

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year Ended 31 August 2024

Company Registration Number: 07394649 (England and Wales)

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

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Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Reference and administrative details

Members

- A Basi (resigned 18 September 2023)
- K Crosse
- S Kendall (resigned 31 August 2024)
- T Ovenden-Hope
- D Parker
- Askel Veur The Diocese of Truro Academies Umbrella Company Ltd

Trustees

- M Abdallah
- D Ashton (appointed 1 September 2024)
- S Blandford
- R Crawford (appointed 29 September 2023)
- C Crowle (CEO)
- D Glynn (resigned 31 December 2023)
- M Lees (appointed 14 May 2024)
- P Mason (Vice Chair of Board of Trustees)
- D Parker (Chair of Board of Trustees)
- D Rushton (appointed as Vice Chair of Board of Trustees)
- M Smith
- S Sutherland (appointed 29 September 2023)
- J Sutton (resigned 29 September 2023)
- H Sykes
- M Teague

Trust leadership Team

- C Crowle (Chief Executive Officer)
- D Houghton (Chief Operating Officer)
- M Middlemore (Deputy Chief Executive Officer)

Chief Financial Officer

- A Andrews (from 9th March 2024)
- E Coombe (until 8th March 2024)

Accounting Officer

- C Crowle

Company Secretary

- C Collins

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Reference and administrative details (continued)

Company Name	Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)
Registered Office	The Old Cricket Pavilion Treninnick Hill Newquay TR7 2JU
Company Registration Number	07394649
Independent Auditors	PKF Francis Clark Statutory Auditor Melville Building East Unit 18, 23 Royal William Yard Plymouth PL1 3GW
Bankers	Lloyds Bank 234 High Street Exeter EX4 3NL
Solicitors	Wolferstans 60/66 North Hill Plymouth Devon PL4 8EP

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

The trustees of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust ("Kernow Learning") present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year/period 1st September 2023 to 31 August 2024. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report and strategic report under company law.

During the year 2023/24, our academy trust operated 21 primary schools for pupils aged 3 to 11 across Cornwall. Our schools have a combined pupil capacity of 6059 which includes 15 places in our trust's Area Resource Base (ARB) and 191 FTE nursery places. Our trust's roll was 5132 at the time of the school census on 3rd October 2023. As a new school, Sky Primary and Eden Project Nursery will grow by opening a new class each year through to 2028/29. This means that, in 2023/24, our Trust held 150 places in its overall capacity for future growth of this school, which will open to pupils in annual increments of 30 until the school is fully operational. Additionally, as a result of a reducing primary aged pupil population in our region, alongside two additional Free schools in Newquay, a number of our schools hold surplus spaces. This is most acutely felt in our schools within the Newquay area where two new Free Schools were opened ahead of need, creating a significant surplus of school spaces within the town.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

Our 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 our academy trust. The trustees of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company operates as Kernow Learning.

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

Members' Liability

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

Trustees' Indemnities

Our academy trust, through its articles, has indemnified our trustees to the fullest extent permissible by law. During the period our academy trust also purchased and maintained liability insurance for its trustees to cover the liability, which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default, breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to our academy trust. Our trust also purchased additional professional insurance to indemnify identified staff whilst carrying out their duties as Ofsted Inspectors as well as other activities of our trust including operating a Teaching School Hub, English Hub, and an Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programme.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Trustees are appointed subject to the articles of association and, subject to remaining eligible, any person may be re-appointed or re-elected. All appointments are skills based.

The Members of our academy trust shall appoint up to 8 trustees. Askel Veur (the umbrella trust of the Diocese of Truro), as a Member, shall appoint no fewer than 2 trustees provided that the total number of Trustees appointed by them would not exceed 25% of the total number of trustees. In relation to such appointment, Askel Veur shall consult the trustees and shall have regard to any representations made by the trustees on behalf of the company (but shall not be bound by any such representations). Members may appoint the CEO as a trustee, if they agree. Our CEO has been appointed as a trustee.

Trustees (who have not been co-opted themselves) may appoint co-opted trustees, however, trustees may not co-opt a trust employee, with the exception of the CEO.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

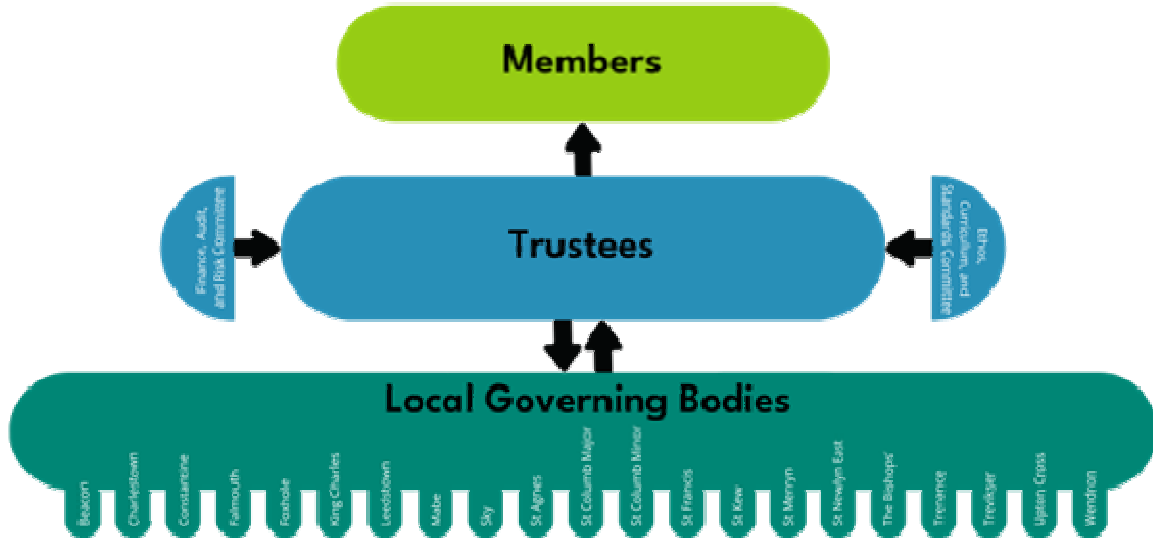
Kernow Learning has an induction programme for trustees and Local Governors supported by mentoring from experienced trustees/Local Governors. An annual skills audit and self-evaluation of governance takes place at trustee and Local Governing Body (LGB) level which includes a training needs analysis and the results of this determine all CPD (Continuing Professional Development) planning. All new LGB Members attend a compulsory Kernow Learning induction training session within the first term of having been appointed to a LGB. A full training offer is available to trustees and Governors, including safeguarding training, out Chairs of LGB network, and our SEND LGB network and Safeguarding LGB network and our training through the National Governance Association (NGA).

Organisational Structure

In accordance with the Funding Agreement with the Education and Skills Funding Agency, an agency for the Department for Education, the trustees of Kernow Learning are responsible for ensuring that high standards of corporate governance are maintained. They exercise their powers and functions with a view to fulfilling a strategic leadership role in the running of the schools within the trust. The Board of Trustees have established a Scheme of Delegation for the Local Governing Body of each academy to assist with the discharge of their responsibilities. Our trust's governance structure is illustrated below:

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) is our academy trust's Accounting Officer and, with the support of the Trust Leadership Team, is responsible for day-to-day management, the operation of the curriculum and executing any strategic decisions taken by our Board of Trustees, Local Governing Bodies and committees. The Deputy CEO of Kernow Learning oversees the work of our Executive Headteachers, Headteachers and Heads of School within each of our schools. The Chief Operating Officer (COO) oversees the work of the business services aspects of the trust, including finance operations which are managed by the Chief Financial Officer (CFO). The CEO, aided by the Deputy CEO, COO, and each school's Senior Leadership Team, lead our schools at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by our trustees and reporting back to them.

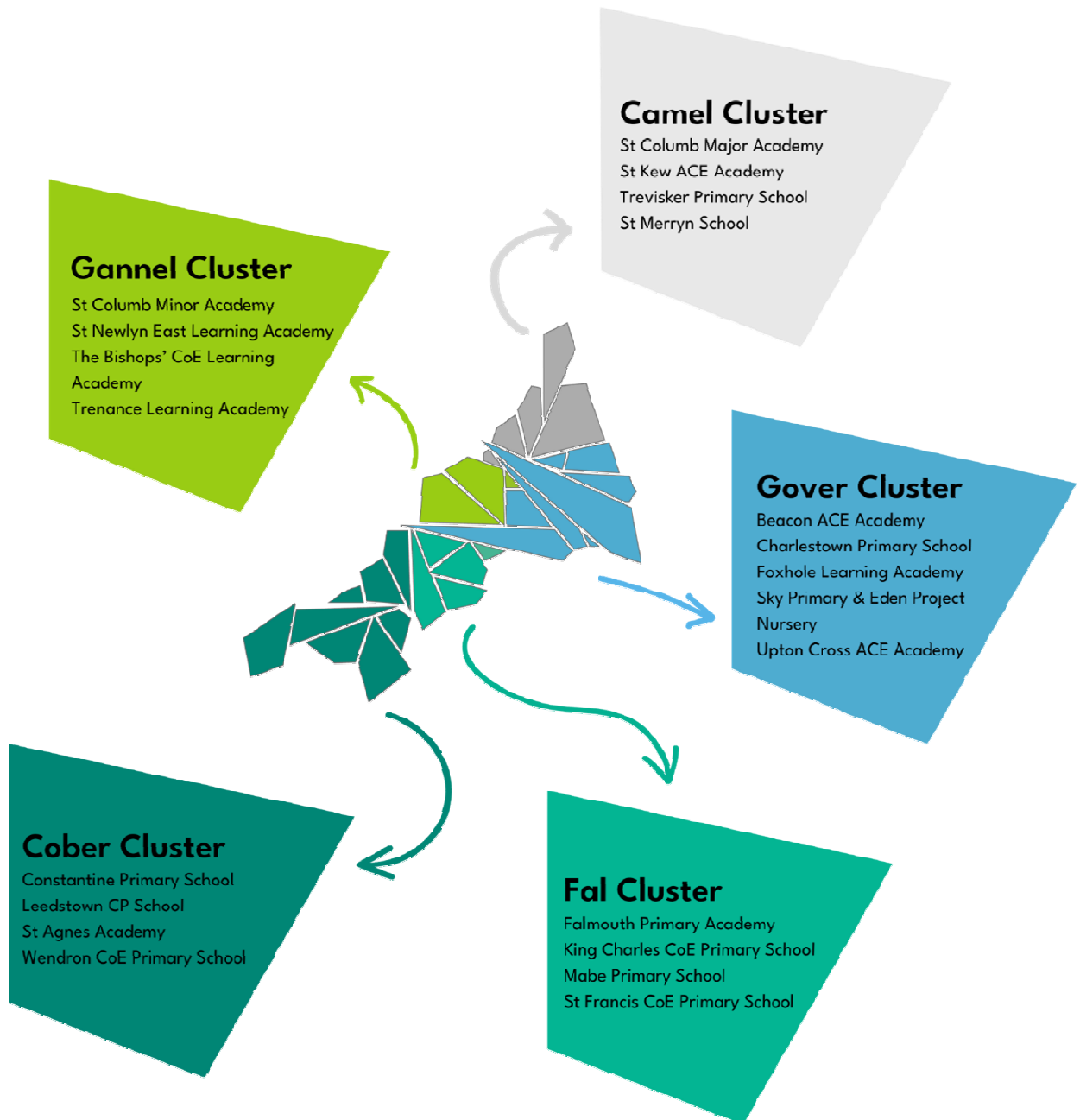
Trustees have a responsibility for determining, monitoring and keeping under review, the policies, plans and procedures within which our academy trust operates. Our Board of Trustees, are responsible for ensuring that the relevant statutory documents are delivered to Companies House in a timely manner, administering the academy trust's finances and applying the income and property only for the purposes set out in the governing documents and participating in trustees' meetings. Our Board of Trustees act within their powers as set out in our company's articles and in their capacity as trustees of the academy trust, under Charity law. They accept ultimate responsibility for directing the affairs of our academy trust ensuring that it is solvent, well-run and delivering the charitable outcomes for the benefit of the public for which it has been set up.

Our Board of Trustees met six times during the 2023/24 academic year. Our Finance, Audit, and Risk Committee met as a full committee three times during the year. Our Ethos, Standards and Curriculum Committee also met three times. In addition, the trust's Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) each met three times each during this reporting period. A number of our LGBs have also held informal meetings throughout the year, in addition to the three formal meetings.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

During 2023/24 our trust ran twenty-one primary schools across Cornwall. Our schools are each part of one of our five geographic clusters:



Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



Beacon Academy is a co-educational primary school and nursery in Bodmin; the school also has an Area Resource Base (ARB) that increased in capacity from 10 to 15 pupils in this period. Children on roll are between the ages of 3 and 11. The total number on roll was 408 as at the time of the Autumn 2023 School Census including pupils in the Nursery and ARB. The school was inspected by Ofsted in May 2019 and was rated as 'Good' in all areas.



