

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**  
**(A Company Limited by Guarantee)**

**REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2013**

***Company Limited by Guarantee***  
***Registration Number: 1902341 (England and Wales)***  
***Charity Registration Number: 517958***

# **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

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**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

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# MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

### Governors (Trustees)

\* = members of the Finance Committee

G Evans  
B Alexander  
C Robinson  
J Biswas  
I Birnbaum\* (Chairman)  
C Winteringham  
L Coombes  
J Poole (appointed 1/11/2012)  
L Hughes (appointed 1/11/2012)  
L Walters (appointed 1/11/2012)  
E Freel (appointed 8/5/2013)  
M Ingram (appointed 8/5/2013)  
W Marriott (appointed 8/5/2013)  
B Griffiths (resigned 8/2/13)

### Secretary

P Mitchell

### Senior managers

#### Principal

D Cassells\*

#### Deputy Head - Secondary

M Ingram

#### Deputy Head - Primary

S Bowey

#### Director of Finance and Administration

P Mitchell\*

### Registered Office

Cobbs Brow Lane  
Lathom  
L40 6JJ  
Tel: 01695 729912

### Company Registration Number

1902341 (England and Wales)

### Charity Registration Number

517958

### Auditors

Chaytor Steele & Co  
Chartered Accountants  
9a Derby Street  
Ormskirk  
L39 2BJ

### Bankers

Lloyds TSB  
PO Box 1000  
Andover  
BX1 1LT

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

Bankers

Natwest Bank  
4 Standishgate  
Wigan  
Lancashire  
WN1 1UJ

Barclays Bank  
265-267 Lord Street  
Southport  
PR8 1PD

Bank of Scotland  
PO Box 1000  
BX2 1LB

Solicitors

Bates Wells & Braithwaite  
2-6 Cannon Street  
City of London  
London EC4M 6YH

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

The trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditors' report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013.

### **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

#### **Constitution**

The School is a company limited by guarantee with no share capital (registration no. 1902341) and a registered charity (registration no. 517958). The Academy Trust's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the School together with the Funding Agreement entered into with the Secretary of State for Education. Members of the Academy Trust comprise of the signatories to the memorandum, up to 3 persons who may be appointed by Maharishi Foundation and 1 person who may be appointed by the Secretary of State, the Chair of Governors and others whom existing members may unanimously appoint. The articles of association require the members of the Academy Trust to appoint at least three governors to be responsible for the statutory and constitutional affairs and management of the School.

#### **Members' liability**

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

#### **Trustees' Indemnities**

The Academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees, governors and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on Academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 for governors' liability on any one occurrence.

#### **Principal Activities**

The principal activity of the charitable company is the operation of the Maharishi School Trust to provide education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4 and 16 including the provision of Consciousness-based Education.

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

The governors are directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006 and trustees for the purposes of charity legislation. Governors are subject to retirement by rotation but are eligible for re-election at the meeting at which they retire. At each Annual General Meeting of the charitable company one third of the governors retire by rotation. The governors to retire are those who have been longest in office since their last election or appointment. The governors who were in office at 31 August 2013 and served throughout the year are listed on page 1. During the year under review the governors held 10 meetings. The training and induction provided for new Governors will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary, induction will provide information on charity, educational, legal and financial matters. All new Governors will be given a tour of the School and the chance to meet with staff and students.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

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

All governors are provided with access to copies of our policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as governors. As the number of new governors a year is limited, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual.

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

Company law requires the governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year, which give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company at the end of the financial year and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including income and expenditure, for the financial year. In preparing financial statements which give a true and fair view, the governors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in operation.

The governors are responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy the financial position of the charitable company and which enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006.

They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Academy Trust and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The governors confirm that so far as they are aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Academy Trust's auditors are unaware. They have taken all the steps that they ought to have taken as governors in order to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the Academy Trust's auditors are aware of that information. The governors are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the Academy Trust's website.

#### **Organisational Structure**

The structure consists of two levels: the Governors and The Senior Managers. The aim of the management structure is to devolve responsibility and encourage involvement in decision making at all levels.

The Governors are responsible for setting general policy, adopting an annual plan and budget, monitoring the School by the use of budgets and making major decisions about the direction of the School, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The Senior Managers are the Head teacher, two Deputy Heads and the Director of Finance and Administration. These managers control the School at an executive level implementing the policies laid down by the Governors and reporting back to them. As a group the Senior Managers are responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets and the appointment of staff, though appointment boards for posts in the Management Team always contain a Governor.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT 31 August 2013**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Risk Management**

The governors have assessed the major risks to which the School is exposed, in particular those relating to the specific teaching, provision of facilities and other operational areas of the School, and its finances.

The governors have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the school faces, especially in the operational areas (e.g. in relation to teaching, health and safety, relationships and school trips) and in relation to the control of finance. They have introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, supervision of school grounds) and internal financial controls (see below) in order to minimise risk. Where significant financial risk still remains they have ensured they have adequate insurance cover. The School has an effective system of internal financial controls and this is explained in more detail in the following statement.

#### **Statement on the system of internal finance control**

As governors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Maharishi School Trust has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. We are also responsible for keeping proper accounting records which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the School and enable us to ensure the financial statements comply with the Companies Act. We also acknowledge responsibility for safeguarding the assets of the School and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities and to provide reasonable assurance that:-

- The School is operating efficiently and effectively;
- Its assets are safeguarded against unauthorised use or disposition;
- The proper records are maintained and financial information used within the Academy or for publication is reliable;
- The School complies with relevant laws and regulations.

The School'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 governing body;
- regular reviews by the Finance Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- identification and management of risks.

The governors have considered the need for a specific internal audit function and have decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the governors have appointed M Miley as Responsible Officer (RO). The RO's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Academy's financial systems.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Statement on the system of internal finance control continued**

On a termly basis, the RO is required to report to the governing body on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the governing body's financial responsibilities. These arrangements can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance that assets are safeguarded, transactions are authorised and properly recorded, and that material errors or irregularities are either prevented or would be detected within a timely period.

#### **OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES**

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

The principal object and activity of the charitable company is the operation of the Maharishi School Trust to provide education for pupils of different abilities between the ages of 4 and 16 including the provision of Consciousness-based Education. The Trust organises itself to comply with all the requirements of the Funding Agreement entered into with the Secretary of State for Education, its Memorandum and Articles of Association and any other relevant policies required by statute or approved by relevant authorities.

The School's main strategy is encompassed in its stated ethos and educational objectives

- to be a safe, happy, caring community of learners;
- to help all individuals regardless of their race, gender or disability to acquire the skills and knowledge needed to achieve their full potential in a rapidly changing world;
- to develop understanding of and respect for a wide range of religious values, languages, cultural traditions and different ways of life;
- to encourage an enjoyment of life-long learning;
- to encourage positive parental and community involvement;
- to promote healthy lifestyles;
- to provide a curriculum that is stimulating, broad, balanced, innovative and creative;
- to celebrate achievement;
- to provide tuition and learning opportunities for all students to attain appropriate academic qualifications; and
- to provide development and training opportunities for all staff, and especially teaching staff.

