

Company Registration Number: 10646649 (England & Wales)

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Trustees' report	3 - 11
Governance statement	12 - 16
Statement on regularity, propriety and compliance	17
Statement of trustees' responsibilities	18
Independent auditor's report on the financial statements	19 - 23
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	24 - 25
Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account	26
Balance sheet	27 - 28
Statement of cash flows	29
Notes to the financial statements	30 - 58

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	N Wray N Leslau G Banks G Chase B Omare (appointed 24 March 2022)
Trustees	C Alcock, CEO and Accounting Officer G Banks G Chase, Chairman A Evans, Vice Chairman T Lee (resigned 12 July 2022) L Manning ¹ K Perry A Smith ¹ M Velani ¹ A Gray R Shah (resigned 23 March 2022) H Trickett I Marcus ¹ ¹ member of the Audit Committee

Company registered number 10646649

Company name Saracens Multi-Academy Trust

Principal and registered office Saracens High School
Corner Mead
London
NW9 4AS

Senior management team C Alcock, Chief Executive Officer
M Stevens, Principal
S Green, Vice Principal
H Morphitis, Assistant Principal
Y Bonilla, Assistant Principal
W Mander, Assistant Principal
F Olufola, Assistant Principal
S Lindall, Assistant Principal
C Edwards, Trust Business Manager

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Independent auditor	Hillier Hopkins LLP Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor Radius House 51 Clarendon Road Watford Herts WD17 1HP
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 39 Threadneedle Street London EC2R 8AU
Solicitors	Weightmans LLP 100 Old Hall Street Liverpool L3 9QJ

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the period commencing on 1 September 2021 and ending on 31 August 2022. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The trust operates a free school for pupils aged 11 to 19 serving a catchment area in Colindale. It has a potential pupil capacity of 1130 and had a roll of 845 in the school census on 6 October 2022.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Saracens Multi-Academy Trust ('SMAT') is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt Charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of Saracens Multi-Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purpose of company law.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the period are included in the Reference and administrative details on page 1.

b. 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 he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

c. Trustees' indemnities

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on School and Trust business. The Risk Protection Arrangement provides cover up to £10,000,000 on any one claim.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Up to 9 Trustees, some of whom are the members of the Charitable Company for the purpose of company law, are nominated by the Members to the Board of Trustees. The articles of association require that there are at least 3 Trustees, but there is no maximum number. The Chief Executive Officer, if he or she agrees to be a Trustee may also be a member of the Board. The Trustees may also co-opt Trustees.

With the exception of the Chief Executive Officer, Trustees are appointed for a fixed term of four years, but are eligible for re-election at the end of the fixed term. The time limit does not apply to the Chief Executive Officer.

Towards the end of the year a Trustee resigned and another's term of office ended. The Trust Board identified a need to recruit an additional Trustee with knowledge and experience of education and business. The process of recruiting two new Trustees is under way.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

New Trustees and Governors receive induction training and support from the CEO and Clerk to the Governing Body. Ongoing training is mandatory for all Trustees and Governors and those undertaking specific roles undertake further appropriate subject training. All Trustees and Governors undertake mandatory safeguarding training every year.

f. Organisational structure

The Multi Academy Trust is governed by a Board of Trustees constituted under a Memorandum of Association and Articles of Association. The Board is responsible for ensuring that high standards of governance are maintained. It exercises its powers and functions with a view to fulfilling a largely strategic role in the running of the MAT, addressing matters such as:

- Policy development and strategic direction
- Ensuring compliance with legal requirements
- Ensuring sound management and administration
- Establishing and maintaining effective internal controls
- Management of all resources
- Monitoring of schools' performance and
- Assessing and managing risk.

The Trust operates in accordance with a formal scheme of delegation and system of internal financial controls. The scheme defines the responsibilities of the Board, LGB, CEO and Principal.

From 1 September 2018, the Trustees delegated a number of functions to a Local Governing Body ("LGB"). The LGB is responsible for monitoring key aspects of the school's performance such as progress and attainment of pupils, quality of teaching and behaviour and safety of pupils.

Governor Committees are informed by the Senior Leadership of the school. The Senior Leadership of the school is responsible for the school, its staff, its pupils and the education they receive.

Catherine Alcock was the Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer throughout the end of the accounting period.

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

The salaries of Key Management Personnel are evidence based and established from published data such as public sector pay scales, advertised salaries, salary surveys and media reports. The salaries of the CEO and Principal are set by the Board of Trustees. Salaries of other teaching members of SLT are based on national benchmarks for responsibility and size of school as well as experience of the individual. Progression for all key management personnel is based on the Trust's performance management system. The Trust is currently taking part in an executive leadership salary benchmarking survey run by the Confederation of School Trusts.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Structure, governance and management (continued)

h. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

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

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	5,056,615
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours - %

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

SMAT's principal activity is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

A further object is to promote the provision of facilities for recreation and other leisure activities for people living close to the schools.