Charlestown Primary School is a co-educational primary school for children aged 4-11. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 409. During the year, a new Headteacher was appointed to the school to lead it through its next period of improvement. The school was inspected by Ofsted in October 2024 and was rated 'Good' in all areas.



Constantine Primary School is a co-educational primary school providing education for 4-11 year olds in Constantine and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 172. Constantine was judged as 'Good' by Ofsted following its inspection in July 2024.



Falmouth Primary Academy is a co-educational academy providing education for 4-11 year olds in Falmouth and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 249. In March 2022, Ofsted found that the school continued to be 'Good'. The school welcomed a new Headteacher in September 2024 who transferred from another Kernow Learning school.



Foxhole Learning Academy is a co-educational academy providing primary education for 4-11 year olds in Foxhole and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 86. Ofsted visited the school to undertake an inspection in May 2024 and found the school to be 'Good'

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



King Charles Church of England Primary School is a co-educational primary academy for children aged 4-11 in Falmouth. It is rated as 'Good' by Ofsted following its inspection in February 2022. In its latest SIAMS inspection (February 2020) it was judged as 'Excellent'. At the time of the School Census in October 2022 the number on roll was 415.



Leedstown CP School is a co-educational academy providing primary education for 3–11-year-olds in Leedstown and the surrounding area. Leedstown was inspected by Ofsted in October 2019 and was judged as 'Good'. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 77 including pupils in the nursery. A new Headteacher was appointed to Leedstown in September 2023.



Mabe Primary School is a co-educational academy providing primary education for ages 3-11 in Mabe Burnthouse and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 175, including pupils within the nursery. Mabe was inspected in June 2019 (whilst still part of The Learning Academy Trust) and was judged as 'Inadequate'. Since that time, Kernow Learning have provided intensive school improvement support and, at the Ofsted inspection in April 2022, was judged as 'Requires Improvement'. A new Headteacher, who transferred from another Kernow Learning school, started in September 2024.



Sky Primary & Eden Project Nursery is a co-educational 1FE free school which opened in September 2022, located temporarily at the Eden Project close to its permanent site at the new West Carclaze Garden Village. In the year 2023/24 the school was only open to children in Nursery, Reception, and Year 1. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 48. As a newly opened free school, Sky has not yet been inspected by Ofsted.



St Agnes Academy is a co-educational academy providing for 4–11-year-olds in St Agnes and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 355. The academy was inspected by Ofsted in May 2024 and was given 'Outstanding' judgement in all areas.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



St Columb Major Academy is a co-educational academy providing Foundation Stage, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two education for 4–11-year-olds in St Columb Major and surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023, the number on roll was 360. St Columb Major Academy was inspected by Ofsted in December 2022 and received a 'Good' judgement.



St Columb Minor Academy is a co-educational academy providing education for 4–11-year-olds in St Columb Minor, and the surrounding Newquay area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 458. In October 2024 the school was inspected by Ofsted who judged that the school had maintained its 'Good' rating in all areas, recognising the impact of the new Headteacher, Senior Leadership Team, and our Trust had had to secure this judgement.



St Francis Church of England Primary School is a co-educational primary academy for children aged 4-11 in Falmouth. At its latest SIAMS inspection (March 2018) it was rated 'Outstanding' and was found to be 'Good' by Ofsted during their inspection in January 2022. At the time of the School Census in October 2023, the number on roll was 421. A new Headteacher transferred into St Francis from another Kernow Learning school in September 2024.



St Kew Academy is a co-educational school providing primary education for 4–11-year-olds in St Kew and the surrounding rural area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 81, excluding children in the Pre-School. Following DfE guidance, the school transferred the Pre-School to become an integral Nursery provision during the reporting period. The school was inspected by Ofsted in January 2020 and was judged as 'Good'. A new Headteacher was appointed to St Kew in September 2024.



St Merryn School is a co-educational academy providing Foundation Stage, Key Stage one and Key Stage Two education for 3–11-year-olds in St Merryn and the local area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 131 including children in the nursery provision. St Merryn School was judged to be 'Good' by Ofsted at its inspection in January 2023.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



St. Newlyn East Learning Academy is a co-educational academy providing Foundation Stage, Key Stage One and Key Stage Two education for children between the ages of 4-11. At the time of the School Census in October 2022, there were 159 children on roll. Ofsted judged to have 'maintained the standard of Good since the last inspection' at its Ungraded inspection Nov 2024.



The Bishops' Church of England Learning Academy is a co-educational primary school and nursery for children aged 3-11 years in the Newquay area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023, the number on roll was 341 including nursery children. The Bishops' was judged as 'Good' by Ofsted in 2019 and, at its SIAMS inspection in March 2023, was rated 'Excellent'. A new Headteacher joined the school in September 2024.



Trenance Learning Academy is a co-educational academy providing Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1 education for 4-7-year-olds in Newquay and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023, the number on roll was 349. Trenance Learning Academy is designated as an English Hub and Teaching School Hub, recognising its significant contribution to the improvement of other schools. Trenance was inspected by Ofsted in July 2023 and was judged to be 'Outstanding' in all areas.



Trevisker Primary School is a co-educational school providing primary education for 4-11 years old in St Eval and the surrounding area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023, the school had 162 pupils on roll. Trevisker was inspected in May 2019 and was judged as Good.



Upton Cross Academy is a co-educational school providing primary education for 4-11 years old in the village of Upton Cross and the surrounding moorland area. At the time of the School Census in October 2023 the number on roll was 88 excluding children in the Pre-School Following DfE guidance, the school transferred the Pre-School to become an integral Nursery provision during the reporting period. Upton Cross Academy was inspected by Ofsted in March 2019 and was judged as 'Good' in all areas.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



Wendron Church of England Primary School opened in September 2022 having been transferred to our trust from another local academy trust following an 'Inadequate' Ofsted judgement. Wendron is now going through a period of rapid transformation with support from colleagues across our family of schools. At the time of the School Census in October 2023, there were 101 pupils attending the school. A new Headteacher started at the school in September 2024.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

As trustees of Kernow Learning, we recognise that we are accountable to our beneficiaries, stakeholders, employees and the public, and are committed to raising transparency and accountability. We have a duty to deliver our services effectively and maximise use of our resources and to do this we need to attract and retain suitably qualified people with the right skills, knowledge and experience.

Kernow Learning directly employ teachers and other allied professional support staff to work in our schools. We are required to comply with the requirements of our funding agreement and the terms of the Academies Act of 2010. Kernow Learning have a whole school pay policy which sets out the framework for making decisions on employees' pay. It has been developed to comply with current legislation, the requirements of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) the National Joint Council for Local Government Services and in accordance with the principles of public life – objectivity, openness and accountability.

When setting salaries, we take into account the knowledge, skills, and experience needed for the job and market forces affecting recruitment. We benchmark against available information such as comparable roles being advertised and benchmark against a range of our peers.

The pay of Headteachers and Assistant/Deputy Heads is set according to the Headteacher range of the school's group size, in accordance with STPCD guidance unless there are circumstantial reasons for paying outside of this.

The pay of the CEO, Deputy CEO and COO are reviewed by trustees and are benchmarked against salaries in other trusts of similar size, both locally and nationally.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the relevant period	Full-time equivalent employee number
7	6.4

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	6
1%-50%	1
51%-99%	0
100%	0

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time

Provide the total cost of facility time	£763
Provide the total pay bill	£23,775,222
Provide the percentage of the total pay bill spent on facility time, calculated as: (total cost of facility time ÷ total pay bill) × 100	0%

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours calculated as: (total hours spent on paid trade union activities by relevant union officials during the relevant period ÷ total paid facility time hours) × 100	0%
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Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

A key partner for our trust is the Diocese of Truro, supporting and monitoring our Church Schools as well as non-faith schools within the trust. The support from the Diocese has been invaluable and is a relationship that the trust will only seek to strengthen. During the reporting period, our trust seconded one of our Headteachers to take up the position of Interim Diocesan Director of Education at the Diocese of Truro. They were subsequently appointed as Permanent DDE in February 2024.

Kernow Teaching School Hub is our DfE funded Teaching School Hub for the area of Cornwall West and the Isles of Scilly (area SW8). The Roseland Multi Academy Trust, through The Roseland Academy, also run a Teaching School Hub for the SW11 geographical area (Cornwall East). Kernow Learning and The Roseland Multi Academy Trust have an agreement to operate both Teaching School Hubs in partnership under the umbrella of OneCornwall. OneCornwall is, therefore, the Teaching School Hub partnership covering Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly. Our Teaching School Hub has relationships with, and delivers programmes on behalf of, Teach First, and Leading Schools South West (LSSW). Our CEO is a Board Member of LSSW. Following our Trust's selection to become an Associate College of the National Institute of Teaching (NlOT), we are also able to deliver programmes such as the Early Career Framework (ECF) and National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) on the NlOT programmes.

Our trust's Initial Teacher Education (ITE) programme, Kernow Initial Teacher Education (KITE), provides primary and SEN teacher training. During the reporting period, this programme was delivered in partnership with Exeter University. From September 2024, our ITE programme has been delivered in partnership with the National Institute of Teaching and accredited by the University of Birmingham.

Our trust has a relationship with The Reach Foundation through the South West 100 (SW100) programme. Our CEO sits on the Board of SW100 and we have colleagues enrolled on the programmes that are offered. SW100 is an internationally-informed, regionally-led, and community-focused school leadership development programme; supporting high-impact school leaders into their first headships in Devon and Cornwall. Our relationship with The Reach Foundation also extends into our trust's participation in the 'Cradle-to-Career' partnership which is a partnership of schools and trusts who develop local cradle-to-career models of support anchored in schools. The partnership seeks to catalyse a seamless 'pipeline' of support for children from before birth to positive post-school destinations, and maximise the potential of being all-through in terms of curriculum, quality of teaching, and relationships with children and families. During 2023/24 our Trust also participated in the 'Leading Trusts' programme; a Reach Foundation programme aimed at developing the next generation of academy trust CEOs.

Kernow Learning has also formed a partnership with the Eden Project to support the curriculum and pedagogical approach of the trust's new free school and provide ongoing training and guidance to school in relation to nature-based learning. Sky Primary and Eden Project Nursery opened to pupils in September 2022.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

Our trust's policy of applications for the employment of disabled persons is covered within our Recruitment Policy and the treatment of employees who become disabled and their training, career development and promotion is covered in our Equality and Diversity policy. We are proud to have achieved the Disability Confident award. Our trust is committed to ensuring that no current or potential employee receives less favourable treatment due to a disability and seeks to work in partnership with candidates to explore whether any jobs can be changed to meet specific needs in relation to a disability. Likewise, where a current employee becomes disabled, we would seek to make an assessment of their requirements, utilising advice from Occupational Health to implement any changes or adjustments.

Our trust continuously seeks to encourage the involvement of employees at all levels of the organisation with various opportunities for collaboration, development and feedback. Our annual stakeholder surveys give all employees the opportunity to express their views and thoughts on the success and development of our trust in an anonymous forum. Our trust remains a collaborative and consultative organisation where staff are encouraged to contribute to the continued development and improvement of schools and the wider organisation.

During 2023/24 our Trade Union Recognition Agreement came into operation with termly Joint Consultative and Negotiation Committee held to further enhance the provision for consultation and collaboration. Additionally, during the Autumn of 2024 we have introduced regular Staff Forum meetings to give additional voice to those colleagues who are not members of a recognised Trade Union.

Kernow Learning uses a range of internal communications channels for employee engagement. Microsoft Teams is in place trust-wide for instant messaging, team collaboration, and video calls. Our school leaders receive regular communications including weekly 'Friday 5' bulletins, half termly development days and regular virtual catch-up briefings which are recorded for those who are unable to attend. Our staff intranet, Kernow Learning Information Xchange (KLIX), has a wealth of information and training, and is accessible online to all colleagues. KLIX gives information and signposting across our trust platforms and externally. We also have a comprehensive suite of policies and procedures on matters that affect employees during their employment and have an annually updated training and development plan which enables managers and employees to be trained on their effective implementation. These are available to all colleagues through KLIX.

Stakeholder surveys were undertaken during the Summer Term 2024. This included surveys of staff, families, pupils, and local governors to ensure that stakeholders were given an opportunity to express their views. The results of these surveys have been analysed to identify areas of strength and areas for development both at school and trust level. This year it was decided to create and run our own surveys, allowing for bespoke questioning to fully identify those areas for development. During the Autumn Term 2024 we have introduced staff forums, to create additional space to hear directly from our stakeholder groups.