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

The main objectives of the School during the year ended 31 August 2013 are summarised below:

- to maintain the primacy of Consciousness-based Education as the unique educational strategy
- to ensure that every child enjoys the same high quality education in terms of resourcing, tuition and care;
- to raise the standard of educational achievement of all pupils;
- to improve the effectiveness of the School by keeping the curriculum and organisational structure under continual review;
- to provide value for money for the funds expended;
- to comply with all appropriate statutory and curriculum requirements; and
- to conduct the Academy's business in accordance with the highest standards of integrity, probity and openness.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Public Benefit**

One of Maharishi Free School's guiding principles is "The world is my family".

We recognise the unity of every individual with every aspect of the world, not only other people, but the whole environment. A practical expression of this is the fundraising our pupils undertake for those in need around the world.

The trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit by seeking to promote, sustain and increase individual and collective knowledge and understanding of specific areas of study, skills and expertise. In support of this Maharishi School provides its highly beneficial system of Consciousness-based Education to as many children as possible within the physical constraints of the current buildings. Despite this the school is unable to satisfy demand for places, both locally and beyond.

During the last year the school engaged in two applications to open more Maharishi Free Schools around the country to benefit children in other parts of the country.

Maharishi School also makes its facilities available to individuals and groups in the local community.

#### **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

The School is in its second year of operation as a Free School and continues to achieve the forecast numbers of students. Total students in the year ended 31st August 2013 numbered 158. The School has obtained agreement from the Department for Education (DfE) to grow to 192 students in the year commencing September 2013, which represents an increase of 34 students.

Examination results for 2013 were very pleasing. GCSE results are not published by the DfE until January, however the school estimates that 92% of students achieved 5 or more passes at grades A\* to C (85% including English and Maths) and 85% achieved the English Baccalaureate. To ensure that standards are continually raised the School operates a programme of observation of lessons and is visited by inspectors. The School also participates in national programmes looking at added value through the key stages.

#### **Going Concern**

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

#### **Key Financial Performance Indicators**

Maharishi School has compared its financial performance against benchmarking data for the Academies sector and is satisfied that there are no concerns. Those areas where performance may be considered marginal are being addressed by plans for future years.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Key Financial Performance Indicators continued**

The single greatest expenditure item for any school is staff salaries. The average cost as a percentage of total expenditure for similar Academies is 72-74% and a large proportion (approx. 29%) have staff costs of 76-80%. Maharishi School is in the next band with staff costs of approximately 82%. This is not unexpected given the small class sizes in the school and is expected to improve in 2013/14 with the advent of split site funding and is also being addressed by the Trustees electing to increase class sizes by 2 pupils per class.

Maharishi School is in the largest percentage group of Academies (40%) in terms of GAG funding carry forward of 1 – 5% at approximately 1.5%.

Environmentally Maharishi Secondary School is fortunate to occupy a building originally constructed using natural materials wherever practicable, including rammed earth walls. This building was converted for the School's conversion to Free School Status, under the auspices of the DfE, to the latest environmental performance standards, including a new roof.

There is a longer term plan to upgrade the Primary School site to achieve more energy efficient buildings, including the development of a new, stand-alone classroom constructed largely of natural materials and to the highest energy-efficient standards. Work has already started on improving the existing building with the replacement of an old large timber window and a French classroom door with UPVC components.

## **FINANCIAL REVIEW**

### **Financial and Risk Management Objectives and Policies**

The school Finance Committee regularly reviews the Trust's financial status, including risks and potential forecast pressures and work towards ending each year with a surplus in order to develop sufficient reserves. All the necessary policies and procedures are in place to protect the school from potential risks and are also subject to review.

The year in question is the first in which the school has participated in the Local Government Pension Scheme, from which the Actuaries report indicates a scheme deficit of £1,000. This deficit is a result of the general position of the Lancashire LGPS, which is understood to be undergoing review which in turn will alleviate the deficit.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

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

Outlined below are the principal risks that may affect the Maharishi School Trust.

- 1 Maharishi School Trust has considerable reliance on government funding through the EFA. In 2012/13, approximately 91% (compared to an average of circa 87% for convertor Secondary Academies) of the School's income was publicly funded and this requirement is expected to continue. A particular evolving risk results from funding reform - there can be no assurance that government policy or practice will remain consistent or that public funding will continue at the levels or on the same terms. The School will need to guard against the prospect of reduced government funding to education.

This risk can be mitigated in a number of ways:

- By closely monitoring the evolving education agenda and the changes outlined by the Department for Education
  - By closely monitoring the School's cost base and ensure value for money is obtained across all expenditures.
- 2 The EFA FMGE auditor suggested that the Responsible Officer conduct a risk review to supplement the Trusts existing, comprehensive risk register. The results are shown below and appropriate items have been added to the RO's scheme of work accordingly.

#### **'Maharishi School Risk Review undertaken by responsible officer**

The school already keeps a methodically compiled and comprehensive risk register and there seems little point in duplicating the work that has gone into this. I have reviewed the register and it appears satisfactory. Updating of the register is also a standing item on the Governing Body meeting agendas. However, I thought I might most usefully look at a number of areas which are key to the School's success more broadly and could have longer-term financial implications. I have also reported on one specific matter which arises from my internal audit work.

A =Action added to RO scheme of work.

#### **1 Risk that the School might lose its "special ethos"**

The School has been 3 times oversubscribed because of:

- a) Its above average academic results
- b) It is perceived as a safe place for parents to send their children, where there is no bullying and no exposure to drug taking.

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### Principal Risks and Uncertainties continued

Of these two it is possible the second is particularly important. It is worth recalling the case of the professional jazz trumpeter Mathew Halsall. Matthew was bullied at his local authority school because of his interest in music. His parents then paid for him to go to the Maharishi School, not because they themselves were practitioners of meditation, but because they perceived it as a place where he could develop his talents in peace, free from bullying. The move paid off and Matthew is now a success in his field.

Providing a safer environment for children to develop in is possibly the biggest service the School offers to the local community and its loss would be a loss to the community at large

The one factor that distinguishes Maharishi School from other schools of similar size is that the practice of Transcendental Meditation is part of the school's daily routine. However this factor is dependent on there being a supply of teachers who are both qualified to teach and sufficiently supportive of the school's ethos and system of education, including the practice of Transcendental Meditation.

**The risk would arise if/when current teachers leave and could not be replaced by qualified teachers sufficiently supportive of the school's ethos and system of Consciousness-based Education, which includes the practice of Transcendental Meditation.(A)**

There is also a risk to the special ethos and character of the school in its rapid expansion, bringing large numbers of new pupils who are new to meditation, which might dilute the atmosphere of the School. I understand cognizance of this was the basis of the school's growth plan and I would expect that this would ease naturally after the new situation becomes established.

However, whatever the cause, if the Maharishi School was to have its special character diluted or completely eroded, then this is likely to impact on the school's reputation, followed by its perceived desirability to local parents as a safe place for their children and then pupil applications, which will ultimately reduce pupil-based funding.(A)

#### **2 Risk that the skills of the teaching staff are not kept up to date**

In the past the school has had several "outstanding" classifications from OFSTED, but this has been downgraded to "good" following the recent inspection. The downgrading arises partly because OFSTED are placing greater emphasis on the technical abilities of the teaching staff and the need for more regular pupil assessment. It therefore appears that some of the staff will require continuing training to adapt their teaching methods to what is required now that the School is state-funded.