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objective for the 2021/22 financial year was the successful growth of Saracens High School in its fourth year of operation. The school, which opened on 4th September 2018, is non-selective and provides education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 11 and 19. This school opened with 157 pupils, rising to 665 in 2021/22. It will grow organically as each year group is admitted to reach a total of 1130 pupils in 2024. The pupils are drawn from the local area in accordance with the local authority's admission arrangements, which the school committed to for applicants for the 2022 academic year.

The Trust also continued working towards opening of a primary school on the Grahame Park Estate, with an expected opening date of September 2024.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Public benefit

In establishing Saracens High School, the charity acted in accordance with its objectives.

We have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives. All our charitable activities are undertaken to further our charitable purposes for the public benefit.

Strategic report

a. Achievements and performance

During the accounting period 1st September 2020 to 31st August 2022, with Year 7, 8, 9 and 10 cohorts on roll, 20 of our Year 10 pupils sat at GCSE in their home language (Spanish, Turkish, Chinese, Portuguese, Persian, or Arabic). 50% achieved a grade 9, and 95% achieved grade 9-7.

The following highlights the achievements, challenges and performance over the last year of operation of Saracens High School.

The school's values, taken from the Saracens organisation, are discipline, hard work, honesty, and humility. The school aims to embed these values, for pupils to 'live' them in and out of school to enable them to take advantage of opportunities, responsibilities and experience of later life. These are particularly important given the profile of social disadvantage in the local community.

The reading age of our 2019 cohort pupils was, on average, 11 months behind their chronological age. The school was committed to ensuring those pupils could read in line with their chronological age by the end of Year 9. However, due to the periods of disruption from Covid19, we have as yet been unable to close the reading age gap. The 2019 and 2020 cohorts continue to have a deficit slightly greater than one year on average. The new 2022 cohort of Year 7s have a gap of 11 months. We are working hard to close the reading gap; our new family read strategy will see all learning groups reading a novel together each half term, so Year 7s will read 30 novels in the next 5 years. The aim is to develop a love of reading.

In order to help pupils develop to be the best they can be, with a passion for making a positive contribution to their community, the trustees and governors believe that pupils must explore all their talents and experience a wide range of opportunities. To this end the school looks to ensure that the curriculum is broad, balanced, relevant, and personalised. Culture, character, and community are central to the ethos of the school, and all pupils are working towards qualifications in character education.

The pastoral system has six houses, which are used to foster the feeling of family. Each house is split into two Learning Groups in each year, giving a ratio of 13 pupils to one Learning Coach. This promotes a strong family relationship between the Learning Coach and pupils and their families.

Most pupils live on the local estate and many have limited experience beyond it. Partnerships with Watford Grammar School for Boys, Mill Hill and Belmont Independent Schools have provided opportunities for pupils to mix with children from different backgrounds and provides a rich experience for all involved.

Extracurricular opportunities were curtailed during the majority of the year but, as activities opened up in the summer term, we made the most of 'Making Memories' trips. Sadly, this year, the majority of trips had to be cancelled due to exceptionally high temperatures during July. We were able to go to the water sports centre. In

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

(continued)

the summer term similarly, a weekly programme of after school activities offered by staff were re-started including a science club, gardening club, language leaders, sports, arts and music clubs.

After the end of the summer term we were able to welcome over 100 of the Year 6 children who would become our new Year 7s, to a week-long summer school, to meet staff and start getting to know our school. The summer school had a Commonwealth theme and included a day long sports trip to Stone X Stadium where Saracens Rugby Club is based.

As the only school in the country associated with a professional sports team, promoting healthy and active lifestyles are important. Pupils in Years 7 and 8 have three PE lessons each week, opportunities to take part in a number of sports clubs, and through our family lunch, eat a healthy and nutritious meal every day.

Despite the pandemic, attendance of 92.2% in the fourth year remained above the national average Persistent absence was also below the national average (although officially due to Covid19 this figure was not made available).

b. Going concern

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

(continued)

c. Financial review

The vast majority of the Trust's incoming resources is obtained from the DfE via the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) in the form of recurrent grants restricted to specific educational purposes. The Trust continues to receive set up resource funding and diseconomies funding as a new school. Saracens High School serves a catchment area where 56% of pupils are in receipt of Pupil Premium funding and this funding has enabled greater resources to be spent on educational support staff and materials, to support pupil interventions.

£19K in revenue grants were received from the DfE to support the school with Covid19 testing. Recovery Premium funding £46K was spent on learning support assistants, sometimes providing one to one and small group support for pupils.

The trust continued to draw down the ESFA capital fund to purchase £175K on digi-boards for classrooms and infrastructure for the new building. We also received a further £12K worth of chromebooks and £23K worth of laptops provided by the DfE.

