

REGISTERED COMPANY NUMBER: 07662701 (England and Wales)



ANNUAL REPORT AND AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

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**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

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## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

<b>Registered Company number</b>	07662701 (England and Wales)
<b>Company Name</b>	Divergent Partnership Trust
<b>Principal &amp; Registered office</b>	Borough Green Road Wrotham Sevenoaks TN15 7RD
<b>Members</b>	P B Broszek M C Reeve S Smith
<b>Trustees</b>	S Smith, Chair * H Brassington P G Bridgman P B Broszek M Cater, Headteacher J C Emmitt C F Gilhooly C J Miller-Hanna N Newman, Vice Chair and Responsible Officer * M I Pitchford M C Reeve* J Smith M Wright, Executive Headteacher and Accounting Officer *
	* Members of the Finance and Audit Committee
<b>Senior Management Team</b>	M Wright, Executive Headteacher M Cater, Headteacher K James, Deputy Headteacher K Williams, Assistant Headteacher A Griffin, Assistant Headteacher L Collacott, Assistant Headteacher V Ross, Assistant Headteacher D Zamblera, Assistant Headteacher R Dearing, Director of Finance

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

<b>Independent Auditor</b>	Clair Rayner FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor) McCabe Ford Williams Statutory Auditors and Chartered Accountants Bank Chambers 1 Central Avenue Sittingbourne Kent ME10 4AE
<b>Bankers</b>	National Westminster Bank 41 High Street Borough Green Sevenoaks Kent TN15 8BX
<b>Websites</b>	<a href="http://www.divergent.org.uk">www.divergent.org.uk</a> <a href="http://www.wrothamschool.com">www.wrothamschool.com</a>

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2018. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a Directors' report under company law. The Trustees confirm that the annual report and financial statements of the Trust comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the Trust's articles of association and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued in 2015. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

In 2013 Wrotham School converted to academy status and became a Multi Academy Trust. Wrotham School has consistently been one of the highest performing non-selective schools in Kent. In 2018 Ofsted reported that Wrotham School was the highest performing non-selective school in Kent. In 2016 Wrotham Trust was asked by Kent County Council to take on the leadership of Aylesford School which had been judged as 'inadequate' in all areas during a local authority review. Within thirteen months Ofsted visited this school and judged the quality of leadership and management to already be 'good'. In 2017 this school was given an academy order with Divergent Partnership Trust as the named sponsor. Aylesford School goes from strength to strength and the Trust is excited to work in partnership with them. In October 2017 Wrotham Trust changed its name to Divergent Partnership Trust.

Divergent Partnership Trust's vision is:

*"To grow a Multi Academy Trust of excellent schools that sit at the heart of their communities. Our academies are aligned by a commitment to: prioritising academic excellence, high expectations and the development of character; being inclusive; developing the highest quality of teaching and learning; providing valuable progression routes that will give young people choices in adult life and allow them to be well qualified to achieve success and well-being".*

The Trustees are keen to grow a medium sized MAT of five academies across the primary and secondary phases.

During the year under review the trust comprised solely of Wrotham School. Wrotham School is an Academy for pupils aged 11 to 19 serving a catchment area in Tonbridge & Malling, Sevenoaks and Gravesham in Kent. It has a pupil capacity of 716 based on official 'net capacity' calculations, and had a roll of 823 (2017 - 796) in the school census on 4 October 2018. Aylesford School which is a maintained school and is in a partnership agreement with the Divergent Partnership Trust has a pupil capacity of 1,100 and had a roll of 735 (2017 - 744) in the school census on 4 October 2018.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

### **Constitution**

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity and was set up by a memorandum of association on 8 June 2011. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of Divergent Partnership Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Divergent Partnership Trust.

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

### **Members' Liability**

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

### **Trustees Indemnities**

Directors' & Officers' insurance is in place through the ESFA Risk Protection Assurance scheme. This policy has a limit of indemnity of £10,000,000. The cover is for legal liability for claims arising from a breach of professional duty by reason of any neglect, error or omission.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT - continued**

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

The Board is currently comprised of thirteen Trustees, of whom two are Staff Trustees and two are Parent Trustees. The appointment of Trustees is governed by the Company's Articles of Association. The members of the Company may appoint up to 20 Trustees. They may also appoint Staff Trustees through such process as they may determine, providing no more than one third of the Trustees are employees of the Company. The CEO and Headteacher automatically become a Trustee upon appointment. A minimum of two Parent Trustees shall be appointed by the Board of Trustees based upon an election or ballot by parents of registered pupils at an academy of the Trust, conducted in such manner as the Board of Trustees may determine. Parent Trustees must be the parent of a registered pupil at an academy of the Trust at the time they are elected. The Board of Trustees will recruit Trustees according to the needs of the Trust and the skills the Board of Trustees require.

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

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend on their existing experience. An induction programmed is available to all new Trustees, and this includes a meeting with the CEO, Headteacher and Chair of Trustees, a tour of the Academy, a welcome pack and an induction booklet, which includes copies of relevant policies and procedures.

Where necessary, induction will include training in charity, educational legal and financial matters relevant to the operation of the Company. They are also provided with an annual training programme for both internal workshops/training and external specific Academy Trustee courses. A careful record of Trustees' training is maintained.

The Company ensures that all Trustees are provided with the information needed to undertake their role as Trustees.

**Organisational Structure**

The Trustees are responsible for setting the strategic direction of the Trust. They are also responsible for the general policy, adopting an annual improvement plan and budget, monitoring the Trust by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the Trust, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The Board of Trustees comprises those persons appointed under the Articles of Association. The Board meets a minimum of seven times a year. All trustees are linked to a member of the senior leadership team whom they meet with a minimum of twice per year. Reports are prepared by each pair and these are presented to the full Board of Trustees. The committee structure includes Finance and Audit and Health and Safety. These committees are formally constituted with terms of reference and comprise appropriately qualified and experienced members.

The Board delegates specific responsibilities to its Committees and Trustees, the activities of which are reported to and discussed at full Board Meetings. Day to day management of the academies/schools is undertaken by the Headteacher, supported by the Senior Leadership Team.

The Trust's work to support the local authority school extends to supporting governance. A Strategic Board comprising the Chair and Vice Chair of each academy/school, along with the CEO and FD, meets monthly to challenge and support the effectiveness of governance and the impact of school improvement support.

A Strategic Leadership Group is comprised of the CEO (who is also the Chief Accounting Officer) and the Headteachers. They lead the Trust at an executive level ensuring full compliance with the policies set out by the Trustees. The Strategic Leadership Group also exists to ensure that collaboration is effective; to ensure that Headteachers feel supported; to ensure that good leaders develop more leaders. At each academy/school the Headteacher has a leadership team consisting of Deputy and Assistant Headteachers. A scheme of delegation exists to ensure that responsibilities for leadership decisions and accountability are clear.

Spending control is devolved to the CEO and Finance Director. A financial scheme of delegation is in operation with limits above which cheques/approvals are countersigned by a Trustee.

## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT - continued

##### Organisational Structure – continued

The appointment panel for leadership posts across the Trust always includes a Trustee.

##### Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Trustees and CEO establish a Leadership Group structure for the Trust and determine its membership. They Trustees determine the salary scales for the leadership group, including the CEO and Headteacher. Trustees take account of the following factors in determining the pay of the CEO, Headteacher, Deputy and Assistant Headteachers and the Finance Director, as laid out in the Trust Pay and Appraisal Policies.

