

Company Registration Number: 08872579 (England & Wales)

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

CONTENTS

	Page
Reference and administrative details	1 - 2
Governors' report	3 - 14
Governance statement	15 - 19
Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance	20
Statement of governors' responsibilities	21
Independent auditors' report on the financial statements	22 - 25
Independent reporting accountant's report on regularity	26 - 27
Statement of financial activities incorporating income and expenditure account	28
Balance sheet	29
Statement of cash flows	30
Notes to the financial statements	31 - 53

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

J Balmer
J Haswell
T Holliday
K Parlett

Governors

A D L Dadson-Butt (appointed 12 December 2023)
E E Farnden
H A Moore (appointed 17 November 2023)
I Marsala
J Jenkin
L Anker (appointed 5 September 2023)
N E Radcliffe, Chair (appointed 28 September 2023)
N Stevens
R Ayling
S L D'Arcy-Darling (appointed 17 November 2023)
S E Walker
S Tyrrell

Company registered number

08872579

Company name

Forest Bridge School Ltd

Principal and registered office

Braywick Road
Braywick Park
Berkshire
SL6 1BN

Senior management team

E Farnden, Headteacher
S Seymour, Deputy Headteacher
N McGarry, Head of HR and Finance
R Dixon, Lead Behaviour Analyst

Independent auditors

James Cowper Kreston Audit
Chartered Accountants
Reading Bridge House
George Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 8LS

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

Bankers

Barclays Bank PLC
19 High Street
Ascot
Berkshire
SL5 7JG

Solicitors

Stone King
Boundary House
91 Charterhouse Street
London
EC1M 6HR

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Governors present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of the Forest Bridge School ('the Academy' or 'the charitable company') for the period 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of Forest Bridge School are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Forest Bridge School.

The Academy, which was incorporated on 3rd of February 2014 and opened as an Academy on 3rd of September 2015, is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy.

The Governors act as the Trustees for the charitable activities of the Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

Details of the Governors who served throughout the period, except as noted, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

The trust operates a special academy in Maidenhead. The academy was built for a PAN of 96. The current PAN is 112. The academy had a roll of 112 in the school census in October 2024.

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 £10.00, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they ceased to be a member.

Governors' indemnities

The Governors benefit from indemnity insurance purchased by the Academy to cover the liability of the Governors arising from negligent acts, errors or commissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The limit of this indemnity is £10,000,000.

Principal Activities

The principal activity of the Academy is to advance for the public benefit by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing a special school offering a broad and balanced curriculum and specialising in education for pupils with a primary diagnosis of autism.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

The Academy shall have the following Governors as set out in its Articles of Association and Funding Agreement:

- up to 8 Governors who are appointed by the Members.
- up to 2 Parent Governors who are elected by the parents of registered pupils at the Academy.
- up to 1 Staff Governors appointed by the Members (provided that the total number of Governors, including the Headteacher, who are employees of the Academy, does not exceed one third of the total number of Governors).
- the Headteacher who is treated for all purposes as being an ex-officio, Governor.

Governors may Co-Opt additional governors as required from time to time.

Governors are appointed for a 4 year period, except that this time limit does not apply to the Headteacher. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Governor, any Governor can be re-appointed or re-elected.

When appointing new Governors, the Governing Body will consider the skills and experience mix of existing Governors in order to ensure the Governing Body has the necessary skills to contribute fully to the Academy's development.

Policies adopted for the induction and training of Governors

The training and induction provided for new Governors will depend upon their existing experience but would always include a tour of the Academy and a chance to meet staff and pupils. All Governors are provided with copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents they will need to undertake their role as Governors. As there are normally only two or three new Governors a year, induction is tailored specifically to the individual. Advantage is taken of specific courses offered by various other organisations as appropriate.

Training for Governors is organised each year, updating them on relevant developments that impact on their role and responsibilities. New Governors can undertake National Governor Association training and all Governors receive regular National Governor Association updates. Governors are also able to book on training provided by the local authority. The Academy uses Governor Hub to store records and provide Governors with access to documents relevant to their role.

Organisational structure

The Full Governing Body normally meets once each long term. The Governing Body establishes an overall framework for the governance of the Academy and determines membership and terms of reference of Committees of the Governing Body. It receives data reports and policies from its committees for ratification. It monitors the activities of the Committees through the minutes of their meetings. The Governing Body may establish working groups to perform specific tasks over a limited timescale.

There are three Committees of the Governing Body as follows:

- Staffing and Quality of Education
- Finance, Audit and Risk
- Pupil Behaviour and Welfare

Each Committee has its own terms of reference detailing the responsibilities discharged to it.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The following decisions are reserved to the full Governing Body:

- to consider any proposals for changes to the status or constitution of the Academy and its committee structure.
- to appoint or remove the Chair and / or Vice Chair; and
- to appoint and / or consider the performance management of the Headteacher.
- to appoint the Company Secretary.

The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual development plan and budget, approving the annual statutory accounts, monitoring the Academy using budgets and other data, and making the major decisions about the direction of the Academy, capital expenditure and staff appointments.

