through the academic year. By delivering meaningful safeguarding topics, the schools can create a safer and more supportive environment for all students.

External agencies have continued to play a role in the sites with the Violence Reduction Unit completing work around Knife crime, malicious communication, etc. and Sidestep working on Relationships and preventative measures. In a wider roll, Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity Solutions Academy have continued to host 'Team around the Schools' meetings each half term. This brings together representation from Health, Edge North East, Education Psychology, SEN Team, Early Help Team, and Youth Justice Service. The meetings are led by the academy who brings the agenda and highlight any emerging themes which the team members may be able to support the learners with. From this group the local Community Police Inspectors have set up a half termly meeting to discuss issues that local schools are facing and to share any concerns they are finding in the community. These inspectors were pivotal when dealing with the critical incident that occurred this term.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Safeguarding continues to be an ever-changing landscape however; the new Keeping Children Safe in Education (Sept 24) addresses many technical changes which will not impact much on the role of staff this year with bigger changes set to happen in 2025. One key area which KCSIE does highlight is Prevent and that staff should have separate in-depth training. This has been organised for the first training day in September which will be followed by safeguarding refresher training for all staff.

Mental Health

The Trust has made significant strides in a range of areas during the year. Firstly, in establishing a thriving Trust Forest School. This initiative aligns with our commitment to providing trauma informed education, based on theoretical and empirical findings, to both foster a strong connection to nature and drive a naturalist learning process. Designed to offer a range of outdoor learning experiences, with Forest School activities embedded into the core curriculum to enhance learning across subjects and promote the development of practical skills needed for learning. Furthermore, the Trust Forest School supports learners' emotional and social well-being through nature-based activities, while explicitly focusing on tracking and nurturing learners' emotional development and relationship-building skills.

Secondly, our pastoral intervention program, in line with the Relational Behavioural Policy, has been a key priority. Used in conjunction with the SEMH tracker, this has emphasised the importance of building positive relationships and addressing behavioural concerns in a supportive and understanding manner. While still undergoing refinement, these interventions have shown to provide individualised support to learners who require additional attention, helping them focus on their emotional, personal, and social needs, while supporting their academic progress. They have been employed to encourage positive behaviour, support emerging need and to build self-esteem, highlighting the Trust's ambition to develop a comprehensive system to support students and their families.

As always, the Trust has used its influence to support wider initiatives across schools in the Northeast. This has included supporting the educational psychology training team in training secondary schools in elements of mental health and behaviour to reduce school exclusions. Furthermore, outreach work, as part of the LA Advice and SEND Support Allocation panel, has been continued with primary schools to support early intervention in children and help schools adopt a more proactive approach to students' needs. Work has been continued with Carnegie School of Mental Health, with the Trust providing coaching to professionals in the UK undertaking the SMHL qualification. Lastly, the Trust has presented on various occasions at Sunderland University, sharing its knowledge and experience around working with Trauma and SEMH.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Financial review

Most of the Trust's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants or the local authority, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust also receives grants for fixed assets. In accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice, applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (SORP 2019), 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 depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the asset concerned. During the year, £38,020 was received in respect of Devolved Formula Capital Grants/ SCA grants. The Directors continue to agree for the Trust to pool all DFC/ SCA grants to support the planned capital developments.

The Board of Directors are keen to ensure that the Trust manages its estate effectively, to assist with financial efficiency and to ensure that the Trust has a healthy, safe, and sustainable educational environments. During the year, the Directors commissioned new external five-year Condition Surveys to be undertaken, which were linked to the Trust five-year Development Plan. The report highlighted that majority of the fire doors at Trinity Academy New Bridge were non-compliant, causing both safeguarding and health & safety issues. The Board of Directors agreed to invest £336,595 in the replacement and specification upgrade, which were mostly completed during the summer term.

In line with the reserves policy and Estates Vision & Strategy, the Directors commissioned the replacement of the heating system (£521,219) at Trinity Academy New Bridge. Due to the current system being passed its end of its life and no longer fit for purpose or cost effective.

The Trust has continued investing extensively in projects to enhance the curriculum within the period across the Trust, this includes the purchase of two newer minibuses (£75,420) due to the increasing maintenance charges and the introduction of two Employer Engagement/ AP Teachers at Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity Academy New Bridge. Developments also took place at Trinity Academy Newcastle to redevelop their car park (£109,593) and internal structural building changes to assist with behaviour management. Following incidents in the local area, the Directors also decided to install metal security detectors at Trinity Academy Newcastle and Trinity New Bridge to help increase safeguarding and security for staff and learners.

In line with the Trusts ICT continuous five-year strategy, the Trust has continued to develop and enhance the Trusts ICT infrastructure. During the period, the Trust has invested in upgrading its WIFI across the Trust (£22,012).

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited was incorporated on 18 December 2015 as a trading subsidiary of the Trust, being a DFE requirement post-conversion to allow the continuation of Post 19 education. Although the Limited Company was incorporated in 2015, the company did not start trading until August 2016. The directors of the Limited Company agreed that any surplus as of 31 August 2024 will be gifted to Trinity Solutions Academy.

During the year ended 31 August 2024 total income of the group of £9,318,163 (2023: £8,661,871) was received and total expenditure of £8,810,675 (2023: £7,810,669) was incurred.

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust faced many issues with staff recruitment and retention within the year, both with permanent and supply staff. Due to this, there were several posts that went unfilled for periods of time throughout the period.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Financial and risk management objectives and policies

The Trust continues to review and maintain its Risk Management Strategy and has an in-depth Risk Register which includes the potential financial risks. This exercise identifies and reviews key risks the Trust may be exposed to, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls implemented to mitigate those risks.

Key financial policies have been reviewed throughout the year. These detail the framework for financial management, including financial responsibilities and outlining financial authorisation.

At the year end the Trust had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be a significant effect on liquidity.

The Trust recognises that the defined benefit scheme deficit (Local Government Pension Scheme), which is set out in note 26 to the financial statements, represents a significant potential liability. However, the Trust considers that, as each individual Academy can meet its known annual contribution commitments for the near future, the risk from this liability is minimised. Also, Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of Academy closure, the Department would meet outstanding local government pension scheme liabilities for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

Reserves policy

The Trusts Reserves Policy was prepared referring to the following documents: Charities and Reserves (CC19) from the Charities Commission; ESFA Trust Handbook and the ESFA Accounts Direction. The policy also takes consideration to key factors around the management of public funds, consideration of the Trusts principal risks and uncertainties, ensuring the Trust have the resources required to deliver school improvement and its core aims, whilst ensuring value for money is met.

The key policy principles that underpin the Trusts approach are:

- The Trust will set a balanced in year revenue budget every year.
- The Trust's reserves balance should only decrease due to capital investment and/or other organisational needs which shall at all times be approved by the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee.
- All reserves are Trust reserves; however, individual Academy reserves balances will be reported for statutory accounting.
- The Trusts general reserves balance may be comprised of restricted or unrestricted reserves.

The Board reviews the reserve level of the academies annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Board has determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to three (£1,744,377) to six months' (£3,488,754) Trust salaries – Average Monthly Trust Salary £581,459 (Taken from predicted salary costs 24/25 not including supply etc).

The Trust's current level of free unrestricted reserves are £1,607,421 (2023: £1,505,019). The Trust's current level of accessible reserves (total reserves excluding restricted fixed asset funds and pension reserves) totals £4,721,685 (2023: £4,790,814).

As the free reserves and accessible reserves are higher than the target reserves, the Board has committed the following reserve expenditure for Year 1, against a review of the Trusts priorities and strategic plan.

- MAT Premise Development - £200K – Targeted developments outlined in the Condition Surveys.
- MAT ICT Development - £100K – Refresh of devices.
- MAT School Improvement - £200K – Targeted School Improvement resources to drive Ofsted recommendations/areas for development.

These commitments will be reviewed annually, and the Directors reserve the right to amend the reserve levels/commitments in the interest of the Trust.

Investment policy

The Trust operates an interest-bearing current account with Lloyds bank as approved by the Board of Trustees. Sufficient balances are maintained to ensure there are adequate liquid funds to cover all immediate and forthcoming financial commitments, including sufficient contingency for unexpected payments.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Key performance indicators

The key financial performance indicators of the Trust relate to the effectiveness of the use of funds for the benefit of the education of children. The key non-financial performance indicators for the Trust relate to the achievements and performance of its learners. Please see the achievements and performance section for further details.

