**Company Registration Number: 07564749 (England & Wales)** 

### **ANGLIAN LEARNING**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

# TRUSTEES' REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

### (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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#### REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members Claire Lawton

Christopher Walkinshaw

Albena Madej Martyn Postle Gareth Davies

Trustees Jonathan Culpin, Accounting Officer

Claire Lawton (resigned 31 August 2024)

Ken Murphy

David Lamkin (resigned 31 August 2024)

John Morgan

Helen Pain, Chair of Trustees

Pauline Ball (resigned 3 September 2024)
Alasdair Pitt (resigned 24 July 2024)
Carin Taylor (resigned 9 May 2024)
Adeline Winshaw (appointed 1 July 2024)
Aron Whiles (appointed 1 July 2024)
David Brock (appointed 3 October 2023)
Matthew Blake (appointed 3 October 2023)
Andrew Robinson (appointed 15 November 2024)

**Company registered** 

**number** 07564749

Company name Anglian Learning

Registered and principal Lode Road

office

Bottisham
Cambridge
CB25 9DL

Company secretary Charity Main

Chief Executive Officer Jonathan Culpin

**Executive Leadership** 

Team

Jonathan Culpin, Chief Executive Officer

Duncan Cooper, Director of Secondary Education

Charity Main, Chief Operating Officer Camilla Saunders, Director of Inclusion

James Woodcock, Director of Education Professional Learning and Curriculum

Caroline Newman, Director of People

Rachael Johnston, Director of Primary Education

Independent Auditors Price Bailey LLP

Chartered Accountants
Causeway House
1 Dane Street
Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire
CM23 3BT

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#### TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditor's Report of Anglian Learning ("the Charitable Company" or "the Trust") for the year to 31 August 2024. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report and a Directors' Report under company law.

The Trust operates 10 primary and 6 secondary academies ("the Academies" or "the Schools") serving catchment areas in Cambridgeshire, north Essex and west Suffolk. The Academies had a roll of 8,244 in the spring 2024 census.

#### Structure, Governance and Management

#### Constitution

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents. The Trustees of Anglian Learning are also the Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. Within this report the terms Trustee and Director are interchangeable. The Charitable Company includes the following Academies:

- Bassingbourn Village College (joined the Trust on 1 September 2016)
- Bottisham Community Primary School (joined the Trust on 1 March 2018)
- Bottisham Village College (converted on 1 February 2012)
- Fen Ditton Primary School (joined the Trust on 1 March 2018)
- Howard Community Academy (joined the Trust on 1 April 2020)
- Joyce Frankland Academy Newport (joined the Trust on 1 January 2020)
- Linton Heights Junior School (joined the Trust on 1 April 2020)
- Linton Village College (joined the Trust on 1 April 2020)
- Marleigh Primary Academy (opened on 1 September 2022)
- Meadow Primary School (joined the Trust on 1 April 2020)
- The Icknield Primary School (converted on 1 April 2021)
- The Netherhall School and Oakes Sixth Form (converted on 1 February 2016)
- The Pines (joined the Trust on 1 April 2020)
- Sawston Village College (joined the Trust on 1 September 2016)
- Stapleford Community Primary School (joined the Trust on 1 March 2018)
- Wimbish Primary Academy (converted on 1 September 2023)

The operation of the Trust's Academies and employment of staff are the responsibility of the Trustees. The Trust retains control of Academy budgets and finances, and monitors these through its Finance, Estates and Operations Committee. Local Governing Bodies (LGB) play a critical role in overseeing the links between educational standards and financial performance, as well as reinforcing financial controls. Within this Report, the term Trustee refers to a member of the Board of Trustees and the term Governor to a member of an LGB.

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

#### Members' Liability

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

#### Trustees' and Officers' Indemnities

The Trust has opted to be covered under the Government's Risk Protection Arrangements (RPA) scheme to protect Trustees, Governors and Officers, from claims arising from negligent acts, omissions or errors whilst performing Trust business.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

The arrangements are as set out in the Articles and Funding Agreement.

Trustees are appointed for a fixed term. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is an ex officio member of the Board of Trustees. Trustees are selected by the existing Trustee cohort and their appointment is ratified by the Members of the Trust. The Articles of Association make provision for at least 3 Trustees plus the CEO.

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

The Trust is committed to providing adequate opportunities for Trustees and Governors to undertake and receive suitable training so as to enable them to perform their role effectively. The specifics of this training will be dependent on their existing experience. As well as internal training led by Trust staff, Anglian Learning draws on support and expertise from a range of sources, including Stone King (solicitors), the National Governance Association, auditors and the Confederation of School Trusts. All new Trustees are provided with login details to the Anglian Learning Governance secure area, which gives them direct access to all Trust and governance information, including strategic planning documents, policies, procedures, minutes and management accounts.

### **Organisational Structure**

The governance of the Trust is defined in the Memorandum and Articles of Association together with the Funding Agreement with the Department of Education.

The Board of Trustees meets on at least five occasions per year and is responsible for the strategic direction of the Trust. Three of its sub committees, People and Culture, Curriculum and Standards and Remuneration and Governance, meet at least three times per year. The Finance, Estates and Operations Committee meets at least six times. The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee meets at least four times a year.

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

LGBs meet at least six times per year. An annual calendar of meetings is approved before the start of the academic year. The Trust provides direction for the agendas for these meetings, including a requirement to review educational achievement and engagement with the local community; review risk; and monitor the quality of its governance. Parents, staff and the wider community are directly represented on LGBs. An Academies Governance Forum (Chairs of LGBs, Trust Board representative and CEO) also meets at least once a term to contribute to the strategic direction of the Trust. The Academy Senior Leadership Teams (SLTs) control the Academies at an executive level implementing policies and reporting to their LGB. Each SLT is responsible for the day-to-day operation of their Academy, in particular organising staff, resources and students. They are responsible for the authorisation of spending in accordance with the agreed spending limits within financial regulations and agreed budgets and for the appointment of staff, below senior leadership level, following vetting and safeguarding recruitment processes.

The CEO is the designated Accounting Officer and has overall responsibility for the day-to-day financial management of the Trust.

The Executive Leadership Team (ELT) consists of:

- Chief Executive Officer (CEO);
- Director of Secondary Education;
- Director of Primary Education;
- Chief Operating Officer;
- Director of Inclusion;
- Director of Education Professional Learning and Curriculum; and
- Director of People.

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#### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The ELT is responsible for implementing the strategic plan across the Trust, alongside the management of risk and ensuring effective reporting and compliance. They work closely with Academy head teachers, providing support and challenge to ensure the delivery of key priorities in each School.

The ELT and local Headteachers are supported by their local senior leadership teams and the central Trust Directors of ICT and Operations, the Head of Governance, Compliance and Risk, the Business Support lead and the Trust Financial Controller.

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

Key management personnel include Trustees and those staff to whom the Trustees have delegated significant authority and responsibility in the day-to-day running of the Trust.

Pay and remuneration of key management personnel is decided by a variety of contributory factors, and informed by benchmarking including comparison to national surveys undertaken by organisations like the Confederation of School Trusts. In addition, pay levels may be affected by nationally agreed pay awards, the ability to recruit and retain in post, all of which are in accordance with the Trust's appointment and pay policies.

All amendments to key management's pay and remuneration is approved by the appropriate sub-committee and ratified by the Board of Trustees.

#### **Trade Union Facility Time**

The Trust outsourced the trade union service to Cambridgeshire County Council in the year and paid £7,439 for the service.

#### Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Owing to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the Board of Trustees and LGBs being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, it is inevitable that from time to time transactions will take place with organisations in which a Trustee or a Governor may have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procedures. Any transaction where the Trustee or Governor may have a pecuniary interest is only undertaken in accordance with the 'at cost' principle described in the Academies Trust Handbook.

All senior staff, Directors, Trustees and Governors have signed documentation to declare relevant interests. Related party transactions are disclosed in Note 29 to the financial statements. The Trust does not have a formal sponsor and has no other financially connected organisations, but does have wider influence over wider networks and constitutions including other Cambridgeshire, Essex and Suffolk secondary and primary schools and:

- Cambridgeshire, Suffolk and Essex County Councils
- Cambridgeshire CEO Network
- Cambridge Area Partnership
- City Behaviour and Attendance Partnership
- Iceni Teaching Hub Partnership
- East and South Cambridgeshire Inclusion Partnership
- Cambridge Teaching School Network (CTSN)
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Teaching School
- Cambridgeshire Schools Forum
- Cambridgeshire Secondary and Primary Heads' Groups
- Bury Schools Partnership
- Faculty of Education, Cambridge University
- Arts Council England
- Whole Education

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Engagement with Employees (including disabled persons)**

The Trustees recognise that our employees are fundamental and core to our business and delivery of high-quality education. Our success depends on attracting, retaining and motivating employees. The Trustees consider the implications of decisions on employees and the wider workforce, where relevant. Where appropriate, the Trust consults on matters such as policy, pay, health, safety and welfare with the relevant support staff and teaching trade unions.