- level of responsibility
- performance
- size and structure of the Leadership Team
- recruitment and retention issues
- market value
- experience
- affordability
- qualifications
- vision and ambitions of the Trust
- recruitment and retention issues

##### Trade Union Facility Time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
0	0

##### Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

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

Provide the total cost of facility time	0
Provide the total pay bill	£3,490,186
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) × 100	0

##### Paid trade union activities

Time spent of trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period ÷ total paid facility time hours) × 100	0
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##### Connected Organisations, including Related Party Relationships

The Trust has been commissioned by Kent County Council to support Aylesford School, a local maintained school, which required significant school improvement. This work has been successful and the school has been issued with an academy order with Divergent Partnership Trust named as the sponsor. It is the intention of all parties that this school will join the Multi Academy Trust in due course. The Trust is actively seeking partner schools and academies to join the Trust.

Where Trustees offer their services to the Trust their interest is recorded on the relevant paperwork and the circumstances discussed by the Board. The CEO, Headteacher and staff Trustees are employees of the company.

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

##### **Principal Activities**

The principle objective of Divergent Partnership Trust is to provide education for students of different abilities and achieves this by providing a state education, free of charge, to pupils up to the age of 19. In exercising their powers, the Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission.

##### **Objects and Aims**

The main strategic aims of the Trust are summarised below:

- to support every student to achieve academic excellence and personal success
- to raise the standards of educational achievements of all students
- to invest in staff and student development through new initiatives and opportunities
- to provide value for money
- to develop a small local MAT that values partnerships of equals, and aims to grow excellent local schools that local children can attend together

##### **Public Benefit**

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duties in Section 17(s) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education. We have referred to the guidance in the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing our aims and objectives and in planning our future activities. In particular, the trustees consider how planned activities will contribute to the aims and objectives they have set. The public benefit of Divergent Partnership Trust is the advancement of education within the local community.

##### **Equal opportunities policy**

The Trust is an equal opportunity organisation and is committed to take a positive stand to ensure all stakeholders have a right to equality of opportunity and achievement regardless of race and ethnicity, faith, belief and religion, disability and access, age, sex, sexual orientation, transsexualism, and marital status.

Equality of opportunity is related to all areas of the Trust's work and is a fundamental aspect of the ethos of the Trust. We will make reasonable adjustments to meet the needs of staff or students who are or become disabled. Lifts, ramps and disabled toilets are installed and door widths are adequate to enable wheelchair access to all main areas of the Academies.

Divergent Partnership Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. All posts are subject to an enhanced Disclosure Application to the Disclosure and Barring Service and check against the ISA Barred List for children.

Parents are given regular information about their son/daughter's social and academic progress through 6 progress reports a year and one full report a year as well as Parent Evenings, Parent Portal (secure online system), Newsletters, and regular contact with parents is maintained as and when required.

##### **Employee involvement and employment of the disabled**

**Disabled employees** - Lifts, ramps and disabled toilets are installed and door widths are adequate to enable wheelchair access to all main areas of the Trust. The policy of the Trust is to support recruitment and retention of students and employees with disabilities. The Trust does this by adapting the physical environment, by making support resources available and through training and career development.

**Employee Consultation** - Trust staff are empowered to elect colleagues to sit and serve as Trustees. Trustees regularly meet with staff ranging from attendance at formal board and committee meetings, Trustee visits and general open days where staff can meet and talk to Governors.



## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### STRATEGIC REPORT

##### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE 2017-18**

###### **Wrotham School**

On the 5th of June 2018 Wrotham School had a one day short inspection. The inspection team made it clear that they felt the quality of provision at the school was 'outstanding'.

Since January 2018 Ofsted are no longer able to judge a school as 'outstanding' in a short inspection. Therefore, they have applied the following judgement from the inspection framework:

"The school remains good and there is sufficient evidence of improved performance to suggest that the school may be judged outstanding if it received a section 5 inspection now." (Ofsted School inspection handbook – section 8 April 2018, No. 150077 p11)

Ofsted will return within two years to carry out a two day (section 5) inspection to confirm that we continue to offer an outstanding provision.

This is the strongest outcome that we could have achieved under this new framework and are very proud to receive a report that sings the praises of our staff and students. The inspection letter bears testament both to this and to the significant improvements made since our last inspection in 2015.

###### **Aylesford School**

The Trust has been commissioned by the LA to lead Aylesford School since September 2016 following an LA review which judged the school to be inadequate in all areas. In November 2017 Ofsted inspected the school and judged the quality of leadership and management to be 'good'. They recognised that Divergent Partnership Trust was providing significant support that has halted the decline in standards at the school, and was leading to effective school improvement. The Trust are very proud of this achievement and standards at the school go from strength to strength. The Trust has worked with the school to use Character Education as a key school improvement tool. This work has been recognised at both a local and national level, with the Trust's work appearing as a case study in the 2018 edition of the Parliamentary Review, and in the National Association of Character Education's quarterly newsletter.

##### **Key Performance measures**

###### **Wrotham School**

<b>Key Stage 4</b>	<b>2018 (Unvalidated data)</b>	<b>2017 (Validated data)</b>
% of students achieving grade 4+ in English	80%	85%
% of students achieving grade 4+ in Mathematics	67%	78%
Progress 8	+0.17	+0.07
Attainment 8	43.08	45.3
<b>Key Stage 5</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
% of grades at A* to C (A levels and equivalent)	61%	78%
% of grades at A* to B (A levels and equivalent)	22%	63%
Level 3 Value Added	-0.38 (estimate)	+0.06

## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### STRATEGIC REPORT

#### ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE 2017-18

##### Key Performance measures

##### Aylesford School

Key Stage 4	2018 (Invalidated data)	2017 (Validated data)
% of students achieving grade 4+ in English	55%	54%
% of students achieving grade 4+ in Mathematics	47%	43%
Progress 8	-0.7	-1.06
Attainment 8	34.73	32.1
<b>Key Stage 5</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
% of grades at A* to C (A levels and equivalent)	98%	75%
% of grades at A* to B (A levels and equivalent)	59%	61%

##### Key Financial Performance Indicators

Staff costs (excluding FRS 102 adjustments) as a percentage of total income (excluding capital funding) for 2017/18 were:

	Budget 2018 %	Actual 2018 %	Actual 2017 %
Teaching staff	60.8%	59.3%	60.8%
Educational support staff	7.8%	7.1%	7.0%
Other academy support staff	9.5%	10.4%	9.3%
Total staff	<u>78.1%</u>	<u>76.8%</u>	<u>77.1%</u>

##### Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW**

The trust's accounting period covers the year to 31 August 2018.

The majority of the academy trust's income is obtained from the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the ESFA during the year ended 31 August 2018 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. Additional income is achieved through lettings of the academy facilities, including a 3G All-Weather football pitch.

The academy trust also received grants for fixed assets from the ESFA. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" (SORP 2015), such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed assets fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of assets concerned.

During the year ended 31 August 2018, total expenditure was £5,421,206 (2017: £4,721,472) and recurrent grant funding from the DfE together with other incoming resources amounted to £6,755,749 (2017: £4,665,516). Excluding movements in the pension and fixed asset reserves, total income was £4,392,769 (2017: £4,205,618) total expenditure was £5,066,492 ((2017: £4,338,929), incoming transfers from other funds of £641,980 (2017: £199,057) producing a surplus /(deficit) for the year of (£31,743) (2017: £65,746) before fixed asset funds and LGPS pension adjustments. It should be noted that surplus funds are held in the fixed asset fund of £92,028 (2017 : £69,170) as the Trustees have allocated these to a sinking fund for the 3 G pitch as they are required to keep the pitch in good condition as part of the grant funding agreement. The total of restricted general funds plus unrestricted funds (i.e. excluding the restricted fixed asset fund and pension reserve) at the 31 August 2018 was £108,431 (2017: £140,174).