The Governors have devolved the day-to-day management of the Academy to the Headteacher and the Senior Leadership Team ('SLT'). The SLT comprised the Headteacher, Assistant Headteachers, Head Behaviour Analyst and the Assistant Head Behaviour Analyst in 2023-24. The SLT implement the policies laid down by the Governors and report back to them on performance.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The academy follows the Teachers Pay and Conditions document, The governing board ensures salaries are reviewed annually in line with our performance appraisal period. Details of the Trust arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel are provided in our policies entitled Teachers Pay Policy and Support Staff Policy. The Headteachers pay is approved by the Governing body.

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year 0

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	0
1%-50%	0
51%-99%	0
100%	0
Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
Total cost of facility time	0
Total pay bill	0
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	0 %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours 0 %

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

There are no related parties which either control or significantly influence the decisions and operations of the Academy. There are no sponsors or formal Parent Teacher Associations associated with the Academy.

The Academy cooperates with and benefits from the charitable activities of the Friends of Forest bridge, registered charity number 11602245 whose first objective is to advance the education of pupils at the Academy by providing or assisting in the provision of specialist education facilities not required to be provided by the EFSA and/or Local Authority.

Objectives and activities

Objects and aims

The principal objects of the Academy, as set out in its Articles of Association, are to:

- Advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing a school, offering a broad and balanced curriculum; and
- Promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and the surrounding area the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity, disablement, financial hardship, or social and economic circumstances for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants

The aims of the Academy during the period ended 31 August 2024 are summarised below:

- To continue to develop the leadership of the school including embedding distributed leadership across SLT, Middle leaders and Curriculum leaders.
- Ensuring the intent, implementation, and impact of the Forest Bridge School curriculum is understood by all; implemented consistently in a natural and functional way and the impact is positive across all cohorts.
- To ensure pupil behaviour expectations (including attendance, low level disruption and anti-bullying) are high and consistently addressed across the large staff team.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The key priorities for the period are contained in the Academy's Development Plan which is available from the Headteacher.

The main activities of the Academy for the period ended 31 August 2024 were as follows:

Leadership

- To Improve communication within, to and from SLT, Cohort and Curriculum leaders to the rest of the school.
- For cohort leaders to consistently take on the responsibility for their allocated teams and the quality of provision.
- Senior Tutor and Tutors: Review job descriptions, corresponding interview process and induction, create support grids (for consistent use by mentors using optimal learning model) and responsible documents all roles in the school. Governors and school Leaders to prepare for growth: focussed on post-16.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

Quality of Education

- Ensure ECT and Trainee teachers are supported to rapidly acquire the knowledge and skills to deliver at least good quality provision disciplines that provide provision
- Ensure the quality of training, coaching and mentorship is consistently high across the school.

Behaviour and Attitudes

- Improve pupil attendance.
- Develop with staff and pupil (as appropriate) principles around low level behaviour/disruptions per cohort to improve consistency across the staff team.
- Further develop the work of the Designated Mental Health Lead and the MHAT..

Public benefit

The Governors confirm that they have complied with the requirement in the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Academy's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

The Academy aims to advance for the public benefit education in the Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and the surrounding area, offering a broad curriculum.

The Academy also allows use of its facilities for recreational and other leisure time occupation for the community at large in the interests of social welfare and with the interest of improving the life of that community.

Strategic report

The Academy has continued to work on the priorities set out in Autumn 2022 approved by the Governing Body. Notable achievements this year were:

1. Leadership and Management:

Quality of Leadership has improved across the school as seen from monitoring. Class leads are working much more cohesively.

- Middle leaders are fully independent with the operational running of the school. The SLT continues to work with them on strategic decisions, which has seen progress.
- Senior Tutor review and roll out is almost complete.
- The sixth form is being funded by RBWM and has a planned opening of September 2026.

2. Quality of Education:

- All received at least a 'good' in their joint observations. One support plan remains in place. All three trainees who are eligible to start their formal training in September will do so. One trainee achieved QTS this year, and another is due to complete in Autumn.
- All mentors have completed the NASS leadership training

3. Behaviour and Attitudes:

- Attendance continues to show overall improvement over previous years. In 22-23 attendance including offsite educational activity was 92.1 versus 93.73 in 23-24.
- The training on behaviour expectations was positive, and staff across cohorts are raising expectations.

Environmental factors have continued to be further enhanced by fine tuning the Building Management system and ensuring a recycling scheme is in place.

The school faces a number of principal risks as set out in the 'Principal Risks and Uncertainties' section.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

The school uses various financial instruments including cash and items such as trade debtors and trade creditors that arise directly from its operations.

The existence of these financial instruments exposes the school to a number of financial risks which are described in more detail below.

The main risks arising from the financial statements are cash flow, interest rate risk and credit risk. The school seeks to manage financial risk by ensuring sufficient liquidity is available to meet foreseeable needs. The school seeks to manage its cash reserves to ensure liabilities are settled as they fall due.

Achievements and Performance

The total number of pupils in the period ended 31 August 2024 was 115, but this has increased to 122 at the October 2024 census date, due to the continued demand for places at the Academy and being directed by local authorities and tribunals.

The Academy is committed to continual improvement, which is achieved in a number of ways, including improvement planning, review meetings, continual professional development, lesson observations, performance management, self-evaluation, data analysis and action planning.

The Ofsted inspection conducted on 23 and 24 January 2024 confirmed that Forest Bridge School continues to be a good school.