The Trust provides information to employees generally by way of email, newsletter, staff meetings and the Trust's intranet, known as Connect. Information is also channelled via leadership meetings and staff briefings. The Trust also holds regular virtual updates for staff with the Chief Executive Officer, and other senior leaders, which are recorded for those who cannot attend live. A dedicated Joint Consultation Committee has been established to enhance communication with professional associations and unions.

Applications for employment by disabled persons are given full and fair consideration for all vacancies in accordance with their particular aptitude and abilities. In the event of employees becoming disabled then every effort is made to retrain them in order that their employment within the Trust may continue.

#### Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the Trust

The Trust monitors payment performance and publicly reports in the six-monthly payment practices return. The Trust has an established procurement policy to ensure that suppliers are fairly treated.

The Trustees consider pupils, parents, and community users to be their "customers". Whilst pupils encounter engagement daily, engagement with parents is carried out through regular newsletters and through social media. Social media is also used extensively to engage with community users such as those using our sports centres.

#### **Objectives and Activities**

#### **Objects and Aims**

The principal object and aim of the Trust is the operation of a number of Academies to provide free education for pupils of different abilities within its local community between the ages of 4 and 18.

The vision of the Trust is to create dynamic, empowered learners who thrive and lead in their communities: locally, nationally and globally.

The core purpose of the Trust is transforming together to enable inclusive and aspirational learning in every classroom, empower leaders across every academy, and ensure inspiring opportunities and educational success for our learners, people and communities.

The Trust's core values are:

- Aspiration We are ambitious for ourselves and all those in our community to be the best we can be.
- Community We underpin our relationships with a culture of support, respect, and trust, recognising we are stronger together.
- Empowerment We enable our Academies, staff and learners to embrace new ideas and think creatively.
- Inclusivity We believe in equality of opportunity, celebrating everyone's differences and supporting Learners of all abilities from all backgrounds.

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#### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Anglian Learning welcomes regulation and scrutiny by local and central Government. As an organisation governed by company and charitable law, and responsible for significant public expenditure as well as the educational outcomes for thousands of children and young people, we have a duty to discharge our functions in a way that is transparent, efficient and promotes public confidence in not only Anglian Learning but the educational sector as a whole.

#### **Objectives, Strategies and Activities**

During the year the Trust has worked towards these aims by:

- ensuring that every child enjoys a high quality education;
- raising the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- developing resilient, resourceful students;
- · adapting and applying skills for flexible life-long learning;
- improving the effectiveness of each School by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- providing training and professional development opportunities for staff; providing value for money for the funds expended; and
- conducting the Trust's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity.

Our success in fulfilling our aims can be measured in a number of ways including:

- Pupil progress data, GCSE, A Level and other public qualifications and SATs results;
- Pupil voice activities;
- Ofsted outcomes;
- Staff survey results;
- Parental surveys; and
- Other quality assurance activity led by Trust central staff.

#### **Public Benefit**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

#### **Strategic Report**

#### **Achievements and Performance**

Anglian Learning is very proud of the progress that we made against our strategic priorities during 2023/24. Academy performance is discussed below under Key Performance Indicators but more widely the Trust's achievements have included:

- 'Good' outcomes from Ofsted inspections of Linton Village College, The Netherhall School and Icknield Primary School;
- Reviewed and refreshed Anglian Learning's vision, now called 'Our DNA'. This included the restatement of the Trust's Core Purpose and development of a set of Core Principles. The Core Principles are embedded into everyday decision-making at school level, centrally and collectively;
- Further development of a coaching culture across the Trust with training for staff;
- Worked with Trust leaders to agree the Belonging by Design initiative, which will build on existing
  initiatives to ensure that pupils and staff feel accepted, included and supported in the school environment,
  which research shows has a direct impact on improved outcomes and mental health. As a strand of this
  work during the year we made a successful bid to the Cambridgeshire Virtual School to fund the work of a
  specialist attendance lead;
- Conducted the Trust's first organisation wide parental and pupil surveys to inform and validate work being undertaken by our Strategic Groups and improvement networks;
- Developed the Teaching and Learning Framework to provide a toolkit of resources for schools to use;
- Continued and developed a programme of peer reviews, now known as Blueprint Enquiries;

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## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

- Worked closely with stakeholders on planning for a new primary school, Deneia Primary Academy, planned for the new town at Waterbeach;
- Made significant progress on our people strategy including implementing a new core payroll and HR system, developing new recruitment materials and launching an employee benefits platform;
- Held the first Trust-wide dance festival, Stage 24, adding to existing events including the annual Platform art exhibition:
- Used £320,000 of funding from the government's Connect the Classroom scheme to upgrade wireless networks in a number of our schools;
- Been awarded grant from Sport England to improve energy efficiency in relation to the pool at Bottisham Village College;
- Delivered programmes through Anglian Leisure to promote active lifestyles for those with a BMI above 25;
- Managed the successful delivery of capital expenditure across the Trust in excess of £5.0 million, ensuring that our pupils, staff and visitors are safe, enhancing learning environments decarbonising our estate. Work in the year included concluding a project to install solar panels on 14 school sites which saved 70 tonnes of carbon, and the conclusion of a large-scale project to remodel the Howard Community Academy;
- Successfully onboarded Wimbish Primary Academy to the Trust;
- Worked on proposals to expand the Trust to 22 schools by September 2025; and
- Supported the wider school system, including by participation in Department for Education and other national groups, through Ofsted inspection, participation in Whole Education networks and participation in Cambridgeshire Schools Forum.

#### **Key Performance Indicators (KPI)**

The Trustees receive regular information at each committee meeting to enable them to monitor the performance of the Trust compared to aims, strategies and financial budgets.

#### **Educational Performance**

The Trust has developed an Anglian Learning Data Dashboard that identifies key performance indicators for all key educational functions; this data is refreshed regularly, and at least termly, prior to review by the ELT, and circulation to Trustees for scrutiny and discussion particularly by the Curriculum and Standards Committee.

Educational performance for the 2023/24 academic year has continued to be impacted by the Covid 19 pandemic. Reduced attendance by some pupils remains a key concern.

#### **Primary Schools**

The percentage of pupils in each primary reaching the expected standard at key stage 2 in summer 2024 compared to the national average ranged as follows:

- Reading: 36% 93% against a national average of 74%
- Writing: 43% 80% against a national average of 72%
- Grammar, punctuation and spelling: 33% 89% against a national average of 72%
- Maths; 25% 87% against a national average of 73%
- Combined 24% 79%, against a national average of 61%

### Secondary Schools

At GCSE level in summer 2024 72.5% achieved 4+ in English and Maths with 53.9% achieving 5+. 29.5% of grades were 7-9. Attainment 8 scores were 52.3. 1,114 year 11 pupils participated in this exam series.

At The Oakes College 81.4% of A level grades were A\*-C with 98.7% A\*-E. At Joyce Frankland Academy Newport 32.9% were A\*-C and 81.2% A\*-E.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Financial Performance

Financial performance is monitored via monthly management accounts, which are scrutinised by the Chair of Trustees and the Chair of the Finance, Estates and Operations Committee, in addition to consideration in committee and Board meetings. This includes reviewing financial performance against the budget, movements in the Balance Sheet and cash flow movements.

A range of other key financial indicators are monitored across the Trust, including pupil numbers, average teacher cost and pupil to teacher and pupil to adult ratios. These are formally reviewed as part of the School Resource Management Self-Assessment (which benchmarks performance nationally) and as an element of the budget setting process.

#### **Going Concern**

In line with other trusts and the wider educational sector the Trust continues to forecast significant budgetary pressures resulting from pay rises, increased employer's National Insurance for both teaching and support staff, high energy costs, and wider inflationary pressures in the UK economy. Although a number of financial pressures have been reduced by additional grant funding, a number still remain. However, after making appropriate enquiries, and based on reserves of £2.8m at 31 August 2024, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the Statement of Accounting Policies.

#### **Promoting the Success of the Charitable Company**

The Trustees have an obligation to act in a way most likely to promote the success of the Charitable Company. Details regarding engagement with employees, suppliers, parents, pupils and other connected parties have been covered in separate notes within the Trustees' Report. The obligation to assess the likely consequences of decisions in the longer term is noted within the reserves policy below as Trustees balance the needs of current and future cohorts.

The Trustees have identified reputational and ethical areas as key risks and their actions in these areas are covered within Principal risks and uncertainties later within this Strategic Report.