We allocated £141K from our revenue funding to improvements in the new building for the benefit of pupils and our future curriculum. The improvements included wall art, exam flooring, additional CCTV, stage, lighting and curtains, seating for the atrium.

The addition of the new building and associated land, on a 125-year lease, into the 2021/22 accounts added £28M to the balance sheet.

The pension reserve, based on the actuary's report, shows the new liability on the Local Government Pension Scheme, decreased from £717K to £140K this year. The school continues to make contributions of 23.8% for all support staff employees in the scheme as required in the London Borough of Barnet. Note 23 to the balance sheet contains more detail. Although a revaluation of the scheme in 2023 could entail increased employer contributions, any increase is expected to be minimal.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Strategic report (continued)

a. Reserves policy

The Trust initially aimed to operate a level of reserves of around 7-9% of General Annual Grant funding in the first years after opening. This is always to be balanced with the need to spend appropriate and sufficient monies in-year to enable the best educational outcomes for the current pupils.

More recently there has been a planned increase in reserves to contribute to developing the sixth form curriculum offer and providing a suitable learning and social environment for sixth form students. The increase in overall funds for 2021/22 was £333K, comprising of £255K restricted income and £78K unrestricted. The surplus is predominantly restricted, to be spent on educational purposes. The total restricted income reserves held by the Trust at 31st August 2022 (excluding pension reserve) are £1,074K and total unrestricted reserves £116K.

In 2022/23 the Trust expects to start to use its reserves to prepare for the start of the sixth form. The Trust plans to further access reserves during 2023/24 as part of match funding for a bid to extend the school to accommodate the provision of T Levels. Following the planned use of reserves, in the longer term, the Trust aims to hold the approximate amount required to cover one month's revenue expenditure.

b. Investment policy

The Trust's cash position remains strong. Where there are anticipated cash balances in excess of £500k at each month end for the following quarter, funds will be invested with banking institutions that are regulated by the FCA and with a rating of at least A-. The Trust will only invest funds in low risk and easily-accessible accounts. Funds will be placed in bank accounts with a withdrawal notice of no more than 12 weeks. The Trust has therefore transferred £84k to HSBC and will consider whether further transfers are appropriate.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

To monitor and manage the strategic, operational, compliance and financial risks of the school, a comprehensive risk register has been developed which is reviewed regularly by Trustees.

The principal financial risk that may affect the School is:

Government funding

The School has considerable reliance on continued government funding through the ESFA and in particular Covid19 related grants in the academic year September 2021 to August 2022. For the future there can be no assurance that government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.

This risk is mitigated in a number of ways:

- maintaining the positive relationships with the ESFA and DfE that developed successfully during the preopening phase;
- by ensuring the School is rigorous in delivering good value for money high quality education and training; and
- identifying potential sources of funding through grant funding, donations and consultancy to supplement core ESFA funding.

Fundraising

In the development of the Trust the charity sought donations from known supporters of Saracens Rugby Club and registered the charity for gift aid. There were no public appeals for donations and no professional fundraisers were employed. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

Plans for future periods

Saracens High School opened in temporary accommodation in September 2018. The school moved to its permanent new build site in November 2022 and new playing fields have been created at the site of the current temporary school building during 2022, including an astro pitch, a grass football and rugby pitch and cricket nets. The new school facilities are expected to generate considerable lettings income for the Trust to fund enrichment activities for pupils as well as providing many opportunities for community use.

The Trust plans to open Saracens Primary School in September 2024. Future plans to expand the Trust continue to be developed.

The School's three year budget plan is intended to ensure that adequate resources are allocated to support the next phase of the build-up of the school to full occupancy of 1130 pupils by 2025.

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

There are no fund held as custodian trustee on behalf of others.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

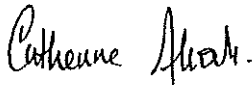
TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 8/12/22 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
C Alcock
CEO

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

For the operational phase of the school the Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, 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 Saracens Multi-Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the governing body any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the statement of trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year to 31 August.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Kate Alcock, CEO and Accounting Officer	5	5
Gordon Banks	4	5
Graham Chase, Chairman	5	5
Alan Evans, Vice Chairman	4	5
Alan Gray	4	5
Trevor Lee	3	4
Lee Manning	2	5
Kevin Perry	5	5
Reena Shah	0	4
Anthony Smith	4	5
Hannah Trickett (maternity leave for part of year)	1	1
Mitesh Velani	4	5
Ian Marcus	4	5

The Board strengthened its skills in primary education with an appointment in 2021. The Board completed a complete review of governance in July 2021 and published a revised Governance Plan for the Trust. Meetings were held in person during the 2021/22 financial year.