At 31 August 2018, the net book value of tangible fixed assets was £9,361,472 (2017: £9,519,232) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 14 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education including associated support services to the pupils of the academy trust and furthering the other Objects of Divergent Partnership Trust.

**Reserves Policy**

The Trustees have formalised a policy on reserves, which is held separately within the budget and available to support the strategic aims of the Trust. This is monitored by Trustees and Management to ensure that sufficient reserves are maintained to meet anticipated future needs while avoiding long term accumulation of excessive funds.

With imminent changes to the funding formula it is essential that adequate revenue funds are available to support future staffing structures and curriculum initiatives, all of which is constantly reviewed through Leadership and Management and/or Trustee visits.

The trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be equivalent to one month's expenditure excluding any capital expenditure. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies. The academy's current level of reserves, excluding fixed asset reserves and the pension deficit, is £108,431 (2017: £140,174), broken down between unrestricted reserves of £108,431 (2017: £140,174) and a restricted revenue reserves of £Nil (2017: £Nil). In addition to the Trust's free reserves the Trust is building up a "sinking fund" to replace the 3G pitch at the end of its useful life. The current level of reserves in the sinking fund is £92,028 (2017: - £69,170) and is included within the fixed asset fund.

**Funds in Deficit**

The Local Government Pension Scheme is stated in the accounts to be in deficit in the sum of £891,000 (2017: £994,000) as at the balance sheet date. It should be noted however that this deficit will not crystallise within the foreseeable future and that the academy trust follows the advice of the pension scheme actuary and makes contributions in accordance with the rates advised. The advised level of contributions has been taken into account when preparing the academy's budgets for the year ending 31 August 2019.

**REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**FINANCIAL REVIEW – continued**

**Investment Policy**

There are no investments held beyond cash deposits retained with the major UK clearing banks. Speculative investments are not permitted.

**Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

The Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the Trust is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching/academic performance, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the Trust, and its finances. The Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the Trust faces, especially in the operational area (e.g. In relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying and school trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision on academy grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimize risk. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The Trust has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the statement of internal financial controls.

The Trustees have considered the risks presented to the Trust and have implemented policies and systems to mitigate these risks. The Academy Trust will continue to manage these risks, through a series of performance reviews, monitoring and efficiency evaluation, to ensure that any future annual deficit can be met by reserves. The Trustees have deemed the following risks to be of most serious consequences to the Academy:

- a) **Failure to successfully recruit and retain students:** The Trust's ability to successfully recruit and retain students is key to the financial viability of the Trust. Maintaining the reputation of the Trust as one of the higher performing non-selective schools in Kent, is key in mitigating this risk as its vision to prioritising academic excellence, high expectations and development of character, being inclusive and developing the highest quality of teaching and learning.
- b) **Impact on Trust's funding as a result of changes to education and fiscal policy:** Given the proportion of income that arises from central and local Government, any changes to their education and fiscal policy, will impact on the financial viability of the Trust. Additional pressure is being put on the Trust's finances given predicted changes to educational funding policies, combined with inflationary pressures, additional costs arising from pension scheme contribution rates and auto-enrolment. This risk is being managed by the regular reporting and monitoring of monthly management accounts, combined with budgeting for the next three years. Where necessary corrective action is taken to keep costs in line with the Trust's funding and predicted number of students.
- c) **Impact of uncontrollable event, e.g. fire or flood:** The impact of a serious uncontrollable event such as fire or flood would have a significant impact on the Trust and so the risks from this are minimised by ensuring insurance and systems are up to date. An asset management plan is in place to address routine maintenance, planned maintenance and repair and other compliance. The Trust is also bidding through the Condition Improvement Fund to update and improve the facilities in the Trust.

The plans and strategies employed to manage the above risks are explained in the Governance Statement.

**FUNDRAISING**

Each year the schools in the Trust nominate a charity to raise funds for. In the last academic year funds were raised for Camp International to enable students to support work in Kenya. Monies were raised throughout the year via cake sales, non-uniform days, Christmas Bazaar and boot fairs.

The school also raises monies to support initiatives / projects within the school via the Wrotham Walk which occurs once a year.

A number of national and international charities are also supported throughout the year by pupils and staff.

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

### **REPORT OF THE TRUSTEES** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

#### **PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS**

The Trustees are committed to growing a small Multi Academy Trust which will include academies/schools from the primary and secondary phase. They recognise and value the benefits of collaboration and partnership, including the challenge and support that benefits all when schools work together.

The Trust has had significant success with Condition Improvement Fund bids. One of these exciting projects includes building a new sports hall at Wrotham School which will be completed in April 2020.

#### **FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN TRUSTEE ON BEHALF OF OTHERS**

The Academy Trust distributes 16 – 19 bursary funds to the students as an agent for the ESFA. Details including any amounts not dispersed by the financial year end are disclosed in note 31 to the financial statements.

#### **AUDITORS**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Report of the Trustees, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:



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**S Smith**  
**Chair of Trustees**

## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### **Scope of Responsibility**

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

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

#### **Governance**

The information included on Governance here supplements that described in the Report of the Trustees and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The full Board of Trustees has formally met 7 times during the financial year ended 31 August 2018 and attendance during that period at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Meetings Attended</b>	<b>Out of a Possible</b>
S Smith, Chair	6	7
H Brassington	3	7
P G Bridgman	6	7
P B Broszek	5	7
M Cater Headteacher	6	7
JC Emmitt	5	7
CF Gilhooly	6	7
CJ Miller-Hanna	4	7
N Newman. Vice Chair and Responsible Officer	4	7
M I Pitchford	5	7
M C Reeve	6	7
J Smith	6	7
M Wright, Executive Headteacher & Accounting Officer	6	7

There were no key changes to the composition of the Board during the year.

The Trust Board's work this year has been focused on the following key areas:

- The quality of provision and outcomes for students at Wrotham School (Academy).
- The leadership and management of Trust finances.
- Trustees have led a Strategic Board, formed to support and develop the quality of governance and pace of school improvement at Aylesford School (a local, LA maintained school). This school has an Academy Order with Divergent Partnership Trust as the named sponsor.
- Trustees have been co-opted onto the local governing body of Aylesford School to support and develop the quality of governance.
- Trustees have supported Trust leaders in the completion of a Condition Improvement Fund bid that has successfully led to the funding of a new sports hall for Wrotham School.
- Trustees have met with Chairs of Governors of local schools to inform them of the work of Divergent Partnership Trust.

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**Governance - continued**

The Trustees work this year has had a significant positive impact:

- At Wrotham School a Section 8 Ofsted Inspection in June 2018 found the quality of leadership at the school was outstanding, and inspectors recommended that Ofsted re-inspect the school quickly to verify this through a full Section 5 inspection.
- The Trust's finances are in a strong position with the largest reserves the Trust has held, whilst the quality of provision and outcomes for the students also continue to be very strong.
- In November 2017, Aylesford School received a full Section 5 inspection from Ofsted and despite the very challenging circumstances the school was in, Trust leaders and Trustees who are supporting the school were key in the quality of leadership being judged as 'good'.

The Board of Trustees find the quality of data used acceptable because:

- Trustees review and interrogate outcomes from examinations. Results are benchmarked against those of similar schools and against Pixl schools nationally.
- External consultants have been used to monitor all aspects of school progress.
- Trustees review progress data for year groups regularly.
- A trustee is linked to the member of the Leadership group with responsibility for data. When they meet, a report from each meeting is presented to the full Trustee meetings.
- Progress against each aspect of the School Development plan is received and interrogated by Trustees at each full meeting.
- The Chair of Trustees attends some Leadership meetings to maintain a more detailed overview of progress made against the School Development plan.
- Trustees receive financial statements on a monthly basis and the vice chair, an accountant, meets with the Finance Director throughout the year.
- The positive financial situation and the excellent student outcomes would indicate that the data received by Trustees is accurate and well used by both the school and Trustees.