Our trust puts the wellbeing of colleagues at the heart of our organisational culture. Our commitment to staff wellbeing includes a focus on reducing workload and unnecessary administrative burdens, a commitment to Continuing Professional Development to ensure that colleagues are well equipped with the skills and knowledge to undertake their roles, and an Employee Assistance Programme that gives all colleagues access to a range of services including 24/7 GP services, counselling services, and other lifestyle services.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the academy trust

Kernow Learning has continued to build relationships with key suppliers. This has allowed us to ensure that we are able to secure very competitive prices whilst retaining high quality support and continuing good will. This is underpinned by our commitment to open and transparent relationships with suppliers.

We continue to rationalise our supplier base wherever possible. This is allowing us to reduce waste and error, and achieve economies of scale through group procurement. We are also achieving cost-effective contract solutions by making use of DfE approved frameworks to procure high value goods and services, and are maintaining good and purposeful ongoing relations with key suppliers through regular contract management meetings.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Objectives and activities

Objects and Aims

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom.

Our core purpose is to provide academic excellence and equity of opportunity for all pupils regardless of their background or starting point. Our mission is to build excellent schools together and, by doing so, improve the life chances for all pupils. We achieve this by ensuring all pupils receive excellent teaching and that every child is in school on time, every day, learning ready. Leaders are supported by our Education Standards Team and subject specialists to design an ambitious, well-sequenced, interleaving curriculum that provides all pupils with the knowledge, skills and cultural capital they need to succeed in life. Our curriculum design ensures subject integrity and connectivity, supporting pupils to build connections and revisit and embed prior learning, this will make sure that they know more and remember more. The curriculum in each of our schools is purposefully extended beyond the academic and provides inspiring opportunities for pupils' personal development.

Our teachers have access to high-quality training through our golden thread of teacher development. This ensures that they are the best at how and what they teach, resulting in every child being taught by excellent teachers. Our agreed, evidence based, 'principles of teaching and learning' are implemented consistently throughout all our schools. This facilitates consistent classroom practice and excellent pupil outcomes. Our School leaders are committed to these principles and recognise the importance of an equitable offer for every child in every classroom.

Collaboration and innovation are at the forefront of our practice. Kernow Learning has strong relationships with all strategic partners in the region including, Cornwall Association of Primary Headteachers (CAPH), Cornwall Association of Secondary Headteachers (CASH), Cornwall Association of Chief Executives (CACE), the Local Authority and the Diocese of Truro, as well as the national hubs. As part of our civic responsibilities, we also seek to support other trusts and schools through the expertise within our trust.

Our schools are organised into cluster groups based on their locality, allowing schools to share resources and collaborate on best practice. Our trust networks enable excellence within areas that we all have in common, such as subject specialisms, SEND, Early Years, age-specific phases and safeguarding in addition to networks to support our small schools and church schools to meet the specific challenges of their contexts. This also includes governor networks in areas such as SEND, Safeguarding, Chairs network, and Church Schools.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)



Our mission of 'Building Excellent Schools Together' is at the heart of everything we do and underpins the culture of our organisation. Collectively, we are all here to scaffold, challenge, support, and build the successes of our schools - where our colleagues, our pupils, and our families can flourish.

We want our schools to be excellent in every way. We position ourselves as an innovative community that is forward thinking and looks both internally and externally in order to shape an inspirational and aspirational future for our trust, our pupils, and our colleagues.

To support us to 'live out' our mission, our core shared values and philosophy set out guiding principles for how we, both as an organisation, and as individuals within our organisation, will behave and how we will succeed. Together, these will set out the tone for how we engage with all our stakeholders.



Our core shared values are a unifying set of principles, shared across all our schools and throughout our trust. Our commitment to these values is unwavering as it is by being true to these values that we will ensure our collective success. We believe that these values are fully inclusive and enable the kind of organisation we want to be.

As a trust, we will all have the strength and courage to make difficult decisions and the wisdom to defer to the brilliance of others. We will have the courage to take risks, and to support and develop colleagues to empower their excellence. We will have the strength and wisdom to leave silos and egos at the door so that we have a holistic view of our trust and the courage to continue our improvement journey against the backdrop of the challenges we face.



Building on our mission and shared core values, the Kernow Learning philosophy tells us the fundamental 'way of being' that we expect from all our colleagues, pupils and volunteers. We believe that these three aspects will help us to build excellent schools together and, most importantly, enable high quality outcomes for our pupils.

Our mission, core shared values and philosophy have been intentionally designed to be both meaningful and understandable to all stakeholders, from our very youngest pupils to the adults who work in and with our schools.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

We have a trust-wide commitment to our mission, core shared values and philosophy. Likewise, we also have a commitment to maintaining the individuality of each of our schools. Our core shared values are the foundations on which our trust is built and each individual school, with its own contextual school values, will articulate how they 'live out' our shared core values. The school values and the core shared values are not mutually exclusive and must be aligned and complementary of each other.

As school trusts emerge as new forms of civic structures, we see the opportunity for Kernow Learning to become an 'anchor institution' in the communities we serve. We have spent time reviewing the Confederation of School Trusts' (CST) concept of an 'anchor institution' and the positive benefits that this can bring children and families experiencing disadvantage. We seek to take this opportunity over the next few years to create the conditions for purposeful collaboration with other schools and trusts as well as other civic organisations because we recognise that, as a charity with a mission to advance education, we must consider all the factors that are barriers to us achieving this. That includes 'beyond school' factors that require partnership and collaboration to address. Our mission of Building Excellent Schools Together identifies the 'together' not just internally, but working with partners outside of education. Our philosophy of 'helping others' should transcend our school walls and reach our communities. We will enact this part of our strategic vision through our Collaboration, Innovation and Development strategy.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

Kernow Learning has the strategic intent to build an academy trust of well-matched, successful and ultimately exceptional schools working in synergy to support and develop each other. Our trust is committed to providing experiences to pupils that lead to quality learning, resulting in exceptional education for all pupils. Each of our schools build respectful and strong links within their local community, seeking to meet the challenges of their particular context and ensuring that all pupils make better than expected levels of progress as a result of consistently excellent teaching.

Our trust is ambitious and relentless in its pursuit of excellence and providing all pupils with excellent opportunities. But we recognise the challenges that face the sector at the moment and the enormity of the concerns surrounding rising costs and the ever-present demand to 'do more, with less'. As a trust, we recognise that doing more with less is an almost impossible task, and for this reason we are committed to 'doing things differently' to bring about sustainable change and continually improved outcomes in as efficient way as possible.

During the academic year 2022/23, trust leaders undertook a complete review of our trust, working with external partners to sense check and quality assure our findings and thoughts. The result of this review was The Kernow Challenge; a four-year strategy to ensure that trust structures remain robust enough to meet the current picture, but agile enough to respond to future challenges. The Kernow Challenge is our response to the changing educational landscape, the Government's 2022 White Paper, and our continued drive to ensure that every child in a Kernow Learning school is enabled to become the person they were intended to be.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

The Kernow Challenge is an agreement between all stakeholders in Kernow Learning to seek more for our children, families and colleagues. We have a plethora of energy and expertise in our trust and when the very best of what is happening now in some of our schools becomes the norm, and when all our resources, schools and communities are more fully engaged in the task of raising standards, then our aim will be realised.

Through the Kernow Challenge, we are setting the foundations for the next phase of our trust's growth and development. It acts as a blueprint for how our organisation is run and how we behave. It has reshaped and embedded our mission, core shared values, philosophy, and moral purpose.

Our trust's key priorities will be addressed through effective leadership across the trust via:

- The Kernow Challenge, which will review and reshape the organisation so that it is well placed to meet the current and future educational landscape;
- Individual School 100-day Plans to improve school level performance, which are monitored locally by Local Governing Bodies;
- Strategy Groups and Curriculum Lead's groups and other trust-wide networks;
- Monitoring and intervention by the COO and the Business and Finance Services teams, reported to trustees through the termly Trust Leaders' reports to trustees;
- The Live Risk Register.

During 2023/24 Kernow Learning and our trustees provided school improvement, a programme of CPD, and financial stability to all trust schools to enable them to continue to provide the very best education in the communities that they serve. Our promise is to continue to do our very best to give each and every pupil the opportunity to reach their full potential.

Through the trust's Shared Services, Kernow Learning provides support to all schools in the academy trust with the aim of improving pupil progress and attainment through:

- focusing on the development of the whole child by involving pupils, parents and staff in a supportive, aspirational, challenging and caring environment
- facilitating rapid improvement and promoting best practice through a shared approach to continued professional development (CPD)
- positively promoting and nurturing the spiritual, social, cultural and moral development of all pupils;
- improving provision and outcomes
- continually evaluating, reviewing and, where necessary, revising the curriculum and structure to enhance the effectiveness of Kernow Learning
- raising the achievement and attainment of all pupils by a relentless improvement in the standard of education provided in all of our schools
- developing a variety of strategies to encourage our pupils to be confident and effective lifelong learners

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Kernow Learning provides efficient, effective and coordinated business support to:

- drive down the costs of these services for each school and add value to the services they could access individually
- ensure more of the budget is focussed on direct teaching and learning costs
- comply with all legislative, statutory and commercial requirements in terms of curriculum and operational matters

Our trustees operate Kernow Learning in accordance with the Nolan principles of Selflessness, Integrity, Objectivity, Accountability, Openness, Honesty and Leadership.

Public Benefit

The trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 4 of the Charities Act 2006 to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission. The key public benefit delivered by the academy trust is the provision of excellent education for its pupils.

We believe that education is a key way to break the deprivation-disadvantage cycle in a sustainable way.

The trust also provides before and after school care in many of the schools, and all schools provide opportunities to use their facilities outside of the normal school day.

Strategic Report

The academic year 2023/24 saw our trust embark on the first year of our four-year strategic journey outlined in the Kernow Challenge. During this year, we set to 'secure' our Trust by laying the foundations to expedite school improvement, catalyse rises in pupil outcomes, and embed pedagogical approaches to ensure that our schools meet the needs of our pupils, families, and communities.

The challenges we currently face are daunting and complex: global economic instability, workforce retention, the rise in child poverty, the continuing impact of COVID-19, and a fall in national average for academic performance at KS2. The attainment and progress gap between children experiencing disadvantage and their wealthier peers is the largest it has been in over a decade.

The urgency for our trust to be more effective and efficient has never been greater and our resolution in Kernow Learning is that, collectively we can create a trust that really is Building Excellent Schools Together.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Achievements and performance

As already mentioned in this report, the 2023/24 academic year was our 'securing' year where our trust embarked on our four-year strategy that have called the Kernow Challenge. This was an overwhelmingly successful starting year for the development of our trust where outcomes exceeded expectations and the rapid improvements within our schools were recognised through several successful Ofsted inspections.

Our investment over the last two years in school improvement and continued professional development for colleagues paid dividends this year in terms of pupil outcomes with our Trust Averages sitting higher than national average outcomes at every age and every stage, in every subject. This is a significant transformation, underpinned by our trust's strategic vision as laid out in the Kernow Challenge.

During 2023/24, three of our schools were inspected by Ofsted; all three inspections were graded (Section 5) inspections. Constantine Primary School and Foxhole Learning Academy both retained 'Good' judgements across all areas, whilst St Agnes Academy received 'Outstanding' judgements across the board.

Following designation as an Associate College of the National Institute of Teaching (NlOT) in 2022/23, we began to deliver NlOT NPQ and ECF programmes through our Teaching School Hub in 2023/24. The core aims of the NlOT are to boost the quality of teaching and school leadership by carrying out research, applying the insights to the design and delivery of professional development programmes, and sharing findings within the sector. The NlOT was founded by four multi academy trusts: The Harris Federation, Oasis Community Learning, Outwood Grange Academies Trust, and Star Academies.

Key achievements of our trust during the 2023/24 financial and academic year include:

- An 'Outstanding' Ofsted judgement at St Agnes Academy;
- 'Good' Ofsted judgements following inspections at Constantine Primary School and Foxhole Learning Academy;
- Redesignation of the Kernow Teaching School Hub by the DfE for a further four years; significantly improved pupil outcomes at every age, and every stage, and in every subject which, as a Trust Average are now above the national average;
- We launched our most ambitious project yet, The Kernow Challenge, to transform our trust and secure our organisational culture;
- We delivered over 235 hours of staff training and development;
- Trenance Learning Academy became an Oracy Centre of Excellence
- We rolled out the "SPACE" programme, providing the opportunity for mental health support for all of our families
- Through our Initial Teacher Education programme, KITE, we successfully trained 13 new teachers;
- Autism Champions introduced in every Kernow Learning school;
- Kernow English Hub successfully met all key performance indicators;
- The construction of the permanent site for Sky Primary and Eden Project Nursery commenced

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Kernow Teaching School Hub

Following Trenance Learning Academy's redesignation as a Teaching School Hub, Kernow Learning has continued to operate the Kernow Teaching School Hub, covering the west of Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly (SW8 area).