The Trust, where available, uses benchmarking opportunities to ensure that performance indicators, financial, environmental and employee matters are reviewed annually and any areas for development are addressed. The Trust also makes use of comparative data provided by the Educational and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and the Local Authority.

In relation to the Trusts' Financial Efficiency and Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning Review the Board and senior leaders continue to embed the process and drive improvements where possible/necessary.

The key non-financial performance indicators of the Trust relate to the achievements and performance of its learners. The measures used to assess achievements and outcomes are:

- KS4 outcomes - average qualifications gained per pupil
- KS4 outcomes - % of pupils leaving with English *and* Maths Qualifications
- KS5 outcomes (vocational) - qualification success rate
- KS4 and KS5 outcomes - destinations (learners moving on to further education, training, or employment)
- Progress in English and Maths (assessed termly)
- Progress in SEMH (applicable to Pre-16 academies only)
- Attendance (applicable to Pre-16 academies only)

Outcomes

Trinity Academy Newcastle

KS4 Outcomes

Key Stage 4 Outcomes		
KPI	2023	2024
Year 11 Cohort Size	30	30
% of Y11s Achieving 5 or more Qualifications	23% (7 pupils)	10% (3 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving an English Qualification (GCSE or FS)	37% (11 pupils)	34% (10 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving a Maths Qualification (GCSE or FS)	43% (13 pupils)	31% (9 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving English and Maths Qualifications	33% (10 pupils)	21% (6 pupils)

KS2 Outcomes

Key Stage 2: Expected Standards			
<i>The table below displays the proportion of Year 6 learners achieving specific measures in SATs.</i>			
Expected Standard:	2022	2023	2024
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in English Reading	14%	7%	7%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in English Writing	0%	7%	0%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in English GPS	7%	7%	0%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Maths	7%	0%	0%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Science	N/A	7%	7%
Percentage of pupils achieving the expected standard in Reading, GPS and Maths	0%	0%	0%

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Key Stage 2: Average Scaled Scores			
<i>The table below displays the average scaled scores gained in SATS for each subject.</i>			
Average Scaled:	2022	2023	2024
Average scaled score in English Reading	98	93	68
Average scaled score in English GPS	94	96	92
Average scaled score in Maths	97	92	89
Key Stage 2: Average Progress Scores			
<i>The table below displays the average scaled scores gained in SATS for each subject.</i>			
Average Progress Score in...	2022	2023	2024
English Reading	2.7	-13.7	
English Writing	-3.6	-14.6	
Mathematics	-3.9	-12.1	

It will not be possible to calculate KS1-KS2 progress measures for academic years 2023/24 and 2024/25. This is because there is no relevant KS1 data required to calculate KS1-KS2 progress measures for these cohorts, as primary tests and assessments were cancelled in academic years 2019/20 and 2020/21 due to COVID-19 disruption.

Pastoral

- Attendance – TAN attendance decreased from 69% in 22/23 to 59% in 23/24.
- Behaviour – Incidents rose by 22% compared to 22/23.
- 10% (20/198) students attended psychotherapeutic counselling.

Trinity Academy New Bridge

KS4 Outcomes

Key Stage 4 Outcomes		
KPI	2023	2024
Year 11 Cohort Size	32	31
Average number of Qualifications per pupil	3	32
% of Y11s Achieving 5 or more Qualifications	38% (9 pupils)	16% (5 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving an English Qualification (GCSE or FS)	59% (19 pupils)	42% (13 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving a Maths Qualification (GCSE or FS)	66% (21 pupils)	58% (18 pupils)
% of Y11s Achieving English and Maths Qualifications	53% (17 pupils)	32% (10 pupils)

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Pastoral

- Attendance – Attendance decreased from 59.95% in 22/23 to 53.42% in 23/24.
- Behaviour – There was an 11% increase in behaviour incidents in 23/24 compared to 22/23.

Trinity Solutions Academy

- Attendance - Trinity Solutions Academy achieved 82% attendance.
- Retention - 77% retention rate (90/117)
- Core aim achievement- 62% (73/117) achieved their core aim
- Progression 52% (61/117)

Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited

- Attendance - Trinity Post 16 solutions achieved 87%
- Retention - 74% (14/19)
- Core aim achievement - 74% (14/19)
- Progression 74% (14/19)

Trust Forest School

- 27% (92/336) of pre 16 learners across the Trust accessed forest school.

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Directors has a reasonable expectation that the 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.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The Trust is subject to many risks and uncertainties in common with other academies and has procedures to identify, record and mitigate all risks including financial risk.

A review of the risks faced by the Trust was conducted and systems established to mitigate those risks. The Trust has identified the major risks it faces and has documented these within its Risk Register; this is reviewed termly by its Trustees. The Trustees are also fully appraised between meetings regarding any issues that may impact risk management.

This review provided recommendations for where the Trust could strengthen some of its systems and internal controls which have been implemented throughout the year. Further reviews will continue into 2024/25 to help identify any other areas in which the Trust may be able to implement an improved control environment.

The Trust has several policies and procedures in place to mitigate the likelihood and impact of identified potential risks. The risks are categorised as either extreme, moderate, or minor.

Outlined below is a description of the principal risk factors which may affect the Academy Trust. Not all factors are within the Academy Trust's control. Other factors besides those listed below may also adversely affect the Academy Trust.

- Post-16 below level 2 vocational qualifications in England currently undergoing major reform. The post-16 education landscape from September 2025 will look significantly different to the current one with great risk to financial viability of the Trust Post 16 Provisions. The Trust is continuing to engage with all consultation events regarding the reform. Whilst networking with other Post 16 providers and organisations across the region.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

- Failure to ensure that the School Improvement priorities and post Ofsted action plans of each academy are met – The Committee and LAB's will continue to receive regular reporting reviewing the performance made against the SIP priorities and post Ofsted action plans. The Trust is continuously improving the quality of provision of all our academies and enhance learner outcomes across the Trust. The Trust continues to grow in a measured way to ensure that standards are maintained and improved and that there is sufficient capacity to bring about rapid progress as required. School Improvement Director has standardised processes and performance reports to all Board/Lab meetings across all academies. The flexibility of the school improvement Team ensures that Subject Leaders will be included if their specialism is identified through Data analysis. All staff are supported and empowered with high-quality CPD evidenced via School IP, subject development plans include targeted CPD relevant to staff development and appraisal meetings track and demonstrate staff development via the CPD framework tracker. Performance report has been standardised to all LABS and committees.
- Cyber security risk, High risk of ransomware attack, High risk to business continuity. The education sector continues to be a target for cyber criminals. Hackers are constantly evolving and developing new methods to penetrate networks. To mitigate these threats, Trinity Academy Multi Academy Trust with the support of its managed service provider, has implemented robust cyber security measures such as staff training, advanced technology solutions and regular software updates and monitoring.
- Staff Recruitment and retention - lack of capacity to successfully deliver school improvement priorities or central services. The falling numbers of teachers in the profession is a concern to the Directors and the trust is committed to attracting quality teaching professionals.
- Funding cuts and increased costs in future periods e.g., rising energy, pay awards more than anticipated levels resulting in further increased financial vulnerability.

The principal risks that relate to academic performance cover all areas of teaching and learning, safeguarding, and provision of facilities. The Trust has several improvement plans and a robust performance management strategy to mitigate these risks.

Key financial policies have been adopted and reviewed throughout the year. These detail the framework for financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board, CEO, and budget holders, and outlining the authority for spending. Finances are reviewed throughout the year by the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee, evaluating performance against budgets and overall expenditure. Finances are also reviewed monthly by the Chair, discussed fortnightly between the CEO, CFO and COO.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

Fundraising

Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust periodically carries out in-house fundraising activities such as raffles, to raise funds for key purposes such as developing the farm, enterprise activities or for the hardship fund. The Trust ensure that they are compliant with their legal duties and are in line with financial duties ensuring that they are: -

- Acting in the best interest of the Trust
- Managing each academy's resources responsibly, which includes protecting and safeguarding its reputation
- Acting with reasonable care and skill
- Protecting vulnerable people

The Trustees are responsible for monitoring any fundraising that is undertaken within the year and the Trust does not engage with any external fundraisers.