The Finance and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the main board of Trustees, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Trustee's responsibilities to ensure sound management of the Academy's finances and resources, including proper planning and monitoring. Attendance at meetings during the financial year ended 31 August 2018 is shown below.

<b>Trustees</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
P B Broszek, Chair of Finance and Audit	4	5
M Cater	5	5
N Newman	4	5
M Reeve	5	5
S Smith	5	5
M Wright	5	5

**Governance Review**

During the year, the Review of Governance arrangements, including skills audit, was undertaken and no shortfalls in any areas were found.

The Board of Trustees review Governance arrangements annually and this involves a skills audit. The next review will take place in September 2019.

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT** **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

#### **Review of Value for Money**

As accounting officer, the Executive Head 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 available. The accounting officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Using both central and local government frameworks to secure competitive prices on major areas of expenditure including energy, insurance and photocopying/ printing.
- Undertaking an Independent Curriculum and Financial Planning evaluation by the Trust's auditors across both Wrotham School and Aylesford to compare key performance indicators and identify where efficiency savings can be achieved.
- Benchmarking financial data not only across the two schools but also with other similar schools.
- Reviewing all contracts as they come up for renewal, to ensure that the Trust is achieving value for money and that risk is being minimised

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

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Divergent Partnership Trust for the year ended 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### **Capacity to Handle Risk**

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2018 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

#### **The Risk and Control Framework**

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

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



## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### **The Risk and Control Framework – continued**

The Board of Trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed William Giles Limited and latterly McCabe Ford Williams, the external auditors, to perform additional checks.

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

- Testing of purchase systems
- Testing of control account /bank reconciliations
- Testing of payroll systems

The auditors report to the Board of Trustees is considered by the finance and audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities

#### **Review of Effectiveness**

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

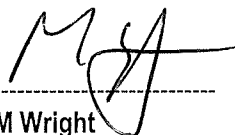
- the work of the external auditor; and
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:



S Smith  
Chair of Trustees



M Wright  
Accounting Officer

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

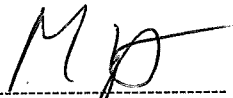
As Accounting Officer of Divergent Partnership Trust I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with ESFA terms and conditions of all funding received by 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 2017.

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 2017.

I confirm that the following instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been notified to the Board of Trustees and ESFA. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the Board of Trustees and ESFA.

**Financial issue - Connected Party Transactions**

Transactions with PA Group (UK) Ltd, a company of which a Trustee, Mr Miller-Hanna is the sole director, exceeded the de-minimis level of £2,500 for transactions with connected parties, but no statement of assurance was completed to confirm that transactions above this level were carried out at cost. The Trust spent a total of £4,070 with Mr Miller- Hanna's company over four separate transactions. The cumulative value of the first two transactions was below the de-minimis level of £2,500. The breach above the de-minimis level on the third transaction arose because of difficult circumstances: asbestos was discovered just before Christmas during improvement works carried out by another, unconnected company. As the kitchen was affected, the asbestos had to be removed quickly, at short notice and during the holiday season so as to not impact on the canteen and the school during term time. An unconnected company also attended site but were unable to test and remove the asbestos within the holiday period. The costs for this were agreed and reimbursed by the schools insurers. The fourth transaction with the connected company again related to the testing for asbestos in some summer works. Three quotes were obtained by an independent project manager and the quote from PA Group (UK) Ltd was the lowest by a considerable margin. The company was therefore chosen as the best value for money and most economical option.



M Wright  
Accounting Officer  
Dated: 22 November 2018

## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency and Department for Education have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 22 November 2018 and signed on its behalf by:



S Smith  
Chair of Trustees

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Divergent Partnership Trust (the 'Academy Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2018 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102, The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland, the Charities SORP 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education & 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 2018, 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 2015 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the Education & 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 UK, including the FRC's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

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

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the ISAs (UK) require us to report to you were:

- the trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is not appropriate; or
- the trustees have not disclosed in the financial statements any identified material uncertainties that may cast significant doubt about the Academy Trust's ability to continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting for a period of at least twelve months from the date when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

#### **Other information**

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

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

- the information given in the report of the trustees (incorporating the strategic report and the directors' report) for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the strategic report and the directors' report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

### **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST (A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

#### **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 strategic report and the directors' report.

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

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

#### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the trustees' responsibilities statement set out on page 17, 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.

#### **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.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: [www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities](http://www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities). This description forms part of our 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 the Academy Trust's members as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Clair Rayner FCA DChA (Senior Statutory Auditor)  
for and on behalf of McCabe Ford Williams  
Statutory Auditors and Chartered Accountants  
Bank Chambers  
1 Central Avenue  
Sittingbourne  
Kent  
ME10 4AE

Date : 22 November 2018

## **DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 10 April 2018 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Divergent Partnership Trust during the year ended 31 August 2018 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 Divergent Partnership Trust and the ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Divergent Partnership Trust and the ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Divergent Partnership Trust and the ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### **Respective Responsibilities of Divergent Partnership Trust's Accounting Officer and the Reporting Accountant**

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Divergent Partnership Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2017, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purpose 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 2017 to 2018. 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 ended 31 August 2018 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- Review of the internal control environment which is designed to ensure compliance with regulations;
- Review of the accounting officer's consideration of issues surrounding regularity, propriety and compliance;
- Review of the work and reports of the peer reviewer during the period;
- Analytical procedures regarding declaration of potential conflicts of interest by key staff and the governing body;
- Review of fixed asset transactions against the requirements of the funding agreement Divergent Partnership Trust and the Secretary of State and the Academies Financial Handbook;
- Testing of grants and other income for application in accordance with the terms and requirements attached;
- Review of the Academy Trust's activities to check they are in line with the Academies Framework and the Academy Trust's charitable objectives;
- Review of bank statements and financial transactions for indications of any items which may be improper;
- Review of bank accounts to check that they are operated within the terms of the Academy Trust's governing document and borrowing limits imposed by the funding agreement are not exceeded;
- Testing of expenditure, including expense claims for signs of transactions for personal benefit;
- Review of any extra-contractual payments made to staff;
- Review of procurement activity during the period.

## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

#### **Conclusion**

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year ended 31 August 2018 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### *Matter 1*

Transactions with PA Group (UK) Ltd, a company of which a Trustee, Mr Miller-Hanna is the sole director, exceeded the de-minimis level of £2,500 for transactions with connected parties, but no statement of assurance was completed to confirm that transactions above this level were carried out at cost. The Trust spent a total of £4,070 with Mr Miller-Hanna's company over four separate transactions. The cumulative value of the first two transactions was below the de-minimis level of £2,500. The breach above the de-minimis level on the third transaction arose because of difficult circumstances: asbestos was discovered just before Christmas during improvement works carried out by another, unconnected company. As the kitchen was affected, the asbestos had to be removed quickly, at short notice and during the holiday season so as to not impact on the canteen and the school during term time. An unconnected company also attended site but were unable to test and remove the asbestos within the holiday period. The costs for this were agreed and reimbursed by the schools insurers. The fourth transaction with the connected company again related to the testing for asbestos in some summer works. Three quotes were obtained by an independent project manager and the quote from PA Group (UK) Ltd was the lowest by a considerable margin. The company was therefore chosen as the best value for money and most economical option.