Teaching School Hubs are a Department for Education initiative to create an England wide network of 87 centres of excellence for teacher training and development, replacing the previous network of around 750 teaching schools.

Kernow Learning works in partnership with the Roseland Multi Academy Trust who run the Teaching School Hub for the east of Cornwall (SW11 area) to provide a unified Teaching School Hub partnership across Cornwall and the Isles of Scilly under the umbrella of OneCornwall.

Kernow Initial Teacher Education

Kernow Learning continued to provide Initial Teacher Education in 2023/24 through our own programme in partnership with Exeter University. This programme, called Kernow Initial Teacher Education (KITE), will partner with the NIOT from September 2024, accredited by the University of Birmingham.

Kernow English Hub

The Kernow English Hub, based at Trenance Learning Academy, is one of 34 schools across England appointed by the Department for Education to take a leading role in supporting schools in the teaching of early reading, closing the word gap and promoting a love of reading. Throughout 2023/24 the English Hub continued to deliver its mission to ensure that every child becomes a reader through supporting schools in achieving excellence in early literacy teaching, through an initial focus on:

- Developing early language and closing the 'word gap';
- Developing early reading through systematic synthetic phonics;
- Promoting a love of reading.

DfE approved Sponsor

Kernow Learning is approved by the Department of Education as an appropriate organisation to sponsor academies in need of support. This means that the Trust will support schools as a system leader in order to ensure that more children get the best possible start in life.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Key Performance Indicators

A number of KPIs are measured and reported both at school and Trust level.

These include:

- Staff costs/income %
- Teacher's costs
- Education support costs
- Premises staff
- Admin staff
- Pupils per class
- Revenue reserves/GAG %
- Curriculum spend/ income %
- Revenue surplus or (deficit)/income %

As funding is based on pupil numbers this is also a Key Performance Indicator.

Trustees monitor performance against KPIs using information from the monthly financial reports and termly Business Services Team Reports. These reports allow Trustees to challenge Trust leaders on the efficiency and effectiveness of the Trust and helps shape and direct future focus and areas of development.

Going Concern

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

There are no material uncertainties about the trust's ability to continue for 12 months from signing date. The Trustees' assessment of the going concern basis included an awareness of a number of key challenges and risks facing the MAT. These included:

- 1) an overall falling roll;
- 2) spend on children with SEND compared to income support received for these pupils; and
- 3) long term staff sickness

Management and Trustees have responded to this by:

- 1) reviewing the forecast pupil numbers by school and considering what can be done regarding staff structuring and school improvements;
- 2) securing an Education, Health and Care Plan support; and
- 3) retaining indemnity cover for staff sickness

Elsewhere in this report we have referred to the Kernow Challenge, our four year strategy demonstrating the Trust's commitment to sustainability.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Promoting the success of the company

Our trustees fulfil their duty to promote the success of the Charitable Company, under Section 172 of the Companies Act 2006 (the Act) and consider the interests of our trust's key stakeholders when making decisions, including pupils, parents, colleagues, local communities, and local and central government. Our academy trust has a clear purpose to provide exceptional learning opportunities, building excellent schools together, and ensuring that our pupils are given a platform from which they can develop as responsible global citizens. This requires our Board, Trust Leadership Team and other employees to maintain an approach to strategic, financial and operational decision making that is values based and sustainable in approach, and therefore aligned to the requirements and expectations of Section 172.

Our trust's long-term success relies upon its ability to deliver on its strategic objectives by harnessing the collective power of a strong and talented workforce, as well as nurturing close working relationships with regulators and suppliers, providing benefits to both the pupils in our schools and the wider school community.

Kernow Learning is a trust of 21 schools, but despite our size we aim to preserve the individuality of each school within its own community. Our websites promote a clear message of our aim to provide both rigorous and effective school improvement and financial stability to ensure all of our schools continue to provide the very best education in the communities that they serve.

Our success is embodied in the collaborative approach adopted by our Trust Leadership Team, and supported by our Shared Services Teams and Trustees who have a broad range of professional skills and experience from both the private and public sectors. Our academy trust successfully operates an English Hub from Trenance Learning Academy and delivers Initial Teacher Education (ITE) delivered by highly experienced and qualified personnel. As previously mentioned in this report, our academy trust operates the Kernow Teaching School Hub and is a partner of the OneCornwall Teaching School Hub Partnership.

We also recognise that it is important to maintain our positive and professional trust profile at senior leadership level via participation at local and national events and membership of organisations such as Confederation of Schools Trusts, the Local Government Pension Scheme Board (employer representative until March 2024), Cornwall Association of Chief Executives (CACE) and the South West Trust Leaders network. Additionally, we have colleague representation on the Cornwall Local Government Pension Scheme Board (employer representative) (until March 2024), the Board of Leading Schools South West (LSSW), and the Board of SW100.

Trustees receive feedback from stakeholders through various mediums, including:

- From Local Governing Bodies. We are proud that each school has its own individual Local Governing Body that ensures scrutiny and challenge are robust and in the best interests of their local communities;
- From annual stakeholder surveys
- From our Trust Leadership Team as those with delegated responsibility for the day to day running of the academy trust

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

At Board meetings, trustees receive termly reports from the Trust Leadership Team, summarising the current status of each of our schools and highlighting any notable successes or concerns, as well as summarised information in relation to the financial and operational status of the trust, benchmarking data against statistical and geographical neighbouring academy trusts as well as performance of the trust against KPIs. Our Ethos, Curriculum and Standards Committee meet termly to enable scrutiny of a wider range of data and reports and to review progress against the strategic objectives. Additionally, our Finance, Audit and Risk Committee to scrutinise and challenge Trust Leaders in relation to the financial and operational aspects of our Trust. From September 2023, our trustees decided to amalgamate the Finance and Audit & Risk Committees into a single Finance, Audit, and Risk Committee whereas they had previously been two distinct groups.

Financial Review

In accordance with the Master and Supplemental Funding Agreements, the principal source of general funding with which to finance the operations of the Trust, is the Department for Education via the ESFA in the form of recurring grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31 August 2024 and the associated expenditure are shown as Restricted Funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Trust held the following fund balances at 31st August 2024:

£1,366,349 unrestricted general funds (2023: £2,836,312)
 £339,342 restricted general funds (2023: £475,441)
 £49,955,082 restricted fixed assets [including capital assets held on the balance sheet of £49,625,655 and unspent capital grants of £329,427] (2023: £49,740,791)

Restricted pension reserve deficit: £372,000 (2023: £907,000)

Our trust aims to set a balanced budget each year and use of reserves is for agreed specific purposes rather than to meet ongoing operational costs which is not a sustainable model. Our trustees agreed the use of £3,000,000 of reserves to fund specific and identified school improvement projects to raise standards and improve educational outcomes across the trust, as well as supporting our most vulnerable pupils. Trustees agreed the use of these funds over a two-year period with the first £1,500,000 allocated in 2022/23 and the second in 2023/24. In 2023/24, the actual amount of reserves used to support this kind of work was £1,606,968.

Our academy trust spent £1,500,086 (2023: £2,001,065) on fixed assets, primarily invested in the provision of capital projects.

For the period 2023/24, our academy trust has received £1,564,588 (2023: £1,568,226) from the Department for Education and £170,260 (2023: £280,262) from the Local Authority through the Pupil Premium funding mechanism. This money has all been spent on the additional salary costs and other related support costs against the tracked assessed needs of this monitored group.

The pension fund is in a deficit with a closing balance of £372,000 (2023: £907,000). As a result of this deficit, additional contributions of £nil (2023: £123,083) were paid into the fund, which is included within charitable expenditure in the SOFA.

Our academy trust made an in-year deficit of £1,391,771 (2023: surplus of £592,923) and the FRS102 LGPS SOFA adjustment £535,000 (2023: £1,065,000). As previously mentioned, this in-year deficit is in line with spend agreed by our trustees to fund additional, targeted, school improvement work.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Reserves Policy

Our Board of Trustees reviewed the Pooled Funding and Reserves Policy in March 2023 and the Capital and Revenue Reserves Policy in September 2024, both of which will be reviewed every two years. Our Board of Trustees, as required, will create specific capital reserves to fund future capital expenditure. Our trustees require a revenue reserve to be created to fund future expenditure related to our academy trust's strategic long-term aims and developments to protect our academy trust with regard to uncertainty over future income streams and other key risks.

Reserves are reviewed annually, around the time of budget setting, and trustees have determined that the appropriate level of free reserves should be set at a minimum of 5% of overall GAG income. This is in order to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies. The reserve minimum should be enough to cover the cost of our monthly payroll.

Our current level of free reserves is £1,366,349 (2023: £2,836,312) which is considered appropriate for our trust and is in excess of our trustees' set minimum levels of reserves. Trustees have been mindful in keeping sufficient reserves to protect our trust from rises in costs and the relative stagnation of income that we are currently experiencing.

Users of this document should note that, because of accounting for the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS), the trust recognises a significant pension deficit totalling £372,000. This deficit is included in Restricted Funds. This does not lead to an immediate liability for this amount. Similarly, if there was a pension surplus included within the Restricted Funds, this would not create an immediately realisable asset.

Users of this document should also note that a surplus or deficit position of the pension scheme would usually result in a cash flow effect to the trust in the form of an increase or decrease in its employer's pension contributions over a number of years. Our trust thus takes this fact into account when reviewing current business plans and budgets and ascertaining how these pension costs may affect budgets in the future. On the basis that increased pension contributions should be generally met from the trusts budgeted annual income, whilst the deficit may not be eliminated, there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the fund, or a direct impact on the unrestricted reserves of the trust due to the recognition of the deficit.

Investment Policy

Due to the nature and timing of receipt of funding, the academy trust may, at times, hold cash balances surplus to its short-term requirements. The academy trust will operate a cautious and risk averse approach to investing pupil funding, income and reserves. The academy trust therefore make no investments, other than cash balances being held in UK banks.

No other form of investment is authorised.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Principal Risks and Uncertainties

Kernow Learning has formal strategies and processes in place in relation to risk management in order that all risks are assessed and management strategies for these risks are put into place. Our trust Risk Register is a live document which is overseen and reviewed by our Risk and Audit Committee and is referred to by our Board of Trustees and all committees. This ensures that trustee business remains risk led, and our Board can have assurance that risks are being well managed, with appropriate mitigation measures in place.

The principal risks facing our academy trust are:

Finance and operations: As the majority of trust funding comes from central government a principal risk centres on the future unknown level of government funding and the impact of a declining primary school-aged population within our region will have on the funding we receive. This risk is managed by careful control over budgeted expenditure which ensures that, at trust level, an unplanned or unmanaged deficit does not arise for the year, combined with a prudent reserves policy. Our trustees also self-assess financial and governance arrangements by completing a Self-Assessment and by complying with the latest issued Accounts Direction and Academy Trust Handbook. Kernow Learning trustees are mindful of the projected falling rolls across primary school provision in Cornwall, and the impact that this will have on the future financial viability of our trust. This is already being felt in instances where new school provision, such as Free Schools, have opened in areas where there is already a surplus of school places. We are fully aware of the overall picture and are ensuring that our organisation remains agile to respond to the changing landscape whilst accelerating school improvement work to maintain rapid progress of pupil outcomes. There is uncertainty facing the education sector currently in terms of rising staff costs as well as other general costs. Careful monitoring of our trust's ongoing financial position will be critical to ensuring that we are able to respond to these challenges without impacting on pupil outcomes.

Safeguarding: Safeguarding of pupils and staff is paramount and our trust puts the health, safety and welfare of pupils, staff and families at the forefront of what we do. Our trust's Education Standards Lead for Safeguarding (ESL-Safeguarding) has ensured that a robust, systematic safeguarding policy and procedure is in place across our trust and has monitored the implementation and effectiveness of these across our schools. The ESL-Safeguarding also led the Designated Safeguarding Leads Network and safeguarding Governor network, to ensure that there was consistency in terms of safeguarding and child protection trust-wide throughout the year.

Education and standards: There is a risk of a downward trajectory in pupil outcomes as a result of lost learning during COVID-19 related school closures, or more generally of an academy failing to secure a Good or Outstanding judgement from Ofsted. As well as the negative impact that this would have on pupils' educational experience, it could also cause a loss of stakeholder confidence. Kernow Learning, through *The Kernow Challenge*, now has a clear strategic direction to harness our collective strength to ensure our schools offer the best educational opportunities possible. This coherent and aligned strategy sets the focus for our next four years of operation. As a result, pupil outcomes have improved year on year and, over the past two years, all inspection judgements have either been Good or Outstanding.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Staffing: In common with other academy trust's locally and nationally, a very present risk centres on recruiting, developing, and retaining high quality staff to vacancies in both schools and our Shared Services teams. Our trust's ability to train teachers through its ITE programme mitigates this risk to a certain extent. Additionally, the continual review of staffing structures and roles means that the trust has been able to maintain high quality service whilst responding to the changing employment market.