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### TRUSTEES' REPORT

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### Principal Risks and Uncertainties continued

##### **2 Risk that the skills of the teaching staff are not kept up to date continued**

There is a risk that the School may not be upgraded back to Outstanding in the future if this training programme is not successful.(A)

##### **3 Risk of the School's funding not being as anticipated.**

Over the long-term this could be affected by number 1 above. However, more current is that the School has been expanding rapidly and there is a risk that if communications with the funding body are inadequate, then the School could be left in an embarrassing situation where extra pupils have been promised places and additional teachers may have been engaged but the funding provided does not cover the additional expenditure. (A)

##### **4 Risk of defalcations of donated and fundraising cash.**

The school has a Fundraising Group organising a number of fundraising activities which generate income in the form of cash. I was concerned that accounting for these income sources was entirely dependent on one person, and there was no control to establish that what is collected is paid into the school bank account. It is an axiom of the auditing profession that if the system allows fraud to take place, then sooner or later an individual will be appointed who will take advantage of this.

I have now been made aware of the control measures already in place within the Fundraising Group's Terms of Reference and Code of conduct, which address these concerns. I am satisfied that the measures in place minimise the possibility of fraud or theft.'

#### Reserves policy

The governors review the reserve levels of the School annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. The reason for this is to provide sufficient working capital to cover delays between spending and receipt of grants and to provide a cushion to deal with unexpected emergencies such as urgent maintenance.

#### Financial position

The School held fund balances at 31 August 2013 of £834,692 (2012 - £873,651) comprising £784,421 (2012 - £823,438) of restricted funds and £50,271 (2012 - £50,213) of unrestricted general funds.

#### Investment Policy

During the financial year Maharishi School Trust Ltd generated a cash balance of £173,114, which will be invested within respected institutions approved in line with the school's Treasury Policy.

The objective of the academy is to ensure that sufficient funds are available at short or no notice to meet foreseeable requirements, while earning an acceptable rate of return without undue risk.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

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

The School will continue working to improve the levels of performance of its students at all levels. The School will also increase its recruitment up to the maximum capacity of our building. We have received £33,099 (2012 - £79,022) in donations which are to be used for a variety of projects within the school:

- Set up new free schools with an aim to be a multi academy trust
- Fund the teaching of Transcendental Meditation to school children
- Consolidate the school's performance and progress as a high quality Free School and exemplar of Consciousness Based Education.

#### **AUDITORS**

The auditors, Chaytor, Steele & Co, are willing to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

The report of the governors was approved by the governors on 12 December 2013 and signed on their behalf by:

**Ian Birnbaum,  
Chairman**

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### Scope of Responsibility

As trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Maharishi School Trust Limited 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 assurances against material misstatement or loss.

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, 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 Maharishi School Trust Limited and the Secretary of State of Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statements of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 6 times during the year.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
I Birnbaum (Chair)	6	6
G Evans	5	6
B Alexander	6	6
C Robinson	6	6
J Biswas	5	6
B Griffiths	2	6
C Winteringham	5	6
L Coombes	4	6
L Hughes	5	5
J Poole	4	5
L Walters	5	5
M Ingram	1	2
E Freel	2	2
W Marriott	2	2

The finance committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Governance continued**

The committee assists the decision making of the GB, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the GB's responsibility to ensure sound management of the School's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity. The FC has the following responsibilities:

1. Consider the financial aspects of particular matters specifically referred to the committee.
2. Consider the School's indicative budget funding obtained from the Ready Reckoner and to assess its implications for the School in consultation with the Principal and Business Manager in advance of the financial year involved, drawing any matters of significance or concern to the attention of the GB.
3. Consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the School budget, at the start of each financial year, (1st September – 31st August.)
4. Contribute to the evolution of the School's Development Plan, through the consideration of financial priorities and proposals, in consultation with the Principal and Business Manager within the School's stated and agreed aims and objectives.
5. Receive and make recommendations on the broad budget headings and areas of expenditure to be adopted each year, including the level and use of any contingency fund or balances, ensuring the compatibility of all such proposals with the development priorities set out in the development plan.
6. Agree limits of delegation and virements.
7. Liaise with and receive reports from other GB committees as appropriate and make recommendations to those committees about the financial aspects of matters being considered by them.
8. Monitor and review income and expenditure on a regular basis and ensure compliance with the overall financial plan for the School and with the requirements of the FA, EFA or DfE, including the school's own internal financial regulations, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of the GB.
9. Monitor and review procedures for ensuring the effective implementation and operation of financial procedures on a regular basis, including the implementation of bank account arrangements and where appropriate to make recommendations for improvement where necessary.
10. Prepare the financial statement to form part of the annual report of the GB to parents and for filing in accordance with Companies Act requirements.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Governance continued**

11. Receive auditors and RO reports and to recommend to GB action as appropriate in response to audit findings.
12. Recommend to the GB the appointment or reappointment of the Trust's auditors.
13. Develop and recommend to the GB policies on charging, lettings and contracts that are in accordance with Financial Regulations and advise governors on the financial implications of adopting certain policies.
14. Additional items as required/agreed.

#### **Premises**

1. Follow the requirements of the FA and the DfE and other relevant statutory authorities concerning the upkeep of buildings and land.
2. Ensure that the conditions of the premises and grounds are monitored and receive regular reports.
3. Ensure that resources are available to implement repair and maintenance as required and in a timely manner.
4. Prepare a statement of priorities for maintenance and development (Asset Management Plan.)
5. Receive regular reports on the general maintenance of the premises and grounds and inform the GB of the effectiveness of any planned maintenance programmes/Asset Management Plan.
6. Approve the budget allocation for maintenance, repairs and redecoration.
7. Oversee the preparation, implementation and monitoring of premises-related contracts.
8. Prepare a letting policy for the approval of the GB and to monitor and advise the GB on the use of the school by outside bodies.
9. Consider and advise the GB on matters relating to the efficient and effective use of the premises and grounds.
10. Draft and review the Academy's Disaster Recovery Plan and make recommendations to the GB.
11. Be aware of the extent of insurance cover on premises and equipment and review annually.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Governance continued**

12. Additional items as required/agreed.

Particular issues dealt with during the year have included problems producing appropriate reports with the finance software package which is understood to be an issue shared by other Academies using the same software. This has now been overcome. The Trust was also subject to an FMGE audit by the EFA which resulted in a "Satisfactory" overall rating and the committee is working to improve upon this. A significant piece of work associated with this was the completion of the Continuity Plan. The review and subsequent recommendation to the GB to increase pupil numbers was a result of the committee's addressing the issue of budget pressures which became obvious during the course of the year.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows

<b>Trustee</b>	<b>Meetings attended</b>	<b>Out of a possible</b>
I Birnbaum	5	5
D Cassells	4	5
P Mitchell	5	5
<b>Non-Trustees</b>		
R Scott	4	5
R Buswell	5	5
J Scott	5	5

#### **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 Maharishi School Trust for the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **Governance continued**

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

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the School 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 period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. The process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

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

The school's trust 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 of capital investment) guidelines;
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties;
- Identification and management risks.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

The board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided:

- Not to appoint an internal auditor. However the trustees have appointed M Miley, an accountant, as responsible officer (RO);

The auditor's role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. On a quarterly basis, the auditor reports to the board of trustees on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities.