Board members are asked if they have any conflicts of interest at the start of every meeting. The process to update business interest is led by the clerk who reviews the register and this is updated electronically through Governorhub at least once a year. No connected parties have any control over the way the school operates.

The Board believes it is in a strong position and that it is operating effectively, in line with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, funding agreement and the articles of the Company.

A Committee of the Trust during the accounting period was the Audit and Risk Committee. The Committee's purpose was to ensure the adequacy of financial systems of control and audit within the Trust and each academy and to oversee the appointment and instruction of the internal and external auditors. The Committee contributes to the Board's role in maintaining effective oversight of funds.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Membership of the Audit and Risk Committee was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Lee Manning	3	3
Anthony Smith	1	3
Mitesh Velani	2	3
Peter Harvey (co-opted from the SHS Local Governing Body)	3	3
Ian Marcus	3	3

Review of value for money

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

The Accounting Officer considers how the Academy Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by ensuring that goods and services used in setting up Saracens High School were procured in accordance with internal financial regulations and subject to strict tendering procedures, as necessary. Framework agreements were used where possible and discounts obtained wherever these could be negotiated.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Audit and Risk Committee has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Audit and Risk Committee 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 year ending 31 August 2022 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Audit and Risk Committee, and the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and monthly financial reports which are reviewed by the Trust Board (at least 6 times per year);
- regular reviews by the Finance and General Purposes Committee of reports which indicate financial

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

- 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) guideline;s
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks;
- reviews by the responsible officer of the operation of controls in key accounting systems and reporting of outcomes to the Audit and Risk Committee.

The Board of Trustees continued to be supported by an experienced accountant as Responsible Officer for the 2021-22 financial year.

The scope of work of the Responsible Officer included, in the course of three visits, spread across each term of the financial year, testing of:

- basic financial controls
- payroll, banking and management accounts
- capital expenditure
- health & safety
- pupil census data
- income collection and free school meals
- related party transactions

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

The Responsible Officer has delivered their schedule of work as planned. No material control issues were identified as a result of the work undertaken. Some recommendations for improvement are being acted upon.

Review of effectiveness

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

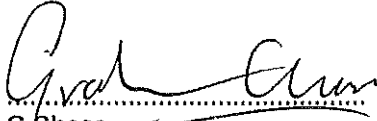
- the work of the Responsible Officer;
- the financial management and governance risk management process;
- the monthly management accounts and cashflow; and
- the work of the external auditor;

The Accounting Officer will advise the Board of Trustees of the implications of their review of the system of internal control and a plans to ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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



G Chase
Chairman

Date: 8/12/22



C Alcock
Accounting Officer

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Saracens Multi Academy Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy trust, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2021.

I confirm that I and the academy trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the Academies Financial Handbook 2021.

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.



.....
C Alcock
Accounting Officer
Date: 8/12/22

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

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

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


- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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



G Chase
Chairman

Date: 8/12/22

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Saracens Multi-Academy Trust (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2022 which comprise the statement of financial activities, the balance sheet, the statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2022 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 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 Academy Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- the nature of the industry and sector, control environment and business performance including the remuneration incentives and pressures of key management;
- the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management. We consider the results of our enquiries of management an internal audit about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Academy Trust's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
 - identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual suspected or alleged fraud;
 - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- the matters discussed among the audit engagement team regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override, including testing journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Academy Trust operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We focused on laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements, including, but not limited to, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency and relevant tax legislation.

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

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial

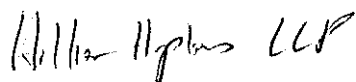
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

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



Gary Wong BFP FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of
Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

Date: 9 December 2022

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO SARACENS
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 4 June 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Saracens Multi-Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Saracens Multi-Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Saracens Multi-Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 24 February 2018 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2021, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO SARACENS
MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material misstatement and irregularity across the Academy Trust's activities.
- Testing and review of areas identified through risk assessment including enquiry, observation, inspection and review of supporting evidence.
- Review of system controls, policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the regularity regime.
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work performed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2021 to 31 August 2022 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Arthur Hopkins LLP

Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor

Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Herts
WD17 1HP

Date: *9 December 2022*

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	-	78,401	28,655,238	28,733,639	162,596
Other trading activities	5	50,432	-	-	50,432	-
Investments	6	177	-	-	177	98
Charitable activities		170,159	5,871,427	-	6,041,586	4,405,768
Total income		220,768	5,949,828	28,655,238	34,825,834	4,568,462
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	7	142,618	6,012,064	662,590	6,817,272	4,552,942
Total expenditure		142,618	6,012,064	662,590	6,817,272	4,552,942
Net income/(expenditure)		78,150	(62,236)	27,992,648	28,008,562	15,520
Transfers between funds	17	-	(207,956)	207,956	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		78,150	(270,192)	28,200,604	28,008,562	15,520
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	1,102,000	-	1,102,000	(186,000)
Net movement in funds		78,150	831,808	28,200,604	29,110,562	(170,480)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		37,646	102,600	564,113	704,359	874,839
Net movement in funds		78,150	831,808	28,200,604	29,110,562	(170,480)
Total funds carried forward		115,796	934,408	28,764,717	29,814,921	704,359