Our Board of Trustees have considered and reviewed the principal risks and uncertainties facing our trust and have implemented internal controls to mitigate the risks.

Fundraising

Kernow Learning generates most of our non-governmental funds through grant application and allocation.

Our trust, our schools and our associated Friends Groups/Parent Teacher Associations adhere to the Code of Fundraising Practice in their approach to fundraising. Kernow Learning does not employ professional fundraisers or commercial participators to act on its behalf. As is common in schools, fundraising usually takes place at organised events such as school fetes, discos, sponsored activities or other community events. Our schools may ask for donations to cover the cost of school trips from parents and carers of those pupils taking part; however, it is made clear that these are voluntary donations.

Our trust has not experienced any complaints about fundraising activity during the year, however any complaints would be managed through our complaints policy/procedure.

We do not place any pressure on parents or the wider public to donate to any school fundraising activity, thus protecting the public, including vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and undue pressure to donate.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Streamlined Energy and Carbon Reporting

UK Greenhouse gas emissions and energy use data for the period	1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024	1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	3,745,893	3,762,416
Energy consumption break down (kWh)		
Gas (mandatory)	1,417,544	1,451,335
Electricity (mandatory)	1,250,900	1,307,468
Transport fuel (mandatory)	172,896	161,643
Oil (voluntary)	619,352	637,343
Biomass (voluntary)	197,957	151,116
Consumed electricity from on-site renewable sources (voluntary)	87,355	53,511
Scope 1 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Owned transport - mini-buses (mandatory)	22.70	21.90
Gas consumption (mandatory)	259.30	266.90
Oil (voluntary)	156.60	162.00
Biomass (N2O & CH4 only emissions) (voluntary)	2.10	1.50
Total scope 1	440.70	452.30
Scope 2 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Purchased electricity (mandatory)	259.00	270.70
Scope 3 emissions in metric tonnes CO2e		
Business travel in employee owned vehicles (mandatory)	18.80	17.00
Total gross emissions in metric tonnes CO2e	718.50	740.00
Intensity ratio		
Tonnes CO2e per pupil (mandatory)	0.11	0.11
Tonnes of CO2e per square meter floor area (mandatory)	0.02	0.02
Tonnes CO2e per pupil (mandatory and voluntary)	0.01	0.15
Tonnes of CO2e per square meter floor area (mandatory and voluntary)	0.02	0.02

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

UK energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions

Annual energy usage and associated annual greenhouse gas (“GHG”) emissions are reported pursuant to the Companies (Directors’ Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018 (“the 2018 Regulations”) that came into force 1st April 2019.

Organisational boundary

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions are for those assets owned or operated within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary. This includes all twenty-one schools controlled during the reporting period and minibuses along with the mandatory inclusion of scope 3 business travel in employee-owned or hire vehicles (grey fleet).

Reporting period

The annual reporting period is 1st September to 31st August each year and the energy and carbon emissions are aligned to this period.

Quantification and reporting methodology

The 2019 UK Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines and the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition) were followed. The 2024 UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting were used in emission calculations. The report has been reviewed independently by Zenergi Limited (trading as Briar Consulting Engineers Limited).

The electricity, gas, oil, biomass, and minibus diesel consumption were compiled from invoice records. Where invoices do not cover the whole reporting period, the pro-rata estimation technique was applied. Mileage claims were used to calculate energy use and emissions associated with grey fleet. On site renewable solar photovoltaic and wind generation electricity is included within scope 1 and excludes exported energy. Generally gross calorific values were used except for grey fleet mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

The associated emissions are divided into mandatory and voluntary emissions according to the 2018 Regulations, then further divided into the direct combustion of fuels and the operation of facilities (scope 1), indirect emissions from purchased electricity (scope 2) and further indirect emissions that occur because of Trust activities but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation (scope 3).

Intensity ratio

Two intensity ratios are reported showing emissions (tCO₂e) per pupil and per square meter floor area. Emissions per pupil is the recommended ratio for the sector for consistency and comparability and pupil numbers are based on the Autumn 2023 Census. Emissions per square meter floor area is reported to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the source of most emissions.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

In the reporting period September 2023 – August 2024, the Trust has taken the following energy efficiency actions:

- New BMS systems have been installed at Falmouth Primary, Foxhole Learning Academy, Leedstown CP School, St Merryn School, Trenance Learning Academy and Trevisker CP School.
- New pressurisation unit installed at King Charles CE Primary and Trevisker CP School.
- New heat exchange fitted at St Francis CE School.
- Roof works have taken place at Foxhole Learning Academy and Upton Cross ACE Academy, improving insulation and therefore reducing heat loss.
- LED lighting replacements and upgrades have been installed at Falmouth Primary, St Columb Minor Academy and St Francis CE School.

The Trust will continue to invest in energy efficiency measures from 2024-25 onwards, utilising the remainder of the EE funding and a proportion of the School Condition Allocation.

Plans for Future Periods

In 2024/25 our academy trust will continue to prioritise support to all schools so that pupils and families have access to the very best opportunities. The Kernow Challenge is helping to shape the future of our trust and gives a clear focus on the core 'reasons of being' of our organisation, providing the foundation on which we can build excellent schools together.

The Kernow Challenge has involved looking at every aspect of our organisation so that a complete 360 review has been undertaken and a holistic view of the strengths and opportunities is properly understood. The Kernow Challenge has the singular aim of ensuring that our trust is well placed to respond to a changing educational, environmental and economic landscape.

In addition:

- Provision for vulnerable groups is always a priority (disadvantaged pupils, SEND, CIC, EAL, etc) across all core subjects and the wider curriculum.
- Curriculum review and development to ensure broad and balanced provision, subject progression, planning for sequenced learning, links between curriculum subjects, and opportunities for reading (especially) and writing and maths.
- Support for the schools facing the greater challenges.

For all of our schools, there is an expectation that cross trust shared working and allowable GAG pooling will continue, and that we use our positive energies to challenge and inspire each other to achieve the very best outcomes for all of our children and their families. With the wellbeing of all staff as a priority, kindness, support and encouragement for each other is key to achieving this.

The Shared Services Team will push forward with enhancing the use of MIS systems across trust so that trust leaders and trustees have access to accurate, meaningful and timely data to understand current and future pressures or areas for development. Likewise these teams will continue to provide functional support services through the combined staffing and management structure to support operational and strategic finance, HR, Estates, IT and Marketing on behalf of our organisation.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Trustees' Report for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

We consider our trust to be well-placed and sufficiently secure to allow for future growth either through conversion of Local Authority Maintained Schools, sponsoring underperforming schools, or through a potential onboarding merger with other trusts within our area. Our trust has considered growth carefully so that a well-designed and coherent footprint is maintained for all schools. We believe that this is vital to ensuring that our trust remains sustainable, and that all schools can continue to benefit from school improvement activities, CPD, and school-to-school support. Our trust is in early-stage discussions with another local multi-academy trust in relation to a future partnership which could include our trust becoming cross-phase in a number of the communities which we already serve.

Funds Held as Custodian Trustee on Behalf of Others

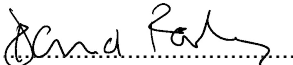
Kernow Learning holds no assets or funds on behalf of other organisations as a Custodian Trustee.

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a Strategic Report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 06/12/2024.. and signed on the board's behalf by:



D Parker (Chair of Board of Trustees)
Trustee

Date: 6th December 2024..

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement

Scope of responsibility

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

As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Handbook and competency framework for governance until it was withdrawn on 7th March 2024, and the Academy Trust Governance Guidance since that date.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The Accounting Officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Abdallah	2	6
D Ashton (appointed 1 September 2024)	0	0
S Blandford	4	6
R Crawford (appointed 29 September 2023)	3	5
C Crowle (CEO)	6	6
D Glynn (resigned 31 December 2023)	2	2
M Lees (appointed 14 May 2024)	2	2
P Mason (Vice Chair of Board of Trustees)	4	6
D Parker (Chair of Board of Trustees)	6	6
D Rushton (appointed as Vice Chair of Board of Trustees)	6	6
M Smith	4	6
S Sutherland (appointed 29 September 2023)	4	5
J Sutton (resigned 29 September 2023)	0	1
H Sykes	1	6
M Teague	5	6

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement (continued)

During the year two trustees resigned from post with three new appointments being made. A fourth appointment was also made from September 2024. New trustees were recruited to fill skill gaps left by exiting trustees and to strengthen those areas that may have been scored as weaker areas in skills self-assessments.

All trustees complete a declaration of pecuniary interest at the time of their appointment and then annually each September. This is recorded and published on our trust website. At each trustee meeting and all meetings of the Board of Trustees sub-committees, there is a standing agenda items where trustees are invited to declare their interests in any matters pertaining to the agenda.

An external review of governance was undertaken in August 2023. In addition to this, Trustees undertook a full self-evaluation in Autumn 2023, along with an informal review of the Chair. The outcomes of these reviews shaped the governance development plan across 2023/24 which focussed on strengthening Trustee induction and communication between layers of Governance. It also saw Trustees starting to undertake school visits to allow further triangulation with data they receive from Trust Leaders and the Local Governing Bodies.

The **Finance, Audit and Risk Committee** is a sub-committee of our Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to meet as and when necessary, but not less than once a term, to enable more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Board of Trustee’s responsibility to ensure good management of our trust’s finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity, as well as the risks facing our trust. As part of this, the committee received termly Internal Audit reports and scrutinised these to gain assurance as to the trust’s compliance. This committee has met 3 times during the year. Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
C Crowle (CEO)	3	3
M Smith	1	3
P Mason (Vice Chair of Board of Trustees)	3	3
S Sutherland	3	3
H Sykes	2	3
M Teague	2	3

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement (continued)

The Ethos, Curriculum and Standards Committee is a sub-committee of the Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to receive reports to enable monitoring of and advise to the Board of Trustees in relation to the following:

- Data on attainment and achievement for all of our schools,
- School improvement work and leadership,
- Overall performance of the schools,
- Leadership standards,
- Local Governance effectiveness,
- Ethos across our trust and schools and how our Church Schools can contribute to allowing all schools to flourish through our Church School's Network.

and to monitor and advise the Board on:

- SEN and inclusion,
- Partnership working,
- Admissions and Safeguarding arrangements.

Attendance at meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
M Abdallah	-	3
R Crawford	2	3
C Crowle (CEO)	3	3
M Lees	-	1
D Parker	3	3
D Rushton	2	3
S Blandford	3	3

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement (continued)

Review of Value for Money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that our academy trust delivers excellent 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 our academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Ensuring resources are directed where they will be most effective in achieving outcomes for pupils including, deploying staff efficiently to support school improvement and developments
- Reviewing contracts to ensure that they are still fit for purpose and best value for our schools. Driving down costs through better procurement and negotiation based on the economy of scale of the academy trust through the financial year.
- Benchmarking our spend against other schools/trusts and ensuring significant variances are reviewed to provide assurance that the expense is appropriate to our schools and providing value for money.
- Collaborating with all schools within Kernow Learning in the delivery of strong system leadership and evidenced based improvement strategies to impact on performance.
- Centrally procuring many contracts and services. The Shared Services teams help schools to maximise their expenditure and deliver the best performance outcomes through a collective process. This process is transparent, fair, and uses a framework which adheres to an agreed set of Financial Procedures that apply across the trust.
- Providing trustees with benchmarking and KPI data through the termly Trust Leaders' Report, allowing trustees to monitor the efficiency of the trust against other similar groups of schools. Annual Benchmarking reports have also been provided for trustees to analyse performance data against other trusts locally and nationally
- Investigating opportunities for sustainable growth within clear parameters to ensure that any growth is not to the detriment of our existing schools, and that any schools joining our trust will equally benefit from our collective strength.

Trust-wide contract awards mean that our schools are now signed up to a single service provider in many areas which, in addition to significant cost savings set out above, has also streamlined the day-to-day management of these activities within the Shared Services teams.

The Business Services Team (part of the Shared Services) is well placed to ensure that the longer-term performance standards are maintained throughout all member schools and has collective power to positively influence providers if standards are perceived to fall below agreed performance indicators. Contracts are monitored and pro-actively reviewed.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement (continued)

Areas where the trust's activities have contributed to achieving value for money are:

- Utilities (including water) contracted centrally to achieve economies of scale
- Whole trust grounds maintenance contracted centrally through open tender.
- Utilising government frameworks for photocopier procurement at the majority of the trust's schools.
- Trust-wide aligned IT Managed Service now in place using a DfE approved framework
- Trust-wide, cloud-based MIS and HRIS now in place utilising the Everything ICT framework to support the process and ensure value for money
- Centralisation of some functions (including finance) leading to reduction in overall operating costs as well as increased efficiency
- All schools now moved to cloud-based networks, reducing utility costs and ongoing operational costs

The Purpose of the System of Internal Control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to Handle Risk

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement (continued)

The Risk and Control Framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Cornwall Council. This option has been chosen because it represents good value and ensures that the Board of Trustees are able to receive assurance from an experienced internal auditor that is not related to the organisation providing our trust with external auditing services.