Key highlights from the report include:

- Pupils are happy and proud ambassadors of their inclusive school. They appreciate how staff listen to them and respond to their needs quickly
- The curriculum is expertly designed to meet pupils' needs, with step-by-step knowledge and skills crafted around pupils' individual starting points and their education, health, and care (EHC) plan targets
- Reading is a top priority, and pupils enjoy listening to their teachers read and discussing characters and themes. The school strongly promotes pupils' attendance, which is currently above the national average
- Pupils' personal development is at the heart of the school's work, with opportunities to learn about healthy living, online safety, and future career pathways
- Surveys completed by all stakeholders and the results are influencing priorities for 24-25

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

(continued)

Key performance indicators

Although the Academy's Funding Agreement is not subject to a specific carry forward limit on the amount of GAG funding, the main financial performance indicator is the level of reserves held at the balance sheet date and, in particular, the amount of GAG and Top Up funding carried forward at the balance sheet date. At 31 August 2024, the balance of the GAG and Top Up funding was £462,441, which is after a transfer of £nil to the Restricted Fixed Asset Fund to fund capital expenditure during the period.

As the majority of the Academy's funding is based on pupil numbers, pupil numbers is also a key performance indicator. As noted above, pupil numbers at the most recent census were 112 which is an increase of over 8 percent from the previous census. As the school remains heavily oversubscribed, we are confident in our ability to generate the revenues required for our continued success.

As a result, the ratio of total funding per pupil was £54,279 for the period. The majority of funding is spent on staffing with support staff making up a high proportion of adult to pupil's ratio based on our pupil needs.

	2023/24	2022/23
Number of Pupils	112	109
Total Educational Funding	6,033,154	5,250,023
Other Funding	46,117	2,048
Total Income (All Source)	6,079,271	5,252,048
Total Expenditure Funding Per Pupil	53,867	47,394
Total Expenditure (excluding Pensions gain/(losses))	5,792,413	5,393,432
Staff Costs	4,944,158	4,609,338
Staff Costs % of total income	81.3%	85.5%
Annual Operating Surplus (Excluding Pension gain/losses)	176,858	132,624
Cumulative Operating Surplus	654,656	357,656
Cumulative Surplus % of Total income	10.8%	6.8%
Target	5.00%	5.00%
Unspent Capital Reserves (in addition to surplus above)	68,386	88,665

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

(continued)

Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Governors, including all Committees, has a reasonable expectation that the Academy 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 Accounting Policies note of the financial statements.

Financial review

The majority of the Academy's income is received from the DfE via the ESFA in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the period ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure of these grants are shown as Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Academy also receives grants for fixed assets from the DfE and other organisations and funders and these are shown as Restricted Fixed Asset Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities. The balance of the Restricted Fixed Asset fund is reduced by the depreciation charges on the assets acquired using these funds.

During the period ended 31 August 2024, the total expenditure of £5,772,675 (excluding pension and depreciation) was covered by the recurrent grant funding from the DfE, together with other incoming resources. The excess of incoming resources over expenditure for the period was £286,858.

The fixed assets held by the Academy are used exclusively for providing education and associated support services to the pupils of the Academy.

The balance of total funds held at 31 August 2024 were £10,158,274 which comprised of the following:

Restricted Funds (excluding Pension Liability)	£462,441
Restricted Pension Liability Fund	£nil
Restricted Fixed Asset Fund	£9,503,413
Unrestricted Funds	£192,419

The key financial policies reviewed and adopted during the period included the Financial Procedures Policies and Manual, which lays out the framework for the Academy's financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Governing Body, Headteacher, managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as the delegated authorities for spending. The other financial policies reviewed and adopted during the period included Charges and Lettings, Asset Management, and Insurance.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Reserves policy

The Governors review the reserve levels of the Academy annually. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The Governors also take into consideration the future plans of the Academy, the uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks identified during the risk review.

The Governors have determined that the appropriate level of free cash reserves should be approximately 5% of the cumulative surplus. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipts of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

The Academy's current level of reserves (defined as restricted general funds, excluding pension reserve, plus the balance on unrestricted funds) is £654,860, of which £192,419 is free reserves (that is, total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds).

The current level of reserves is above with our target level of reserves as stated in the Trust's reserve policy. The Trust is looking into ways to use reserves to increase its ability meet more pupils needs.

Investment policy

All funds surplus to immediate requirements are invested to optimal effect by the Academy with the objective of ensuring maximum return on assets invested but with minimal risk.

On a regular basis this is achieved by automatic transfer of surplus funds to a savings account with the Academy's principal bankers.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The principal risks and uncertainties facing the Academy are as follows:

Pupil Numbers

The school continues to face rising demand for places, leading to an increase from 115 pupils in August 2024 to 122 as of October 2024, against a PAN of 96. The leadership team are very careful to manage the implications of this increase, including the impact on staffing numbers, quality of teaching and availability of therapies and support services. However, longer-term solutions will need to be considered if numbers continue to rise

Financial

The Academy has considerable reliance on continued Government funding through the ESFA. In the period, approximately 22.1% of the Academy's incoming resources (excluding amounts transferred on conversion from the Local Authority) was ultimately Government funded and whilst this level is expected to continue, there is no assurance that Government policy or practice will remain the same or that public funding will continue at the same levels or on the same terms.