Plans for the future

Our ambition is to create a specialist trauma informed education hub within the Northeast area, expanding beyond Newcastle and supporting neighbouring LAs through shared visionary research, development work and effective collaboration.

The Trust has discussed its ambition for growth in the future with the Regional Schools Directors Office through ongoing conversations and its annual trust reviews. The Trust have agreed to focus on ensuring all academies are good or better before pursuing opportunities to grow.

We have recently broadened our Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) to encompass Key Stage 1 students starting September 2024, in collaboration with the local authority. This expansion is in response to a significant increase in the number of children with EHCPs within this age group. Additionally, we are exploring the feasibility of establishing internal Alternative Provision services to mitigate rising expenses associated with external agencies. Furthermore, we are expanding our on-site facilities to accommodate the growing number of students in our post-16 provision.

Having a balance of academies at different starting points in their journey of improvement, will ensure we can use the strengths of each academy to build on our good practice and ensure that improving outcomes for children is at the heart of everything we do.

Funds held as custodian trustee on behalf of others

There are no funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

AUDITOR

As 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.

RSM UK Audit LLP has indicated their willingness to continue in office as auditors to the Trust.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company Directors, on 11 December 2024 and signed on the Board's behalf by:



.....
M McHugh

Chair

12/12/24

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the CEO, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between the 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 7 times during the year and attendance was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
P Carter (Chair until 11 September 2024) (Resigned 11 September 2024)	7	7
M McHugh (Vice chair until 11 September 2024 and Chair 12 September 2024)	6	7
L McNally (Accounting Officer)	7	7
N Elliott	0	7
J Rainsford	6	7
C Georgiou (Appointed 13 November 2023 and resigned 15 March 2024)	4	4
A M Ocampo Lucumi (Appointed 13 November 2023)	6	6
P Thompson (Resigned 22 January 2024)	0	3
E Fletcher (Resigned 22 January 2024)	2	3
K Allan (Appointed 22 May 2024)	2	2
P Monaghan (Appointed 10 July 2024)	1	1

During Academic year 23/24 the Trust has had two changes to the composition of its members and a few changes to the composition of the Board of Directors, changes are as follows:

Changes to Members

- Eric Fletcher – Appointed as a Member on 23 January 2024
- Stella Willmott – Resigned as a Member on 31 August 2024

Changes to Directors

- Ana Maria Ocampo Lucumi – Appointed as Director on 13 November 2023
- Constantine Georgiou – Appointed as Director on 13 November 2023 and resigned 15 March 2024
- Eric Fletcher – Resigned as Directors on 22 January 2024
- Pam Thompson – Resigned as Director on 22 January 2024
- Kirsty Allan - Appointed as Director on 22 May 2024
- Peter Monaghan - Appointed as Director on 10 July 2024

The Board of Directors continue to offer a more flexible approach to holding face to face meetings, where Directors were able to join virtually, for a blended meeting with prior approval.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Managing conflicts of interest

The Board of Trustees have robust procedures and policies in place for reporting and managing related party transactions that are applied across the Trust. All business and pecuniary interests will be recorded on the Register of Interests. The Declared Conflicts of Interest Register will identify any relevant material interests from close family relationships between the Trust's Members or Directors. Relevant material interests arising from close family relationships between these individuals and employees will also be identified. The Declared Conflicts of Interest Register will be always kept up to date and amended when any new interests are declared. The relevant business and pecuniary interests of Members or Directors and the Accounting Officer will be published on the Trust's website.

Governance reviews

Following two years of external governance reviews, the Board of Trustees decided to carry out an internal review of governance.

The focus of this review included:

- Recruitment and Succession Planning
- Induction and Development
- Communication
- Vision
- Staff Wellbeing
- Curriculum
- Stakeholder Views

The Directors with the assistance from the Governance Professional continues to formulate their self-evaluation cycle (which includes their schedule of meetings) during the spring term for the following academic year, with a view to ensuring effective and robust communication between the tiers of governance. These tiers of governance provide overview, scrutiny, and challenge on the performance of the Trust both financial and educational, risk management and ensuring that the Trust complies with the necessary law, regulations, and guidance. The Board agreed to commission an external governance review through NGA to take place during the autumn term in AY 24/25.

The LAB meetings continued to take place as a pre-16 and post-16 format and 3 meetings were scheduled throughout the year, one termly.

The Board continues to review the effectiveness of its LAB's/ Committee and how they interact and inform the main Board. Communication reports were created following the LAB meetings by the Chair of each LAB and the Governance Professional to convey the key messages to the Board and its Committees. The agenda for the LABs were created with the Chair of each LAB, the CEO and the Governance Professional to ensure key messages from the Board and its committees were discussed at LAB level.

The Board of Directors monitor, analyse and challenge a range of key performance data both financial and educational through the delivery of data presented and supplied for meetings.

Directors are effective in discharging their responsibilities in ensuring effective use of public funds and providing value for money for all funds expended through highly effective financial scrutiny throughout the year.

The Board has a continuous improvement mind-set, which includes continuing to refine the focus, which allows the Board to manage and challenge the senior leaders robustly. The Board is also mindful of skill gaps and invests in recruitment, training, and expert advice accordingly. During the academic year, the Board has invested in the NGA online training platform, School North East Partner training, safeguarding first training, GDPR SENTRY and the Confederation of Schools Trust. During the year, recruitment for Directors and Local Governors has been a key focus of the Governance Professional at both Board level and Local level. The Board secured some recruitment successes late in the academic year for the next academic year from Inspiring Governance for Directors. The Board commissioned the Governor for Schools recruitment service and successfully recruited a director via this channel.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Finance, audit and resources committee

The Finance, Audit and Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Directors. The responsibilities of this committee are, but not limited to:

- Directing the Trust's programme of internal scrutiny and reporting to the Board on the adequacy of the Trusts financial and other controls and management of risks.
- Ensuring that risks are being addressed appropriately through internal scrutiny.
- Reviewing the external auditor's plan each year.
- Reviewing the annual report and accounts.
- Reviewing the external auditor's findings and actions taken by the Trust's in response to those findings.
- Assessing the effectiveness and resources of the external auditor to provide a basis for decisions by the Trust's members about the auditor's reappointment or dismissal or retendering.
- Producing an annual report of the committee's conclusions to advise the Board of Directors and members, including recommendations on the reappointment, dismissal or retendering of the external auditor, and their remuneration.
- Reviewing and approving the annual five-year Trust budgets including reserve expenditure.
- Regularly monitoring expenditure and income against the budget and making recommendations to the Board.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
P Carter (Resigned 12 September 2024)	13	13
M McHugh	13	13
N Elliott	4	13
C Georgiou (Appointed 13 November 2023 and resigned 15 March 2024)	4	4
K Allan (Appointed 22 May 2024)	5	6

*L Sebagh (Chair of the Committee) was in attendance for 11 meetings.

*L McNally (Accounting Officer) was in attendance for 6 meetings.