#### **Financial Review**

The principal source of funding for the Trust is the GAG and other grants that it receives from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). For the year ended 31 August 2024 the Trust received £62,226,278 (2023: £58,723,569) of GAG and other income (excluding donated assets). A high percentage of this income is spent on wages and salaries and support costs to deliver the Trust's primary objective of the provision of education. During the year the Trust spent a total of £61,291,209 (2023: £55,021,893) excluding depreciation and LGPS pension liability adjustments but including fixed assets purchased from GAG.

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

A summary of the Trust's financial results are set out below:

	Restricted General Funds	Unrestricted Funds	Fixed Asset Fund	Pension Reserve	Total
Donation on conversion		77,776	1,423,000	1,000	1,501,776
Incoming Resources	54,776,572	5,229,829	2,219,877	-	62,226,278
Resources Expended	(55,444,386)	(5,119,481)	(52,125)		(60,615,992)
LGPS Charge				(2,110,000)	(2,110,000)
Depreciation			(4,011,702)		(4,011,702)
Employer contributions paid				1,967,000	1,967,000
Total Resources Expended	(55,444,386)	(5,119,481)	(4,063,827)	(143,000)	(64,770,694)
Assets Purchased from GAG	(368,322)	(306,895)	675,217		-
Actuarial Gains				199,000	199,000
Surplus / (Deficit) for the year	(1,036,136)	(118,771)	254,267	57,000	(843,640)
Balance at 1 September 2023	1,989,052	2,036,918	129,200,517	(57,000)	133,169,487
Balance at 31 August 2024	952,916	1,918,147	129,454,784	-	132,325,847

The Local Government Pension Scheme valuation is in a net asset position and has been capped at £nil, for further details please see note 26. This does not guarantee that contribution rates will reduce and ease the cash flow effect on the Trust.

#### **Reserves Policy**

The Trustees are aware of the requirement to balance current and future needs. The Trustees monitor estimated year-end carry forward figures and remaining reserves via the monthly reports from the Financial Controller. The budget plan identifies how any reserves carried forward will be allocated in the plan for the following academic year, including the identification of any funds restricted or designated for a specific project or purpose.

The Reserves Policy targets a minimum level of reserves of 4% of GAG. In 2023/24 4% of GAG totalled £1.79m, reserves held at 31 August 2024 are shown below and currently meet the minimum level of reserves targeted.

The Trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £1,918,147. This has been built up from a mixture of locally raised income and balances transferred from the predecessor schools.

The Trust's balance on restricted general funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds at 31 August 2024 was £2,871,063.

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## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Total restricted fixed asset funds at 31 August 2024 was £129,454,784. Of this £127,186,034 related to the valuation of tangible fixed assets and can only be realised by disposing of these assets.

The cash balance of the Trust has been very healthy all year, ending the year with a balance of £8,158,761. A significant proportion of this cash is held against specific projects and is not available to meet normal recurring expenditure.

#### **Investment Policy**

The Trust has an Investment Policy which permits the deposit of surplus funds into appropriate investment vehicles (UK based, at least investment grade) taking into account security, liquidity and yield with security being of paramount importance.

#### **Principal Risks and Uncertainties**

Trustees work with senior officers in reviewing the major risks to which each academy and collectively the Trust, are exposed, identifying actions and procedures to mitigate those risks. This register is approved and monitored by the Board of Trustees regularly via sub-committees. The Board itself also considers the strategic risk register.

The Trust manages risk via an online platform which identifies both strategic and academy level risks.

The Trustees report that the Trust's financial and internal controls conform to guidelines issued by the ESFA, and that improvements to the wider framework of systems dealing with business risk and risk management strategy continue to be made and formally documented.

It is recognised that systems can only provide reasonable but not absolute assurance that major risks have been adequately managed.

The Trustees assess the principal risks and uncertainties facing the Trust as follows:

- The Trust has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA. Cost pressures (including from staffing) are not currently expected to be matched by equivalent increases in funding;
- Pupil numbers. Modelling suggests that pupil numbers will fall in coming years, in both primary and secondary schools. Although the impact is expected to be less acute in East Anglia than some other areas of the country there is still significant uncertainty. This is a particular challenge for primary schools and in the context of a funding system where funding is predominantly pupil-number driven;
- Failures in governance and/or management. The risk in this area arises from potential failure to effectively manage the Trust's finances, missing or ineffective internal controls, non-compliance with regulations and legislation, and non-completion of statutory returns, etc. The Trustees continue to review and ensure that appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks;
- Reputational risks. The continuing success of the Schools and the ability of the Trust to grow further is
  dependent on continuing to attract pupils in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational
  standards. To mitigate this risk Trustees ensure that student progress and outcomes are closely
  monitored and reviewed;
- Safeguarding and child protection. The Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health and safety and discipline;
- High quality governance and senior leadership capacity during the growth of the Trust. Trustees continue
  to review and evaluate progress, ensuring that the Executive and Senior Leadership Teams have the
  required level of skill and capacity to support successful growth. Trustees evaluate their own performance,
  identifying development needs and undertaking training;
- Staffing. The success of the Schools is reliant on the quality of its staff and the Trustees monitor and
  review policies and procedures and recruitment to ensure continued development and training of staff, as
  well as ensuring there is clear succession planning. Staffing remains a significant area of challenge for the
  Trust and this is likely to continue with record low numbers of entries into teacher training both locally and
  nationally in autumn 2023 and 2024 and continued competition for staff, including for support staff, with
  other public and private sector organisations;

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

- Cybercrime, fraud and mismanagement of funds. The Trustees have appointed RSM to carry out a
  programme of internal scrutiny which includes independent and external checks on financial systems and
  records as required by the Academy Trust Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep up to date
  with financial practice requirements and develop their skills in this area. The Trust also provides cyber
  training for all staff, alongside the wider system protection against cyber-attack;
- The maintenance of a safe, well-maintained estate alongside compliance with relevant health and safety regulations. The Trust engages an experienced external advisor to support the deployment of School Condition Allocation to priority areas, alongside the use of specialist surveyors as required. Compliance with statutory requirements is monitored through Every;
- Financial instruments. The Trust only deals with bank balances, cash and trade creditors, with limited trade (and other) debtors. The risk in this area is considered to be low; and
- Defined benefit pension scheme liability as the Government has agreed to meet the defined benefit pension liability of any school ceasing to exist the main risk to the Trust is the annual cash flow funding of part of the deficit. Trustees take these payments into account when setting the annual budget plan.

The Trust has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the year, RSM carried out a review of risk management as part of the programme of internal scrutiny during 2023/24.

#### **Fundraising**

The Trust only held small fundraising events during the year including for example, fairs, fetes and sponsored walks. The Trust does not work with professional fundraisers or companies who carry out fundraising on its behalf. During the year no complaints or issues have arisen as a result of the fundraising events. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by Governors and Trustees.

#### Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

	23/24	22/23
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	12,227,668	12,465,495
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Gas/oil consumption	1,516.99	1,730.66
Owned transport - mini-buses	7.61	5.42
Total scope 1	1,734.70	1,769.97
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Purchased electricity	628.71	610.66
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles	16.79	12.38
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	2,380.20	2,393.01
Intensity ratio		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil	0.29	0.30

#### **Quantification and Reporting Methodology**

We have followed the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines. We have also used the GHG Reporting Protocol – Corporate Standard and have used the 2023 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

#### Intensity measurement

The chosen intensity measurement ratio is total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e per pupil, the recommended ratio for the sector.

#### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

- We continue to use video-conferencing where appropriate to reduce the need to travel between sites
- We have continued to invest School Condition Allocation and other capital funding into energy efficiency
  measures including improved insulation and further solar PV panels. We saved 70 tonnes of carbon
  during 2023/24 from our most recent investment in solar PV panels.

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

The Trust will continue to focus on ensuring that every student has access to high quality educational provision, which enables them to thrive and achieve excellent educational outcomes.

The Trust Strategic Plan sets out the overall direction of Anglian Learning to 2025. Work in 2024/25 includes:

- Continuing to implement the recommendations of the strategic human resources review including a focus
  on improving engagement with staff across the Trust including middle leaders, further enhancing the
  professional learning offer to ensure the development of great leaders and reviewing our induction
  processes;
- Reviewing the allocation of resources between academies, underpinned by Trust-wide Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning. An element of this is new functionality in the Trust's budgeting and forecasting solution;
- Embedding the Academy Improvement Strategy, reviewing the tier that each academy is in and allocating school improvement resource accordingly;
- Responding to the increasing SEND pressures within our schools and working with local authority partners and the wider sector on more sustainable solutions;
- Growth of the Trust with Stour Valley Community School and Clare Community Primary School joining Anglian Learning in March 2025 and proposals for further growth in 2025/26; and
- Building on the Belonging by Design initiative which began in 2023/24, including specific work on attendance of pupils with the newly appointed specialist attendance lead.