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

The notes on pages 30 to 58 form part of these financial statements.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10646649

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	28,669,485	317,695
		<u>28,669,485</u>	<u>317,695</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	320,795	466,750
Cash at bank and in hand		1,444,078	865,892
		<u>1,764,873</u>	<u>1,332,642</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(479,438)	(228,978)
Net current assets		<u>1,285,435</u>	<u>1,103,664</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>29,954,920</u>	<u>1,421,359</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability		<u>29,954,920</u>	<u>1,421,359</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	(140,000)	(717,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>29,814,920</u></u>	<u><u>704,359</u></u>

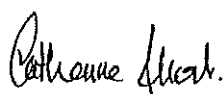
SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10646649

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	17	28,764,717	564,113
Restricted income funds	17	1,074,407	819,600
Restricted funds excluding pension asset	17	<u>29,839,124</u>	<u>1,383,713</u>
Pension reserve	17	(140,000)	(717,000)
Total restricted funds	17	29,699,124	666,713
Unrestricted income funds	17	115,796	37,646
Total funds		<u>29,814,920</u>	<u>704,359</u>

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 26 to 58 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:



.....
C Alcock
CEO

Date: 8/12/22

The notes on pages 30 to 58 form part of these financial statements.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

	Note	2022 £	2021 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	19	937,150	409,219
Cash flows from investing activities	20	(358,964)	(137,346)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		578,186	271,873
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		865,892	594,019
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21, 22	<u>1,444,078</u>	<u>865,892</u>

The notes on pages 30 to 58 form part of these financial statements

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2021 to 2022 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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

• **Sponsorship income**

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

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

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

• **Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the Academy Trust)**

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' 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.

1.4 Expenditure

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 Expenditure (continued)

basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

- **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the statement of financial activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the statement of financial activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

1.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the academy trust; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £2,000 or more with a useful life of more than one year are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold land	- over 125 years
Long-term leasehold property	- over 50 years
Furniture and equipment	- over 4 years
Computer equipment	- over 3 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.

1.8 Debtors

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

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.10 Liabilities

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

1.11 Financial instruments

The academy trust only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy Trust and their measurement bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the Academy Trust's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment. Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument. Amounts due to the Academy Trust's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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 prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

1.13 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2022. 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.

The pension scheme deficit has been valued as the present value of deficit payments, which is not expected to be materially different from an actuarial valuation.

Critical areas of judgment:

Valuation of tangible fixed assets:

Trustees have considered the value of tangible fixed assets. Changes in the circumstances of expectation of future performance of an individual asset may be an indicator that the asset is impaired, which would require the book value to be written down to its recoverable amount.

Impairments are reversed if conditions for impairment are no longer present. Due to their nature, evaluating whether an asset is impaired requires a significant degree of judgment and may to a large extent depend on the assumptions made in its evaluation. The Trustees have concluded that the valuation of tangible fixed assets at the year end are appropriate.

The Trustees have reviewed the asset lives and associated residual values of all fixed asset classes and have concluded that the asset lives and residual values are appropriate.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Donations	78,401	43,000	121,401	61,225
Fixed assets donated by government	-	28,580,000	28,580,000	-
DfE/ESFA capital grants	-	32,238	32,238	101,371
	<u>78,401</u>	<u>28,655,238</u>	<u>28,733,639</u>	<u>162,596</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>43,694</u>	<u>118,902</u>	<u>162,596</u>	

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Funding for the Academy's educational activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	As reanalysed Total funds 2021 £
Educational Activities				
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant	-	4,843,599	4,843,599	3,331,600
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Pupil Premium	-	377,375	377,375	282,956
Teachers' Pension Grant	-	-	-	132,672
Rates Relief	-	64,367	64,367	11,623
Teachers' Pay Grant	-	-	-	36,676
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	97,806	97,806	-
Start up Grant	-	121,000	121,000	152,500
	-	5,504,147	5,504,147	3,948,027
Other Government grants				
SEN Higher Needs	-	167,030	167,030	125,132
Other Government grants	-	79,551	79,551	-
	-	246,581	246,581	125,132
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational activities	170,159	56,019	226,178	138,262
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE/ESFA)				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	38,520
Other DfE/ESFA COVID-19 funding	-	64,680	64,680	91,849
	-	64,680	64,680	130,369
COVID-19 additional funding (non-DfE/ESFA)				
Other COVID-19 funding	-	-	-	63,978
	-	-	-	63,978
	170,159	5,871,427	6,041,586	4,405,768
	170,159	5,871,427	6,041,586	4,405,768
<i>Total 2021 as reanalysed</i>	95,247	4,310,521	4,405,768	

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

4. Funding for the Academy's educational activities (continued)

The academy received £nil (2021: £38,520) of funding for catch-up premium and costs incurred in respect of this funding totalled £nil (2021: £38,520).