Clair Rayner FCA DChA (Reporting Accountant)  
for and on behalf of McCabe Ford Williams  
Statutory Auditors and Chartered Accountants  
Bank Chambers  
1 Central Avenue  
Sittingbourne  
Kent  
ME10 4AE

Date : 22 November 2018

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES  
(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME)  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	2	13,282	-	2,362,980	2,376,262	472,695
<b>Charitable activities:</b>						
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	3	492,659	3,793,082	-	4,285,741	4,114,920
Other trading activities	4	93,590	-	-	93,590	77,901
Investments	5	156	-	-	156	-
<b>Total</b>		<b>599,687</b>	<b>3,793,082</b>	<b>2,362,980</b>	<b>6,755,749</b>	<b>4,665,516</b>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Raising funds	6	13,247	-	-	13,247	1,424
<b>Charitable activities:</b>						
Academy Trust's educational operations	7	398,366	4,738,057	204,714	5,341,137	4,661,278
Other:	8	57,822	-	-	57,822	58,770
<b>Total</b>	6	<b>469,435</b>	<b>4,738,057</b>	<b>204,714</b>	<b>5,412,206</b>	<b>4,721,472</b>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		<b>130,252</b>	<b>(944,975)</b>	<b>2,158,266</b>	<b>1,343,543</b>	<b>(55,956)</b>
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	20	<b>(161,995)</b>	<b>803,975</b>	<b>(641,980)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year before other recognised gains and losses – carried forward</b>		<b>(31,743)</b>	<b>(141,000)</b>	<b>1,516,286</b>	<b>1,343,543</b>	<b>(55,956)</b>

The notes form part of these financial statements



**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**  
**(INCORPORATING AN INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT AND STATEMENT OF OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME)**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year before other recognised gains and losses – brought forward		(31,743)	(141,000)	1,516,286	1,343,543	(55,956)
Other recognised gains/losses						
Actuarial Gains/(losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	29	-	244,000	-	244,000	1,010,000
Net movement in funds		(31,743)	103,000	1,516,286	1,587,543	954,044
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		140,174	(994,000)	9,808,746	8,954,920	8,000,876
Total funds carried forward		108,431	(891,000)	11,325,032	10,542,463	8,954,920

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

The notes form part of these financial statements

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****BALANCE SHEET**  
**AS AT 31 AUGUST 2018**

		31.08.18 £	31.08.18 £	31.08.17 £	31.08.17 £
	Notes				
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	14		9,361,472		9,519,232
Stock	15	7,288		-	
Debtors	16	1,597,431		89,848	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>791,036</u>		<u>918,212</u>	
		<b>2,395,755</b>		<b>1,008,060</b>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	<u>(315,860)</u>		<u>(566,516)</u>	
<b>Net current assets</b>			<u><b>2,079,895</b></u>		<u><b>441,544</b></u>
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>			<b>11,441,367</b>		<b>9,960,775</b>
Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year	19		<u>(7,904)</u>		<u>(11,856)</u>
<b>Net assets excluding pension scheme liabilities</b>			<b>11,433,463</b>		<b>9,948,920</b>
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	29		<u>(891,000)</u>		<u>(994,000)</u>
<b>Total net assets</b>			<u><b>10,542,463</b></u>		<u><b>8,954,920</b></u>
<b>Funds of the Academy Trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted funds</b>					
Fixed asset funds	20	11,325,032		9,808,746	
General funds	20	-		-	
Pension reserve	20	<u>(891,000)</u>		<u>(994,000)</u>	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>			<b>10,434,032</b>		<b>8,814,746</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	20	<u>108,431</u>		<u>140,174</u>	
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>			<u><b>108,431</b></u>		<u><b>140,174</b></u>
<b>Total funds</b>			<u><b>10,542,463</b></u>		<u><b>8,954,920</b></u>

The financial statements on pages twenty one to forty six were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issue on 22 November 2018, and signed on their behalf by:



S Smith  
Chair of Trustees  
Company Registered Number: 07662701

The notes form part of these financial statements

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

		31.08.18	31.08.17
	Notes	£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	24	<b>(1,095,304)</b>	82,316
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>	25	<b>972,079</b>	459,898
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>	26	<b>(3,951)</b>	(12,826)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		<b><u>(127,176)</u></b>	<b><u>529,388</u></b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2017</b>		<b><u>918,212</u></b>	<b><u>388,824</u></b>
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2018</b>	27	<b><u>791,036</u></b>	<b><u>918,212</u></b>

The notes form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES**

Divergent Partnership Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity incorporated in England and Wales. The registered office is Wrotham School, Borough Green Road, Wrotham, Sevenoaks, Kent TN15 7RD. The principal activity of the Academy Trust is to provide an education for pupils that satisfies the requirements of the Education Act 2002. 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.

**Basis of preparation**

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2017 to 2018 issued by the ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

**Going concern**

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

**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 with sufficient reliability.

- **Grants receivable**

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

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

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance 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 period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued**

**Income - continued**

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

- **Donated services and gifts in kind**

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

**Expenditure**

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

- **Expenditure on raising funds**

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

- **Charitable activities**

These are costs incurred on the Academy Trust's educational and leisure 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.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES - continued**

**Tangible fixed assets - continued**

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

Freehold buildings	- 2% straight line
Fixtures and fittings	- 10 % reducing balance
Motor vehicles	- 25% reducing balance
Computer equipment	- 20% straight line

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

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

**Liabilities**

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

**Leased assets**

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

**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 basis are as follows:

*Financial assets* - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised costs as detailed in note 16. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

*Financial liabilities* - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 17,18 and 19. 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 service rather than cash or another financial instrument.

**Stock**

Stocks are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value after making due allowance for obsolete and slow-moving stocks. Cost includes all direct costs and an appropriate proportion of fixed and variable overheads.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued**

**Taxation**

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

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

**Pension benefits**

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated 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. The 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 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.

**Fund accounting**

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/ donor and include grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)/ Department for Education and Kent County Council.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES – continued**

**Agency arrangements**

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the ESFA. Payments received from the ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Academy Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Academy Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received and paid, and any balances held, are disclosed in note 31.

**Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 29, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2016 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pension liability at 31 August 2018. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgement

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 14 for the carrying amount of the property, plant and equipment.



**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****2. DONATIONS AND CAPITAL GRANTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
Capital grants	-	2,345,806	<b>2,345,806</b>	442,803
Devolved capital funding	-	17,174	<b>17,174</b>	17,095
Other donations	13,282	-	<b>13,282</b>	12,797
	<u>13,282</u>	<u>2,362,980</u>	<u><b>2,376,262</b></u>	<u>472,695</u>

**3. FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY TRUST'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
<b>DfE/ESFA revenue grants</b>				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	2,899,524	<b>2,899,524</b>	2,944,396
Pupil premium	-	112,618	<b>112,618</b>	124,428
6th form grant	-	416,389	<b>416,389</b>	467,815
Other DfE Group grants	-	105,295	<b>105,295</b>	14,797
	<u>-</u>	<u>3,533,826</u>	<u><b>3,533,826</b></u>	<u>3,551,436</u>
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	237,589	<b>237,589</b>	157,272
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	492,659	21,667	<b>514,326</b>	406,212
<b>Total income from charitable activities</b>	<u>492,659</u>	<u>3,793,082</u>	<u><b>4,285,741</b></u>	<u>4,114,920</u>

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**4. OTHER TRADING ACTIVITIES**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
Lettings income - 3G	80,495	-	80,495	65,753
Lettings income – other	3,330	-	3,330	2,795
Sale of educational materials	9,765	-	9,765	9,353
	<u>93,590</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>93,590</u>	<u>77,901</u>

**5. INVESTMENTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
Interest	156	-	156	-
	<u>156</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>156</u>	<u>-</u>