### **Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others**

#### Cambridge Area Partnership (CAP)

The Trust, through Bottisham Village College, acts as banker school for CAP. CAP is a partnership of all the state-funded providers of education and training for 14-19 year olds in Cambridge, East Cambridgeshire and South Cambridgeshire. Funds are held in a control account and are reported on a regular basis to the CAP consultant and Chair. All payments from the account are authorised by the Chair. The balance on this account as at 31 August 2024 is £185,470 (2023: £218,102) and is included in current liabilities.

#### 16-19 Bursary Funds

The 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 Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. Where the funds have not been fully applied in the accounting period then an amount will be included as amounts due to the ESFA.

### TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

#### **Provision of Information to Auditors**

Insofar as the Trustees are aware there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's Auditors are unaware, and the Trustees have taken all the steps 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.

**Helen Pain**Chair of Trustees

16 December 2024

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

#### Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Anglian Learning 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 Chief Executive Officer, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Anglian Learning and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 5 times during the year. The Board met fewer than six times during the year and is satisfied that through the use of sub-committees it maintains effective oversight of funds. Details of such sub-committees are noted below.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Jonathan Culpin, Accounting Officer	5	5
Claire Lawton	4	5
Ken Murphy	5	5
David Lamkin	5	5
John Morgan	4	5
Helen Pain, Chair of Trustees	5	5
Pauline Ball	5	5
Alasdair Pitt	3	5
Carin Taylor	3	3
Adeline Winshaw	1	1
Aron Whiles	0	1
David Brock	4	4
Matthew Blake	4	4
Andrew Robinson	0	0

#### Review of the Year

Four Trustees were appointed during the year and five resigned from their roles. Dr Helen Pain was appointed as Chair of the Board on 1 September 2023, following Dr Claire Lawton stepping down.

The Board's work during the year included considering the results of due diligence and approving the transfer of Stour Valley Educational Trust into Anglian Learning; considering the future of the sixth form at Joyce Frankland; and reviewing the Trust's financial strategy.

All Trustees have access to the monthly management accounts and these are tabled formally for discussion at each meeting of the Board and the Finance, Estates and Operations Committee.

In addition to the consideration of academy performance and improvement at the Board, detailed discussions are held by the Curriculum and Standards Committee.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### Governance (continued)

#### Conflicts of interest:

The Trust manages conflicts of interest through a robust procurement policy and by maintaining an up-to-date and complete register of interests. Relevant details from this register are shared across the organisation as appropriate. The Trust continues to collect enhanced data in relation to close family members of Members, Trustees and Key Management Personnel.

#### **Governance Review**

The Trust Board recognises that good governance requires vigilance to maintain and improve it.

Governance is considered, where relevant, as part of internal audit activity.

A number of Academies were inspected by Ofsted during the 2023/24 academic year and this evaluation included meeting with members of Local Governing Bodies as part of their assessment. All academies inspected in 2023/24 were judged to be Good with the exception of Bottisham Village College which was judged Requires Improvement.

The Confederation of School Trusts undertook a governance review in summer 2023, the review highlighted a number of strengths including:

- A strong and highly effective Board that operates at a strategic level, giving appropriate challenge and support to the Executive
- A clear Trust vision and sense of purpose
- Clear and effective decision-making followed by action tracking
- Strong support and advice to all tiers of governance
- Strong effective internal controls

Areas recommended for development included:

- Continuing to clarify the role of Local Governing Bodies, and considering how best to communicate directly with governors
- Considering removing the Remuneration and Governance Committee
- Continuing to consider succession planning for both the Board and the Executive.

Work on these areas of development has continued throughout the year.

#### **Committees**

The Finance, Estates and Operations Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to ensure the sound management of the Trust's finances, estates, operations and ICT.

During the year the following issues were dealt with by the Committee:

The work of the Committee during the year was wide-ranging and included consulting on the potential closure of Joyce Frankland Academy Newport Sixth Form, agreeing the changes to budgeting approach and timescales, reviewing the performance of Anglian Leisure Sports Centres alongside scrutiny of the management accounts and budget setting.

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### Governance (continued)

During the year the following changes to the Committee took place:

Alisdair Pitt resigned as a Trustee and from the Committee from 31 August 2024

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible		
Jonathan Culpin	6	6		
David Lamkin	5	6		
Ken Murphy	6	6		
John Morgan	2	6		
Alasdair Pitt	3	6		

The Audit and Risk Assurance Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to direct the Trust's programme of internal scrutiny and to report to the Board on the adequacy of internal controls and the management of risks.

During the year the Committee considered reports from and directed the work of the Trust's internal scrutiny provider, alongside supporting work on risk management.

During the year Andy Brock joined the committee and Claire Lawton resigned.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
David Lamkin	4	4
Claire Lawton	1	1
David Brock	3	3
John Morgan	3	4

Committees also exist to review the Trust's human resources strategy (People and Culture) and to review its educational performance (Curriculum and Standards). The Remuneration and Governance Committee reviews the effectiveness of governance at all levels and reviews and approves executive pay.

Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) were in place at all academies during 2023/24. The Scheme of Delegation establishes the powers delegated to LGBs which include determining the educational mission, aims and values of the academy; assessing the quality of education and the quality of engagement with parents and carers.

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the 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, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- Assigning School Condition Allocation, a capital grant received by the Trust for the improvement of school
  estates, on the basis of clear priorities, including reducing energy and other operating costs.
- Implemented a new HR payroll system and managed service solution for the Trust which is expected to bring significant process efficiencies.
- Using Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning tools to review and compare academy staffing structures.

#### 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 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 Anglian Learning for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### Capacity to handle risk

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

#### The risk and control framework

The Trust's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. 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 Estates and Operations Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- · identification and management of risks

#### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

#### The risk and control framework (continued)

#### **Internal Scrutiny/Audit**

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy in an internal audit service from RSM. This option has been chosen because of RSM's expertise and breadth of experience, including in the academy sector.

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

- A review of purchase to pay systems
- A review of the Integrated Curriculum Financial Planning system implementation
- A review of sports centre income management
- A review of the implementation of the HR/Payroll system

The Internal Auditor reports on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities. On an annual basis RSM prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

The Internal Auditor identified a number of actions as a result of their work in 2023/24 including:

- Creating an accounts payable procedural document
- Ensuring meeting minutes and/or action logs are produced for Sports Centre Team meetings
- Defining and implementing assurances and processes for the new payroll system

Monitoring progress on completion of these actions, including that they are still relevant, takes place at each Audit and Risk Assurance Committee meeting.

#### Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor:
- the work of the external auditor:
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the School Resource Manager Advisor visit; and
- correspondence from the ESFA.

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

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### Review of effectiveness (continued)

#### Conclusion

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

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

**Helen Pain**Chair of Trustees

Jonathan Culpin Accounting Officer

#### STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

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

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

Jonathan Culpin Accounting Officer

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

#### STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024:
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the Charitable Company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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

**Helen Pain**Chair of Trustees

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ANGLIAN LEARNING

#### **Opinion**

We have audited the financial statements of Anglian Learning (the 'Trust') for the year ended 31 August 2024 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2024 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

#### **Basis for opinion**

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

#### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ANGLIAN LEARNING (CONTINUED)

#### Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

#### Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

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

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

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

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

### **Responsibilities of Trustees**

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the 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 Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ANGLIAN LEARNING (CONTINUED)

#### Auditors' 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 Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

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

We gained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework applicable to the Trust and the sector in which it operates and considered the risk of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations. This included those regulations directly related to the financial statements, including financial reporting and tax legislation and academy sector regulations including GDPR, employment law, health and safety and safeguarding.

The risks were discussed with the audit team and we remained alert to any indications of non-compliance throughout the audit. We carried out specific procedures to address the risks identified. These included the following:

- We reviewed systems and procedures to identify potential areas of management override risk. In
  particular, we carried out testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and
  evaluating the business rationale of any large or unusual transactions to determine whether they were
  significant to our assessment.
- We reviewed key authorisation procedures and decision making processes for any unusual or one-off transactions.
- We reviewed minutes of Trustee meetings and other relevant sub-committees of the Board and agreed the financial statement disclosures to underlying supporting documentation.
- We have made enquiries of the Accounting Officer and senior management team to identify laws and regulations applicable to the Trust. We assessed details of any breaches where applicable in order to assess the impact upon the Trust.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance.