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

- Cyber Security
- Policy and Website Review
- Premises Compliance
- Procurement

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

The academy trust confirms that the internal auditor has delivered their schedule of work as planned.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Governance statement (continued)

Review of Effectiveness

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

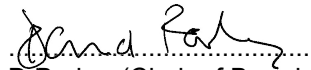
- the work of the internal auditor ;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assesment tool;
- the work of the executive officers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- correspondence from ESFA.

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 ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

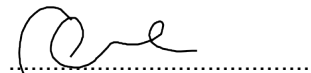
Conclusion

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.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on ..06/12/2024.. and signed on its behalf by:



D Parker (Chair of Board of Trustees)
Trustee



C Growle (CEO)
Accounting Officer


Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Statement of regularity, propriety and compliance

As accounting officer of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning), 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 Board of Trustees of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust 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 trustees and ESFA.



.....
C Crowle (CEO)
Accounting Officer

Date: 6th December 2024

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

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

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

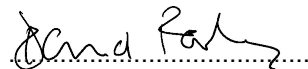
- select suitable accounting policies and apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024.
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards [FRS 102] have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 06/12/2024 and signed on its behalf by:



D Parker (Chair of Board of Trustees)
Trustee

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) (the 'Academy') for the year ended 31 August 2024, which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2024 (including Income and Expenditure Account), Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024, Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2024, and Notes to the Financial Statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland'.

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, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2023 to 2024; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) (continued)

Other information (covers the Reference and Administrative Details, the Trustee's Report and the Governance Statement)

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities [set out on page 42], the Trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) (continued)

Auditor Responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

As part of our audit planning we obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory framework that is applicable to the entity and the education sector in which it operates to identify the key laws and regulations affecting the entity. The key laws and regulations we identified were compliance with the funding agreement and Academies Trust Handbook 2023 and requirements with regard to safeguarding.

We also considered those laws and regulations that have a direct impact on the preparation of the financial statements, primarily the Academies Accounts Direction 2023/24, Companies Act 2006 and Charities Act 2011.

We discussed with management how the compliance with these laws and regulations is monitored and discussed the policies and procedures in place. We also identified the individuals who have responsibility for ensuring that the entity complies with laws and regulations and deals with reporting any issues if they arise.

As part of our planning procedures, we assessed the risk of any non-compliance with laws and regulations on the entity's ability to continue operating and the risk of material misstatement to the accounts.

Based on this understanding we designed our audit procedures to identify non-compliance with such laws and regulations. Our procedures involved the following:

- Conducting detailed regularity testing in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts as issued by the ESFA, as reported on separately in our Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report;
- Reviewed Board and Finance and Audit Committee minutes for indications of non compliance;
- Reviewed legal and professional costs to identify legal costs in respect of non compliance;
- Discussed the procedures in place for ensuring the safeguarding of pupils, including DBS checks and identified those staff and governors with responsibility for overseeing these areas; and
- Reviewed the accounts disclosures against those in the Academies Model Accounts 2023 to 2024, published by the ESFA.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) (continued)

As part of our enquiries we discussed with management whether there have been any known instances, allegations or suspicions of fraud of which there were none.

We also evaluated the risk of fraud through management override including that arising from management's incentives. We determined that these risks are low as the Academy Trust operates on a charitable, not for profit basis and so there would be no motivation for management to influence performance for individual gain. However there was considered a risk of the inappropriate allocation of expenditure against restricted funds.

In response to the identified risk, as part of our audit work we:

- Reviewed the material restricted grant income sources, identified the related conditions and reviewed the nature of expenditure set against it for appropriateness, together with sample testing on expenditure;
- Used data analytics to test journal entries throughout the period, for appropriateness; and
- Reviewed accounting estimates and judgements made in the accounts for any indication of bias and challenged assumptions used by management in making the estimates.

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. This risk increases the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements as we are less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

A further description of our responsibilities is available on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our auditor's report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Trusts' 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 Trusts' Members those matters we are required to state to them in an auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Trusts' Members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Signed by:

.....46B3EDEBE022494.....
Duncan Leslie (Senior Statutory Auditor)
PKF Francis Clark, Statutory Auditor

Melville Building East
Unit 18, 23 Royal William Yard
Plymouth
PL1 3GW

12 December 2024
Date:.....

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 22 November 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 Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) during the period 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)'s Accounting Officer and the reporting Accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)'s funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 15 October 2010 and the Academy Trust Handbook 2023, 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 from 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. The Trust's responsibilities with regards to estates safety and management are not included within the scope of our engagement.

Approach

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

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

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

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Independent Reporting Accountant's Assurance Report on Regularity to Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning) and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (continued)

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- 1) Inspection of the expenditure allocated to material restricted grant income in streams
- 2) Substantive testing of staff expenses, credit card expenses and restructuring payments
- 3) Enquiries of management

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year from 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.

Signed by:

.....46B3EDEBE022494.....
Duncan Leslie
PKF Francis Clark, Chartered Accountants

Melville Building East
Unit 18, 23 Royal William Yard
Plymouth
PL1 3GW

12 December 2024
Date:.....

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and capital grants	2	534	98,270	1,586,715	1,685,519
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy's educational operations	3	731,288	31,175,476	-	31,906,764
Teaching schools	27	-	396,533	-	396,533
Other trading activities	4	878,789	232,798	-	1,111,587
Investment income	5	64,116	-	-	64,116
Total		<u>1,674,727</u>	<u>31,903,077</u>	<u>1,586,715</u>	<u>35,164,519</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	359,654	-	-	359,654
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	2,767,838	31,463,218	1,496,683	35,727,739
Teaching schools	27	-	361,897	-	361,897
Total	6	<u>3,127,492</u>	<u>31,825,115</u>	<u>1,496,683</u>	<u>36,449,290</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		(1,452,765)	77,962	90,032	(1,284,771)
Transfers between funds		(17,198)	(107,061)	124,259	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	428,000	-	428,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(1,469,963)	398,901	214,291	(856,771)
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2023		<u>2,836,312</u>	<u>(431,559)</u>	<u>49,740,791</u>	<u>52,145,544</u>
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2024		<u>1,366,349</u>	<u>(32,658)</u>	<u>49,955,082</u>	<u>51,288,773</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2023 (including Income and Expenditure Account)

Note	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total 2022/23 £	
Income and endowments from:					
Voluntary income					
Donations and capital grants	2	1,853	108,149	1,425,451	1,535,453
Transfer from local authority and other MATs		6,295	(119,000)	118,020	5,315
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Funding for the Academy's educational operations	3	867,532	29,707,665	-	30,575,197
Teaching schools		-	359,008	-	359,008
Other trading activities	4	448,028	278,491	-	726,519
Investment income	5	29,133	-	-	29,133
Total		<u>1,352,841</u>	<u>30,334,313</u>	<u>1,543,471</u>	<u>33,230,625</u>
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	335,035	-	-	335,035
<i>Charitable activities:</i>					
Academy trust educational operations	7	1,152,237	31,204,760	1,490,893	33,847,890
Teaching schools		-	260,623	-	260,623
Total		<u>1,487,272</u>	<u>31,465,383</u>	<u>1,490,893</u>	<u>34,443,548</u>
Net (expenditure)/income		(134,431)	(1,131,070)	52,578	(1,212,923)
Transfers between funds		(644)	(610,735)	611,379	-
Other recognised gains and losses					
Actuarial gain on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	1,685,000	-	1,685,000
Net movement in (deficit)/funds		(135,075)	(56,805)	663,957	472,077
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds/(deficit) brought forward at 1 September 2022		<u>2,971,387</u>	<u>(374,754)</u>	<u>49,076,834</u>	<u>51,673,467</u>
Total funds/(deficit) carried forward at 31 August 2023		<u><u>2,836,312</u></u>	<u><u>(431,559)</u></u>	<u><u>49,740,791</u></u>	<u><u>52,145,544</u></u>

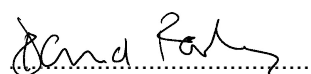
Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2024

Company Number: 07394649

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Fixed assets			
Intangible assets	12	-	17
Tangible assets	13	49,625,655	49,623,396
		<u>49,625,655</u>	<u>49,623,413</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	1,941,309	1,350,626
Cash at bank and in hand		2,773,724	4,484,437
		<u>4,715,033</u>	<u>5,835,063</u>
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	15	(2,679,915)	(2,405,932)
Net current assets		<u>2,035,118</u>	<u>3,429,131</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>51,660,773</u>	<u>53,052,544</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability		51,660,773	53,052,544
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	25	372,000	907,000
Total net assets		<u>51,288,773</u>	<u>52,145,544</u>
Funds of the Academy Trust:			
Restricted funds			
Restricted general fund		339,342	475,441
Restricted fixed asset fund		49,955,082	49,740,791
Restricted pension fund		(372,000)	(907,000)
		<u>49,922,424</u>	<u>49,309,232</u>
Unrestricted funds			
Unrestricted general fund		1,366,349	2,836,312
Total funds		<u>51,288,773</u>	<u>52,145,544</u>

The financial statements on pages 49 to 84 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on .06/12/2024. and signed on their behalf by:



D Parker (Chair of Board of Trustees)
Trustee

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2024

	Note	2024 £	2023 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	(1,854,109)	(924,926)
Cash flows from investing activities	22	151,906	(546,481)
Cash flows from financing activities	21	<u>(8,510)</u>	<u>(8,507)</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(1,710,713)	(1,479,914)
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September		<u>4,484,437</u>	<u>5,964,351</u>
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August	23	<u><u>2,773,724</u></u>	<u><u>4,484,437</u></u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

1 Accounting policies

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

Basis of preparation

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

Going concern

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

Income

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Grants

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

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

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

Transfer on conversion

Where assets are received by the trust on conversion to an Academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as Transfer on conversion within Donations and capital grant income.

Transfer of existing academies into the academy trust

Where assets are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the Trust, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the trust, which is on signing of the transfer agreement with the transferring trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the trust within Donations and capital grant income.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

Intangible fixed assets

Intangible assets costing £500 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable, and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably. Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment. Amortisation is provided on intangible fixed assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

Asset class	Amortisation method and rate
Software	25% straight line

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible fixed assets

Tangible fixed assets are recognised on the balance sheet when it is deemed that the Trust has control over the asset.

In the case of the school land and buildings at The Bishop's C of E Learning Academy, the Trust has a license to occupy the premises, evidenced by a supplemental agreement between the Trust, the Diocese and the Secretary of State.

Having perused the arrangement with the Diocese, the Trustees have concluded that control of the school land and buildings is retained by the Diocese and therefore the land and building assets are not recognised on the balance sheet in respect of this Academy. Any capital improvement works undertaken to the building at The Bishop's C of E Learning Academy are recognised as site improvements and capitalised on the balance sheet.

Where control is substantiated, assets costing £500 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. 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 such assets is charged to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities so as to reduce the fund over the useful economic life of the related asset on a basis consistent with the Trust's depreciation policy.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset over its expected useful lives, per the table below.

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.

Asset class	Depreciation method and rate
Freehold buildings	2 - 4% straight line
Leasehold buildings	2% straight line
Site improvements	2% straight line
Computer equipment	25 - 33% straight line
Furniture and equipment	7 - 25% straight line
Motor vehicles	20 - 25% straight line

Liabilities

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

Provisions are measured at the best estimate of the amounts required to settle the obligation. Where the effect of the time value of money is material, the provision is based on the present value of those amounts, discounted at the pre-tax discount rate that reflects the risks specific to the liability. The unwinding of the discount is recognised within interest payable and similar charges.

Leased assets

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

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments. Amounts due to the charity'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.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 15. 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 charity's wholly owned subsidiary are held at face value less any impairment.