Quality of education, inclusion and safeguarding committee

The Quality of Education, Inclusion and safeguarding Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board. The responsibilities of the Quality of Education, Inclusion and safeguarding Committee are:

- Curriculum Policies
- Learner Wellbeing
- Attendance
- Teaching and Learning
- Premium and Other Grant Funding
- LAC
- Assessment, Attainment and Outcomes
- KPI's
- Timetable and Curriculum

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Quality of Education, Inclusion and safeguarding Committee was as follows:

P Carter (Resigned 12 September 2024)	5	5
J Rainsford	4	5
A M Ocampo Lucumi (Appointed 13 November 2023)	4	4
P Thompson (Resigned 22 January 2024)	-	2
E Fletcher (Resigned 22 January 2024)	1	2

*L McNally (Accounting Officer) was in attendance for 5 meetings.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trusts use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking and ICFP data or by using a framework where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

Improving educational outcomes

During the year, the Trust ensured educational outcomes improved for learners by achieving the following:

- Offering an exciting and diverse curriculum ensuring all learners have had the opportunity to raise their individual levels of attainment.
- Learners accessed specialist equipment, provision of vocational opportunities and work experience, along with bespoke alternative education or interventions where necessary.
- Learners accessed Outdoor Education, Forest School, and Duke of Edinburgh as part of a broad and balanced curriculum, which helped to increase attendance.
- The Trust has continued to support Leeds Beckett University in the delivery of Intermediate Dilemma Based Group Coaching Sessions as part of the Senior Mental Health Lead Training.
- Delivering high quality Continuing Professional Development to staff focusing on areas of improvement and interest aimed at improving the quality of leadership and teaching. There were several staff supported by the Trust to complete their ECT and to complete their level 5 Diploma in Education and Training. The Trust also continued to utilise the apprenticeship levy to employ a further admin apprentice. The Trust has also developed and introduced certificated qualification programmes for Teaching Assistants and Higher-Level Teaching Assistants.
- The Trust continues to offer and delivery of Pre 16 alternative education to other schools, Academies, and authorities. These funds assisted in offsetting salaries and educational costs.
- The Accounting Officer ensured that the Trust effectively used relevant funding, to ensure the Trust's estate was safe, well-maintained and was compliant with regulations. To support the Accounting Officer in meeting these standards, the Trust commissioned a five-year condition and M&E survey, along with completing the DFE's GEMs Assessment. These tools inform the Trusts' five year fully costed estates development plan. The progress of these developments is reviewed and discussed throughout the year during the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee, to ensure the Trusts remains on target.

Financial performance

The Trust ensures a constant focus on best value for money and clearly understands the importance of the efficient and effective use of its resources. The Trust has a detailed financial policy, which promotes fair competition through quotations and tenders. Where possible, the Trust initially refers to frameworks such as the Central Government procurement, CPC, Everything ICT, Everything FM, and YPO to determine whether the Trust could get better value for money. As well as consolidating purchases wherever possible across the Trust and purchasing collaboratively with other Trusts to ensure economies of scale are obtained. Examples include-

- Procurement of ICT devices through the HealthTrust Europe Framework.
- Procurement of steel doors through Everything FM Framework.
- Procurement of HR Support through Everything FM Framework.
- Procurement of CIF Bid Professional Support through the CPC Framework.
- Procurement of Microsoft licences through the joint procurement exercise carried out by Newcastle's LA on behalf of Newcastle schools.
- The Trust continues to benchmark its costs against similar organisations to assess areas for further review. As well as continuing to implement the integrated curriculum financial planning across the Trust.

The purpose of the system of internal control

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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 Trinity Academy Newcastle Trust for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Trust is exposed, together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

The 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. It includes:

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees.
- Regular reviews by the finance and general purposes committee of reports, which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes.
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- Identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy in an internal audit service from a range of sources depending on expertise and knowledge.

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

Provider & Area	Recommendations	Comments
Clive Owen – Financial and HR Internal Scrutiny.	No recommendations raised for the areas reviewed	

The planned internal audit draft reports were received and tabled at the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee. Following this, action plans were produced based on the report's recommendations and updated throughout the period.

During the year, the Trust Premise/ Health and Safety Lead carried out thematic internal assurance on Educational Visits and Medication for Trinity Academy New Bridge. The Trust Head of Safeguarding, Inclusion and School Improvement Lead also provided termly safeguarding assurance for the Trust. The findings of the reviews were received and tabled at the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee.

Managing conflicts of interest

Review of effectiveness

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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

- The work of the internal auditor.
- The financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool.
- The work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- The work of the external auditor.
- Correspondence from ESFA e.g. financial notice to improve/notice to improve (FNtI/NtI) and 'minded to' letters.

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

Based on the advice of the Finance, Audit and Resources Committee and the Accounting Officer, the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12/12/24..... and signed on its behalf by:



M McHugh

Chair



L McNally

Accounting Officer

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

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

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

L McNally

L McNally
Accounting Officer

12/12/24
.....

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the board of trustees on 12/12/24..... and signed on its behalf by:



M McHugh
Chair

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Trinity Academy Newcastle (the "parent charitable company") and its subsidiary (the 'group') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Group Statement of Financial Activities, the Group and Company Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including FRS 102 "The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland" (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE (CONTINUED)

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Trustees' Report, which includes the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report prepared for the purposes of company law, for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors' Report and the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the group and parent charitable company and their environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors' Report or the Strategic Report included within the Trustees' Report.

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities set out on page 30, the trustees (who act as trustees for the charitable activities of the charitable company are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees' determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Irregularities are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. The objectives of our audit are to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding compliance with laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, to perform audit procedures to help identify instances of non-compliance with other laws and regulations that may have a material effect on the financial statements, and to respond appropriately to identified or suspected non-compliance with laws and regulations identified during the audit.

In relation to fraud, the objectives of our audit are to identify and assess the risk of material misstatement of the financial statements due to fraud, to obtain sufficient appropriate audit evidence regarding the assessed risks of material misstatement due to fraud through designing and implementing appropriate responses and to respond appropriately to fraud or suspected fraud identified during the audit.

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

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE (CONTINUED)

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud, the group audit engagement team:

- obtained an understanding of the nature of the sector, including the legal and regulatory framework that the group and parent charitable company operates in and how the group and parent charitable company are complying with the legal and regulatory framework;
- inquired of management, and those charged with governance, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, including any known actual, suspected or alleged instances of fraud;
- discussed matters about non-compliance with laws and regulations and how fraud might occur including assessment of how and where the financial statements may be susceptible to fraud.

As a result of these procedures we consider the most significant laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the financial statements are FRS 102, Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Education and Skills Funding Agency's Academy Trust Handbook and Academies Accounts Direction. We performed audit procedures to detect non-compliances which may have a material impact on the financial statements which included reviewing the financial statements and the trustees' report.

The most significant laws and regulations that have an indirect impact on the financial statements are those in relation to the Education Inspection Framework under the Education Act 2005 (as amended), Keeping Children Safe in Education under the Education Act 2002, the UK General Data Protection Regulation (UK GDPR) and the Data Protection Act 2018. We performed audit procedures to inquire of management and those charged with governance whether the group is in compliance with these law and regulations and inspected correspondence with regulatory authorities.

The group audit engagement team identified the risk of management override of controls as the area where the financial statements were most susceptible to material misstatement due to fraud. Audit procedures performed included but were not limited to testing manual journal entries and other adjustments, evaluating the business rationale in relation to significant, unusual transactions and transactions entered into outside the normal course of business, and challenging judgments and estimates.

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

Use of our report

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

RSM UK Audit LLP

Claire Leece (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of RSM UK Audit LLP, Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants
1 St. James' Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne
United Kingdom
NE1 4AD

12/12/24

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

GROUP STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	-	38,021	38,021	120,488
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	-	9,139,015	-	9,139,015	8,294,443
Other trading activities	5	140,503	-	-	140,503	246,403
Investments	6	624	-	-	624	537
Total		<u>141,127</u>	<u>9,139,015</u>	<u>38,021</u>	<u>9,318,163</u>	<u>8,661,871</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	38,725	8,048,042	723,908	8,810,675	7,810,669
Total	7	<u>38,725</u>	<u>8,048,042</u>	<u>723,908</u>	<u>8,810,675</u>	<u>7,810,669</u>
Net income/(expenditure)		102,402	1,090,973	(685,887)	507,488	851,202
Transfers between funds	18	-	(1,209,504)	1,209,504	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial (losses)/gains on defined benefit schemes	26	-	(53,000)	-	(53,000)	632,000
Net movement in funds		102,402	(171,531)	523,617	454,488	1,483,202
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		1,505,019	3,285,795	17,586,080	22,376,894	20,893,692
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,607,421</u>	<u>3,114,264</u>	<u>18,109,697</u>	<u>22,831,382</u>	<u>22,376,894</u>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE


GROUP AND COMPANY BALANCE SHEETS

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Company 2023 £
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	13	18,109,697	18,107,535	17,586,080	17,582,928
Current assets					
Debtors	15	419,568	419,522	214,354	213,986
Cash at bank and in hand		5,700,537	5,683,827	5,510,629	5,512,577
		6,120,105	6,103,349	5,724,983	5,726,563
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(1,398,420)	(1,396,288)	(934,169)	(932,597)
Net current assets		4,721,685	4,707,061	4,790,814	4,793,966
Net assets		22,831,382	22,814,596	22,376,894	22,376,894
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	18				
- Restricted fixed asset funds		18,109,697	18,107,535	17,586,080	17,582,928
- Restricted income funds		3,114,264	2,825,508	3,285,795	2,997,039
Total restricted funds		21,223,961	20,933,043	20,871,875	20,579,967
Unrestricted income funds	18	1,607,421	1,881,553	1,505,019	1,796,927
Total funds		22,831,382	22,814,596	22,376,894	22,376,894

As permitted by s408 Companies Act 2006, the charity has not presented its own profit and loss account and related notes as it prepares group accounts. The results of the unconsolidated charity are net income of £485,289 (2023: £936,385 net income) and net movement in funds of £437,702 (2023: £1,483,202).