#### **Review of Effectiveness**

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

- The work of the responsible officer and peer review;
- The work of the external auditor;
- The work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the finance and general purposes committee and a plan to address weaknesses (if relevant) and ensure continuous improvement of the system in place.

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 12 December 2013 and signed on its behalf by:

**I Birnbaum**  
**Chair of Trustees**

**D Cassells**  
**Accounting Officer**

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE**

As accounting officer of Maharishi School Trust Limited I have considered my responsibility to notify the School Trust Board of Trustees and the Education Funding Agency of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with EFA terms and conditions of funding, under the funding agreement in place between the academy trust and the Secretary of State. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academies financial Handbook.

I confirm of no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date.

**D Cassells**  
**Accounting Officer**  
**12 December 2013**

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

The trustees (who act as governors of Maharishi School Trust Limited and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of the company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Annual Accounts Direction issued by the Education 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 the apply them consistently;
- Observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP;
- Make judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- State whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements; and
- Prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

The trustees are responsible or ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which confirm with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from EFA/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 12 December 2013 and signed on its behalf by:

**Signed**

**I Birnbaum  
Chair of Trustees**

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST 31 August 2013**

We have audited the financial statements of Maharishi School Trust Limited for the year ended 31 August 2013 on pages 25 to 51, which have been prepared on the basis of the accounting policies set out on pages 29 to 32.

This report is made solely to the charity's trustees, as a body, in accordance with section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and regulations made under section 154 of that Act. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the charity's trustees 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 charity and the charity's trustees as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

#### **RESPECTIVE RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS AND AUDITORS**

The responsibilities of the directors for preparing the Trustees Annual Report and the financial statements in accordance with applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and for being satisfied that the financial statements give a true and fair view are set out in the Statement of Responsibilities of the Trustees on page 20.

The trustees have elected for the financial statements to be audited in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 rather than the Companies Act 2006. Accordingly we have been appointed as auditors under section 144 of the Charities Act 2011 and report in accordance with regulations made under section 154 of that Act.

Our responsibility is to audit the financial statements in accordance with relevant legal and regulatory requirements and International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland).

We report to you our opinion as to whether the financial statements give a true and fair view and have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006. We also report to you if, in our opinion, the information given in the Trustees Annual Report is not consistent with those financial statements, if the charity has not kept adequate accounting records, if the charity's financial statements are not in agreement with these accounting records and returns, or if we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

We read the Trustees Annual Report and consider the implications for our report if we become aware of any apparent misstatements within it.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **REPORT OF THE INDEPENDENT AUDITORS TO THE MEMBERS OF MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST 31 August 2013**

#### **BASIS OF AUDIT OPINION**

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK and Ireland) issued by the Auditing Practices Board. An audit includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. It also includes an assessment of the significant estimates and judgements made by the trustees in the preparation of the financial statements, and of whether the accounting policies are appropriate to the charity's circumstances, consistently applied and adequately disclosed.

We planned and performed our audit so as to obtain all the information and explanations which we considered necessary in order to provide us with sufficient evidence to give reasonable assurance that the financial statements are free from material misstatement, whether caused by fraud or other irregularity or error. In forming our opinion we also evaluated the overall adequacy of the presentation of information in the financial statements.

#### **OPINION**

In our opinion:

- the financial statements give a true and fair view, in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice, of the state of the charity's affairs as at 31 August 2013 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended; and
- the financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the Companies Act 2006.

G M DOBSON (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of

CHAYTOR STEELE & CO  
Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors

9a Derby Street  
Ormskirk  
Lancashire  
L39 2BJ

12 December 2013

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **INDEPENDENT REPORTING AUDITOR'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON THE REGULARITY TO MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED AND THE EDUCATION FUNDING AUTHORITY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 November 2012 and further to the requirements of the Education Funding Agency (EFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2013, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Maharishi School Trust Limited during the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 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 Maharishi School Trust and the EFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Maharishi School Trust and the EFA 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 the Maharishi School Trust and the EFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

#### **Respective responsibilities of Maharishi School Trust's accounting officer and the reporting auditor**

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Maharishi School Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State Education dated 9 August 2011 and the Academies Financial Handbook, extant from 1 September 2012, 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 2013. 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 period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 have been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

#### **Approach**

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Academies: Accounts Direction 2013 issued by the EFA. 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.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **INDEPENDENT REPORTING AUDITOR'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON THE REGULARITY TO MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED AND THE EDUCATION AUTHORITY**

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- Review expense claims and any unusual transactions ensuring the expenditure does not contravene the funding agreement
- Review of work undertaken and conclusions reached by Accounting Officer and the Responsible Individual throughout the year ensuring internal control procedures have been implemented
- Review responses from 2012 FMGE Return and assessment to ensure all actions required were implemented
- Review the risk register and representations given to trustees to ensure they are aware of their responsibilities including declarations of external interests
- All minutes of committee meetings were reviewed

#### **Conclusion**

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects of the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2012 to 31 August 2013 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**G M Dobson**  
**Senior Statutory Auditor**  
**CHAYTOR STEELE & CO**  
**Chartered Accountants & Statutory Auditors**

**12 December 2013**

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES)**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total Funds 2013	Total Funds 2012
	Note	£	£		£	£
<b>Incoming resources</b>						
<i>Incoming resources from generating funds:</i>						
Voluntary income	3	20,219	12,880	-	33,099	79,022
Activities for generating funds	4	42,515	-	-	42,515	34,536
Investment income	5	456	-	-	456	425
<i>Incoming resources from charitable activities</i>						
Funding for the Academy trust's educational operations	6	-	766,979	-	766,979	1,490,095
<b>Total incoming resources</b>		<u>63,190</u>	<u>779,859</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>843,049</u>	<u>1,604,078</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>						
Costs of generating voluntary income	9	-	8,000	-	8,000	5,244
Fundraising trading	8	15,568	10,618	-	26,186	25,626
<i>Charitable activities:</i>						
Academy's educational operations	10	25,346	768,660	-	794,006	654,849
Governance costs	11	22,218	30,598	-	52,816	110,288
<b>Total resources expended</b>	7	<u>63,132</u>	<u>817,876</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>881,008</u>	<u>796,007</u>
<b>Net incoming/(outgoing) resources before transfers</b>		58	(38,017)	-	(37,959)	808,071
Gross transfers between funds	18	-	56,998	(56,998)	-	-
<b>Net income/(expenditure) for the year c/f</b>		<u>58</u>	<u>18,981</u>	<u>(56,998)</u>	<u>(37,959)</u>	<u>808,071</u>

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**  
**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT**  
**AND STATEMENT OF TOTAL RECOGNISED GAINS AND LOSSES) (continued)**  
**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

		Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total Funds 2013	Total Funds 2012
	Note	£	£		£	£
Net income/(expenditure) for the year b/f		58	18,981	(56,998)	(37,959)	808,071
<b>Other recognised gains and losses</b>						
Actuarial (losses) gains on defined benefit pension schemes	<b>18,27</b>	-	(1,000)	-	(1,000)	-
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		58	17,981	(56,998)	(38,959)	808,071
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward at 1 September 2012	<b>18</b>	50,213	23,183	800,255	873,651	65,580
<b>Total funds carried forward at 31 August 2013</b>		50,271	41,164	743,257	834,692	873,651

All of the School's activities derive from continuing operations during the above two financial periods.  
A Statement of Total Recognised Gains and Losses is not required as all gains and losses are included in the Statement of Financial Activities