Failures in governance and / or management

The risk in this area arises from the potential failure to effectively manage the Academy's finances, internal controls, compliance with regulations and legislation, statutory returns etc. The Governors continue to review and ensure appropriate measures are in place to mitigate these risks.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Reputational

The continuing success of the Academy is dependent on continuing to attract applicants in sufficient numbers by maintaining the highest educational standards. To mitigate this risk, the Governors ensure that pupil success and achievement are closely monitored and reviewed.

Safeguarding and child protection

The Governors 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 & safety, and discipline.

Staffing

The success of the Academy is reliant on the quality of its staff, so the Governors monitor and review policies and procedures to ensure continued development and training of staff as well as ensuring there is clear succession planning.

Fraud and mismanagement of funds

The Academy has engaged its external auditors to perform a program of work aimed at checking and reviewing the financial systems and records as required by the Academies Financial Handbook. All finance staff receive training to keep them up to date with financial practice requirements and to develop their skills in this area.

Estate

The school site has not yet been signed off as complete from the builders, we are continuing to work with Keir and the Department of Education to ensure that the site complies with all relevant regulation such as fire safety, and health and safety, this includes independent reports and inspections being commission for fire safety, together with working with Keir on drainage challenges. Regular updates are provided to the trustees and visits to site have been undertaken by the trustee who is designated for health and safety.

The Academy has continued to strengthen its risk management process throughout the period by improving the process and ensuring staff awareness. A Risk Register is maintained and reviewed and updated on a regular basis.

Risk Management

The Governors have implemented a system to assess risks that the Academy faces, especially in the operational areas (such as in relation to teaching, health & safety and school trips) and in relation to the control of finances. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures and internal financial controls to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk remains, they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover.

The Academy has an effective system of internal financial controls, and this is explained in more detail in the Statement of Internal Control.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies

The Academy has agreed a Risk Management Strategy, a Risk Register, and a Risk Management Plan. These have been discussed by Governors and include the financial risks to the Academy. The Risk Register and Risk Management Plan are constantly reviewed considering any new information and are formally reviewed annually.

The Governors have assessed the major risks to which the Academy is exposed, in particular, those relating to its finances, teaching, facilities and other operational areas. The Governors have implemented a number of systems to assess and minimise those risks, including internal controls. Where significant financial risk remains, the Governors have ensured the Academy has adequate insurance cover.

Whilst the Academy is currently oversubscribed, risks to revenue funding from a falling roll are small. However, the current freeze on the Governments overall education budget, changes in funding arrangements for special educational needs and the increasing employment and premises costs mean that budgets will be increasingly tight in coming years.

The Governors examine the financial health of the Academy formally every term, reviewing performance against budgets and overall expenditure by means of regular update reports at all full Governors and Finance Committee meetings.

At the balance sheet date, the Academy had no significant liabilities arising from trade creditors or debtors where there would be a significant effect on the Academy's liquidity.

The Governors recognise that the Local Government Pension Scheme deficit represents a significant potential liability to the Academy. However, as the Governors consider the Academy can meet its known annual contribution commitments for the foreseeable future, the risk from this liability is minimised.

Fundraising

The Academy did not carry out any direct fundraising activities in the year ending 31st August 2024.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Plans for future periods

The Academy strives to continually improve levels of attainment for all pupils, equipping them with the qualifications, skills, and character to follow their chosen pathway, whether it be into further and higher education, employment, or living as independently as possible. To achieve this the Academy strives to promote the continued professional development of its staff.

The Academy's plans for future periods include:

Quality of Education

1. Improving Coaching Quality and Consistency

- Activities include reviewing and planning fidelity forms and feedback forms, embedding softer skills into the measurement of coaching quality, training teachers and supervisors on effective coaching practices, and incorporating coaching observations into the support cycle

2. Enhancing Social Skills Implementation:

- Activities involve training supervisors on lesson delivery, planning, differentiation, and resourcing, as well as monitoring social skills sessions both externally and internally

Leadership and Management

1. Engaging in Growth Activities:

- Plans include delivering a sixth form provision (timeline to be confirmed), developing a workforce strategy for growth, conducting a feasibility study on expanding the current building with three additional classrooms, and creating a broad Satellite proposal. The Academy will also begin meetings with commissioning local authorities within a 5-mile radius.

2. Strengthening Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion (EDI) and Risk Management:

- Activities include training for governors and leaders on EDI, embedding EDI in the workforce strategy for growth, developing a strategy statement/vision, and adding risk management discussions to each committee meeting. A wider risk register will be developed to address various risks, including ABA, pupil numbers, changes in government policy, curriculum freedoms, recruitment, ICT, and health and safety

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

The Academy and its Governors do not act as Custodian Trustees of any other charity.

Disclosure of information to auditors

In so far as the Governors are aware:

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

The Governors' report was approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company directors, and signed on its behalf by:



Naomi Radcliffe 19 Dec 2024 17:58:54 GMT (UTC +0)

.....
N Radcliffe

Chair of Governors

Date:

19 December 2024

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Governors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Forest Bridge School has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss. As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance.

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

The Board of Governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 Forest Bridge School and the Secretary of State for Education. The Headteacher is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Governors, including all Committees, any material weaknesses, or breakdowns in internal control.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' report and in the Statement of governors' responsibilities. The Board of Governors has formally met 4 times during period ended 31 August 2024.