Taxation

The Trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the Trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Chapter 3 Part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Pension benefits

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

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

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

Fund accounting

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

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

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

1 Accounting policies (continued)

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The valuation of land and buildings transferred on conversion to a Trust. The Trustees use all information available including valuation reports and benchmarking these valuations to determine the fair value.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

2 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Other voluntary income					
Capital grants	-	-	1,586,715	1,586,715	1,425,451
Other donations	534	98,270	-	98,804	110,002
	<u>534</u>	<u>98,270</u>	<u>1,586,715</u>	<u>1,685,519</u>	<u>1,535,453</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

3 Funding for the Multi Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
DfE/ESFA revenue grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	24,155,790	24,155,790	23,377,863
Other DfE/EFA grants	-	3,029,150	3,029,150	2,281,395
Pupil premium	-	1,572,370	1,572,370	1,568,226
UIFSM	-	785,472	785,472	762,509
	<u>-</u>	<u>29,542,782</u>	<u>29,542,782</u>	<u>27,989,993</u>
Other government grants				
Other LA grants	-	1,526,045	1,526,045	1,361,823
Other government grants	-	6,440	6,440	255,985
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,532,485</u>	<u>1,532,485</u>	<u>1,617,808</u>
Non-government grants and other income				
Non grant income	731,288	100,209	831,497	967,396
Total grants	<u>731,288</u>	<u>31,175,476</u>	<u>31,906,764</u>	<u>30,575,197</u>

4 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Hire of facilities	32,548	-	32,548	25,106
Non pupil catering income	9,993	-	9,993	-
Recharges and reimbursements	8,318	-	8,318	-
Other income	827,930	232,798	1,060,728	701,413
	<u>878,789</u>	<u>232,798</u>	<u>1,111,587</u>	<u>726,519</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

5 Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
Short term deposits	64,116	64,116	29,133

6 Expenditure

	Non Pay Expenditure			2023/24 Total £	2022/23 Total £
	Staff costs £	Premises £	Other costs £		
Expenditure on raising funds					
Direct costs	359,654	-	-	359,654	335,035
Academy trust's educational operations					
Direct costs	23,103,571	-	3,227,253	26,330,824	23,930,388
Allocated support costs	3,422,098	3,651,609	2,323,208	9,396,915	9,917,502
Teaching school hub					
Direct costs	317,364	-	44,533	361,897	260,623
	<u>27,202,687</u>	<u>3,651,609</u>	<u>5,594,994</u>	<u>36,449,290</u>	<u>34,443,548</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

6 Expenditure (continued)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Operating leases - plant and machinery	418,716	333,392
Amortisation of intangible fixed assets	17	31
Fees payable to auditor - audit	27,700	21,963
- other audit services	15,140	11,400
Depreciation	<u>1,496,667</u>	<u>1,490,862</u>

7 Charitable activities

	Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
Direct costs - educational operations	26,330,824	23,930,388
Support costs - educational operations	<u>9,396,915</u>	<u>9,917,502</u>
	<u>35,727,739</u>	<u>33,847,890</u>

	Educational operations £	Total 2023/24 £	Total 2022/23 £
Analysis of support costs			
Support staff costs	3,422,098	3,422,098	4,037,915
Depreciation and amortisation	1,496,683	1,496,683	1,490,893
Technology costs	145,306	145,306	534,560
Premises costs	2,154,926	2,154,926	2,075,064
Other support costs	2,132,312	2,132,312	1,745,346
Governance costs	<u>45,590</u>	<u>45,590</u>	<u>33,724</u>
Total support costs	<u>9,396,915</u>	<u>9,396,915</u>	<u>9,917,502</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

8 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Staff costs during the year were:		
Wages and salaries	20,068,604	18,763,127
Social security costs	1,896,814	1,658,961
Pension costs	<u>4,543,023</u>	<u>4,538,486</u>
	26,508,441	24,960,574
Supply teacher costs	591,895	727,876
Staff restructuring costs	<u>102,351</u>	<u>28,477</u>
	<u>27,202,687</u>	<u>25,716,927</u>

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Staff restructuring costs comprise:		
Redundancy and PILON payments	88,504	15,279
Severance payments	13,847	13,198
	<u>102,351</u>	<u>28,477</u>

Severance payments

The Academy trust paid 1 severance payment in the year disclosed in the following bands:

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
0 - £25,000	<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

8 Staff (continued)

Staff numbers

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Academy Trust during the year was as follows:

	2023/24 No.	2022/23 No.
Charitable Activities		
Teachers	267	265
Administration and support	497	514
Management	30	32
	<u>794</u>	<u>811</u>

Higher paid staff

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

	2023/24 No.	2022/23 No.
£60,001 - £70,000	15	8
£70,001 - £80,000	5	6
£80,001 - £90,000	-	2
£90,001 - £100,000	2	-
£110,001 - £120,000	1	1
£120,001 - £130,000	1	-

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer National Insurance Contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Multi Academy Trust was £394,991 (2023 - £438,264).

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

9 Central services

The Trust's Shared Services Teams provide:

- Finance (including a dedicated finance processing team);
- Audit and accountancy;
- Legal services (through an external SLA);
- Estates management;
- HR (including central recruitment and staff wellbeing services);
- Governance support;
- Procurement;
- School improvement;
- Leadership support;
- IT support services (through an external SLA);
- General business services support (including project management, Trust policies, marketing, and website management)

The Trust pools the GAG funding, with approximately 5-7% of GAG funding used to provide the centralised activities of the Shared Services Teams.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

9 Central services (continued)

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2024
	£
Beacon ACE Academy	147,852
The Bishops C of E Learning Academy	133,067
Charlestown Primary School	161,543
Constantine Primary School	76,723
Falmouth Primary Academy	102,298
Foxhole Learning Academy	36,763
St Kew ACE Academy	33,566
King Charles C of E School	164,236
Leedstown Community Primary School	30,370
Mabe School	65,534
Sky School	24,890
St Columb Major Academy	147,453
St Columb Minor Academy	171,029
St Newlyn East Learning Academy	56,743
St Agnes Academy	137,862
St Francis C of E School	167,832
St Merryn School	49,151
Trenance Learning Academy	138,661
Trevisker Primary School	67,932
Upton Cross ACE Academy	36,364
Wendron Primary School	39,161
	<u>1,989,030</u>

10 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

C Crowle (CEO)

Remuneration: £115,000 - £120,000 (2023 - £110,000 - £115,000)

Employer's pension contributions: £30,000 - £35,000 (2023 - £25,000 - £30,000)

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

11 Trustees' and officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice the Trust has purchased insurance to protect governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 (2023 - £1,000,000) on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £1,232 (2023- £1,232).

The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

12 Intangible fixed assets

	Software £	2023/24 Total £
Cost		
At 1 September 2023	21,933	21,933
At 31 August 2024	21,933	21,933
Amortisation		
At 1 September 2023	21,916	21,916
Charge for the year	17	17
At 31 August 2024	21,933	21,933
Carrying amount		
At 31 August 2024	-	-
At 31 August 2023	17	17

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

13 Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold land and buildings £	Leasehold land and buildings £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Site Improvements £	2023/24 Total £
Cost							
At 1 September 2023	5,174,314	50,000,001	2,122,446	2,248,754	37,140	808,044	60,390,699
Additions	647,229	504,471	200,313	131,752	13,790	2,531	1,500,086
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(2,900)	-	(2,900)
At 31 August 2024	<u>5,821,543</u>	<u>50,504,472</u>	<u>2,322,759</u>	<u>2,380,506</u>	<u>48,030</u>	<u>810,575</u>	<u>61,887,885</u>
Depreciation							
At 1 September 2023	520,134	6,587,602	1,674,480	1,895,583	23,015	66,489	10,767,303
Charge for the year	98,423	899,254	223,250	252,760	6,768	16,212	1,496,667
Eliminated on disposals	-	-	-	-	(1,740)	-	(1,740)
At 31 August 2024	<u>618,557</u>	<u>7,486,856</u>	<u>1,897,730</u>	<u>2,148,343</u>	<u>28,043</u>	<u>82,701</u>	<u>12,262,230</u>
Net book value							
At 31 August 2024	<u>5,202,986</u>	<u>43,017,616</u>	<u>425,029</u>	<u>232,163</u>	<u>19,987</u>	<u>727,874</u>	<u>49,625,655</u>
At 31 August 2023	<u>4,654,180</u>	<u>43,412,399</u>	<u>447,966</u>	<u>353,171</u>	<u>14,125</u>	<u>741,555</u>	<u>49,623,396</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

14 Debtors

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade debtors	378,309	45,598
Prepayments and accrued income	1,190,238	1,038,533
VAT recoverable	372,762	266,495
	<u>1,941,309</u>	<u>1,350,626</u>

15 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2024	2023
	£	£
Trade creditors	698,933	376,377
Other taxation and social security	409,944	368,341
Other creditors	1,758	9,387
Pension scheme creditor	527,419	445,381
Accruals	529,009	722,279
Deferred income	512,852	484,167
	<u>2,679,915</u>	<u>2,405,932</u>

	2024	2023
	£	£
Deferred income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2023	484,167	525,078
Resources deferred in the period	512,852	479,167
Amounts released from previous periods	<u>(484,167)</u>	<u>(520,078)</u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	<u>512,852</u>	<u>484,167</u>

Income has been deferred mainly in relation to the Universal Free School Meal Fund. The deferral serves to recognise the income over the time periods to which it relates.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	79,508	24,155,790	(24,131,221)	(63,819)	40,258
LA funding	29,848	1,526,375	(1,506,450)	(24,039)	25,734
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	785,472	(785,472)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,572,370	(1,572,370)	-	-
COVID catch up and Recovery Premium	20,636	1,039,119	(1,059,726)	(29)	-
Other DfE/ESFA revenue grants	56,710	1,985,031	(2,034,951)	(6,790)	-
Other non grant income, incl old KTSA	88,434	351,121	(348,286)	(12,384)	78,885
Teaching school/CTST/Old KTSA/KITE/SIP	200,305	487,799	(493,639)	-	194,465
	<u>475,441</u>	<u>31,903,077</u>	<u>(31,932,115)</u>	<u>(107,061)</u>	<u>339,342</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Assets transferred from conversion	29,780,612	906,743	(569,984)	(878)	30,116,493
Assets purchased/ donated	19,842,820	-	(926,699)	593,345	19,509,466
DfE/ESFA capital grants	117,359	609,348	-	(397,584)	329,123
LA and other capital funds	-	70,624	-	(70,624)	-
	<u>49,740,791</u>	<u>1,586,715</u>	<u>(1,496,683)</u>	<u>124,259</u>	<u>49,955,082</u>
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Fund	<u>(907,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>107,000</u>	<u>428,000</u>	<u>(372,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	49,309,232	33,489,792	(33,321,798)	445,198	49,922,424
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>2,836,312</u>	<u>1,674,727</u>	<u>(3,127,492)</u>	<u>(17,198)</u>	<u>1,366,349</u>
Total funds	<u><u>52,145,544</u></u>	<u><u>35,164,519</u></u>	<u><u>(36,449,290)</u></u>	<u><u>428,000</u></u>	<u><u>51,288,773</u></u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,125,770	23,285,229	(23,789,690)	(541,801)	79,508
LA funding	-	1,356,823	(1,325,723)	(1,252)	29,848
Universal Infant Free School Meals	-	762,509	(762,509)	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	1,568,226	(1,568,226)	-	-
COVID catch up and Recovery Premium	219,523	1,401,086	(1,595,107)	(4,866)	20,636
Other DfE/ESFA revenue grants	23,556	1,250,691	(1,166,380)	(51,157)	56,710
Other non grant income, incl old KTSA	91,883	359,745	(351,535)	(11,659)	88,434
Teaching school/CTST/Old KTSA/KITE/SIP	136,514	469,004	(405,213)	-	200,305
	<u>1,597,246</u>	<u>30,453,313</u>	<u>(30,964,383)</u>	<u>(610,735)</u>	<u>475,441</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
Assets transferred from conversion	30,326,812	374,197	(920,397)	-	29,780,612
Assets purchased/ donated	18,727,347	118,020	(570,496)	1,567,949	19,842,820
DfE/ESFA capital grants	22,675	607,482	-	(512,798)	117,359
LA and other capital funds	-	443,772	-	(443,772)	-
	<u>49,076,834</u>	<u>1,543,471</u>	<u>(1,490,893)</u>	<u>611,379</u>	<u>49,740,791</u>
Restricted pension funds					
Pension Fund	<u>(1,972,000)</u>	<u>(119,000)</u>	<u>(501,000)</u>	<u>1,685,000</u>	<u>(907,000)</u>
Total restricted funds	48,702,080	31,877,784	(32,956,276)	1,685,644	49,309,232
Unrestricted funds					
Unrestricted general funds	<u>2,971,387</u>	<u>1,352,841</u>	<u>(1,487,272)</u>	<u>(644)</u>	<u>2,836,312</u>
Total funds	<u>51,673,467</u>	<u>33,230,625</u>	<u>(34,443,548)</u>	<u>1,685,000</u>	<u>52,145,544</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

The Trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

Teaching school comprises the activities of the One Cornwall Teaching School Hub (in partnership with The Roseland MAT) and ITT activities that fall under the Kernow Learning Teaching School Hub umbrella but are not directly funded by the DfE.