Other income totalling £18,959 for the year ended 31 August 2021 has been re-analysed from other income from other trading activities (note 5) to other income from educational activities (note 4) to reflect the nature of the income.

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>As reanalysed Total funds 2021 £</i>
Hiring income	19,179	19,179	-
Catering Income	1,922	1,922	-
Other Income	29,331	29,331	-
	50,432	50,432	-
	50,432	50,432	-

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Bank interest	177	177	98
	177	177	98
	177	177	98

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2022 £	Premises 2022 £	Other 2022 £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Educational Activities:					
Direct costs	3,495,423	-	300,765	3,796,188	2,852,141
Allocated support costs	1,561,192	206,153	1,253,739	3,021,084	1,700,801
	<u>5,056,615</u>	<u>206,153</u>	<u>1,554,504</u>	<u>6,817,272</u>	<u>4,552,942</u>
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>3,567,196</u>	<u>123,957</u>	<u>861,789</u>	<u>4,552,942</u>	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2022 £	Support costs 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Educational Activities	3,796,188	3,021,084	6,817,272	4,552,942
<i>Total 2021</i>	<u>2,852,141</u>	<u>1,700,801</u>	<u>4,552,942</u>	

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Educational activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Staff costs	3,483,532	3,483,532	2,701,564
Teaching and educational supplies	198,396	198,396	109,918
Agency staff	11,891	11,891	4,743
Examination fees	9,335	9,335	246
Staff development	31,496	31,496	18,374
Educational consultancy	31,705	31,705	17,093
Travel and subsistence	29,297	29,297	203
Other staff costs	536	536	-
	3,796,188	3,796,188	2,852,141
	3,796,188	3,796,188	2,852,141

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational activities 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £	Total funds 2021 £
Pension finance costs	16,000	16,000	7,000
Staff costs	1,547,766	1,547,766	860,889
Depreciation	662,590	662,590	221,144
Agency staff	13,427	13,427	-
Staff development	10,028	10,028	11,236
Technology costs	83,160	83,160	72,147
Catering	247,197	247,197	221,199
Maintenance of premises	75,827	75,827	56,894
Rent and rates	68,145	68,145	17,932
Other staff costs	61,776	61,776	39,829
Insurance	12,540	12,540	15,318
Governance costs	20,415	20,415	21,782
Heat and light	96,548	96,548	49,131
Other support costs	52,434	52,434	44,655
Professional fees	53,231	53,231	61,645
	<u>3,021,084</u>	<u>3,021,084</u>	<u>1,700,801</u>

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2022 £	2021 £
Operating lease rentals	13,989	12,054
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	662,590	221,144
Fees paid to auditor for:		
- audit	8,000	8,000
- other services	4,125	4,000
	<u>688,704</u>	<u>245,208</u>

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

10. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Wages and salaries	3,424,501	2,537,728
Social security costs	355,525	249,890
Pension costs	1,247,272	773,844
	<u>5,027,298</u>	<u>3,561,462</u>
Agency staff costs	25,317	4,743
Staff restructuring costs	4,000	991
	<u>5,056,615</u>	<u>3,567,196</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2022 £	2021 £
Severance payments	4,000	991
	<u>4,000</u>	<u>991</u>

b. Special staff severance payments

Included in staff restructuring costs are two (2021: one) non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £4,000 (2021: £991). Individually, the payments were: £1,000 and £3,000.

c. Staff numbers

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
Teachers	42	32
Admin and support	64	42
Management	8	7
	<u>114</u>	<u>81</u>

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

10. Staff (continued)

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2022 No.	2021 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	2
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	2	1
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1
	2	4

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £771,890 (2021 £619,697).

11. Central services

No central services were provided by the Academy Trust to its academies during the year and no central charges arose.

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2022 £	2021 £
C Alcock	Remuneration	70,000 - 75,000	65,000 - 70,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 - 20,000	15,000 - 20,000

During the year ended 31 August 2022, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2021 - £NIL).

13. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2021	-	198,101	591,009	789,110
Additions	28,580,000	189,147	245,232	29,014,379
At 31 August 2022	<u>28,580,000</u>	<u>387,248</u>	<u>836,241</u>	<u>29,803,489</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2021	-	123,551	347,863	471,414
Charge for the year	409,767	51,900	200,923	662,590
At 31 August 2022	<u>409,767</u>	<u>175,451</u>	<u>548,786</u>	<u>1,134,004</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2022	<u>28,170,233</u>	<u>211,797</u>	<u>287,455</u>	<u>28,669,485</u>
At 31 August 2021	<u>-</u>	<u>74,550</u>	<u>243,145</u>	<u>317,695</u>

On 11 November 2021, the London Borough of Barnet granted a long leasehold to the academy for a new school building for peppercorn rent. It has been brought into the accounts at depreciated replacement cost and is being depreciated in accordance with the Trust's accounting policy.