The financial statements on pages 34 to 64 were approved by the board of trustees and authorised for issue on 12/12/24..... and are signed on their behalf by:



 M McHugh
 Chair

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Notes	2024 £	£	2023 £	£
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	23		1,398,788		2,059,620
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		624		537	
Capital grants from DfE Group		38,021		120,488	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(1,250,900)		(664,778)	
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		3,375		-	
Net cash used in investing activities			(1,208,880)		(543,753)
Net increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			189,908		1,515,867
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			5,510,629		3,994,762
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			5,700,537		5,510,629

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies

General information

Trinity Academy Newcastle is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the trustees' report.

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

Basis of preparation

The financial statements of the academy trust have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their financial statements in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006. The academy trust is a public benefit entity under FRS 102 and has therefore applied the relevant public benefit requirements of FRS 102.

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

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

Reduced disclosures

In accordance with FRS 102, the Charity has taken advantage of the exemptions from the following disclosure requirements;

- Section 7 'Statement of Cash Flows' - Presentation of a Statement of Cash Flow and reduced notes and disclosures;
- Section 11 'Basic Financial Instruments' and Section 12 'Other Financial Instrument Issues': Interest income/expense and net gains/losses for financial instruments not measured at fair value.

The Academy Trust is exempt from the requirement to present its own Statement of Financial Activities.

Going concern

The group had total funds of £22,831k as at 31 August 2024, of which £4,722k was held in unrestricted and restricted general funds. Cash balances were £5,701k and net current assets £4,722k.

The group has prepared five-year forecasts which confirm that, based on the expected outturns, the trust has sufficient cash and funds for the Trust to continue in operation for at least 12 months from the date of approval of the financial statements.

Basis of consolidation

The group financial statements consolidate, on a line by line basis, those of the company and its subsidiary undertaking, Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited, over which it exercises control. The financial statements of Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited are drawn up to 31 July 2024. Profit or losses on intra-group transactions are eliminated in full.

Income

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

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is unconditional entitlement 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 in the restricted fixed asset fund.

Donations

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

Other income

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

Interest receivable

Interest receivable is included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis, and is stated inclusive of related tax credits.

Donated services and gifts in kind

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

Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Charitable activities

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

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

Assets costing £1,000 or more (machinery, equipment and vehicles) and £10,000 or more (land, buildings and improvements) are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, so as to write off the cost of assets less their residual values over their useful lives on the following bases:

Land and buildings	Straight line over 50 years
Computer equipment	Straight line over 3 years
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Straight line over 5 years
Motor vehicles	Straight line over 5 years

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

Liabilities

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

Leased assets

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

Financial instruments

The academy trust has chosen to adopt Sections 11 and 12 of FRS 102 in full in respect of financial instruments.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

Financial assets and liabilities

Financial assets and financial liabilities are recognised when the academy trust becomes a party to the contractual provisions of the instrument.

Financial liabilities are classified according to the substance of the financial instrument's contractual obligations, rather than the financial instrument's legal form.

All financial assets and liabilities are initially measured at transaction price (including transaction costs), except for those financial assets measured at fair value through the profit or loss, which are initially measured at fair value (which is normally the transaction price excluding transaction costs), unless the arrangement constitutes a financing transaction. A financial asset or financial liability that is payable or receivable in one year is measured at the undiscounted amount expected to be received or paid net of impairment, unless it is a financing transaction. If an agreement constitutes a financing transaction, the financial asset or financial liability is measured at the present value of the future payments discounted at a market rate of interest for a similar debt instrument.

Financial assets and financial liabilities are offset only when there is a current legally enforceable right to set off the recognised amounts and the intention to either settle on a net basis, or to realise the asset and settle the liability simultaneously.

Derecognition of financial assets and liabilities

A financial asset is derecognised only when the contractual rights to cash flow expire or are settled, or substantially all the risks and the rewards of ownership are transferred to another party, or if some significant risks and rewards of ownership are retained but control of the asset has transferred to another party that is able to sell the asset in its entirety to an unrelated third party. A financial liability (or part thereof) is derecognised when the obligation specified in the contract is discharged, cancelled or expires.

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.

Pensions benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'), which are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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 quadrennial valuations using a projected unit method. The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently there is insufficient information to use defined benefit accounting, it is therefore treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate. Differences between contributions payable in the year and contributions actually paid are shown as either accruals or prepayments.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

1 Accounting policies (Continued)

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

The LGPS assets are managed by the scheme trustees at scheme level, and the determination/allocation of assets to each individual employer in the scheme is managed by the scheme actuary. The assets are allocated to each employer for accounting purposes based on the valuation of the assets at the latest triennial valuation as adjusted for subsequent contributions received from the employer, asset returns and benefit payments made (either on a cash basis or actuarial basis).

The retirement benefit obligation recognised represents the deficit or surplus in the defined benefit plans. Any surplus resulting from this calculation is limited to the present value of any economic benefits available in the form of refunds from the plans or reductions in future contributions to the plans.

Fund accounting

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

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

Restricted income funds are resources subject to specific restrictions imposed by funders or donors, and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) and Department for Education.

Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 28.

Termination benefits

Termination benefits are recognised when employees accept the Academy Trust's offer to those benefits. Termination benefits provided as a result of the Academy terminating employment are recognised when the Academy Trust has communicated its plan of termination to the affected employees.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement (Continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgement

Determining the existence of a minimum funding requirement for the Local Government Pension Scheme to be included in the asset ceiling in measuring and recognising a surplus in the scheme. This judgement is based on an assessment of the nature of the scheme as a statutory scheme and its inherent implied continuance as well as the operation of the primary and secondary contributions.

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Capital grants	-	38,021	38,021	120,488

The income from donations and capital grants was £38,021 (2023: £120,488) of which £38,021 was restricted fixed assets (2023: £120,488).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	3,556,211	3,556,211	3,430,002
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- 16-19 core education funding	-	351,323	351,323	377,683
- Pupil premium	-	269,316	269,316	231,992
- Teachers pension contribution grant	-	210,924	210,924	-
- Teachers pay grant	-	204,238	204,238	-
- Recovery premium	-	214,617	214,617	-
- Others	-	403,948	403,948	455,679
	-	5,210,577	5,210,577	4,495,356
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	3,928,438	3,928,438	3,799,087
	-	9,139,015	9,139,015	8,294,443

The income from funding for educational operations was £9,139,015 (2023: £8,294,443) of which £9,139,015 was restricted (2023: £8,294,443).

Other DfE/ESFA grants are made up of 16 - 19 core education funding, universal infant free school meals, PE grants. Local Authority grants are in relation to top up funding, SEN funding and Looking after Children, music service grants, G Plus, Annex 1 and Intervention. There are no unfulfilled conditions or contingencies for grants recognised in the period.

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Catering income	4,461	-	4,461	4,027
Other income	136,042	-	136,042	242,376
	140,503	-	140,503	246,403

The income from other trading activities was £140,503 (2023: £246,403) of which £140,503 was unrestricted (2023: £246,403).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Interest from short term deposits	624	-	624	537

The income from funding for investment income was £624 (2023: £537) of which £624 was unrestricted (2023: £537).