The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involves intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ANGLIAN LEARNING (CONTINUED)

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

#### **Use of our Report**

This report is made solely to the 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 Trust's Members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' 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 Trust and its Members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Tom Meeks FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor) for and on behalf of Price Bailey LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Causeway House
1 Dane Street
Bishop's Stortford
Hertfordshire
CM23 3BT

16 December 2024

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ANGLIAN LEARNING AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 10 August 2023 and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Anglian Learning during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

## Respective responsibilities of Anglian Learning's Accounting Officer and the Reporting Accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Anglian Learning's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 8 December 2015 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2023, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ANGLIAN LEARNING AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)

#### **Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance
- Consideration and corroboration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance and how the Trust complies with the framework of authorities.
- Evaluation of the general control environment of the Trust, extending the procedures required for financial statements to include regularity, propriety and compliance.
- Discussions with and representations from the Accounting Officer and other key management personnel.
- An extension of substantive testing from our audit of the financial statements to cover matters pertaining to regularity, in order to support the regularity conclusion, including governance, internal controls, procurement and the application of income.

#### Conclusion

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

Reporting Accountant **Price Bailey LLP** 

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital	0	77 770	4 707 044	0.040.077	5 457 007	5 000 050
grants	2	77,776	1,737,344	3,642,877	5,457,997	5,606,653
Other trading activities Investments	4 5	3,305,153 198,760	-	-	3,305,153 198,760	2,885,881 63,518
Charitable activities	3	1,725,916	- 53,040,228	-	54,766,144	50,167,517
Chantable activities	3	1,723,310	33,040,220	_	34,700,144	50,107,517
Total income		5,307,605	54,777,572	3,642,877	63,728,054	58,723,569
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	6	5,119,481	55,587,386	4,063,827	64,770,694	58,997,901
Total expenditure		5,119,481	55,587,386	4,063,827	64,770,694	58,997,901
Net (expenditure) / income		188,124	(809,814)	(420,950)	(1,042,640)	(274,332)
Transfers between funds	18	(306,895)	(368,322)	675,217	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(118,771)	(1,178,136)	254,267	(1,042,640)	(274,332)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	199,000	-	199,000	1,807,000
Net movement in funds		(118,771)	(979,136)	254,267	(843,640)	1,532,668
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		2,036,918	1,932,052	129,200,517	133,169,487	131,636,819
Net movement in funds		(118,771)	(979,136)	254,267	(843,640)	1,532,668
Total funds carried				-		
forward		1,918,147	952,916	129,454,784	132,325,847	133,169,487

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 31 to 65 form part of these financial statements.

(A Company Limited by Guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 07564749

### BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

Note		2024		2023 £
NOLE		L		L
13		127,186,034		124,635,205
14	57,811		_	
15	1,849,803		3,084,891	
	11,416		10,944	
23	8,158,761		10,723,603	
	10,077,791		13,819,438	
16	(4,636,886)		(4,777,479)	
		5,440,905		9,041,959
		132,626,939		133,677,164
17		(301,092)		(450,677)
		132,325,847		133,226,487
26		-		(57,000)
		132,325,847		133,169,487
18	129,454,784		129,200,517	
18	952,916		1,989,052	
	130,407,700		131,189,569	
18	-		(57,000)	
18		130,407,700 1,918,147		131,132,569 2,036,918
		132,325,847		133,169,487
	14 15 23 16 17 26 18 18	13  14	Note £  13	Note £  13

The financial statements on pages 28 to 65 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

#### **Helen Pain**

Chair of Trustees

### STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	(1,662,479)	(258,072)
Cash flows from investing activities	22	(836,601)	(10,102)
Cash flows from financing activities	21	(65,762)	(80,499)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(2,564,842)	(348,673)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		10,723,603	11,072,276
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	23, 24	8,158,761	10,723,603

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

### 1. Accounting policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

Anglian Learning meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The Trust's presentational and functional currency is Pound Sterling.

#### 1.2 Company Status

The Trust is a company limited by guarantee. The Members are noted on page 1. In the event of the Trust being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per Member.

The Trust's registered office is Lode Road, Bottisham, Cambridge, CB25 9DL.

#### 1.3 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

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

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.4 Income

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

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

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

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

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.

Where assets and liabilities are received by the Trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.

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

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

#### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.5 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 charitable activities are costs incurred on the Trust's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Trust apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### 1.6 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 Trust to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

The Trust derives the majority of its income from local and national Government grant funding which is secured for a number of years, under the terms of the Academy Funding Agreement with the Secretary of State for Education. This will ensure that the Trust can continue operating for a period of at least 12 months following the date of this Report. The financial statements do not contain any adjustments that would be required if the Trust were not able to continue as a going concern.

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.7 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property
Long-term leasehold property
Furniture and equipment
Plant and machinery
Computer equipment
Motor vehicles

- 23 - 50 years straight line
- 50 - 125 years straight line
- 5 - 7 years straight line
- 5 - 7 years straight line
- 5 years straight line

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

#### 1.8 Taxation

The 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 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.

#### 1.9 Operating leases

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

#### 1.10 Debtors

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

#### 1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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

#### 1.12 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 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.

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

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.13 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 15. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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 16 and 17. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

#### 1.14 Pensions

Retirement benefits to employees of the 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 Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

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

If pension scheme assets are more than liabilities, a surplus is recognised only to the extent that the Trust is able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the scheme. Any change in the restriction of the surplus is an actuarial gain or loss and is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

#### 1.15 Interest receivable

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

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

### 1. Accounting policies (continued)

#### 1.16 Investments

Current asset investments are a form of financial instrument and are initially recognised at their transaction cost and subsequently measured at fair value at the balance sheet date, unless the value cannot be measured reliably in which case it is measured at cost less impairment. Investment gains and losses, whether realised or unrealised, are combined and presented as 'Gains/(Losses) on investments' in the Statement of Financial Activities.

#### 1.17 Finance leases and hire purchase

Assets obtained under hire purchase contracts and finance leases are capitalised as tangible fixed assets. Assets acquired by finance lease are depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and their useful lives. Assets acquired by hire purchase are depreciated over their useful lives. Finance leases are those where substantially all of the benefits and risks of ownership are assumed by the Trust. Obligations under such agreements are included in creditors, net of the finance charge allocated to future periods. The finance element of the rental payment is charged to the Statement of Financial Activities so as to produce a constant periodic rate of charge on the net obligation outstanding in each period.

#### 1.18 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 26, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2024. 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.

At the Balance Sheet date the pension scheme assets for Cambridgeshire and Suffolk pension funds were more than the liabilities, resulting in a surplus.

It was necessary to determine the extent to which this surplus was capable of being recovered either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the scheme. A refund is only available on ceasing to participate in the scheme, which is not practicably possible whilst the Trust continues in operation due to the requirement to provide access to the scheme to relevant employees and would not be possible if the Trust were to cease operations as these operations would be transferred to another academy trust that would take over any asset. With regard to reductions in contributions, the Trust is pooled with other trusts in the setting of its contribution rates under the scheme. In addition the Trust considers there to be a minimum funding requirement in respect of its contributions. Consequently the Trust does not consider that it is able to recover the surplus through reduced contributions in the future and has therefore restricted the surplus recognised for these funds to £nil.

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

# 2. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donation on conversion Donations Capital grants	77,776 - -	1,000 1,736,344 -	1,423,000 - 2,219,877	1,501,776 1,736,344 2,219,877	- 1,639,181 3,967,472
Total 2024	77,776	1,737,344	3,642,877	5,457,997	5,606,653
Total 2023	8,600	1,630,581	3,967,472	5,606,653	

In 2023, income from donations was £1,639,181 of which £8,600 was unrestricted and £1,630,581 was restricted.

In 2023, income from capital grants was £3,967,472, all of which was restricted fixed assets.

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

# 3. Funding for the Trust's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	43,013,506	43,013,506	39,562,942
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Rates relief	-	336,942	336,942	240,329
Pupil Premium	-	1,679,192	1,679,192	1,461,602
Free school meals	-	231,600	231,600	189,345
Teachers pay grant	-	787,168	787,168	2,913
Recovery Premium & National Tutoring				
Programme	-	369,962	369,962	386,409
Other	-	17,469	17,469	236,123
Sports premium	-	174,880	174,880	223,175
Supplementary funding	-	-	-	1,202,735
Teachers pension grant	-	468,615	468,615	-
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	1,520,564	1,520,564	631,292
16-19 funding	-	1,717,192	1,717,192	1,698,169
		50,317,090	50,317,090	45,835,034
Other Government grants				
Local Authority grants	-	2,470,938	2,470,938	2,398,070
Other income from educational operations				
Non-government grant income	-	252,200	252,200	196,781
Catering income	1,725,916	-	1,725,916	1,737,632
	1,725,916	252,200	1,978,116	1,934,413
Total 2024	1,725,916	53,040,228	54,766,144	50,167,517
Total 2023	1,737,632	48,429,885	50,167,517	

In 2023, catering income of £1,737,632 was unrestricted, all other income was restricted.

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

## 4. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Rental income	108,835	-	108,835	151,819
Other income	1,447,465	-	1,447,465	1,219,541
Community business income	1,748,853	-	1,748,853	1,514,521
Total 2024	3,305,153	-	3,305,153	2,885,881
Total 2023	2,874,865	11,016	2,885,881	

In 2023, rental income was £151,819, all of which was unrestricted.