Kernow English Hub is included within Other DfE/ESFA revenue grants. The English Hub provides specialist support to primary schools across Cornwall.

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

Restricted General Funds - The restricted general fund includes grants receivable from the Education and Skills Funding Agency, Department for Education and Local Authority towards the principal activity of the Trust, being the provision of education.

Pupil Premium funds - Pupil Premium is specifically used to raise the attainment levels of disadvantaged pupils and closing the gap with their peers, supporting children and young people with parents in regular armed forces, adopted children and children in care.

Universal Infant Free School Meals – The funding is used to cover the costs of providing free school meals to Key Stage 1 pupils (with the exception of Free School Meals pupils) within the Trust.

Recovery Premium and School Led Tutoring - The funding is granted to support pupils to catch up on missed learning caused by Coronavirus (Covid-19). Both grants ceased at the end of 2023-24.

KITE/CTST - KITE is a School Centred Initial Teacher Training (SCITT) facility comprising a partnership of schools across Cornwall, led by Trenance Learning Academy. Cornwall Teaching Schools Together is now the Cornwall Operational Board and is overseen by Kernow Learning and Truro and Penwith MAT.

Restricted fixed asset funds - The restricted fixed asset fund includes the freehold property, leasehold property, furniture and equipment transferred to the Trust and grants from the Education and Skills Funding Agency and Local Authority which have been received. The fund is being reduced by depreciation in the year.

Restricted pension funds - The defined benefit pension fund represents the current deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

Analysis of academies by fund balance

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 were allocated as follows:

	Total £
Beacon ACE Academy	5,156
The Bishops C of E Learning Academy	13,642
Charlestown Primary School	21,835
Constantine Primary School	2,410
English HUB	20,956
Falmouth Primary Academy	4,825
Foxhole Learning Academy	1,895
St Kew ACE Academy	2,000
Leedstown Community Primary School	1,273
Mabe School	6,186
St Columb Major Academy	10,240
St Columb Minor Academy	31,614
Sky School	74
St Newlyn East Learning Academy	8,259
St Agnes Academy	9,100
St Francis C of E School	1,978
St Merryn School	1,321
Trenance Learning Academy	7,198
Trevisker Primary School	8,089
Teaching School HUB	108,147
Wendron Primary School	1,044
Central services	<u>1,438,449</u>
Total before fixed assets and pension reserve	1,705,691
Restricted fixed assets fund	49,955,082
Pension Fund	<u>(372,000)</u>
Total	<u><u>51,288,773</u></u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2024 £
Beacon ACE Academy	2,102,713	202,837	220,753	418,131	2,944,434
The Bishops C of E Learning Academy	1,494,321	253,628	155,884	304,856	2,208,689
Charlestown Primary School	1,592,835	302,585	151,253	419,683	2,466,356
Constantine Primary School	990,100	81,076	140,341	234,638	1,446,155
English HUB	143,908	162,113	482,365	13,689	802,075
Falmouth Primary Academy	1,400,665	115,138	188,883	349,802	2,054,488
Foxhole Learning Academy	609,092	56,139	155,223	125,845	946,299
King Charles C of E School	1,546,196	166,503	164,701	453,602	2,331,002
Leedstown Community Primary School	370,161	43,658	45,003	106,282	565,104
Mabe School	888,236	79,551	76,002	186,348	1,230,137
Sky School	296,065	58,962	41,210	115,466	511,703
St Agnes Academy	1,387,682	88,467	183,809	357,707	2,017,665
St Columb Major Academy	1,542,006	237,489	148,713	358,734	2,286,942
St Columb Minor Academy	1,989,264	277,024	251,031	414,220	2,931,539
St Kew ACE Academy	454,646	43,554	80,030	109,925	688,155
St Newlyn East Learning Academy	643,560	58,317	78,249	169,753	949,879
St Francis C of E School	1,524,997	135,540	166,746	465,688	2,292,971
St Merryn School	631,958	104,208	76,525	136,998	949,689
Trenance Learning Academy	1,515,154	271,904	104,957	293,705	2,185,720
Trevisker Primary School	753,527	93,843	96,777	170,250	1,114,397
Teaching School HUB	218,315	99,049	10,724	33,809	361,897

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2024 £
Upton Cross ACE Academy	513,549	46,586	52,591	114,885	727,611
Wendron Primary School	491,386	65,015	58,336	143,568	758,305
Central services	-	-	-	-	181,395
Academy Trust	<u>23,100,336</u>	<u>3,043,186</u>	<u>3,130,106</u>	<u>5,497,584</u>	<u>34,952,607</u>

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2023 £
Beacon ACE Academy	1,796,314	303,913	133,943	381,243	2,615,413
The Bishops C of E Learning Academy	1,408,859	210,085	120,421	292,856	2,032,221
Charlestown Primary School	1,503,340	216,460	87,348	328,160	2,135,308
Constantine Primary School	892,553	67,295	72,372	231,316	1,263,536
English HUB	81,061	29,501	189,264	173,446	473,272
Falmouth Primary Academy	1,342,435	107,597	59,680	348,966	1,858,678
Foxhole Learning Academy	495,669	45,131	21,993	152,754	715,547
King Charles C of E School	1,391,211	133,118	107,661	385,565	2,017,555
Leedstown Community Primary School	350,180	28,493	23,523	108,149	510,345
Mabe School	833,100	59,563	40,156	200,606	1,133,425
Sky School	198,002	37,019	25,118	104,440	364,579
St Agnes Academy	1,273,524	74,006	86,809	276,964	1,711,303
St Columb Major Academy	1,439,580	201,803	73,105	314,977	2,029,465

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

16 Funds (continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs (excluding depreciation) £	Total 2023 £
St Columb Minor Academy	1,749,397	281,765	79,497	398,301	2,508,960
St Kew ACE Academy	368,716	29,014	38,236	132,376	568,342
St Newlyn East Learning Academy	571,521	59,734	52,310	156,697	840,262
St Francis C of E School	1,387,917	120,955	107,051	371,920	1,987,843
St Merryn School	632,673	93,906	42,977	161,263	930,819
Trenance Learning Academy	1,424,136	244,700	52,443	271,878	1,993,157
Trevisker Primary School	667,808	79,118	33,091	196,097	976,114
Teaching School HUB	85,782	21,841	-	153,048	260,671
Upton Cross ACE Academy	471,383	37,986	22,354	109,315	641,038
Wendron Primary School	460,210	43,817	24,454	137,331	665,812
Central services	-	-	-	-	2,718,990
Academy Trust	<u>20,825,371</u>	<u>2,526,820</u>	<u>1,493,806</u>	<u>5,387,668</u>	<u>32,952,655</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	49,625,655	49,625,655
Current assets	1,366,349	2,690,134	658,550	4,715,033
Current liabilities	-	(2,350,792)	(329,123)	(2,679,915)
Pension scheme liability	-	(372,000)	-	(372,000)
Total net assets	<u>1,366,349</u>	<u>(32,658)</u>	<u>49,955,082</u>	<u>51,288,773</u>

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

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	17	17
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	49,623,396	49,623,396
Current assets	2,836,312	2,798,437	200,267	5,835,016
Current liabilities	-	(2,322,996)	(82,889)	(2,405,885)
Pension scheme liability	-	(907,000)	-	(907,000)
Total net assets	<u>2,836,312</u>	<u>(431,559)</u>	<u>49,740,791</u>	<u>52,145,544</u>

18 Capital commitments

	2024 £	2023 £
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	<u>329,124</u>	<u>105,567</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

19 Financial commitments

Operating leases

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	365,057	402,878
Amounts due between one and five years	<u>255,670</u>	<u>467,473</u>
	<u>620,727</u>	<u>870,351</u>

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

	2024	2023
	£	£
Net expenditure	(1,284,771)	(1,212,923)
Amortisation	17	31
Depreciation	1,496,667	1,490,862
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,586,716)	(1,425,451)
Non cash balances transferred from other MATs	-	59,904
Interest receivable	(64,116)	(29,133)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(150,000)	403,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	43,000	98,000
Increase in debtors	(590,683)	(82,433)
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	<u>282,493</u>	<u>(226,783)</u>
Net cash used in Operating Activities	<u>(1,854,109)</u>	<u>(924,926)</u>

21 Cash flows from financing activities

	2024	2023
	£	£
Repayments of Salix and DfE Loans	<u>(8,510)</u>	<u>(8,507)</u>
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(8,510)</u>	<u>(8,507)</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

22 Cash flows from investing activities

	2024 £	2023 £
Interest income	64,116	29,133
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,500,086)	(2,001,065)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets	1,160	-
Capital grants from DfE Group	666,703	1,041,784
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	920,013	383,667
Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	<u>151,906</u>	<u>(546,481)</u>

23 Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>2,773,724</u>	<u>4,484,437</u>
Total cash and cash equivalents	<u>2,773,724</u>	<u>4,484,437</u>

24 Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2023 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2024 £
Cash	4,484,437	(1,710,713)	2,773,724
Loans falling due within one year	<u>(8,510)</u>	<u>8,510</u>	<u>-</u>
Total	<u>4,475,927</u>	<u>(1,702,203)</u>	<u>2,773,724</u>

25 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £527,419 (2023 - £445,381) were payable to the schemes at 31 August and are included within creditors.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

The key elements of the valuation outcome are:

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the period amounted to £3,009,526 (2023: £2,541,760).

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

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

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2024 was £2,133,496 (2023 - £1,880,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £1,683,496 (2023 - £1,473,000) and employees' contributions totalled £450,000 (2023 - £407,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are per cent for employers and per cent for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2024	2023
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	2.70	3.00
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.70	3.00
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	<u>5.00</u>	<u>5.20</u>

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

	2024	2023
Retiring today		
Males retiring today	18.80	18.90
Females retiring today	23.30	23.30
Retiring in 20 years		
Males retiring in 20 years	20.60	20.80
Females retiring in 20 years	<u>25.20</u>	<u>25.20</u>

Sensitivity analysis

	2024	2023
	£	£
Discount rate -0.1%	548,000	493,000
Salary rate +0.1%	19,000	33,000
Pension rate +0.1%	<u>541,000</u>	<u>469,000</u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

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

	At 31 August 2024	At 31 August 2023
	£	£
Equities	13,798,200	10,877,900
Other bonds	7,359,040	7,120,080
Property	1,379,820	1,384,460
Cash and other liquid assets	<u>459,940</u>	<u>395,560</u>
Total market value of assets	<u><u>22,997,000</u></u>	<u><u>19,778,000</u></u>

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,494,800 (2023 - £613,000).

Amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities

	2023/24	2022/23
	£	£
Current service cost	1,533,000	1,876,000
Net interest cost	<u>43,000</u>	<u>98,000</u>
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u><u>1,576,000</u></u>	<u><u>1,974,000</u></u>

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

25 Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Movements in the fair value of academy's share of scheme assets

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
At start of period	19,778,000	18,224,000
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	-	312,000
Interest income	1,077,000	822,000
Actuarial gain/(loss)	266,000	(1,254,000)
Employer contributions	1,683,000	1,473,000
Employee contributions	450,000	407,000
Benefits paid	<u>(257,000)</u>	<u>(206,000)</u>
At 31 August	<u>22,997,000</u>	<u>19,778,000</u>

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

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
At start of period	(20,685,000)	(20,196,000)
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust	-	(431,000)
Current service cost	(1,533,000)	(1,876,000)
Interest cost	(1,120,000)	(920,000)
Employee contributions	(450,000)	(407,000)
Actuarial (gain)/loss	162,000	2,939,000
Benefits paid	<u>257,000</u>	<u>206,000</u>
At 31 August	<u>(23,369,000)</u>	<u>(20,685,000)</u>

26 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Trust and the composition of the board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest.

During the year the Trust employed 1 relative of the CEO as a head teacher. This individual was employed following a independent recruitment process that adhered to the conflict of interest policies of the Trust.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account.

Kernow Learning Multi Academy Trust (trading as Kernow Learning)

Notes to the Financial Statements for the Year Ended 31 August 2024 (continued)

27 Teaching school trading account

	2023/24 £	2022/23 £
Income		
Direct Income		
Other income	<u>396,533</u>	<u>359,008</u>
Total Income	<u>396,533</u>	<u>359,008</u>
Expenditure		
Direct costs		
Other direct costs	<u>361,897</u>	<u>260,623</u>
Total Expenditure	<u>(361,897)</u>	<u>(260,623)</u>
Transfers between funds excluding depreciation	<u>-</u>	<u>(53,524)</u>
Surplus from all sources	34,636	44,861
Teaching school balances at 1 September 2023	<u>73,510</u>	<u>28,649</u>
Teaching school balances at 31 August 2024	<u><u>108,146</u></u>	<u><u>73,510</u></u>

28 Member liability

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