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

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
N Radcliffe, Chair of Governors	3	4
R Ayling	4	4
L Halliday	4	4
E Farnden	4	4
R Jenkins	2	4
C Moreno	2	3
N Stevens	2	4
S Tyrell	4	4
Helene Moore	2	3
S Walker	4	4
I Marsala	3	4
F Qadir	1	1
S D'Arcy Darling	3	3
A Dadson-Butt	2	3

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-Committee of the Governing Body. Its purpose is to provide guidance and assistance to the Governing Body on all matters related to finance, audit, and risk management of the Academy. This includes preparing and approving annual budgets, monitoring financial performance against that budget, reviewing delegated authorities, ensuring all transactions are conducted in accordance with good practice as directed by the ESFA, to ensure best value is achieved in all financial transactions and to receive and (where relevant) respond to period audit reports on the Academy and of public funds.

Attendance at meetings of the Resources Committee during the period was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
R Ayling	4	4
S Tyrel (Chair)	4	4
N Radcliffe	4	4
A Dadson-Butt	1	1
J Jenkin	3	3
L Halliday	2	2
S D'Arcy Darling	3	3
E Farnden	4	4

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Conflict of interest

The governing body maintains an up-to-date register of interests. Governors declare any register of interest annually and are required to update these as interest change. In addition, governors are required to register any conflict of interest in all meeting agendas to ensure there is no conflict with the day to day management or governance of the Academy.

Governance reviews

During the year the Academy trust carried out an internal review of its governance arrangements and procedures, as a result no significant changes were felt necessary, so the Governance Structure and committee terms of reference were updated and approved. A skills audit was conducted and concluded that the governing body contained an appropriate mix of skills. An external review of governance will be planned in the next academic year.

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the trust use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where available. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Ensuring quality entry-level staff are hired by using a countdown process with agencies which allows the school and the potential staff member to ensure a good fit.
- Reviewing and improving the performance of key suppliers (including ICT and cleaning).
- Ensuring better value for money on the provision of payroll services.
- Managing estates maintenance and safety in unison with the Department of Education and Kier, the site building company, ensuring that maintenance contracts are secured in line with warranties or following the duty of best value set out under government guidance

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 ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy's 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 Forest Bridge School for the period ended 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Governors has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Governors is of the view that there is a formal on-going process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the Academy's significant risks that has been in place for the period from incorporation 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 Governors.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

The Academy's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability.

It includes:

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Governors.
- regular reviews by the Chair of Governors and the finance committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes.
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties
- Identification and management risk.

The Board of Governors has decided to employ Bishop Fleming as internal assurance provider to oversee and monitor the school's internal controls. To support this, an internal scrutiny programme has been established to provide the Board with independent assurance that its systems, controls, and risk management procedures are functioning effectively. Bishop Fleming provides an annual summary report to the Finance, Audit and Resources committee, detailing the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations, and conclusions, enabling the committee to consider actions and assess progress year-on-year.

The Board of Governors has appointed Bishop Fleming as their internal assurance provider to oversee and monitor the school's internal controls. To support this, an internal scrutiny programme has been established to provide the Board with independent assurance that its systems, controls, and risk management procedures are functioning effectively. Bishop Fleming provides an annual summary report to the Finance, Audit and Resources committee, detailing the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations, and conclusions, enabling the committee to consider actions and assess progress year-on-year. The recent review found no material control issues. Bishop Fleming conducted various checks on the Academy's financial and other systems, including the following in the current period:

- Month end procedures
- Income
- Fixed Assets
- Expenditure
- Budgets and monitoring
- Compliance
- Payroll
- Bank

This independent scrutiny enables the Board of Governors to ensure compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook, contributes to the development of an effective governance and accountability framework, and helps the school's leadership ensure that its priorities are delivered effectively.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for reviewing the effectiveness of the system of internal control. During the period ended 31 August 2024 the review has been informed by:

- the work of the Bishops Fleming. ;
- the work of the external auditors;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

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

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 academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

19 December 2024

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Governors on 19 December 2024 and signed on their behalf by:



Naomi Radcliffe 19 Dec 2024 17:58:54 GMT (UTC +0)



Elizabeth Farnden 19 Dec 2024 18:01:38 GMT (UTC +0)

.....
N Radcliffe
Chair of Governors

.....
E Farnden
Accounting Officer

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Forest Bridge School Ltd, I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the academy trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the academy trust board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy trust's funding agreement and the 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 Governors and ESFA.



Elizabeth Farnden 19 Dec 2024 18:01:38 GMT (UTC +0)

.....
E Farnden

Accounting Officer

Date: 19 December 2024

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

The Governors (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' 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 Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Governors 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 Governors 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;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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



Naomi Radcliffe 19 Dec 2024 17:58:54 GMT (UTC +0)

.....

N Radcliffe
Chair of Governors
Date:

19 December 2024

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Forest Bridge School Ltd (the 'academy') 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 academy'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 academy 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 Governors' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the academy'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 Governors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD (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 Governors 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 Governors' Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Governors' Report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Governors' 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 Governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of governors' responsibilities, the Governors (who are also the directors of the academy 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 Governors 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 Governors are responsible for assessing the academy'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 Governors either intend to liquidate the academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD (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.

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.

The specific procedures for this engagement that we designed and performed to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud, were as follows:

- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims;
- Enquiry of management and those charged with governance to identify any material instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations;
- Performing audit work to address the risk of irregularities due to management override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for evidence of bias.