**6. EXPENDITURE**

	Staff Costs £	Premises Costs £	Other Costs £	31.08.18 Total £	31.08.17 Total £
Costs of generating voluntary income	-	-	13,247	13,247	1,424
Academy's educational operations;					
Direct costs	2,915,894	184,243	426,911	3,527,048	3,333,560
Allocated support costs	572,492	933,543	308,054	1,814,089	1,327,718
	3,488,386	1,117,786	748,212	5,354,384	4,662,702
Other	1,800	17,660	38,362	57,822	58,770
	<u>3,490,186</u>	<u>1,135,446</u>	<u>786,574</u>	<u>5,412,206</u>	<u>4,721,472</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	31.08.18 £	31.08.17 £
Auditor's remuneration	6,250	6,750
Auditor's' remuneration for non-audit work	7,175	5,575
Depreciation – owned assets	204,714	224,543
Operating lease rentals	13,220	24,505

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total £	31.08.17 Total £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Teaching and educational support staff costs	-	2,915,894	<b>2,915,894</b>	2,733,161
Recruitment and support	-	10,992	<b>10,992</b>	16,463
Depreciation	-	184,243	<b>184,243</b>	202,089
Educational supplies	-	91,713	<b>91,713</b>	108,366
Equipment and IT purchases	-	28,805	<b>28,805</b>	61,736
Examination fees	-	60,640	<b>60,640</b>	67,768
School trips	191,435	-	<b>191,435</b>	108,442
Staff development	-	6,754	<b>6,754</b>	5,832
Educational consultancy	-	36,572	<b>36,572</b>	29,703
	<u>191,435</u>	<u>3,335,613</u>	<u><b>3,527,048</b></u>	<u>3,333,560</u>
<b>Allocated support costs – Academy Trust educational operations</b>				
Support staff costs	90,076	366,416	<b>456,492</b>	392,851
FRS 102 service cost adjustment	-	116,000	<b>116,000</b>	118,000
Depreciation	-	20,471	<b>20,471</b>	22,454
Premises expenses	-	709,917	<b>709,917</b>	284,986
Cleaning	-	83,440	<b>83,440</b>	81,389
Professional fees	-	18,988	<b>18,988</b>	11,700
Rent, rates and water	-	36,560	<b>36,560</b>	36,573
Insurance	-	12,918	<b>12,918</b>	12,849
Security, travel and subsistence	-	6,588	<b>6,588</b>	4,913
Catering	116,855	-	<b>116,855</b>	100,139
Light and heat	-	63,918	<b>63,918</b>	66,169
Bank interest and charges	-	30,451	<b>30,451</b>	46,733
Computer costs	-	91,686	<b>91,686</b>	95,896
Printing postage and stationery	-	7,246	<b>7,246</b>	13,167
Governance costs (note 9)	-	16,082	<b>16,082</b>	14,833
Other support costs	-	26,477	<b>26,477</b>	25,066
	<u>206,931</u>	<u>1,607,158</u>	<u><b>1,814,089</b></u>	<u>1,327,718</u>
	<u><b>398,366</b></u>	<u><b>4,942,771</b></u>	<u><b>5,341,137</b></u>	<u><b>4,661,278</b></u>

**8. OTHER EXPENDITURE**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total £	31.08.17 Total £
3G expenditure	48,057	-	<b>48,057</b>	49,417
Educational materials	7,605	-	<b>7,605</b>	9,353
Exam fees	2,160	-	<b>2,160</b>	-
	<u>57,822</u>	<u>-</u>	<u><b>57,822</b></u>	<u>58,770</u>

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****9. GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	31.08.18 Total Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
Auditor's remuneration				
Audit of financial statements	-	6,250	6,250	6,750
Non audit services	-	7,175	7,175	5,575
Governor training and meeting costs	-	2,184	2,184	1,762
Other costs	-	473	473	746
	-	16,082	16,082	14,833

**10. STAFF COSTS****a) Staff costs**

Staff costs during the year were:

	31.08.18 £	31.08.17 £
Wages and salaries	2,641,439	2,465,034
Social security costs	261,093	237,010
Pension costs	542,468	493,406
	3,445,000	3,195,450
Supply teacher costs	45,186	48,562
Staff restructuring costs	-	-
	3,490,186	3,244,012

**b) Non-statutory/non-contractual staff severance payments**

Included in staff restructuring costs are non-statutory/non-contractual severance payments totalling £nil (2017: £nil).

**c) Staff numbers**

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

Charitable activities	31.08.18		31.08.17	
	Head count	FTE	Head count	FTE
Teachers	42	38	44	40
Administration and support	42	29	45	30
Management	9	9	7	7
	93	76	96	77

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**10. STAFF COSTS - continued**

**d) Higher paid staff**

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

	31.08.18	31.08.17
£60,001 - £70,000	1	1
£80,001 - £90,000	2	1
£110,001 - £120,000	-	1
£130,001 - £140,000	<u>1</u>	<u>-</u>

**e) Key management personnel**

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the trustees and the senior leadership team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer national insurance and pension contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £840,843 (2017: £588,490).

**11. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS - TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION AND EXPENSES**

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust. The CEO and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services he provides undertaking the roles of CEO and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their roles as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

	2018 £	2017 £
M Wright		
Remuneration	130,001 - 135,000	115,001 - 120,000
Pension contributions paid	20,001 - 25,000	15,001 - 20,000
M Cater		
Remuneration	85,001 - 90,000	85,001 - 90,000
Pension contributions paid	10,001 - 15,000	10,001 - 15,000
P Bridgman		
Remuneration	35,001 - 40,000	35,001 - 40,000
Pension contributions paid	5,001 - 10,000	5,001 - 10,000
J Smith		
Remuneration	45,001 - 50,000	45,001 - 50,000
Pension contributions paid	5,001 - 10,000	5,001 - 10,000
K Williams		
Remuneration	-	55,001 - 60,000
Pension contributions paid	-	5,001 - 10,000

Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the Academy Trust in respect of their role as trustees.

During the year ended 31 August 2018, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £Nil (2017: £Nil) were reimbursed to trustees.

Other related party transactions involving the trustees are set out in note 28.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**11. 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 trust 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.

**12. COMPARATIVE PERIOD STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES**

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	31.08.17 Total Funds £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	2	12,797	-	459,898	472,695
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations	3	348,015	3,766,905	-	4,114,920
Other trading activities	4	77,901	-	-	77,901
<b>Total income</b>		<u>438,713</u>	<u>3,766,905</u>	<u>459,898</u>	<u>4,665,516</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Raising funds	6	1,424	-	-	1,424
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy Trust educational Operations	7	252,144	4,184,591	224,543	4,661,278
Other	7	58,770	-	-	58,770
<b>Total expenditure</b>	6	<u>312,338</u>	<u>4,184,591</u>	<u>224,543</u>	<u>4,721,472</u>
<b>Net income / (expenditure)</b>		126,375	(417,686)	235,355	(55,956)
<b>Transfers between funds</b>	21	<u>(47,646)</u>	<u>246,703</u>	<u>(199,057)</u>	<u>-</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year before other recognised gains and losses</b>		78,729	(170,983)	36,298	(55,956)
<b>Other recognised (losses)/gains:</b>					
Actuarial (losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	21&25	-	1,010,000	-	1,010,000
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		78,729	839,017	36,298	954,044
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		61,445	(1,833,017)	9,772,448	8,000,876
<b>Total funds carried forward</b>		<u>140,174</u>	<u>(994,000)</u>	<u>9,808,746</u>	<u>8,954,920</u>