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Non-pay expenditure Premises £	Other £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	3,617,722	723,908	676,636	5,018,266	4,104,191
- Allocated support costs	2,486,468	833,815	472,126	3,792,409	3,706,478
	<u>6,104,190</u>	<u>1,557,723</u>	<u>1,148,762</u>	<u>8,810,675</u>	<u>7,810,669</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024 £	2023 £
Operating lease rentals	28,731	14,596
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(24,000)	14,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	725,006	607,061
Gain on disposal of fixed assets	(1,098)	-
Fees payable to RSM UK Audit LLP and its associates in respect of both audit and non-audit services are as follows:		
- Audit	28,000	24,000
- Other services	13,525	11,750

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Direct costs				
Educational operations	-	5,018,266	5,018,266	4,104,191
Support costs				
Educational operations	38,725	3,753,684	3,792,409	3,706,478
	<u>38,725</u>	<u>8,771,950</u>	<u>8,810,675</u>	<u>7,810,669</u>

The expenditure on charitable activities was £8,810,675 (2023: £7,810,669) of which £38,725 was unrestricted (2023: £34,745), £8,048,042 was restricted (2023: £7,168,863) and £723,908 was restricted fixed assets (2023: £607,061).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

8 Charitable activities (Continued)

	2024 £	2023 £
Analysis of support costs		
Support staff costs	2,486,468	2,847,518
Technology costs	107,772	122,742
Premises costs	833,815	419,775
Legal costs	5,024	4,380
Other support costs	320,605	277,318
Governance costs	38,725	34,745
	<u>3,792,409</u>	<u>3,706,478</u>

9 Staff

Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	3,949,315	3,894,166
Social security costs	399,806	394,250
Pension costs	724,846	838,698
Other employee benefits	600	-
	<u>5,074,567</u>	<u>5,127,114</u>
Staff costs - employees	5,074,567	5,127,114
Agency staff costs	972,220	785,884
Staff restructuring costs	57,403	17,169
	<u>6,104,190</u>	<u>5,930,167</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Severance payments (including special severance payments)	<u>57,403</u>	<u>17,169</u>
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Exit payments

The academy trust paid 3 exit payments in the year, as follows:

£0 - £25,000	3
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Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs was a special severance payment totalling £12,985 (2023:£nil). Individually, the payment was £12,985.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

9 Staff (Continued)

Staff numbers

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

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Teachers	28	33
Administration and support	82	74
Management	16	17
	<u>126</u>	<u>124</u>

The number of persons employed, expressed as a full time equivalent, was as follows:

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
Teachers	27	31
Administration and support	75	68
Management	16	17
	<u>118</u>	<u>116</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2024	2023
	Number	Number
£60,001 - £70,000	-	2
£70,001 - £80,000	4	2
£80,001 - £90,000	1	3
£100,000 - £110,000	1	-
	<u>6</u>	<u>7</u>

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and national insurance) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £718,131 (2023: £646,244).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

10 Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following Central Services to its Academies during the year:-

- Human Resources
- Financial Services
- School Improvement Services
- Health and Safety Services
- Estate Management
- Governance Services
- Safeguarding Services
- Marketing and PR services
- Data and Exams Management

The Trust charges for these services based on a flat percentage of GAG excluding student financial support.

The amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trinity Academy Newcastle	392,852	327,556
Trinity Solutions Academy	109,160	85,276
Trinity Academy New Bridge	269,960	254,766
Trinity Post 16 Solutions	16,410	47,860
	<u>788,382</u>	<u>715,458</u>

11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more of the Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as Trustees. Other trustees were not paid any remuneration nor received any other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust.

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

W Curley (CEO) (Resigned 30 April 2023) received a salary of £nil (2023: £82,643) and employer pension contributions of £nil (2023: £nil) and L McNally (Accounting Officer) received a salary of £101,067(2023: £31,632) and employer pension contributions of £26,038 (2023: £7,490).

During the year ended 31 August 2024 travel and subsistence expenses totalling £139 (2023: £nil) were reimbursed to the trustees.

Related party transactions are set out in note 27.

12 Trustees and officers' insurance

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

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

13 Tangible fixed assets

Group	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and equipment	Motor vehicles	Total
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2023	19,460,411	712,836	757,697	65,945	20,996,889
Transfer	-	42,649	(42,649)	-	-
Additions	109,593	64,601	1,001,286	75,420	1,250,900
Disposals	-	-	-	(12,650)	(12,650)
	<u>19,570,004</u>	<u>820,086</u>	<u>1,716,334</u>	<u>128,715</u>	<u>22,235,139</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	2,698,729	539,353	122,685	50,042	3,410,809
Transfer	-	8,530	(8,530)	-	-
On disposals	-	-	-	(10,373)	(10,373)
Charge for the year	387,308	143,944	188,749	5,005	725,006
	<u>3,086,037</u>	<u>691,827</u>	<u>302,904</u>	<u>44,674</u>	<u>4,125,442</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2024	<u>16,483,967</u>	<u>128,259</u>	<u>1,413,430</u>	<u>84,041</u>	<u>18,109,697</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>16,761,682</u>	<u>173,483</u>	<u>635,012</u>	<u>15,903</u>	<u>17,586,080</u>
Company					
	£	£	£	£	£
Cost					
At 1 September 2023	19,460,411	708,262	757,697	65,945	20,992,315
Transfer	-	42,649	(42,649)	-	-
Additions	109,593	64,601	1,001,286	75,420	1,250,900
Disposals	-	-	-	(12,650)	(12,650)
At 31 August 2024	<u>19,570,004</u>	<u>815,512</u>	<u>1,716,334</u>	<u>128,715</u>	<u>22,230,565</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2023	2,698,729	537,931	122,685	50,042	3,409,387
Transfer	-	8,530	(8,530)	-	-
On disposals	-	-	-	(10,373)	(10,373)
Charge for the year	387,308	142,954	188,749	5,005	724,016
	<u>3,086,037</u>	<u>689,415</u>	<u>302,904</u>	<u>44,674</u>	<u>4,123,030</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2024	<u>16,483,967</u>	<u>126,097</u>	<u>1,413,430</u>	<u>84,041</u>	<u>18,107,535</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>16,761,682</u>	<u>170,331</u>	<u>635,012</u>	<u>15,903</u>	<u>17,582,928</u>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

14 Investment in subsidiary

The Academy has a wholly owned subsidiary, Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited, a company limited by guarantee and incorporated and registered in England (company number 09922889). The company provides post 16 LLDD education and pays all of its profits to the Academy by gift aid. A summary of the trading results as at 31 July 2024 is shown below.

	2024 £	2023 £
Turnover and other income	286,822	358,615
Cost of sales and administration costs	(181,908)	(191,497)
Operating profit	104,914	167,118
Interest received	-	-
Profit before tax	104,914	167,118
Coronavirus funding	-	-
Gift aid distributable to parent	(86,700)	(167,118)
Retained profit	18,214	-

The assets and liabilities were:

Total assets	21,650	7,326
Total liabilities	(3,436)	(7,326)
Net assets	18,214	-

15 Debtors	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Company 2023 £
	Trade debtors	16,901	16,909	11,520
Other debtors	301,644	301,644	86,165	86,165
Prepayments and accrued income	101,023	100,969	116,669	116,301
	419,568	419,522	214,354	213,986

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Company 2023 £
Trade creditors	363,303	363,303	30,634	30,634
Other taxation and social security	97,565	96,058	163,258	163,258
Other creditors	264,236	265,835	383,146	381,574
Accruals (see note 17)	673,316	671,092	357,131	357,131
	<u>1,398,420</u>	<u>1,396,288</u>	<u>934,169</u>	<u>932,597</u>

17 Deferred income

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	200,457	27,608
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	27,608	-
Released from previous years	(27,608)	-
Resources deferred in the year	200,457	27,608
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>200,457</u>	<u>27,608</u>

At the reporting date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for Teachers pension grant of £114,190, Teachers pay grant of £85,595 and £672 of other revenue grants. (2023: £27,608 other revenue grants).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Funds