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**  
**BALANCE SHEET at 31 August 2013**

	Notes	2013 £	2013 £	2012 £	2012 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	15		744,687		803,198
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	16	13,927		34,081	
Cash at bank and in hand		173,114		133,629	
		<u>187,041</u>		<u>167,710</u>	
<b>Liabilities</b>					
Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	17	(96,036)		(97,257)	
<b>Net current assets</b>					
			91,005		70,453
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>					
Pension scheme liability	27		835,692		873,651
			(1,000)		-
<b>Net assets including pension liability</b>					
			<u>834,692</u>		<u>873,651</u>
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>					
<b>Restricted income funds</b>					
. Fixed asset fund	18	743,257		800,255	
. General fund	18	42,164		23,183	
. Pension reserve	18	(1,000)		-	
<b>Total restricted funds</b>					
			784,421		823,438
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>					
. General fund	18	50,271		50,213	
<b>Total unrestricted funds</b>					
			<u>50,271</u>		<u>50,213</u>
<b>Total funds</b>					
			<u>834,692</u>		<u>873,651</u>

The financial statements on pages 25 to 51 were approved by the trustees, and authorised for issued on 12 December 2013 and are signed on their behalf by:

**Ian Birnbaum,**  
**Chairman**

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**CASH FLOW STATEMENT  
for the year ended 31 August 2013**

	<b>Note</b>	<b>2013</b> £	<b>2012</b> £
<b>Net cash flow from operating activities</b>	22	41,962	69,238
Returns on investments and servicing of finance	23	456	425
Capital expenditure	24	(2,933)	210,457
(Decrease)/Increase in cash in the year	25	<u>39,485</u>	<u>280,120</u>
<b>Reconciliation of net cash flow to movement in net funds</b>			
Net funds at 1 September 2012		133,629	(146,491)
<b>Net funds at 31 August 2013</b>		<u>173,114</u>	<u>133,629</u>

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 1. Statement of Accounting Policies

##### **Basis of Preparation**

The financial statements have been prepared under the historic cost convention and in accordance with applicable United Kingdom Accounting Standards, the Charity Commission 'Statement of Recommended Practice: Accounting and Reporting by Charities' ('SORP 2005'), the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the EFA and the Companies Act 2006. A summary of the principal accounting policies, which have been applied consistently, except where noted, is set out below.

##### **Going Concern**

The governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the company to continue as a going concern. The governors make this assessment in respect of a period of one year from the date of approval of the financial statements. The financial statements have been prepared on a going concern basis.

##### **Incoming resources**

###### ***Grants receivable***

Grants are included in the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the balance sheet. Where income is received in advance of entitlement of receipt its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income. Where entitlement occurs before income is received the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the year for which is receivable and any unspent amount is reflected as a balance in the restricted general fund. Capital grants are recognised when receivable and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the balance in the restricted fixed asset fund.

###### ***Sponsorship income***

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable, where there is certainty of receipt and it is measurable.

###### ***Donations***

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis where there is certainty of receipt and the amount can be reliably measured.

###### ***Interest receivable***

Interest receivable is included within the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis.

- **Other Income**

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

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

- **Donated Service and Gifts in Kind**

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

#### **Resources Expended**

All expenditure is recognised in the period in which a liability is incurred and has been classified under headings that aggregate all costs related to that category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated on a basis consistent with the use of resources, with central staff costs allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use. Other support costs are allocated based on the spread of staff costs.

- **Costs of Generating Funds**

These are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

- **Charitable Activities**

These are costs incurred on the academy trust's educational operations.

- **Governance Costs**

These include the costs attributable to the academy trust's compliance with constitutional and statutory requirements, including audit, strategic management and trustee's meetings and reimbursed expenses.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

#### **Tangible Fixed Assets**

Assets costing £951,976 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 academy trust's depreciation policy.

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 1. Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)

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

- |                                       |                   |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| ○ Freehold buildings                  | 1% Straight Line  |
| ○ Fixtures, fittings and equipment    | 25% Straight Line |
| ○ ICT equipment                       | 33% Straight Line |
| ○ Minibus (included within equipment) | 25% Straight Line |

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

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.

#### Leased assets

Rentals under operating leases are charged on an actual basis over the lease term.

#### Taxation

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by 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.

#### Pension Benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially lower percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quinquennial valuations using a prospective benefit method. As stated in Note 27, the TPS is a multi-employer scheme and the academy trust is unable to identify its share of underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme on a consistent and reasonable basis. The TPS is therefore treated as a defined contributions scheme and the contributions recognised as they are paid each year.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **1. Statement of Accounting Policies (continued)**

##### **Pension Benefits (continued)**

The LGPS is a funded scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit 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 gains and losses on settlement and circumstances. They are included as part of staff costs. Past service costs are recognised immediately in the Statement of Financial Activities if the benefits have vested. If the benefits have not vested immediately, the costs are recognised over the period until vesting occurs. The expected return on assets and the interest cost are shown as a net finance amount of other finance costs or credits adjacent to interest. Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other gains and losses.

##### **Fund Accounting**

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Education Funding Agency on behalf of the Department for Education.

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

	2013 £	2012 £
<b>2 GENERAL ANNUAL GRANT (GAG)</b>		
<b>a. Results and Carry Forward for the Year</b>		
GAG allocation for current year	756,093	619,411
<b>Total GAG available to spend</b>		
Recurrent expenditure from GAG	733,906	618,748
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>GAG carried forward to next year</b>	22,187	663
Maximum permitted GAG carry forward at end of current year (12% of allocation for current year)	90,731	74,329
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>GAG to surrender to DfES</b>	-68,544	- 73,666
(12% rule breached if result is positive)	(no breach)	(no breach)

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State the academy trust was subject to limits at 31 August 2013 on the amount of GAG that could be carried forward from one year to the next. An amount equal to 12% of GAG could be carried forward, of which up to 2% could be used for general recurrent purposes, with any balance being available for premises/capital purposes. The academy trust has not exceeded these limits during the year ended 31 August 2013.

**3 VOLUNTARY INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
<b>Private sponsorship and donations</b>				
Miscellaneous donations	20,219	-	20,219	24,039
Donations - re: London	-	-	-	31,350
Donations – re: Suffolk	-	3,880	3,880	6,318
Edna Linnell Legacy	-	9,000	9,000	17,315
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	20,219	12,880	33,099	79,022
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**4 ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
Fundraising	9,993	-	9,993	6,904
Pupil Trips	5,318	-	5,318	6,883
Uniform Sale	8,406	-	8,406	5,178
Out of Hours Income	10,795	-	10,795	9,945
Catering Income	8,003	-	8,003	5,626
	42,515	-	42,515	34,536

**5 INVESTMENT INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
Bank Interest	456	-	456	425

**6 FUNDING FOR THE ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
<b>DfE/EFA grants</b>				
. General Annual Grant (GAG) (note 2)	-	756,093	756,093	619,411
. Start Up Grants	-	-	-	24,621
. Capital Grants	-	-	-	825,076
. Other DfE/EFA grants	-	-	-	9,935
	-	756,093	756,093	1,479,043
<b>Other Government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	10,886	10,886	11,052
	-	766,979	766,979	1,490,095