15. Debtors

	2022 £	2021 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	352	8,325
Other debtors	44,695	31,307
Prepayments and accrued income	275,748	427,118
	<u>320,795</u>	<u>466,750</u>

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2022	2021
	£	£
Trade creditors	146,865	7,814
Other taxation and social security	191,877	143,826
Other creditors	16,597	7,689
Accruals and deferred income	124,099	69,649
	479,438	228,978
	479,438	228,978
	2022	2021
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2021	10,889	41,495
Resources deferred during the year	36,607	10,889
Amounts released from previous periods	(10,889)	(41,495)
	36,607	10,889
	36,607	10,889

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for DfE grant income relating to the school year 2022/23.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	37,646	220,768	(142,618)	-	-	115,796
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	452,259	4,843,599	(4,383,723)	(207,956)	-	704,179
Other DfE grants	55,627	604,228	(543,385)	-	-	116,470
Start Up Grant	94,454	121,000	(215,454)	-	-	-
Local Authority grants	4,180	239,434	(239,434)	-	-	4,180
Other government grants	-	7,147	(7,147)	-	-	-
Other income	213,080	134,419	(97,921)	-	-	249,578
Pension reserve	(717,000)	-	(525,000)	-	1,102,000	(140,000)
	<u>102,600</u>	<u>5,949,827</u>	<u>(6,012,064)</u>	<u>(207,956)</u>	<u>1,102,000</u>	<u>934,407</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted fixed assets	317,695	-	(662,590)	29,014,380	-	28,669,485
ESFA capital grants	246,418	32,238	-	(183,424)	-	95,232
Other capital income	-	43,000	-	(43,000)	-	-
Fixed assets donated by government	-	28,580,000	-	(28,580,000)	-	-
	<u>564,113</u>	<u>28,655,238</u>	<u>(662,590)</u>	<u>207,956</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>28,764,717</u>

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
Total Restricted funds	666,713	34,605,065	(6,674,654)	-	1,102,000	29,699,124
Total funds	704,359	34,825,833	(6,817,272)	-	1,102,000	29,814,920

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

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the Academy that has been provided via the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) by the Department for Education. The GAG fund must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy.

Pupil Premium, included within other DfE Grants, are funds allocated to academies with pupils that are known to be eligible for free school meals and pupils who have been in local authority care, e.g. adopted children. The purpose is to raise attainment for pupils from low income families.

The Start Up Grants represent funding from the the Government to cover the costs of opening the school.

SEN High Needs, included within Local Authority Grants, are funds allocated to academies for pupils with special educational needs from the local authority.

The pension reserve represents the net position on the LGPS defined benefit pension scheme.

The Restricted Fixed Asset Fund includes all fixed assets greater than £2,000. Depreciation charged on the assets is allocated to the fund. Transfers in to the fixed asset fund relates to fixed asset additions funded from restricted funds.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2022.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2020</i>	<i>Income</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>	<i>Transfers in/out</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2021</i>
	£	£	£	£	£	£
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	13,772	95,345	(71,471)	-	-	37,646
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	235,186	3,331,600	(3,114,527)	-	-	452,259
Other DfE grants	22,316	555,775	(500,148)	(22,316)	-	55,627
Start Up Grant	94,454	152,500	(152,500)	-	-	94,454
Local Authority grants	-	165,149	(160,969)	-	-	4,180
Other government grants	153,756	110,671	(73,663)	22,316	-	213,080
Other income	-	38,520	(38,520)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(311,000)	-	(220,000)	-	(186,000)	(717,000)
	<u>194,712</u>	<u>4,354,215</u>	<u>(4,260,327)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(186,000)</u>	<u>102,600</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Restricted fixed assets	326,802	-	(221,144)	212,037	-	317,695
ESFA capital grants	339,553	101,371	-	(194,506)	-	246,418
Other capital income	-	17,531	-	(17,531)	-	-
	<u>666,355</u>	<u>118,902</u>	<u>(221,144)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>564,113</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>861,067</u>	<u>4,473,117</u>	<u>(4,481,471)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(186,000)</u>	<u>666,713</u>

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds	<u>874,839</u>	<u>4,568,462</u>	<u>(4,552,942)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(186,000)</u>	<u>704,359</u>
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SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2022 were allocated as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Saracens High School	1,190,203	857,246
Restricted fixed asset fund	28,764,717	564,113
Pension reserve	(140,000)	(717,000)
Total	29,814,920	704,359