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****14. TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold Property £	Motor Vehicles £	Fixtures & Fittings £	Computer Equipment £	Total £
<b>COST</b>					
At 1 September 2017	10,113,791	13,000	89,150	274,078	10,490,019
Additions	46,455	-	-	499	46,954
Disposals	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2018	<u>10,160,246</u>	<u>13,000</u>	<u>89,150</u>	<u>274,577</u>	<u>10,536,973</u>
<b>DEPRECIATION</b>					
At 1 September 2017	707,313	9,315	33,144	221,015	970,787
Charge for year	162,276	921	5,601	35,916	204,714
Eliminated on disposal	-	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2018	<u>869,589</u>	<u>10,236</u>	<u>38,745</u>	<u>256,931</u>	<u>1,175,501</u>
<b>NET BOOK VALUE</b>					
At 31 August 2018	<u>9,290,657</u>	<u>2,764</u>	<u>50,405</u>	<u>17,646</u>	<u>9,361,472</u>
At 31 August 2017	<u>9,406,478</u>	<u>3,685</u>	<u>56,006</u>	<u>53,063</u>	<u>9,519,232</u>

**15. STOCK**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Stock	<u>7,288</u>	-
	<u>7,288</u>	-

**16. DEBTORS**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Trade debtors	994	5,977
VAT	87,590	40,943
Prepayments and accrued income	<u>1,508,847</u>	<u>42,928</u>
	<u>1,597,431</u>	<u>89,848</u>

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**17. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Other loans	3,952	3,951
Trade creditors	97,571	246,797
Other taxation, social security and pensions	125,193	106,256
Other creditors	18,628	11,025
Accruals and deferred income (deferred income - note 18)	<u>70,516</u>	<u>198,487</u>
	<u>315,860</u>	<u>566,516</u>

**18. DEFERRED INCOME**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Deferred income at 1 September 2017	155,484	97,645
Resources deferred in the year	40,087	140,667
Amounts released from previous years	<u>(148,618)</u>	<u>(82,828)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2018	<u>46,953</u>	<u>155,484</u>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds £11,250 (2017: £41,008) received in respect of school trips which will take place in the following academic year. The Academy Trust also holding funds of £2,633 (2017: £4,158) received in advance of 3G lettings for the autumn term 2018.

**19. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE AFTER ONE YEAR**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Other loans	<u>7,904</u>	<u>11,856</u>
	<u>7,904</u>	<u>11,856</u>
<b>Included within the above are amounts falling due as follows:</b>		
	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
<b>Between one and two years</b>		
Other loans	7,904	3,952
<b>Between two and five years</b>		
Other loans	<u>-</u>	<u>7,904</u>
	<u>7,904</u>	<u>11,856</u>

A loan of £27,663 was awarded from Salix of £27,663 in 2014. The loan is repayable over 7 years and is interest free. The annual repayments are £3,954.



**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**20. FUNDS**

	Balance at 1 September 2017 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2018 £
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Assets held for depreciation	9,519,232	-	(204,714)	46,954	<b>9,361,472</b>
Capital funding	236,151	2,362,980	-	(715,743)	<b>1,883,388</b>
Sinking fund	69,170	-	-	22,858	<b>92,028</b>
Salix loan	<u>(15,807)</u>	-	-	3,951	<u>(11,856)</u>
	<u>9,808,746</u>	<u>2,362,980</u>	<u>(204,714)</u>	<u>(641,980)</u>	<u><b>11,325,032</b></u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,315,913	(4,119,888)	803,975	-
Pension reserve	(994,000)	-	(141,000)	244,000	<b>(891,000)</b>
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	217,913	(217,913)	-	-
Other grant income	-	237,589	(237,589)	-	-
Other income	-	21,667	(21,667)	-	-
	<u>(994,000)</u>	<u>3,793,082</u>	<u>(4,738,057)</u>	<u>1,047,975</u>	<u><b>(891,000)</b></u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>8,814,746</u>	<u>6,156,062</u>	<u>(4,942,771)</u>	<u>405,995</u>	<u><b>10,434,032</b></u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds	<u>140,174</u>	<u>599,687</u>	<u>(469,435)</u>	<u>(161,995)</u>	<u><b>108,431</b></u>
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>140,174</u>	<u>599,687</u>	<u>(469,435)</u>	<u>(161,995)</u>	<u><b>108,431</b></u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>8,954,920</u>	<u>6,755,749</u>	<u>(5,412,206)</u>	<u>244,000</u>	<u><b>10,542,463</b></u>

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

**General Annual Grant (GAG)**

Funds must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy Trust. The Academy Trust is allowed to carry forward funds in accordance with the Academies Financial Handbook, which is reviewed annually. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2018.

**Other restricted general funds**

Funding is provided by government grants in addition to the GAG which must be used for the provision of education for special needs purposes and other specified activities.

The pension liability has been charged to restricted reserves. This is because the obligation to fund the deficit is met from the General Annual Grant funding which is accounted for through restricted reserves and therefore it is more appropriate to charge the deficit to restricted reserves.

**Restricted fixed asset funds**

Funding is provided by way of government grants or capital expenditure from the GAG in order to acquire specified fixed assets for use by the Academy Trust in achieving its educational objectives.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**20. FUNDS – continued**

**Unrestricted funds**

Unrestricted funds can be used for any purpose at the discretion of the Academy Trust.

**Transfers between funds**

During the year the Academy Trust received capital funding which was largely spent on repairs and maintenance to existing buildings and hence was transferred from restricted fixed assets funds to restricted general funds. Other transfers were made to move the surplus on the 3G pitch lettings to a sinking fund for a replacement pitch, repayment of the Salix loan and to move the excess of expenditure on the restricted general funds to unrestricted funds.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2016 £	Incoming Resources £	Resources Expended £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2017 £
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
Assets held for depreciation	9,743,775	-	(224,543)	-	9,519,232
Capital funding	4,472	459,898	-	(228,219)	236,151
Sinking fund	52,834	-	-	16,336	69,170
Salix loan	(19,759)	-	-	3,952	(15,807)
KCC Loan	(8,874)	-	-	8,874	-
	<u>9,772,448</u>	<u>459,898</u>	<u>(224,543)</u>	<u>(199,057)</u>	<u>9,808,746</u>
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	12,983	3,412,211	(3,671,897)	246,703	-
Pension reserve	(1,846,000)	-	(158,000)	1,010,000	(994,000)
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	139,225	(139,225)	-	-
Other grant income	-	157,272	(157,272)	-	-
Other income	-	58,197	(58,197)	-	-
	<u>(1,833,017)</u>	<u>3,766,905</u>	<u>(4,184,591)</u>	<u>1,256,703</u>	<u>(994,000)</u>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<u>7,939,431</u>	<u>4,226,803</u>	<u>(4,409,134)</u>	<u>1,057,646</u>	<u>8,814,746</u>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds	61,445	438,713	(312,338)	(47,646)	140,174
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>	<u>61,445</u>	<u>438,713</u>	<u>(312,338)</u>	<u>(47,646)</u>	<u>140,174</u>
<b>Total funds</b>	<u>8,000,876</u>	<u>4,665,516</u>	<u>(4,721,472)</u>	<u>1,010,000</u>	<u>8,954,920</u>

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****21. ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS**

Fund balances at 31 August 2018 are represented by:

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,361,472	<b>9,361,472</b>
Current assets	108,431	272,830	2,014,494	<b>2,395,755</b>
Current liabilities	-	(272,830)	(43,030)	<b>(315,860)</b>
Creditors due more than 1 year	-	-	(7,904)	<b>(7,904)</b>
Pension scheme liability	-	(891,000)	-	<b>(891,000)</b>
	<u>108,431</u>	<u>(891,000)</u>	<u>11,325,032</u>	<u><b>10,542,463</b></u>