Consolidated	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	3,285,795	3,556,211	(2,518,238)	(1,209,504)	3,114,264
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	1,582,417	(1,582,417)	-	-
Other government grants	-	4,000,387	(4,000,387)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	53,000	(53,000)	-
	<u>3,285,795</u>	<u>9,139,015</u>	<u>(8,048,042)</u>	<u>(1,262,504)</u>	<u>3,114,264</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion/ transfer	15,702,165	-	(374,217)	-	15,327,948
DfE group capital grants	316,334	38,021	(235,036)	-	119,319
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,508,062	-	(93,208)	1,209,504	2,624,358
Donation of fixed assets	59,519	-	(21,447)	-	38,072
	<u>17,586,080</u>	<u>38,021</u>	<u>(723,908)</u>	<u>1,209,504</u>	<u>18,109,697</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>20,871,875</u>	<u>9,177,036</u>	<u>(8,771,950)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>21,223,961</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,497,640	141,127	(38,725)	-	1,600,042
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,505,019</u>	<u>141,127</u>	<u>(38,725)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,607,421</u>
Total funds	<u>22,376,894</u>	<u>9,318,163</u>	<u>(8,810,675)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>22,831,382</u>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Funds (Continued)

Company	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,997,039	3,556,211	(2,518,238)	(1,209,504)	2,825,508
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	1,582,417	(1,582,417)	-	-
Other government grants	-	4,000,387	(4,000,387)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	53,000	(53,000)	-
	<u>2,997,039</u>	<u>9,139,015</u>	<u>(8,048,042)</u>	<u>(1,262,504)</u>	<u>2,825,508</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Inherited on conversion/ transfer	15,702,165	-	(374,217)	-	15,327,948
DfE group capital grants	290,596	38,020	(235,036)	-	93,580
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,530,648	-	(92,217)	1,209,504	2,647,935
Donation of fixed assets	59,519	-	(21,447)	-	38,072
	<u>17,582,928</u>	<u>38,020</u>	<u>(722,917)</u>	<u>1,209,504</u>	<u>18,107,535</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>20,579,967</u>	<u>9,177,035</u>	<u>(8,770,959)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>20,933,043</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,789,548	141,127	(56,501)	-	1,874,174
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,796,927</u>	<u>141,127</u>	<u>(56,501)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,881,553</u>
Total funds	<u>22,376,894</u>	<u>9,318,162</u>	<u>(8,827,460)</u>	<u>(53,000)</u>	<u>22,814,596</u>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Funds (Continued)

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

General Annual Grant

General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the Trust. The Academy Trust is not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2024. During the year a transfer has been made from GAG to the restricted fixed asset reserve to cover the additions made during the year.

Other DfE / ESFA grants

Other DfE/ESFA grants are made up of pupil premium, year 7 catch up, universal free school meals, post 16 income, PE grants, MDIF, Teachers Pay Grant, Student financial support.

Other government grants

Other government grants include SEN funding and top up funding which was spent in the year.

Pension reserve

The costs and income associated with the defined benefit pension schemes have been recorded in the restricted fund. Staff costs are paid from this fund including contributions to the LGPS, hence the pension liability has been aligned with these funds.

Inherited funds

The balance represents the transfer of land and buildings on conversion. Depreciation is charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

Capital expenditure from GAG

The balance represents the total expenditure from GAG. Depreciation is charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

DfE group capital grants

Capital funding has been received from the DfE for utilisation on building improvements and refurbishments. Where expenditure is capitalised, depreciation will be charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

Donations of fixed assets

The balance represents donated IT equipment. Depreciation is charged to the fund over the life of the related assets.

Unrestricted funds

General funds can be used for any purpose, at the discretion of the trustees, within the objects of the Academy.

Transfer between funds

Transfers between funds have been made when capital items have been acquired using GAG monies.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Funds (Continued)

Funds prior year

Consolidated	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,566,505	3,807,685	(2,544,105)	(544,290)	3,285,795
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	558,176	(558,176)	-	-
Other government grants	-	3,928,582	(3,928,582)	-	-
Pension reserve	(494,000)	-	(138,000)	632,000	-
	<u>2,072,505</u>	<u>8,294,443</u>	<u>(7,168,863)</u>	<u>87,710</u>	<u>3,285,795</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	16,070,475	-	(368,310)	-	15,702,165
DfE group capital grants	351,537	120,488	(155,691)	-	316,334
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,027,409	-	(63,637)	544,290	1,508,062
Donation of fixed assets	78,942	-	(19,423)	-	59,519
	<u>17,528,363</u>	<u>120,488</u>	<u>(607,061)</u>	<u>544,290</u>	<u>17,586,080</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>19,600,868</u>	<u>8,414,931</u>	<u>(7,775,924)</u>	<u>632,000</u>	<u>20,871,875</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,285,445	246,940	(34,745)	-	1,497,640
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,292,824</u>	<u>246,940</u>	<u>(34,745)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,505,019</u>
Total funds	<u>20,893,692</u>	<u>8,661,871</u>	<u>(7,810,669)</u>	<u>632,000</u>	<u>22,376,894</u>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Funds (Continued)

Funds prior year

Company	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,271,988	3,807,685	(2,538,344)	(544,290)	2,997,039
Other DfE / ESFA grants	-	558,176	(558,176)	-	-
Other government grants	-	3,928,582	(3,928,582)	-	-
Pension reserve	(494,000)	-	(138,000)	632,000	-
	<u>1,777,988</u>	<u>8,294,443</u>	<u>(7,163,102)</u>	<u>87,710</u>	<u>2,997,039</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Transfer on conversion	16,070,475	-	(368,310)	-	15,702,165
DfE group capital grants	325,799	120,488	(155,691)	-	290,596
Capital expenditure from GAG	1,053,147	-	(66,789)	544,290	1,530,648
Donation of fixed assets	78,942	-	(19,423)	-	59,519
	<u>17,528,363</u>	<u>120,488</u>	<u>(610,213)</u>	<u>544,290</u>	<u>17,582,928</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>19,306,351</u>	<u>8,414,931</u>	<u>(7,773,315)</u>	<u>632,000</u>	<u>20,579,967</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	1,579,962	246,940	(37,354)	-	1,789,548
Designated business enterprise	7,379	-	-	-	7,379
	<u>1,587,341</u>	<u>246,940</u>	<u>(37,354)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,796,927</u>
Total funds	<u>20,893,692</u>	<u>8,661,871</u>	<u>(7,810,669)</u>	<u>632,000</u>	<u>22,376,894</u>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

18 Funds (Continued)

Total funds analysis by academy	Group 2024 £	Company 2024 £	Group 2023 £	Company 2023 £
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:				
Trinity Academy Newcastle	2,593,029	2,593,029	2,222,740	2,222,740
Trinity Solutions Academy	1,285,020	1,285,020	1,138,711	1,138,711
Trinity Academy New Bridge	829,012	829,012	1,268,593	1,268,593
Trinity Post 16 Solutions Ltd	14,624	-	-	-
Central services	-	-	160,770	160,770
Total before fixed assets fund and pension reserve	4,721,685	4,707,061	4,790,814	4,790,814
Restricted fixed asset fund	18,109,697	18,107,535	17,586,080	17,586,080
Pension reserve	-	-	-	-
Total funds	22,831,382	22,814,596	22,376,894	22,376,894

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation and LGPS charges £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Trinity Academy Newcastle	1,802,195	1,095,601	307,074	779,991	3,984,861	3,586,903
Trinity Solutions Academy	106,886	289,490	69,415	16,842	482,633	426,964
Trinity Academy New Bridge	1,048,396	544,499	229,887	332,850	2,155,632	2,170,560
Trinity Post Sixteen Solutions Limited	45,754	73,588	(12,835)	8,753	115,260	141,144
Central services	605,346	483,290	41,944	258,562	1,389,142	878,037
	3,608,577	2,486,468	635,485	1,396,998	8,127,528	7,203,608

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Analysis of net assets between funds

Group	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,109,697	18,109,697
Current assets	1,607,421	4,512,684	-	6,120,105
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(1,398,420)	-	(1,398,420)
Total net assets	1,607,421	3,114,264	18,109,697	22,831,382

Company	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,107,458	18,107,458
Fixed asset investments	-	-	1	1
Current assets	1,881,553	4,221,796	-	6,103,349
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(1,396,288)	-	(1,396,288)
Total net assets	1,881,553	2,825,508	18,107,459	22,814,520

Analysis of net assets between funds

Group	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	17,586,080	17,586,080
Current assets	1,505,019	4,219,964	-	5,724,983
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(934,169)	-	(934,169)
Total net assets	1,505,019	3,285,795	17,586,080	22,376,894

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

19 Analysis of net assets between funds (Continued)

Company	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total Funds
	£	£	£	£
Fund balances at 31 August 2023 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	17,582,928	17,582,928
Current assets	1,796,927	3,929,636	-	5,726,563
Creditors falling due within one year	-	(932,597)	-	(932,597)
	<u>1,796,927</u>	<u>2,997,039</u>	<u>17,582,928</u>	<u>22,376,894</u>
Total net assets	<u>1,796,927</u>	<u>2,997,039</u>	<u>17,582,928</u>	<u>22,376,894</u>

20 Contingent liabilities

In the event that during the period of the funding agreement, the Academy sells or disposes of any asset for which a capital grant was received, the Academy shall repay the same proportion of the proceeds of sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State, unless the Secretary of State agrees to some or all of the proceeds being retained by the Academy for its charitable purposes.