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

17. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2022 £	Total 2021 £
Saracens High School	3,495,959	1,561,193	198,396	899,134	6,154,682	4,331,798

18. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	28,669,485	28,669,485
Current assets	119,426	1,550,215	95,232	1,764,873
Creditors due within one year	(3,630)	(475,808)	-	(479,438)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(140,000)	-	(140,000)
Total	115,796	934,407	28,764,717	29,814,920

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

18. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2021 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2021 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	317,695	317,695
Current assets	37,646	1,048,578	246,418	1,332,642
Creditors due within one year	-	(228,978)	-	(228,978)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(717,000)	-	(717,000)
Total	<u>37,646</u>	<u>102,600</u>	<u>564,113</u>	<u>704,359</u>

19. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2022 £	2021 £
Net income for the year (as per statement of financial activities)	<u>28,008,562</u>	<u>15,520</u>
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	662,590	221,144
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(28,655,238)	(74,593)
Interest receivable	(177)	(98)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	525,000	220,000
Decrease in debtors	145,955	68,967
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	250,458	(41,721)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>937,150</u>	<u>409,219</u>

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

20. Cash flows from investing activities

	2022	2021
	£	£
Interest income	177	98
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(434,379)	(212,037)
Capital grants from DfE Group	32,238	74,593
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	43,000	-
Net cash used in investing activities	(358,964)	(137,346)

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2022	2021
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	1,444,078	865,892
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,444,078	865,892

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2021	Cash flows	At 31 August 2022
	£	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	865,892	578,186	1,444,078
	865,892	578,186	1,444,078

23. Pension commitments

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

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2016 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £91,990 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2022 (2021 - £70,384 and are included within creditors.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £432,086 (2021 - £363,635 restated).

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

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

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022**

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2022 was £388,000 (2021 - £256,000, of which employer's contributions totalled £306,000 (2021 - £203,000 and employees' contributions totalled £ 82,000 (2021 - £53,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 23.8 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy Trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Academy Trust at the balance sheet date.

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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2022	2021
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.75	3.6
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.25	1.65
Inflation assumption (CPI)	3.05	2.9

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

	2022	2021
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.7	21.9
Females	24.3	24.4
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23.1	23.3
Females	26.1	26.4

Share of scheme assets

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	At 31 August 2022 £	At 31 August 2021 £
Equities	602,000	340,000
Corporate bonds	210,000	141,000
Property	52,000	21,000
Cash and other liquid assets	9,000	21,000
Total market value of assets	873,000	523,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £-38,000 (2021 - £68,000).

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

	2022 £	2021 £
Current service cost	(815,000)	(416,000)
Interest income	12,000	6,000
Interest cost	(28,000)	(13,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(831,000)	(423,000)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	1,240,000	510,000
Current service cost	815,000	416,000
Interest cost	28,000	13,000
Employee contributions	82,000	53,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses	(1,152,000)	248,000
At 31 August	1,013,000	1,240,000

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2022 £	2021 £
At 1 September	523,000	199,000
Interest income	12,000	6,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(50,000)	62,000
Employer contributions	306,000	203,000
Employee contributions	82,000	53,000
At 31 August	873,000	523,000

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2022 the Academy Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2022 £	2021 £
Not later than 1 year	23,408	23,023
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	36,933	54,449
	60,341	77,472

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/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

SARACENS MULTI-ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2022

26. 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 Academies Financial Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The Academy Trust purchased educational consultancy services of £1,584 (2021: £1,106) in the period from Saracens Sport Foundation. G Banks, a Trustee, is the Chief Community Officer and a director of Saracens Sport Foundation. At the year end, £nil (2021: £nil) was outstanding.

During the year, a donation of £50,000 (2021: £11,179) was received from the Priory Foundation, an entity in which N Wray, a member, is a Trustee.

During the year, a donation of £nil (2021: £8,000) was received from Chase & Partners LLP, an entity in which G Chase, a Trustee, is a partner.

During the year, a donation of £6,000 (2021: £16,000) was received from the Worshipful Company of Arbitrators (City of London livery company), an entity in which G Chase, a Trustee, is a Member of the Court.

During the year, a donation of £10,000 (2021: £nil) was received from the Coolley (UK) LLP, an entity in which K Perry, an ex officio Trustee, was an employee, before his retirement during the year.

During the year, a donation of £250 (2021: £100) was received from L Manning, a Trustee.

During the year, a donation of £nil (2021: £23,000) was received from N Leslau, a Member.

During the year, a donation of £nil (2021: £2,000) was received from close family of C Alcock, a Trustee.

During the year, a donation of £1,000 (2021: £nil) was received from the Colindale Communities Trust, an entity in which B Omare, a member, is the Chief Executive Officer.