In 2023, other income was £1,219,541 of which, £1,208,525 was unrestricted and £11,016 was restricted. In 2023, community business income was £1,514,521 of which all was unrestricted.

### 5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Bank interest	198,760	198,760	63,518
Total 2024	198,760	198,760	63,518
Total 2023	63,518	63,518	

In 2023, all investment income was in relation to unrestricted funds.

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

## 6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs	Premises	Other	Total	Total
	2024	2024	2024	2024	2023
	£	£	£	£	£
Direct costs Support costs	36,197,755	-	4,758,037	40,955,792	37,362,848
	9,440,910	9,219,421	5,154,571	23,814,902	21,635,053
Total 2024	45,638,665	9,219,421	9,912,608	64,770,694	58,997,901
Total 2023	41,703,331	8,055,650	9,238,920	58,997,901	

In 2023, direct costs consisted of £32,897,245 staff costs and £4,465,603 other costs.

In 2023, support costs consisted of £8,806,086 staff costs, £8,055,650 premises costs and £4,773,317 other costs.

### 7. Charitable Activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Direct costs	40,955,792	37,362,848
Support costs 2	23,814,902	21,635,053
Total e	64,770,694	58,997,901
	2024 £	2023 £
Analysis of support costs:		
Support staff costs	9,440,910	8,806,086
Depreciation	4,011,702	3,791,801
Technology costs	921,922	840,205
Premises costs (excluding depreciation)	5,207,720	4,263,849
Other costs	3,971,307	3,596,720
Governance costs	226,054	280,486
Legal	35,287	55,906
	23,814,902	21,635,053

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

# 8. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024 £	2023 £
Operating lease rentals	126,627	150,466
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	4,011,701	3,791,801
Fees paid to Auditors for:		
- audit	29,200	27,290
- other services	14,805	13,760

### 9. Staff

## a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Wages and salaries	33,499,086	30,233,725
Social security costs	3,304,574	2,940,164
Pension costs	7,659,375	7,260,182
	44,463,035	40,434,071
Agency staff costs	1,141,164	1,216,650
Staff restructuring costs	34,466	52,610
	45,638,665	41,703,331
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
	2024 £	2023 £
Redundancy payments	10,470	36,681
Severance payments	23,996	15,929
	34,466	52,610

# ANGLIAN LEARNING

# (A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

## 9. Staff (continued)

### b. Severance payments

The Trust paid 3 severance payments in the year (2023 - 1), disclosed in the following bands:

	2024 No.	2023 No.
£0 - £25,000	3	1

### c. Special staff severance payments

Included in severance payments are non-contractual payments totalling £23,996 (2023 - £15,929). Individually, the payments were £12,283, £7,615 and £4,098 (2023 - £15,929).

### d. Staff numbers

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
Teachers	523	499
Admin and support	475	500
Management	28	20
	1,026	1,019

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

### 9. Staff (continued)

### e. Higher paid staff

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

	2024 No.	2023 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	22	23
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	19	13
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	9	4
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	3
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	4	4
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	2	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	1	-
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	-	1
In the band £150,001 - £160,000	1	

### f. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Trust was £957,922 (2023 - £883,757).

Employer national insurance contributions included within key management personnel remuneration were £89,144 (2023 - £82,892).

Employer pension contributions included within key management personnel remuneration were £168,449 (2023 - £146,991).

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

### 10. Central services

The Trust has provided the following central services to its Academies during the year:

- School improvement services
- Senior management support
- Financial services
- Human resources services
- Strategic operations support
- ICT support
- Premises and estates support

The Trust charges for these services on a flat percentage of income being 5% of GAG and an ICT variable charge depending on the size of the Academy (2023 - 5% of GAG).

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Bassingbourn Village College	250,536	244,545
Bottisham Village College	526,552	488,346
The Netherhall School and Oakes Sixth Form	451,472	413,243
Sawston Village College	431,146	407,945
Bottisham Community Primary School	70,850	69,957
Fen Ditton Primary School	45,018	46,614
Stapleford Community Primary School	50,049	49,574
Linton Village College	321,845	314,268
Joyce Frankland Academy	380,493	366,516
Meadow Primary School	53,908	51,515
Linton Heights Junior School	60,176	57,929
The Pines Primary School	47,804	46,881
Howard Community Academy	45,819	43,856
The Icknield Primary School	55,795	49,675
Marleigh Primary Academy	29,736	23,166
Wimbish Primary Academy	21,062	-
Total	2,842,261	2,674,030

### **ANGLIAN LEARNING**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

## 11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Trust. The CEO only receives remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the role of CEO and under their contract of employment. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2024	2023
		£	£
Jonathan Culpin, Accounting Officer	Remuneration	155,000 -	145,000 -
		160,000	150,000
	Pension contributions paid	40,000 -	35,000 -
		45,000	40,000

During the year ended 31 August 2024, expenses of £948 were reimbursed to one Trustee (2023 - £854). These expenses were reimbursed to the CEO for expenditure incurred in relation to their role as a staff member.

#### 12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

The 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 Trust business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000.

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

# 13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Long-term leasehold property £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and equipment £	Plant and machinery	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation								
At 1 September 2023	83,075,624	52,071,761	1,619,768	4,490,419	1,227,154	3,378,222	55,608	145,918,556
Additions	602,356	3,384,766	1,220,056	384,792	121,708	848,853	-	6,562,531
Transfers between classes	-	443,392	(2,433,052)	592,054	1,386,041	11,565	-	-
At 31 August 2024	83,677,980	55,899,919	406,772	5,467,265	2,734,903	4,238,640	55,608	152,481,087
Depreciation								
At 1 September 2023	13,898,089	2,418,869	-	3,038,046	122,508	1,766,902	38,937	21,283,351
Charge for the year	2,069,052	853,333	-	516,293	81,811	482,422	8,791	4,011,702
At 31 August 2024	15,967,141	3,272,202	-	3,554,339	204,319	2,249,324	47,728	25,295,053
Net book value								
At 31 August 2024	67,710,839	52,627,717	406,772	1,912,926	2,530,584	1,989,316	7,880	127,186,034
At 31 August 2023	69,177,535	49,652,892	1,619,768	1,452,373	1,104,646	1,611,320	16,671	124,635,205

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

#### 14. Stocks

		2024 £	2023 £
	Uniform stock	57,811	- -
15.	Debtors		
		2024 £	2023 £
	Due within and war	L	L
	Due within one year Trade debtors	100 210	26.240
	Other debtors	180,218 197,215	26,349 136,132
	Prepayments and accrued income	1,195,523	2,351,223
	VAT recoverable	276,847	571,187
	7717 100070100.0		
		1,849,803	3,084,891
16.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year		
		2024 £	2023 £
	Other loans	138,352	55,228
	Trade creditors	946,010	1,383,004
	Other taxation and social security	766,207	716,137
	Obligations under finance lease and hire purchase contracts	8,375	7,676
	Cambridge Area Partnership	185,470	218,102
	Other creditors	809,724	150,391
	Accruals and deferred income	1,782,748	2,246,941
		4,636,886	4,777,479

Included within other loans are Conditional Improvement Fund loans due within one year of £NIL (2023 - £12,876) from the ESFA for which interest is charged at 1.75% per annum.

Included within other loans is an interest free GAG advance for Joyce Frankland Academy totalling £96,000 (2023 - £NIL) granted by the ESFA.

Also included within other loans are amounts totalling £42,352 (2023 - £42,352) representing the balance due within one year on interest free Salix loans granted by the ESFA.

Obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts relate to two finance leases of £1,794 and £6,581 from Cambridgeshire County Council relating to energy saving projects which interest is charged at 2.77% and 2.61% respectively. These leases were inherited on conversion from maintained school status and did not require ESFA approval.

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income brought forward	680,347	811,788
Resources deferred during the year	631,151	680,347
Amounts released from previous periods	(680,347)	(811,788)
Deferred income carried forward	631,151	680,347

Resources deferred at the period end relate to contributions towards future educational visits in the year and ESFA funding received in advance for the 2024/25 academic year.

## 17. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

2
390,422
60,255
450,677

Included within other loans are amounts totalling £93,057 (2023 - £139,620) representing the balance due in more than one year on interest free Salix loans granted by the ESFA.

Included within other loans is an interest free GAG advance for Joyce Frankland Academy totalling £154,803 (2023 - £250,803) granted by the ESFA.

Net obligations under finance leases and hire purchase contracts represent two finance leases totalling £53,231 from Cambridgeshire County Council relating to energy saving projects which interest is charged at 2.77% and 2.61% respectively, and are repayable in more than 5 years. These leases were inherited on conversion from maintained school status and did not require ESFA approval.