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

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD (CONTINUED)**

Use of our report

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



Darren O'Connor BSc (Hons) FCCA ACA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

James Cowper Kreston Audit

Chartered Accountants

Reading Bridge House

George Street

Reading

Berkshire

RG1 8LS

Date: 20 December 2024

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD AND THE EDUCATION AND SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 October 2024 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 Forest Bridge School Ltd 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 Forest Bridge School Ltd and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Forest Bridge School Ltd 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 Forest Bridge School Ltd and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Forest Bridge School Ltd's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Forest Bridge School Ltd's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 12 March 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.

Approach

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

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

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

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

Our work on regularity included a review of the internal controls policies and procedures that have been implemented and an assessment of their design and effectiveness to understand how the academy complied with the framework of authorities. We also reviewed the reports commissioned by the governors to assess the internal controls throughout the year.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FOREST
BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

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.

James Cowper Kreston Audit

James Cowper Kreston Audit

Chartered Accountants
Reading Bridge House
George Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 8LS

Date: 20 December 2024

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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 grants	4	20,369	-	9,392	29,761	60,670
Other trading activities	6	3,721	-	-	3,721	22,215
Investments	7	12,635	-	-	12,635	1,860
Charitable activities	5	10,201	6,022,953	-	6,033,154	5,223,358
Total income		46,926	6,022,953	9,392	6,079,271	5,308,103
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities	8	-	5,547,675	244,738	5,792,413	5,393,432
Total expenditure		-	5,547,675	244,738	5,792,413	5,393,432
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		46,926	475,278	(235,346)	286,858	(85,329)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	(110,000)	-	(110,000)	(62,000)
Net movement in funds		46,926	365,278	(235,346)	176,858	(147,329)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		145,493	97,163	9,738,760	9,981,416	10,128,745
Net movement in funds		46,926	365,278	(235,346)	176,858	(147,329)
Total funds carried forward		192,419	462,441	9,503,414	10,158,274	9,981,416

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

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08872579

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	9,470,474	9,650,095
Current assets			
Debtors	15	1,145,224	738,826
Cash at bank and in hand		1,665,171	1,410,169
		<u>2,810,395</u>	<u>2,148,995</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(2,122,595)	(1,702,674)
Net current assets		687,800	446,321
Total assets less current liabilities		10,158,274	10,096,416
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	23	-	(115,000)
Total net assets		10,158,274	9,981,416
Funds of the academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	17	9,503,414	9,738,760
Restricted income funds	17	462,441	212,163
Restricted funds	17	<u>9,965,855</u>	<u>9,950,923</u>
Pension reserve	17	-	(115,000)
Total restricted funds	17	9,965,855	9,835,923
Unrestricted income funds	17	192,419	145,493
Total funds		10,158,274	9,981,416

The financial statements on pages 28 to 53 were approved and authorised for issue by the Governors and are signed on their behalf, by:

Date:

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	19	310,727	252,722
Cash flows from investing activities			
	20	(55,725)	40,555
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year			
		255,002	293,277
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,410,169	1,116,892
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21, 22	1,665,171	1,410,169

The notes on pages 31 to 53 form part of these financial statements

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. General information

Forest Bridge School is a private company limited by guarantee, and incorporated in the United Kingdom. The address of the company's registered office and principle place of business is Braywick Road, Braywick Park, Berkshire, SL6 1BN.

2. 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.

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the academy, 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.

Forest Bridge School Ltd meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

2.2 Going concern

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

2.3 Fund accounting

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

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.

2.4 Taxation

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

Accordingly, the academy 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.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.5 Income

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

• **Grants**

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

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

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

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the period in which it is receivable and to the extent the goods have been provided or on completion of the service.

• **Donations**

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

2.6 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.

• **Charitable activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.7 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 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:

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- 50 years straight line
Short-term leasehold property	- 3 years straight line
Furniture and fixtures	- 10% straight line
Computer equipment	- 25% 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.

2.8 Debtors

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

2.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

2.10 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the academy 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.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.11 Operating leases

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

2.12 Financial instruments

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

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

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

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

2.13 Pensions

The academy operates a defined contribution pension scheme and the pension charge represents the amounts payable by the academy to the fund in respect of the year.

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

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

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy 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.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

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

Depreciation

Tangible fixed assets are depreciated over their useful lives taking into account residual values where appropriate. The actual lives of the assets and residual values are assessed annually and may vary depending on a number of factors. Residual value assessments consider issues such as the remaining life of the asset and projected disposal values.

4. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Donations	20,369	-	20,369	2,590
Capital grants	-	9,392	9,392	58,080
	<u>20,369</u>	<u>9,392</u>	<u>29,761</u>	<u>60,670</u>
Total 2023	<u>2,590</u>	<u>58,080</u>	<u>60,670</u>	

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

5. Funding for the academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	1,120,000	1,120,000	960,000
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
Pupil Premium	-	56,796	56,796	12,087
UFSM	-	6,009	6,009	4,579
Other DfE Group grants	-	160,179	160,179	88,120
	-	-	1,342,984	1,064,786
Other Government grants				
Local Authority	-	4,675,724	4,675,724	4,147,015
	-	4,675,724	4,675,724	4,147,015
Other income from the academy's educational operations	10,201	4,245	14,446	11,557
	10,201	6,022,953	6,033,154	5,223,358
	10,201	6,022,953	6,033,154	5,223,358
Total 2023	8,309	5,215,049	5,223,358	

6. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Letting income	3,721	-	3,721	22,215
Total 2023	3,775	18,440	22,215	

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

7. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Investment income	12,635	12,635	1,860
Total 2023	1,860	1,860	

8. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £	Total 2023 £
Academy's educational operations:					
Direct costs	1,443,391	-	416,217	1,859,608	1,515,947
Support costs	3,500,767	200,172	231,866	3,932,805	3,877,485
	<u>4,944,158</u>	<u>200,172</u>	<u>648,083</u>	<u>5,792,413</u>	<u>5,393,432</u>
Total 2023	<u>4,609,338</u>	<u>163,243</u>	<u>620,851</u>	<u>5,393,432</u>	

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Direct costs 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Charitable activities	1,859,608	3,932,805	5,792,413	5,393,432
Total 2023	1,515,947	3,877,485	5,393,432	

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
Staff costs	3,281,767	3,200,726
Depreciation	244,738	247,971
Technology costs	25,924	18,810
Premises costs	156,925	106,956
Premises maintenance	43,350	56,287
Governance costs	19,264	21,136
Transport costs	12,382	39,649
Recruitment and support	14,220	5,195
Bank charges	871	827
Catering costs	22,154	18,647
Bad debt expense	-	13,310
Other support costs	111,210	147,971
	3,932,805	3,877,485

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

10. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	244,738	247,971
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	11,200	10,500
- other services	2,060	2,575
	266,000	261,046

11. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2024	2023
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,020,964	2,863,256
Social security costs	289,387	259,800
Pension costs	397,494	574,696
	3,707,845	3,697,752
Agency staff costs	1,236,313	911,586
	4,944,158	4,609,338

b. Staff numbers

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

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
Teachers	14	16
Educational support	72	76
Administration and support	14	8
Management	5	7
	105	107

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

11. Staff (continued)

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2024	2023
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	1	-
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	1	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	-	1
In the band £110,001- £,120,000	1	1

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy comprise the Governors and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy was £449,878 (2023: £439,362).

12. Governors' remuneration

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

		2024	2023
		£	£
E Farnden	Remuneration	110,000 - 115,000	100,000 - 105,000
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5,000	0 - 5,000
C Moreno	Remuneration	55,000 - 60,000	45,000 - 50,000
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5,000	5,000 - 10,000

During the year ended 31 August 2024, no Governor expenses have been incurred (2023 - £NIL).

13. Governors' and Officers' insurance

The academy 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 Governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Governors and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Furniture and fixtures £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation				
At 1 September 2023	9,918,867	186,786	166,209	10,271,862
Additions	-	4,740	60,377	65,117
At 31 August 2024	<u>9,918,867</u>	<u>191,526</u>	<u>226,586</u>	<u>10,336,979</u>
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2023	465,053	59,780	96,934	621,767
Charge for the year	186,021	18,839	39,878	244,738
At 31 August 2024	<u>651,074</u>	<u>78,619</u>	<u>136,812</u>	<u>866,505</u>
Net book value				
At 31 August 2024	<u>9,267,793</u>	<u>112,907</u>	<u>89,774</u>	<u>9,470,474</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>9,453,814</u>	<u>127,006</u>	<u>69,275</u>	<u>9,650,095</u>

15. Debtors

	2024 £	2023 £
Due after more than one year		
Prepayments and accrued income	5,032	3,333
	<u>5,032</u>	<u>3,333</u>
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	611,389	633,690
VAT recoverable	48,489	7,679
Other debtors	272,873	79,166
Prepayments and accrued income	207,441	14,958
	<u>1,145,224</u>	<u>738,826</u>

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	55,308	12,526
Other taxation and social security	272,771	138,578
Other creditors	687	4,326
Accruals and deferred income	1,793,829	1,547,244
	<u>2,122,595</u>	<u>1,702,674</u>
	2024 £	2023 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	1,466,671	1,366,466
Resources deferred during the year	1,687,699	1,436,671
Amounts released from previous periods	(1,466,671)	(1,336,466)
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>1,687,699</u>	<u>1,466,671</u>

Deferred income represents grants from Local Authorities relating to the 2024/25 academic year.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

17. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	145,493	46,926	-	-	192,419
Restricted general funds					
GAG	212,163	1,120,000	(869,722)	-	462,441
Other DFE/ ESFA grants	-	222,984	(222,984)	-	-
Local authority	-	4,675,724	(4,675,724)	-	-
Other	-	4,245	(4,245)	-	-
Pension reserve	(115,000)	-	225,000	(110,000)	-
	<u>97,163</u>	<u>6,022,953</u>	<u>(5,547,675)</u>	<u>(110,000)</u>	<u>462,441</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DFE capital grants	(97,036)	9,392	(244,738)	-	(332,382)
Donated FA - LA	9,835,796	-	-	-	9,835,796
	<u>9,738,760</u>	<u>9,392</u>	<u>(244,738)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>9,503,414</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>9,835,923</u>	<u>6,032,345</u>	<u>(5,792,413)</u>	<u>(110,000)</u>	<u>9,965,855</u>
Total funds					
	<u>9,981,416</u>	<u>6,079,271</u>	<u>(5,792,413)</u>	<u>(110,000)</u>	<u>10,158,274</u>

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

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

Local authority income represents amounts received as top-up funding for pupils.