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**7 RESOURCES EXPENDED**

	Staff Costs	Non Pay Expenditure Other		Total	Total
		Premises	Costs	2013	2012
	£	£	£	£	£
Costs of activities for generating funds	10,618	-	15,568	26,186	25,626
Costs of generating voluntary income	8,000	-	-	8,000	5,244
Academy's educational operations					
. Direct costs	432,332	6,912	124,996	564,240	517,280
. Allocated support costs	154,459	27,785	47,522	229,766	137,569
	605,409	34,697	188,086	828,192	685,719
Governance costs including allocated support costs	20,075	-	32,741	52,816	110,288
	625,484	34,697	220,827	881,008	796,007

**Incoming /outgoing resources for the year**

Include:	2013	2012
	£	£
Fees payable to auditor - audit	3,100	2,950
- other expenses	4,184	3,620
	7,284	6,570

**8 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – COSTS OF ACTIVITIES FOR GENERATING FUNDS**

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Total 2013	Total 2012
	£	£	£	£
Catering	10,301	-	10,301	7,810
Support staff costs	-	10,618	10,618	10,000
Other support costs	5,267	-	5,267	7,816
	15,568	10,618	26,186	25,626

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**9 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – COSTS OF GENERATING VOLUNTARY INCOME**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
TM Teaching	-	8,000	8,000	5,244

**10 CHARITABLE ACTIVITIES – ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS  
DIRECT COSTS**

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	Total 2013 £	Total 2012 £
Teaching and educational support staff costs	-	432,332	432,332	449,406
Depreciation	-	61,444	61,444	31,685
Technology costs	-	21,228	21,228	-
Books, apparatus and stationery	-	14,379	14,379	19,129
Examination fees	-	3,600	3,600	1,577
Staff development	-	4,847	4,847	2,609
Educational Visits	2,633	-	2,633	-
Educational consultancy	-	1,500	1,500	2,535
Other direct costs	10,483	11,794	22,277	10,339
	13,116	551,124	564,240	517,280

**ALLOCATED SUPPORT COSTS**

Support staff costs	5,554	148,905	154,459	28,619
Pupil recruitment and support	-	4,560	4,560	9,081
Maintenance of premises and equipment	-	21,493	21,493	38,193
Cleaning	-	2,940	2,940	2,978
Rent and rates	-	6,397	6,397	7,119
Heat and light	-	7,212	7,212	6,033
Insurance	-	5,554	5,554	6,164
Telephone	-	1,317	1,317	1,904
Transport	-	14,904	14,904	11,536
Technology costs	-	5,497	5,497	13,755
Bank interest and charges	-	686	686	4,691
Other support costs	6,676	15,126	21,802	7,496
Retrospective Vat – Refunded re 2012	-	(17,055)	(17,055)	-
	12,230	217,536	229,766	137,569

**ACADEMY'S EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS 25,346 768,660 794,006 654,849**

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED****NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**11 GOVERNANCE COSTS**

	<b>Unrestricted Funds £</b>	<b>Restricted Funds £</b>	<b>Total 2013 £</b>	<b>Total 2012 £</b>
Legal and professional fees	16,664	2,259	18,923	73,671
Auditor's remuneration				
. Audit of financial statements	-	8,554	8,554	6,570
. Other audit costs	-	-	-	-
Debt Recovery costs	-	-	-	594
Trust Strategy Costs – Suffolk/London	-	5,069	5,069	8,291
Other Support Costs – Suffolk/London	-	-	-	21,162
Support Staff Costs	5,554	14,521	20,075	-
Trustees' reimbursed expenses	-	195	195	-
	<u>22,218</u>	<u>30,598</u>	<u>52,816</u>	<u>110,288</u>

**12 STAFF COSTS**

Staff costs comprise:	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Wages and salaries	525,500	402,755
Social security costs	32,900	29,052
Other pension costs	45,753	15,157
	<u>604,153</u>	<u>446,964</u>
Supply teacher costs	7,777	-
TM teaching costs	8,153	-
	<u>620,083</u>	<u>446,964</u>

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 12 STAFF COSTS (continued)

The average number of persons (including senior management team) employed by the Academy during the year ended 31 August 2013 expressed as full time equivalents was as follows:

##### *Charitable Activities*

	2013 No.	2012 No.
Teachers	12	11
Administration and support	12	8
Management	2	1
	—	—
	26	20
	—	—

No employees earned more than £60,000 per annum (including taxable benefits but excluding employers' pension contributions) during the year ended 31 August 2013. (No employees earned more than £60,000-31 August 2012).

#### 13 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS – TRUSTEES' REMUNERATION & EXPENSES

The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff, and not in respect of their services as trustees. Other trustees did not receive any payments, other than expenses, from the academy trust in respect of their role as trustees. The value of trustees' remuneration was as follows:

D Cassells (principal and trustee): £35,000 - £40,000 (2012: £35,000 - £40,000)  
C Robinson (staff trustee): £15,000 - £20,000 (2012: £5,000 - £10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2013, travel and subsistence expenses totalling £195 (2012: Nil) were reimbursed to one of the trustees.

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

#### 14 TRUSTEES' AND OFFICERS' INSURANCE

In accordance with normal commercial practice the academy has purchased insurance to protect trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2013 was £774 (2012: £1,540).

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

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**15 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS**

	Freehold Land and Buildings £	Furniture & Equipment £	Computer Equipment & Software £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 September 2012	691,205	71,043	186,795	949,043
Additions	-	-	2,933	2,933
At 31 August 2013	691,205	71,043	189,728	951,976
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2012	28,620	51,884	65,341	145,845
Charged in year	6,912	6,927	47,605	61,444
At 31 August 2013	35,532	58,811	112,946	207,289
<b>Net book values</b>				
At 1 September 2012	662,585	19,159	121,454	803,198
At 31 August 2013	655,673	12,232	76,782	744,687

**16 DEBTORS**

	2013 £	2012 £
Trade debtors	2,433	-
Vat Recoverable	6,529	-
Other debtors	971	23,741
Prepayments and accrued income	3,994	10,340
	13,927	34,081

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

	2013 £	2012 £
Trade creditors	13,485	9,868
Taxation and social security	56	10,389
Other creditors	41,113	28,105
Accruals and deferred income	41,382	48,895
	96,036	97,257

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**17 CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR (continued)**

<b>Deferred income</b>	<b>2013</b>
	<b>£</b>
Deferred Income at 1 September 2012	-
Resources deferred in the year	19,479
	<hr/>
	19,479
	<hr/>

At the balance sheet date the academy trust was holding funds receive in advance for capital expenditure booked for the autumn term 2013.