The aggregate amount of liabilities payable or repayable wholly or in part more than five years after the reporting date is:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Payable or repayable by instalments	12,734	22,557

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

## 18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	2,036,918	5,307,605	(5,119,481)	(306,895)	-	1,918,147
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	929,171	43,013,506	(43,357,634)	(470,962)	-	114,081
Other DFE/ESFA grants	119,449	7,303,584	(7,380,883)	_	_	42,150
Other Government	110,440	7,000,004	(1,000,000)			42,100
grants	62,202	2,470,938	(2,533,140)	-	-	-
Restricted donations	97,664	1,736,344	(1,773,780)	-	-	60,228
Sinking fund	524,450	-	(10,660)	102,640	-	616,430
Other restricted funds	256,116	252,200	(388,289)	_	-	120,027
Pension reserve	(57,000)	1,000	(143,000)	-	199,000	-
	1,932,052	54,777,572	(55,587,386)	(368,322)	199,000	952,916

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

### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted	fixed
asset fun	ds

Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)	2,585	_	_	_	_	2,585
Capital loans	(262,779)	-	-	65,763	-	(197,016)
Other capital balances	1,108,631	-	(52,125)	(230,442)	-	826,064
Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)	307,898	206,762	-	(150,340)	-	364,320
Other ESFA capital grants	-	344,406	-	(344,406)	-	-
School Condition Allocation (SCA)	2,015,431	1,610,039	_	(2,446,409)	_	1,179,061
Other capital grants	1,393,545	58,670	-	(1,358,480)	-	93,735
Restricted fixed asset fund	124,635,206	1,423,000	(4,011,702)	5,139,531	-	127,186,035
	129,200,517	3,642,877	(4,063,827)	675,217	-	129,454,784
Total Restricted funds	131,132,569	58,420,449	(59,651,213)	306,895	199,000	130,407,700
Total funds	133,169,487	63,728,054	(64,770,694)	-	199,000	132,325,847

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

#### **Unrestricted funds**

This represents income received that does not have restrictions.

### **General Annual Grant (GAG)**

This represents funding from the ESFA to be used for the normal running costs of the Trust, including education and support costs.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Trust was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2024.

### Other DfE/ESFA grants

This represents various grants from the DfE and ESFA for the provision of specific services to pupils of the Schools.

#### **ANGLIAN LEARNING**

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

#### 18. Statement of funds (continued)

### Other Government grants

This represents various grants from local and national Government bodies for the provision of specific services to pupils of the Schools.

#### Restricted donations

This represents contributions made by parents to the running of educational visits for the pupils of the Trust, and the associated costs. Small amounts of gift aid and amounts received on conversion of Academies in to the Trust are also within this fund.

#### Sinking Fund

The sinking fund was established in order to ring-fence funds for future anticipated refurbishment costs of the sports centre.

#### Other restricted funds

This represents amounts received from insurance claims as well as funds received in relation to the School Sports Partnership, the Creativity Collaboration Project funded by Arts Council England and the I3ngenuity project funded by Abstract Foundation.

#### Pension reserve

This reserve represents the Trust's share of the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) transferred to the Trust on conversion from state controlled schools.

## **Conditional Improvement Fund (CIF)**

This represents funding received from the ESFA for specific capital projects.

### Other capital grants

This represents capital grants received from local Government bodies for specific capital projects.

#### Devolved Formula Capital (DFC) / School Condition Allocation (SCA)

These represents annual capital funding received from the ESFA during the year.

#### **Capital loans**

These represent the amounts of CIF and Salix loans from the ESFA that have been spent on assets as at the year end.

#### Other capital balances

These represent the balance carried forward from the proceeds of the sale of land and property from two schools, that are intended for use on capital projects.

### Restricted fixed asset fund

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the DfE where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose. The transfer between funds represents additions purchased through capital funding and reserves.

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

# 18. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Unrestricted	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
funds						
Unrestricted funds	2,207,575	4,684,615	(4,729,212)	(126,060)	-	2,036,918
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,072,910	39,562,942	(39,254,133)	(452,548)	-	929,171
Other DFE/ESFA grants	284,864	6,272,092	(6,385,383)	(52,124)	-	119,449
Other Government grants	47,111	2,398,070	(2,382,979)	_	_	62,202
Restricted donations	222,996	1,630,581	(1,601,739)	(154,174)		97,664
Sinking fund	428,810	1,030,361	(1,001,739)	95,640	<u>-</u>	524,450
Other restricted	420,010	_	-	93,040	-	324,430
funds	27,500	207,797	(128,655)	149,474	-	256,116
Pension reserve	(1,140,000)	-	(724,000)	-	1,807,000	(57,000)
	944,191	50,071,482	(50,476,889)	(413,732)	1,807,000	1,932,052

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

# 18. Statement of funds (continued)

Restricted	fixed
asset fun	ds

Condition Improvement Fund (CIF)	2,585	_	_	-	<u>-</u>	2,585
Capital loans	(147,620)	_	-	(115,159)	-	(262,779)
Other capital balances	1,371,689	-	-	(263,058)	-	1,108,631
Devolved Formula Capital (DFC)	192,357	532,050	<u>-</u>	(416,509)	_	307,898
School Condition Allocation				, ,		
(SCA)	1,405,182	1,541,430	-	(931,181)	-	2,015,431
Other capital grants	1,235	1,759,054	-	(366,744)	-	1,393,545
Restricted fixed asset fund	125,659,625	-	(3,791,800)	2,767,381	-	124,635,206
	128,485,053	3,832,534	(3,791,800)	674,730	-	129,200,517
Total Restricted funds	129,429,244	53,904,016	(54,268,689)	260,998	1,807,000	131,132,569
Total funds	131,636,819	58,588,631	(58,997,901)	134,938	1,807,000	133,169,487

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

# 18. Statement of funds (continued)

# Total funds analysis by Academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Bottisham Village College	-	1,463,036
Bassingbourn Village College	-	594,035
Sawston Village College	-	1,162,594
The Netherhall School	-	219,309
Bottisham Primary School	-	(99,574)
Fen Ditton Primary School	-	(49,750)
Stapleford Community Primary	-	158,351
Anglian Learning	2,871,063	(616,293)
Howard Community Academy	-	(277,803)
Joyce Frankland Academy	-	166,454
Linton Heights Junior School	-	97,382
Linton Village College	-	595,961
Meadow Primary School	-	204,321
The Pines Primary School	-	331,973
The Icknield Primary School	-	30,639
Marleigh Primary Academy		45,335
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	2,871,063	4,025,970
Restricted fixed asset fund	129,454,784	129,200,517
Pension reserve	-	(57,000)
Total	132,325,847	133,169,487

All revenue funds for each school were transferred into the central trust during the year in line with the Trust's reserves policy.

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

# 18. Statement of funds (continued)

# Total cost analysis by Academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Bottisham Village College	6,089,773	1,352,106	279,250	2,826,714	10,547,843	9,501,635
Bassingbourn Village College	2,953,851	441,218	120,597	1,183,129	4,698,795	4,275,622
Sawston Village College	4,581,359	1,543,415	274,742	2,693,697	9,093,213	8,385,456
The Netherhall School	5,355,168	1,604,214	230,216	2,192,521	9,382,119	8,167,144
Bottisham Primary School	1,334,070	125,816	43,342	318,229	1,821,457	1,690,355
Fen Ditton Primary School	802,951	64,999	21,606	222,629	1,112,185	1,163,280
Stapleford Primary School	961,446	145,125	44,945	302,866	1,454,382	1,269,571
Anglian Learning	1,048,501	1,687,850	48,687	1,031,141	3,816,179	3,960,635
Howard Academy	892,219	123,180	25,248	296,292	1,336,939	1,313,405
Joyce Frankland Academy	4,123,078	892,032	116,915	1,729,118	6,861,143	6,303,035
Linton Heights Junior School	918,569	172,256	52,017	273,599	1,416,441	1,319,665
Linton Village College	3,448,502	868,870	121,638	1,936,379	6,375,389	6,148,952
Meadow Primary School	834,518	112,474	41,839	303,967	1,292,798	1,238,450
The Pines Primary School	1,047,508	88,099	41,439	292,946	1,469,992	1,212,595
The Icknield Primary School	892,686	76,005	74,086	315,850	1,358,627	1,181,647
Marleigh Primary Academy	642,650	105,967	37,177	280,054	1,065,848	748,683
Wimbish Primary	270,609	37,581	35,635	154,081	497,906	-
Trust	36,197,458	9,441,207	1,609,379	16,353,212	63,601,256	57,880,130