The Local Government Pension Scheme deficit fund has been created to separately identify the pension deficit and through which all the pension scheme movements are recognised. The pension liability has not crystallised and the trustees do not need to designate any of their existing funds to meet future pension commitments. Parliament, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, has guaranteed 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.

Capital grants represent amounts received from the ESFA for the use of purchasing fixtures and fitting for the academy.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

17. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	As restated Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	As restated Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Unrestricted funds						
General funds	142,269	16,534	(13,310)	-	-	145,493
	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	As restated Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	As restated Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds						
GAG	82,763	960,000	(832,625)	2,025	-	212,163
Other DFE/ ESFA grants	-	108,034	(108,034)	-	-	-
Local authority	-	4,165,455	(4,165,455)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(29,000)	-	(24,000)	-	(62,000)	(115,000)
	53,763	5,233,489	(5,130,114)	2,025	(62,000)	97,163
	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	As restated Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	As restated Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DFE capital grants	96,917	58,080	(250,008)	(2,025)	-	(97,036)

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

17. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	As restated Income £	As restated Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	As restated Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Donated FA - LA	9,835,796	-	-	-	-	9,835,796
	9,932,713	58,080	(250,008)	(2,025)	-	9,738,760
Total Restricted funds	9,986,476	5,291,569	(5,380,122)	-	(62,000)	9,835,923
Total funds	10,128,745	5,308,103	(5,393,432)	-	(62,000)	9,981,416

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

18. 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	8,718	-	9,461,756	9,470,474
Debtors due after more than one year	-	-	5,032	5,032
Current assets	376,254	2,392,483	36,626	2,805,363
Creditors due within one year	(192,553)	(1,930,042)	-	(2,122,595)
Total	<u>192,419</u>	<u>462,441</u>	<u>9,503,414</u>	<u>10,158,274</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior period

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	As restated Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	9,650,095	9,650,095
Debtors due after more than one year	-	-	3,333	3,333
Current assets	145,493	1,914,837	85,332	2,145,662
Creditors due within one year	-	(1,702,674)	-	(1,702,674)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(115,000)	-	(115,000)
Total	<u>145,493</u>	<u>97,163</u>	<u>9,738,760</u>	<u>9,981,416</u>

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

19. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the period (as per Statement of financial activities)	286,858	(85,329)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	244,738	247,972
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(9,392)	(75,904)
Net defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(219,000)	29,000
Net defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(6,000)	(5,000)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(406,398)	1,674
Increase in creditors	419,921	138,273
Loss on disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	2,036
Net cash provided by operating activities	310,727	252,722

20. Cash flows from investing activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(65,117)	(35,349)
Capital grants from DfE Group	9,392	75,904
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(55,725)	40,555

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand and at bank	1,665,171	1,410,169
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,665,171	1,410,169

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,410,169	255,002	1,665,171
	<u>1,410,169</u>	<u>255,002</u>	<u>1,665,171</u>

23. Pension commitments

The academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by The Royal County of Berkshire Pension Fund. 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.

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

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.

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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 23.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £218,100 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £196,100 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £22,000 million

The latest actuarial TPS valuation results, as at 31 March 2020, were released in October 2023. The revised employer contribution rate, arising from this valuation, is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £122,438 (2023 - £119,739).

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

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

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 £607,000 (2023 - £486,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £480,000 (2023 - £374,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 127,000 (2023 - £112,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.6 per cent for employers and 5.5 to 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.8	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.8	2.90
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.15	5.25

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	20.7	20.7
Females	23.6	23.6
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.0	22.0
Females	25.0	25.0

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31	At 31 August
	August 2024	2023
	£	£
Equities	1,752,000	1,239,000
Corporate bonds	360,000	233,000
Property	207,000	183,000
Cash and other liquid assets	56,000	14,000
Other	175,000	156,000
Total market value of assets	2,550,000	1,825,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £142,000 (2023 - £436,000).

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Current service cost	(259,000)	(403,000)
Interest income	31,000	(91,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(228,000)	(494,000)

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 September	1,940,190	1,854,190
Current service cost	259,000	403,000
Interest cost	105,000	79,000
Employee contributions	127,000	112,000
Actuarial gains	(16,000)	(460,000)
Benefits paid	(22,000)	(48,000)
At 31 August	2,393,190	1,940,190

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

	2024 £	2023 £
At 1 September	1,825,000	1,825,000
Interest income	111,190	86,000
Actuarial losses including asset ceiling adjustment	(126,000)	(522,000)
Employer contributions	480,000	374,000
Employee contributions	127,000	112,000
Benefits paid	(22,000)	(48,000)
Administration expenses	(2,000)	(2,000)
At 31 August	2,393,190	1,825,000

24. Operating lease commitments

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

	2024 £	2023 £
Not later than 1 year	11,932	12,420
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	13,874	16,815
	25,806	29,235

FOREST BRIDGE SCHOOL LTD
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

25. Members' liability

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

26. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the governors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the requirements of the academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

No related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain governors' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 12.

27. Controlling party

The ultimate controlling party is that of its governors as detailed on page 1 of the financial statements.

28. Contingent liabilities

There are no contingent liabilities that require disclosure in the financial statements.