**18 FUNDS**

	<b>Balance 1 September 2012</b>	<b>Incoming resources</b>	<b>Resources Expended</b>	<b>Gains losses and Transfers</b>	<b>Balance at 31 August 2013</b>
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	665	756,093	(790,904)	56,998	22,852
Other Government Grant	3,671	10,886	(11,000)	-	3,557
Multi Academy Fund - London	12,555	-	(3,331)	-	9,224
Multi Academy Fund - Suffolk	1,297	3,880	(4,641)	-	536
Edna Linell – TM Teaching	496	9,000	(8,000)	-	1,496
Vastu Fund	4,499	-	-	-	4,499
Pension reserve	-	-	-	(1,000)	(1,000)
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	23,183	779,859	(817,876)	55,998	41,164
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
DfES capital grants	800,255	-	-	(56,998)	743,257
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	800,255	-	-	(56,998)	743,257
<b>Total Restricted Funds</b>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	823,438	779,859	(817,876)	(1,000)	784,421
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
Unrestricted funds	50,213	63,190	(63,132)	-	50,271
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	873,651	843,049	(881,008)	(1,000)	834,692
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 18 FUNDS (continued)

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

- (i) General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust is subject to a limit on the amount of GAG that it could carry forward at 31 August 2013. Note 2 discloses whether the limit was exceeded.
- (ii) Other Government Grant has been received from the Local Authority to provide individual pupil funding for SEN.
- (iii) Multi Academy funds were created from donations in two specific areas to support the applications to open new Maharishi School Trust's in these areas. Both applications have been unsuccessful.
- (iv) Edna Linell Fund has the specific purpose of providing the funding to pay for the costs of teaching TM and Conscientious Based Education.
- (v) Vastu Fund was a restricted fund set up prior to the school becoming an Academy for the purpose of expenditure on the school's premises.
- (vi) Restricted fixed assets were funded by government grants. The grant is amortised over the useful economic life of the related assets on a basis consistent with the Academy Trust's depreciation policy, the amount is transferred between funds each year.

The trust is carrying a net surplus of £41,164 on restricted funds (excluding pension reserve) plus the balance on unrestricted funds at 31 August 2013.

#### 19 ANALYSIS OF NET ASSETS BETWEEN FUNDS

Fund balances at 31 August 2013 are represented by:

	<b>Unrestricted Funds</b>	<b>Restricted General Funds</b>	<b>Restricted Fixed asset Funds</b>	<b>Total</b>
Tangible fixed assets	1,430	-	743,257	744,687
Current assets	144,877	42,164	-	187,041
Current Liabilities	(96,036)	-	-	(96,036)
	<hr/> 50,271	<hr/> 42,164	<hr/> 743,257	<hr/> 835,692
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**20 CAPITAL COMMITMENTS**

	<b>2013</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2012</b> <b>£</b>
Contracted for, but not provided in the financial statements	34,900	-

The capital commitment is a roof repair which is to be fully funded from a capital grant received from the Department for Education.

**21 FINANCIAL COMMITMENTS**

**Operating Leases**

At 31 August 2013 the academy trust had annual commitments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	<b>2013</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2012</b> <b>£</b>
<b>Other</b>		
Expiring within one year	-	-
Expiring within two to five years inclusive	576	-
Expiring in over five years	1,076	-
	<u>1,652</u>	<u>-</u>

**22 RECONCILIATION OF NET INCOME TO NET CASH INFLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES**

	<b>2013</b> <b>£</b>	<b>2012</b> <b>£</b>
Net income	(37,959)	808,071
Depreciation (note 15)	61,444	31,685
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	-	(825,076)
Interest receivable (note 5)	(456)	(425)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	20,154	15,574
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(1,221)	39,409
	<u>41,962</u>	<u>69,238</u>

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**23 RETURNS ON INVESTMENTS AND SERVICING FINANCE**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Interest received	456	425
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Net cash inflow from returns on investment and servicing of Finance</b>	<b>456</b>	<b>425</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**24 CAPITAL EXPENDITURE AND FINANCIAL INVESTMENT**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(2,933)	(614,619)
Capital grants from DfE/EFA	-	825,076
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	-	-
Receipts from sale of tangible fixed assets	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net cash outflow from capital expenditure and financial Investment	(2,933)	210,457
	<hr/>	<hr/>

**25 ANALYSIS OF CHANGES IN NET FUNDS**

	<b>At 1 September</b>	<b>Cash flows</b>	<b>At 31</b>
	<b>2012</b>	<b>£</b>	<b>August</b>
	<b>£</b>		<b>2013</b>
			<b>£</b>
Cash in hand and at bank	133,629	39,485	173,114
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	133,629	39,485	173,114
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

**26 MEMBERS LIABILITY**

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

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS**

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

The pension costs are assessed in accordance with the advice of independent qualified actuaries. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was 31 March 2004 and the LGPS 31 March 2010.

Contributions amounting to £12,551 (2012 - £12,126) were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2013 and are included within creditors.

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

###### **Introduction**

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pensions Regulations (2010). These regulations apply to teachers in schools that are maintained by local authorities and other educational establishments, including academies, in England and Wales. In addition teachers in many independent and voluntary-aided schools and teachers and lecturers in some establishments of further and higher education may be eligible for membership. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers and lecturers and from 1 January 2007 automatic too for teachers and lecturers in part-time employment following appointment or a change of contract. Teachers and lecturers are able to opt out of the TPS.

###### **The Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account**

Although members may be employed by various bodies, their retirement and other pension benefits are set out in regulations made under the Superannuation Act (1972) and are paid by public funds provided by Parliament. The TPS is an unfunded scheme and members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis – these contributions along with those made by employers are credited to the Exchequer under arrangements governed by the above Act.

The Teachers' Pensions Regulations require an annual account, the Teachers' Pension Budgeting and Valuation Account, to be kept of receipts and expenditure (including the cost of pensions' increases). From 1 April 2001, the Account has been credited with a real rate of return, which is equivalent to assuming that the balance in the Account is invested in notional investments that produce that real rate of return.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)**

##### **Valuation of Teachers' Pension Scheme**

At the last valuation, the contribution rate to be paid into the TPS was assessed in two parts. First, a standard contribution rate (SCR) was determined. This is the contribution, expressed as a percentage of the salaries of teachers and lecturers in service or entering service during the period over which the contributions rate applies, which if it were paid over the entire active service of these teachers and lecturers would broadly defray the cost of benefits payable in respect of that service. Secondly, a supplementary contribution is payable if, as a result of the actuarial review, it is found that accumulated liabilities of the Account for the benefits to past and present teachers, are not fully covered by standard contributions to be paid in future and by the notional fund built up from past contributions. The total contribution rate payable is the sum of the SCR and the supplementary contribution rate.

The last valuation of the TPS related to the period 1 April 2001 – 31 March 2004. The Government Actuary's report of October 2006 revealed that the total liabilities of the Scheme (pensions in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) amounted to £166,500 million. The value of the assets (estimated future contributions together with the proceeds from the notional investments held at the valuation date) was £163,240 million. The assumed real rate of return is 3.5% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 1.5%. The assumed gross rate of return is 6.5%. From 1 January 2007, the SCR was assessed at 19.75%, and the supplementary contribution rate was assessed to be 0.75% (to balance assets and liabilities as required by the regulations within 15 years). This resulted in a total contribution rate of 20.5%, which translated into an employee contribution rate of 6.4% and employer contribution rate of 14.1% payable.

Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, the design of benefits and many other factors. Many of these assumptions are being considered as part of the work on the reformed TPS, as set out below. Scheme valuations therefore remain suspended. The Public Service Pensions Bill, which is being debated in the House of Commons, provides for future scheme valuations to be conducted in accordance with Treasury directions. The timing for the next valuation has still to be determined, but it is likely to be before the reformed schemes are introduced in 2015.