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

# 19. Analysis of net assets between funds

## Analysis of net assets between funds - current period

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	127,186,034	127,186,034
Current assets	1,918,147	5,044,984	3,114,660	10,077,791
Creditors due within one year	-	(3,937,265)	(699,621)	(4,636,886)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(154,803)	(146,289)	(301,092)
Total	1,918,147	952,916	129,454,784	132,325,847
Analysis of net assets between funds - prio	r period			
	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	124,635,205	124,635,205
Current assets	2,036,918	6,345,485	5,437,035	13,819,438
Creditors due within one year	· -	(4,105,630)	(671,849)	(4,777,479)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(250,803)	(199,874)	(450,677)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(57,000)	-	(57,000)
Total	2,036,918	1,932,052	129,200,517	133,169,487

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

# 20. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

		2024 £	2023 £
	Net expenditure for the period (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(1,042,640)	(274,332)
	Adjustments for:		
	Depreciation	4,011,702	3,791,801
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(2,219,877)	(3,967,472)
	Interest receivable	(198,760)	(63,518)
	Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited	(1,000)	-
	Defined benefit pension scheme cost	143,000	724,000
	Increase in stocks	(57,811)	-
	Increase in debtors	(783)	(164,976)
	Decrease in creditors	(873,310)	(303,575)
	Donated assets	(1,423,000)	-
	Net cash used in operating activities	(1,662,479)	(258,072)
21.	Cash flows from financing activities		
		2024 £	2023 £
	Repayments of borrowing	(65,762)	(80,499)
	Net cash used in financing activities	(65,762)	(80,499)
22.	Cash flows from investing activities		
		2024 £	2023 £
	Interest	198,760	63,518
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(4,490,637)	(2,767,381)
	Movement in value of investments	(472)	630
	Capital grants received from DfE	2,296,145	2,073,480
	Other capital grants received	1,159,603	619,651
	Net cash used in investing activities	(836,601)	(10,102)

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

#### 23. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand and at bank	8,158,761	10,723,603

#### 24. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	Changes in market value and exchange rate movements	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	10,723,603	(2,564,842)	-	8,158,761
Debt due within 1 year	(55,228)	(83,124)	-	(138,352)
Debt due after 1 year	(390,422)	142,561	-	(247,861)
Finance leases	(67,931)	6,325	-	(61,606)
Liquid investments	10,944	-	472	11,416
	10,220,966	(2,499,080)	472	7,722,358

#### **Capital commitments** 25.

	2024	2023
	£	£
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	35,964	2,891,959

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

#### 26. Pension commitments

The 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 Essex County Council, Suffolk County Council and Cambridgeshire County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

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

Contributions amounting to £695,112 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2024 (2023 - £NIL).

#### **Teachers' Pension Scheme**

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

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

#### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to ensure scheme costs are recognised and managed appropriately and the review specifies the level of future contributions.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 27 October 2023, with the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, applying a notional investment return based on 1.7% above the rate of CPI. The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy). This is an increase of 5% in employer contributions and the cost control result is such that no change in member benefits is needed;
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £220,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million; and

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £5,549,248 (2023 - £4,741,765).

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

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

# ANGLIAN LEARNING

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

#### 26. Pension commitments (continued)

#### **Local Government Pension Scheme**

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £2,577,000 (2023 - £2,289,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,967,000 (2023 - £1,758,000) and employees' contributions totalled £610,000 (2023 - £531,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are dependent on the School, they range from 16.1 to 25.0 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 9.9 per cent for employees depending on actual pensionable pay. The pension fund sets rates to maintain an average contribution rate of 6.5% for employees.

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

### Principal actuarial assumptions

Principal actuarial assumptions - Essex County Council

	2024 %	2023 %
Rate of increase in salaries	3.85	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.85	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.05	5.30

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
Males	20.7	20.7
Females	23.3	23.2
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.0	22.0
Females	24.7	24.6
Principal actuarial assumptions - Suffolk County Council		
Fillicipal actualial assumptions - Suriok County Council	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.65	3.95
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.65	2.95
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.00	5.20

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

# 26. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2024 Years	2023 Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.4	21.5
Females	22.5	22.5
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.4	21.5
Females	25.5	25.5
Principal actuarial assumptions - Cambridgeshire County Council		
Principal actuarial assumptions - Cambridgeshire County Council	2024 %	2023
Principal actuarial assumptions - Cambridgeshire County Council  Rate of increase in salaries		
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	% 3.15	% 3.50

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

	2024	2023
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	20.3	20.3
Females	24.3	24.3
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	21.8	21.9
Females	25.9	25.9

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

## 26. Pension commitments (continued)

### Sensitivity analysis

As at 31 August 2024 the Trust had defined benefit obligations of £35,229,000 (2023 - £31,406,000). The sensitivity analysis detailed below would increase/(decrease) the closing defined benefit obligation in the following way:

	2024 £	2023 £
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(847)	(632)
Discount rate -0.1%	856	633
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	1,422	1,223
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(1,411)	(1,221)
CPI rate +0.1%	847	633
CPI rate -0.1%	(838)	(632)

#### Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2024 £	At 31 August 2023
Equities	22,752,000	21,154,000
Gilts	62,000	39,000
Corporate bonds	8,582,000	6,111,000
Property	5,797,000	4,686,000
Cash and other liquid assets	756,000	392,000
Other managed funds	661,000	425,000
Alternative Assets	536,000	483,000
Total market value of assets	39,146,000	33,290,000

The scheme's assets are valued at £39,146,000 (2023 - £33,290,000), due to this resulting in assets exceeding liabilities a surplus exists. The surplus has been capped by an asset ceiling calculated by the actuary based on application of the scheme rules which state the trust only has a limited entitlement to future economic benefit resulting from this actuarial valuation. The value of this is £3,917,000 (2023 - £1,941,000) which has restricted the value of assets recognised in the accounts to £35,229,000 (2023 - £31,349,000).

The actual return on scheme assets was £3,725,000 (2023 - £(95,000)).

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

# 26. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2024 £	2023 £	
Current service cost	2,105,000	2,420,000	
Interest income	(1,687,000)	(1,345,000)	
Interest cost	1,690,000	1,405,000	
Administrative expenses	2,000	2,000	
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	2,110,000	2,482,000	
Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follow	s:		
	2024 £	2023 £	
At 1 September	31,406,000	31,918,000	
Current service cost	2,105,000	2,420,000	
Interest cost	1,690,000	1,405,000	
Employee contributions	610,000	531,000	
Actuarial gains	(36,000)	(4,400,000)	
Benefits paid	(598,000)	(468,000)	
Inherited in on conversion	52,000	-	
At 31 August	35,229,000	31,406,000	
Changes in the fair value of the Trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:			
	2024 £	2023 £	
At 1 September	31,349,000	30,778,000	
Interest income	1,687,000	1,345,000	
Actuarial gains/(losses)	163,000	(2,593,000)	
Employer contributions	1,967,000	1,758,000	
Employee contributions	610,000	531,000	
Benefits paid	(598,000)	(468,000)	
Inherited on conversion	53,000	-	
Administrative expenses	(2,000)	(2,000)	
At 31 August	35,229,000	31,349,000	

# ANGLIAN LEARNING

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

## 27. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2024 the Trust had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	117,642	121,095
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	386,279	339,835
Later than 5 years	137,586	231,297
	641,507	692,227

#### 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 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 cease to be a Member.

# 29. Related party transactions

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

The Trust made payments totalling £NIL (2023 - £634) to Staploe Education Trust of which Carin Taylor is the Chief Executive Officer. The Trust made purchases at arm's length in accordance with approval procedures set out in the Trust's financial regulations. The balance owed to them at the year-end was £NIL (2023 - £NIL).

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than the above and certain Trustees' remuneration and expenses disclosed in note 11.

#### 30. Post balance sheet events

Approval has been granted for the transfer of the assets and liabilities of Stour Valley Educational Trust including its two schools into Anglian Learning. This transfer is currently scheduled to take place on 1 March 2025.

#### 31. Agency arrangements

The Trust acts a banker school for Cambridge Area Partnership. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2024 the Trust received £Nil (2023 - £Nil) and disbursed £32,632 (2023 - £28,980) from the fund. An amount of £185,470 (2023 - £218,102) is included in creditors due within one year.

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

## 32. Academy Trust with a newly converted academy

On 1 September 2023 Wimbish Primary School converted to academy status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Anglian Learning from Essex County Council for £nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a donation. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the balance sheet under the appropriate headings with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as Donations – donation on conversion.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the SOFA.

## Wimbish Primary Academy

	Fair value transferred £	Transfer in recognised £
Tangible fixed assets		
Long-term leasehold property	1,423,000	1,423,000
Current assets		
Debtors due after one year	15,000	15,000
Cash at bank and in hand	63,572	63,572
Liabilities		
Creditors due within one year	(796)	(796)
Pensions		
Pensions - pension scheme assets	53,000	53,000
Pensions - pension scheme liabilities	(52,000)	(52,000)
Net assets	1,501,776	1,501,776