21 Capital commitments

	2024 £	2023 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	<u>19,585</u>	<u>-</u>

22 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Amounts due within one year	22,736	15,928
Amounts due between one and five years	21,604	6,622
	<u>44,340</u>	<u>22,550</u>

Operating leases relate to the rental of vehicles and office equipment.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

23 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2024 £	2023 £
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		507,488	851,202
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	3	(38,021)	(120,488)
Interest receivable	6	(624)	(537)
Pension costs less contributions payable	26	(29,000)	124,000
Pension scheme finance (income)/costs	26	(24,000)	14,000
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		725,006	607,061
Profit on disposal of fixed assets		(1,098)	-
Movements in working capital:			
(Increase)/decrease in debtors		(205,214)	74,933
Increase in creditors		464,251	509,449
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>1,398,788</u>	<u>2,059,620</u>

24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	31 August 2024 £
Cash	5,510,629	189,908	5,700,537

25 Members' liability

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

26 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £92,470 (2023: £75,689) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 and are included within creditors.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2023 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI.

The key elements of the valuation are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £422,846 (2023: £321,000).

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 15.5% for employers and 5.5-11.4% for employees.

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

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Total contributions made	2024 £	2023 £
Employer's contributions	331,000	321,000
Employees' contributions	132,000	121,000
Total contributions	463,000	442,000

Principal actuarial assumptions

The following information is based upon a full actuarial valuation of the fund at 31 March 2022 updated to 31 August 2023 by a qualified independent actuary.

	2024 %	2023 %
Rate of increase in salaries	4	4.1
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.5	2.6
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.9	5

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.8	21
- Females	24	24.1
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	21.7	22.2
- Females	25.1	25.5

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

	2024 Fair value £	2023 Fair value £
Equities	3,525,000	3,244,000
Government bonds	84,000	82,000
Corporate bonds	1,309,000	1,191,000
Cash	56,000	107,000
Property	732,000	649,000
Other assets	1,330,000	1,027,000
Total fair value of assets	7,036,000	6,300,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £545,000 (2023: £(210,000)).

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2024 £	2023 £
Current service cost	302,000	445,000
Net interest cost	(24,000)	14,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total operating charge	278,000	459,000
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2024 £
At 1 September 2023	5,990,000
Current service cost	302,000
Interest cost	296,000
Employee contributions	132,000
Actuarial gain	(97,000)
Benefits paid	(272,000)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	6,351,000
	<hr/> <hr/>

Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2024 £
At 1 September 2023	6,300,000
Interest income	320,000
Return on plan assets (excluding net interest on the net defined pension liability)	225,000
Employer contributions	331,000
Employee contributions	132,000
Benefits paid	(272,000)
	<hr/>
At 31 August 2024	7,036,000
	<hr/> <hr/>

Net asset restriction	2024 £
Present value of defined benefit obligations	6,351,000
Fair value of plan assets	(7,036,000)
	<hr/>
Net asset	(685,000)
Restriction to level of asset ceiling	685,000
	<hr/>
Net liability recognised in the balance sheet	-
	<hr/> <hr/>

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

26 Pension and similar obligations (Continued)

The value of the college's share of net assets of the Tyne & Wear Pension Fund has been restricted due to the effect of the asset ceiling being the maximum value of the present of the economic benefits available in the form of the unconditional right to reduced contributions from the plan. A corresponding charge has been made to other comprehensive income in the period.

The Academy Trust is aware that the Court of Appeal has recently upheld the decision in the Virgin Media vs NTL Pension Trustees II Limited case. The decision puts into question the validity of any amendments made in respect of the rules of a contracted-out pension scheme between 6 April 1997 and 5 April 2016. The judgment means that some historic amendments affecting s.9(2B) rights could be void if the necessary actuarial confirmation under s.37 of the Pension Schemes Act 1993 was not obtained. Until further investigations have been completed by the UK Government's Actuary's Department and/or any legislative action taken by the government, the potential impact if any, on the valuation of scheme liabilities remains unknown.

The value of the Trust's share of net assets has been restricted due to the effect of the asset ceiling being the maximum value of the present of the economic benefits available in the form of the unconditional right to reduced contributions from the plan. A corresponding charge has been made to other comprehensive income in the period.

27 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2020 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Key management personnel compensation disclosure is included in note 9.

At 31 August 2024, Trinity Academy Newcastle was owed £4,272 (2023: owed to £3,730) to its wholly owned subsidiary Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited.

During the year Trinity Academy Newcastle charged Trinity Post 16 Solutions Limited £16,410 (2023: £47,860) for use of the central services. Gift Aid distributions of £86,700 (2023: £167,118) were received by Trinity Academy Newcastle from Trinity Post 16 Solutions during the year.

TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

28 Agency arrangements

The Academy distributes 16-19 Bursary Funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the year the Academy received £nil, disbursed £nil and returned £nil to ESFA from the fund. An amount of £1,253 (2023: £1,253) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

The Academy distributes National Tutoring Programme Funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the year the Academy received £86,010, disbursed £74,683 and returned £64,070 to ESFA from the fund. An amount of £55,024 (2023: £106,784) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

The Academy distributes Recovery Premium Funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the year the Academy received £164,805 and disbursed £145,140 from the fund. An amount of £nil (2023: £49,813) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

The Academy distributes Student Financial Support to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the year the Academy received £29,544 and disbursed £5,298 and returned £36,706 to ESFA from the fund. An amount of £51,118 (2023: £63,578) is included in other creditors relating to distributable funds that is repayable to the ESFA.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

Conclusion

We have carried out an engagement in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 June 2022 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency ('ESFA') as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Trinity Academy Newcastle during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Basis for conclusion

The framework that has been applied is set out in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

We have complied with the independence and other ethical requirements of the FRC's Ethical Standard and the ethical pronouncements of the ICAEW. We also apply International Standard on Quality Management (UK) 1 Quality Management for Firms that Perform Audits or Reviews of Financial Statements, or Other Assurance and Related Services Engagements and accordingly maintain comprehensive systems of continuing quality management. We believe the assurance evidence we have obtained is sufficient to provide a basis for our conclusion.

Responsibilities of Trinity Academy Newcastle's accounting officer and Trustees

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Trinity Academy Newcastle's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 August 2011 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received are applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them. The accounting officer is also responsible for preparing the Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance. The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the proper conduct and financial operation of Trinity Academy Newcastle and appointment of the accounting officer.

Reporting Accountant's responsibilities for reporting on regularity

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 extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

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 the procedures vary in nature and timing from, and are less in extent than for a reasonable assurance engagement; consequently a limited assurance engagement 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.

We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO TRINITY ACADEMY NEWCASTLE AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including the specific requirements of the funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education, the Academy Trust Handbook 2023 published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and high level financial control areas where we identified a material risk of irregularity is likely to arise. It also included areas assessed as presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, on a sample basis, based on the identified areas where a material irregularity is likely to arise, or potential impropriety where such areas are in respect of controls, policies and procedures that apply to classes of transactions. Our work was undertaken with due regard to the 'Evidence to support conclusion on regularity' guidance in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts.

This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements and evidence was also derived from the conduct of that audit to the extent it supports the regularity conclusion.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to Trinity Academy Newcastle and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 16 June 2022. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Trinity Academy Newcastle and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Trinity Academy Newcastle and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

RSM UK Audit LLP

RSM UK Audit LLP

Chartered accountants
1 St. James' Gate
Newcastle upon Tyne
United Kingdom
NE1 4AD

Dated: 12/12/24.....