## **MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

### **NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

**for the year ended 31 August 2013**

#### **27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)**

##### **TEACHERS' PENSION SCHEME CHANGES**

Lord Hutton published his final report in March 2011 and made recommendations about how pensions can be made sustainable and affordable, whilst remaining fair to the workforce and the taxpayer. The Government accepted Lord Hutton's recommendations as the basis for consultation and Ministers engaged in extensive discussions with trade unions and other representative bodies on reform of the TPS. Those discussions concluded on 9 March 2012 and the Department published a Proposed Final Agreement, setting out the design for a reformed TPS to be implemented from 1 April 2015.

The key provisions of the reformed scheme include: a pension based on career average earnings; an accrual rate of 1/57<sup>th</sup>; and a Normal Pension Age equal to State Pension Age, but with options to enable members to retire earlier or later than their Normal Pension Age. Importantly, pension benefits built up before 1 April 2015 will be fully protected.

In addition, the Proposed Final Agreement includes a Government commitment that those within 10 years of Normal Pension Age on 1 April 2012 will see no change to the age at which they can retire, and no decrease in the amount of pension they receive when they retire. There will also be further transitional protection, tapered over a three and a half year period, for people who would fall just outside of the 10 year protection.

In this interim report of October 2010, Lord Hutton recommended that short-term savings were also required, and that the only realistic way of achieving these was to increase member contributions. At the Spending Review 2010 the Government announced an average increase of 3.2 percentage points on the contribution rates by 2014-15. The increases were to be phased in from April 2012 on a 40:80:100% basis.

Under the definitions set out in Financial Reporting Standard (FRS 17) Retirement Benefits, the TPS is a multi-employer pension scheme. The academy is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the scheme. Accordingly, the academy has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 17 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The academy has set out above the information available on the scheme.

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

##### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME

The LGPS is a funded defined-benefit scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2013 was £24,794, of which employer's contributions totalled £15,395 and the employees' contributions totalled £9,399. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 19.1 percent for employers and range from 5.5 per cent to 6.8 per cent for employees.

##### PRINCIPAL ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS

	<b>At 31 August 2013</b>	<b>At 31 August 2012</b>
Rate of increase in salaries	4.50%	4.80%
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.50%	2.80%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	4.80%	5.30%
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.50%	2.80%
Commutation of pensions to lump sums		
-Maximum Cash	50.00%	50.00%
-3/80ths Cash	50.00%	50.00%

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

	<b>At 31 August 2013</b>	<b>At 31 August 2012</b>
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	22.1	22.0
Females	24.8	24.7
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23.9	23.8
Females	26.7	26.6

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

##### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (continued)

##### PRINCIPAL ACTUARIAL ASSUMPTIONS (continued)

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

	<b>Expected Return at 31 August 2013</b>	<b>Fair value at 31 August 2013</b>	<b>Expected return at 31 August 2013</b>	<b>Fair value at 31 August 2012</b>
Equities	7.0%	33,000	N/A	N/A
Government Bonds	3.4%	4,000	N/A	N/A
Other Bonds	4.4%	13,000	N/A	N/A
Property	5.7%	5,000	N/A	N/A
Cash/Liquidity	0.5%	3,000	N/A	N/A
Other	7.0%	<u>5,000</u>	N/A	N/A
<b>Total market value of assets</b>		<b>63,000</b>		
Present value of scheme liabilities				
- Funded		<u>(64,000)</u>		
<b>Surplus/(deficit) in the scheme</b>		<b><u>(1,000)</u></b>		

##### Assumptions for expected returns on assets, gross of expenses

The expected rate of return on plan assets is based on market expectations, at the beginning of the period, for investment returns over the entire life of the related obligation. The assumption used is the average of the following assumptions appropriate to the individual asset classes weighted by the proportion of the assets in the particular asset class.

The assumed investment return on government bonds is the yield on 20-year fixed interest gilts at the relevant date. As at 31 August 2013 this yield was 3.4% p.a.

# MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

### 27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (continued)

##### Assumptions for expected returns on assets, gross of expenses (continued)

The expected investment return on corporate bonds is based on market yields at the relevant date, less a reduction to reflect a risk of default in the corporate bond yield. This means that the expected return on corporate bond investments is lower than the discount rate used in the calculations. As at 31 August 2013 we have taken the expected return as 4.4% p.a., which implies a reduction for the risk of default of 0.1% p.a. when compared with the corporate bond yield/discount rate appropriate to the "mature" deviation profile for example.

It is generally accepted that the yield on equity investments will contain an "equity risk premium" in addition to the yield on Government bonds, which are perceived as the "least risk" investment class, in order to compensate investors for the additional risk of holding this type of investment. Historical excess equity returns over more than 100 years have been approximately 4% p.a. on average. However, the level of equity risk premium can vary from time to time dependent on market levels and expectations for future returns. We have taken the overall expected return on equities as at 31 August 2013 as 7% p.a., implying an equity risk premium on equities of 3.6% p.a. over and above the gilt yield of 3.4% p.a.

Assumed returns on property are based on the expected long term returns on cash investments, plus a risk premium to allow for expected out-performance of property over cash, and an adjustment for the impact of the expected volatility of the returns.

The actual return on scheme assets was £7,000 (2012: N/A)

#### AMOUNTS RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES

	<b>2013</b>
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	(44,000)
Past service cost	<u>-</u>
Total operating charge	<u>(44,000)</u>
<b>Analysis of pension finance income/(costs)</b>	
Expected return on pension scheme assets	3,000
Interest on pension liabilities	<u>(3,000)</u>
<b>Pension finance income/(costs)</b>	<u>-</u>

**MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS**

for the year ended 31 August 2013

**27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)**

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (continued)**

The actuarial gains and losses for the current year are recognised in the statement of financial activities. The cumulative amount of actuarial gains and losses recognised in the statement of financial activities since the adoption of FRS 17 is a £1,000 loss (2012: N/A).

**Movements in the present value of defined benefit  
Obligations were as follows**

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>At 1 September</b>	-	-
Current service cost (net of employee contributions)	44,000	-
Interest cost	3,000	-
Employee contributions	13,000	-
Actuarial (gain)/loss	4,000	-
Benefits paid	-	-
Past Service cost	-	-
Curtailments and settlements	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>At 31 August</b>	64,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>

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

	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>
	<b>£</b>	<b>£</b>
<b>At 1 September</b>	-	-
Expected return on assets	3,000	-
Actuarial gain/(loss)	5,000	-
Employer contributions	42,000	-
Employee contributions	13,000	-
Benefits paid	-	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2013	<u>63,000</u>	<hr/>

The estimated value of employer contributions for the year ended 31 August 2014 is £34,000.

## MAHARISHI SCHOOL TRUST LIMITED

### NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

for the year ended 31 August 2013

#### 27 PENSION AND SIMILAR OBLIGATIONS (continued)

##### LOCAL GOVERNMENT PENSION SCHEME (continued)

The five year history of experience adjustments is as follows:

	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009
	£	£	£	£	£
<b>Present value of defined Benefit obligations</b>	<b>(64,000)</b>	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Fair value of share of scheme Assets</b>	<b><u>63,000</u></b>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<b>Deficit in the scheme</b>	<b><u>(1,000)</u></b>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>	<u>N/A</u>
<b>Experience adjustments on Share of scheme assets</b>					
Amount £	5,000	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
<b>Experience adjustments on Scheme liabilities</b>					
Amount £	-	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

#### 28 RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

Owing to the nature of the academy trust's operations 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 a trustee has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulation and normal procurement procedures.

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