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

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted general funds	Restricted fixed asset funds	Total
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,519,232	9,519,232
Current assets	140,174	562,564	305,322	1,008,060
Current liabilities	-	(562,564)	(3,952)	(566,516)
Creditors due more than 1 year	-	-	(11,856)	(11,856)
Pension scheme liability	-	(994,000)	-	(994,000)
	<u>140,174</u>	<u>(994,000)</u>	<u>9,808,746</u>	<u>8,954,920</u>

**22. CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Contracted but not provided for in the financial statements	<u>1,826,982</u>	<u>-</u>

**23. OPERATING LEASE COMMITMENTS**

At 31 August 2018 the total of the Academy Trusts future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
<b>Amounts payable:</b>		
Within one year	9,379	9,829
Between 1 and 5 years	<u>29,127</u>	<u>32,236</u>
	<u>38,506</u>	<u>42,065</u>

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****24. RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME / (EXPENDITURE) TO NET CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Net income / (expenditure) for the period (as per the Statement of Financial Activities)	1,343,543	(55,956)
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation charges (note 13)	204,714	224,543
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA and other capital income (note 2)	(2,362,980)	(459,898)
Interest receivable	(156)	-
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable (note 27)	116,000	118,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost (note 27)	25,000	40,000
(Increase) / Decrease in stock	(7,288)	-
(Increase) / Decrease in debtors	(129,614)	(31,313)
Increase / (Decrease) in creditors	(284,523)	246,940
<b>Net cash (used in) / provided by operating activities</b>	<b><u>(1,095,304)</u></b>	<b><u>82,316</u></b>

**25. CASH FLOWS FROM INVESTING ACTIVITIES**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	156	-
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(13,088)	-
Capital grants from DfE/ESFA (note 2)	985,011	459,898
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities</b>	<b><u>972,079</u></b>	<b><u>459,898</u></b>

**26. CASH FLOWS FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Repayments of borrowings	(3,951)	(12,826)
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-	-
<b>Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities</b>	<b><u>(3,951)</u></b>	<b><u>(12,826)</u></b>

**27. ANALYSIS OF CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	441,036	918,212
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	350,000	-
<b>Total cash and cash equivalents</b>	<b><u>791,036</u></b>	<b><u>918,212</u></b>

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**28. 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.

**29. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS**

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2012 and of the LGPS 31 March 2016.

Contributions amounting to £56,776 (2017: £47,289) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2018 and are included within creditors.

**Teachers' Pension Scheme**

**Introduction**

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

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

**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. 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 2012 and in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 9 June 2014. The key elements of the valuation and subsequent consultation are:

- employer contribution rates set at 16.48% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% employer administration charge)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £191,500 million, and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £176,600 million giving a notional past service deficit of £14,900 million
- an employer cost cap of 10.9% of pensionable pay will be applied to future valuations
- the assumed real rate of return is 3.0% in excess of prices and 2.0% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.75%. The assumed nominal rate of return is 5.06%.

The TPS valuation for 2012 determined an employer rate of 16.4%, which was payable from September 2015. The next valuation of the TPS is currently underway based on April 2016 data, whereupon the employer contribution rate is expected to be reassessed and will be payable from 1 April 2019.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED  
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****29. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS – continued****Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme - continued**

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £319,000 (2017: £285,000).

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

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

**Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2018 was £139,000 (2017: £111,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £105,000 (2017: £86,000) and employees' contributions totalled £34,000 (2017: £25,000).

The agreed contribution rates for future years are 20 per cent for employers and a variable per cent for employees dependent on salary.

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 at the balance sheet date (expressed as weighted averages):

	31.08.18	31.08.17
Discount rate	2.65%	2.60%
Price increases	2.30%	2.70%
Future salary increases	3.80%	4.20%
Future pension increases	2.30%	2.70%
Commutation of pension to lump sums	50.00%	50.00%
RPI increases	3.30%	3.60%

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

	31.08.18	31.08.17
<b>Retiring today</b>		
Males	23.1	23.0
Females	25.2	25.1
<b>Retiring in 20 years</b>		
Males	25.3	25.2
Females	27.5	27.4

**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018****29. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS – continued****Sensitivity analysis**

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Change in assumptions:		
0.1% increase in real discount rate	2,378,000	2,274,000
0.1% decrease in real discount rate	2,473,000	2,364,000
1 year increase in member life expectancy	2,512,000	2,403,000
1 year decrease in member life expectancy	2,341,000	2,238,000
0.1% increase in the pension increase rate	2,470,000	2,361,000
0.1% decrease in the pension increase rate	2,381,000	2,278,000

**Local Government Pension Scheme - continued**

The Academy Trust's share of the assets and liabilities in the scheme and the expected rates of return were:

	Fair value at 31 August 2018 £	Fair value at 31 August 2017 £
Equities	1,045,000	932,000
Gilts	12,000	9,000
Other bonds	136,000	128,000
Property	190,000	163,000
Cash/liquidity	47,000	42,000
Target Return Portfolio	<u>104,000</u>	<u>51,000</u>
<b>Total market value of assets</b>	<b>1,534,000</b>	<b>1,325,000</b>
Present value of scheme liabilities		
- Funded	<u>(2,425,000)</u>	<u>(2,319,000)</u>
<b>Deficit in the scheme</b>	<b><u>(891,000)</u></b>	<b><u>(994,000)</u></b>

The actual return on scheme assets was £63,000 (2017: £145,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	31.08.18	31.08.17
	£	£
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	(220,000)	(203,000)
Net interest cost	(25,000)	(40,000)
Administration expenses	<u>(1,000)</u>	<u>(1,000)</u>
<b>Total operating charge</b>	<b><u>(246,000)</u></b>	<b><u>(244,000)</u></b>
<b>Actual return on scheme assets</b>	<b><u>63,000</u></b>	<b><u>145,000</u></b>

## DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018

#### 29. PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS – continued

##### Local Government Pension Scheme - continued

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

	31.08.18 £	31.08.17 £
Opening defined benefit obligation	2,319,000	2,709,000
Current service cost	220,000	203,000
Employee contributions	34,000	25,000
Interest on pension liabilities	61,000	59,000
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(217,000)	(595,000)
Benefits paid net of transfers in	8,000	(82,000)
	<u>2,425,000</u>	<u>2,319,000</u>

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

	31.08.18 £	31.08.17 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets	1,325,000	863,000
Employer contributions	105,000	86,000
Employee contributions	34,000	25,000
Interest on plan assets	36,000	19,000
Administration expenses	(1,000)	(1,000)
Actuarial gain /(loss)	27,000	415,000
Benefits paid net of transfers in	8,000	(82,000)
	<u>1,534,000</u>	<u>1,325,000</u>

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year to 31 August 2019 is £106,000.

#### 30. 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 and with the Academy Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions. The following related party transactions took place in the financial period.

Aylesford School is a related party by virtue of its partnership agreement with Kent County Council to take on the leadership of that school. During the year the Academy Trust sold and purchased goods and services to Aylesford School at arms' length in the normal course of operations. During the year ended 31 August 2018, the income charged to Aylesford School was £95,815 (2017: £86,721). Purchases of goods and services from Aylesford School were £1,271 (2017: £Nil). At the year end date a balance of £10,490 (2017: £Nil) was due from Aylesford School.

Mr C J Miller-Hanna, a Trustee is a Director of PA Group UK Limited. The Academy Trust purchased services from PA Group Limited to the value of £4,070 (2017: £Nil) during the year. No balances were outstanding at the year end.



**DIVERGENT PARTNERSHIP TRUST**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS - CONTINUED**  
**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2018**

**31. AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS**

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2018 the trust received £13,949 (2017: £12,380) and disbursed £8,118 (2017: £10,453) from the fund. An amount of £10,273 (2017: £4,442) is included in trade creditors relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to ESFA.