



RSA ACADEMIES

(A charitable company limited by guarantee)

Trustees' Annual Report & Financial Statements
for the year ended 31 March 2020

**RSA ACADEMIES
REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

Trustees and Directors

Nicola Beech (resigned 6 July 2020)
Penny Egan
Peter Fell
Malcolm Forbes (resigned 6 June 2019)
Peter Slough (resigned 31 December 2019)
Rachel Sandby-Thomas
John Towers (Chair)
Sue Hind Woodward

Member and Ultimate Parent Undertaking

The Royal Society for the encouragement of the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (the RSA)

Executive Director

Colin Hopkins

Registered office

8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ

Constitution

RSA Academies is a company limited by guarantee 07761509
RSA Academies is registered under the Charities Act 2011 - 1148908

Auditor

Price Bailey LLP
3rd Floor, 24 Old Bond St, Mayfair, London W1S 4AP

Bankers

Coutts & Co
440 The Strand, London WC2R 0QS

RSA ACADEMIES TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Our purpose

RSA Academies currently works with a family of nine schools across the West Midlands:

- Abbeywood First RSA Academy
- Arrow Vale RSA Academy
- Church Hill Middle RSA Academy
- Holyhead School
- Ipsley CE RSA Academy
- Oldbury Park Primary RSA Academy
- RSA Academy, Tipton
- St Stephen's CE RSA Academy
- Sutton Park Primary RSA Academy

Oldbury Park Primary RSA Academy and St Stephen's CE RSA Academy both joined the Central RSA Academies Trust on 1st October 2019.

Whitley Academy withdrew from the RSA Academies "umbrella" arrangement on 31st August 2019.

We aim to provide an inspirational education for all pupils which relates their learning to the wider world, provides experiences which broaden horizons, and enables children and young people to develop the skills needed for success and personal fulfilment. In our classrooms young people are asked to be creative, imaginative and practical, are challenged to be the best, and are encouraged to show initiative, enthusiasm and leadership skills.

Our approach

Our approach is based on a partnership between RSA Academies and the schools in the RSA Family of Academies. RSA Academies operates as an umbrella trust, rather than a multi-academy trust, working with a network of locally based academy trusts.

This means that the individual schools and local academy trusts within the group can share ideas and provide support and challenge to one another, whilst also retaining the autonomy and flexibility to take decisions that meet the needs of their own local communities.

Our areas of focus

The schools within the RSA Family of Academies focus on five key areas: -

A: Children love to learn and achieve: children will make excellent progress in their learning throughout their school career and develop a love of learning and confidence in their ability to do new things that stays with them into adult life.

B: Children are creative and turn their ideas into action: children will have access to high quality art and design projects and opportunities, to work creatively and on projects that are relevant to the real world, across all subject areas.

C: Connections with the world beyond the school gate: children will develop a wide range of skills and knowledge of the world beyond the school gate to enable them to thrive in their continuing education, the world of work and society. There will be a growing network of RSA Academies' alumni that connects meaningfully with the RSA Fellowship.

D: Support for health and well-being: RSA Academies are inclusive schools that welcome and support all children and give priority to their health and well-being alongside their academic progress. We recognize that many children will at certain times have difficulties in their lives out of school that may cause a barrier to learning. Our schools strive to work with the child, their family, and other agencies as needed to ensure that all children have the support they need to achieve their full potential.

E: Staff are inspired to be confident and creative: teachers are encouraged and challenged to be creative, engage with relevant research, and be confident in testing out new approaches to enrich children's learning. They will have opportunities to engage with and contribute to the wider work of the RSA. Through the RSA Academies' Teaching School Alliance all staff will have access to an exceptional programme of continuous professional development and learning opportunities, and a supportive environment in which to develop.

RSA ACADEMIES TRUSTEES' REPORT (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

RSAA staff hold termly meetings with teachers who have responsibility within their own academy for the three key RSAA themes or "Commitments": (i) Arts, Culture and Creativity; (ii) the World beyond School; and (iii) Wellbeing and Mental Health. These meetings are focused on the sharing of good practice and the co-design of projects, and act as a forum for the exchange of ideas and future planning.

Structure, governance and management

The company is limited by guarantee and is governed by its Articles of Association. There are up to eight trustees, two appointed by the RSA (including the Chair) and two drawn from the schools (one principal, one governor). The other trustees are appointed by a Nominations Panel of the RSA Academies' Board of Trustees based on their skills and experience. There is also provision for up to three co-optees.

During the year 2019/20, two trustees resigned (Malcolm Forbes and Peter Slough). At an Extraordinary Meeting of the trust held on 3rd December 2019, the trustees made changes to the Articles to (a) make the Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA) the sole member; and (b) to extend the charity's Objects to include the possibility of working with schools other than academies.

During 2019/20 the RSA Academies' Board of Trustees has met five times, including an annual 'away day' to review strategy and performance. The Executive Director attends all Board Meetings.

In 2019/20 RSA Academies employed the services of an accountancy company to support financial management and reporting. The RSA Academies Board of Trustees is served by two sub-committees, one for Finance and Risk and one for School Performance Review to ensure appropriate consideration is given to these areas.

RSA Academies works as an umbrella trust. It works with nine academies, eight of which form the Central RSA Academies Trust (a multi-academy trust), and one stand-alone academy, Holyhead School.

The Charity does not employ any staff directly. As set out in Note 10 of the Financial Statements, staff time is recharged by the parent Company, The Royal Society of Arts, Manufactures and Commerce. As a consequence there is to disclosure in these Financial Statements for the total salaries of Key Management Personnel

ACHIEVEMENT AND PERFORMANCE IN 2019/20

The Distinctiveness of RSA Schools

During the year 2019/20, RSA Academies developed and published a suite of documents setting out expectations about the distinctiveness of RSA schools. These were (a) a Vision Statement, *What does it mean to be an RSA school?* (b) a Partnership Framework, setting out how RSA Academies and the family of schools will work together to promote RSA distinctiveness; and (c) an Evaluation Schedule describing aspects of RSA distinctiveness from "undeveloped" to "emerging", "secure", and "exemplary". The suite of documents was officially launched at a Governors' Conference held at Assay Studios, Birmingham, on 30 October 2019.

A pilot review of RSA distinctiveness, structured around the Partnership Framework, took place at Sutton Park RSA Primary Academy on 11th March 2020.

Children love to learn and achieve

Securing the best possible academic results for pupils remains a top priority. Six schools are currently rated either 'good' or 'outstanding' by Ofsted. Three other schools have not been inspected since joining the Central RSA Academies Trust. Of these, one was previously rated as 'good', one as 'requiring improvement' and one as 'inadequate'.

In 2019/20, significant input has been made into developing our schools' distinctive RSA character. We have been working with schools to review progress with the implementation of the Commitments for Arts, Culture and Creativity, the World Beyond School and Wellbeing and Mental Health and to plan next steps.

RSA ACADEMIES TRUSTEES' REPORT (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

Children are creative and turn their ideas into action

The annual RSAA Artsfest was held on two occasions, 9th July 2019 at RSA House and 18th July 2020 at Church Hill Middle School, with 80 pupils taking part in each of the two events. The theme was “the world beyond school”. Artsfest was co-produced with CircArts in association with the Roundhouse in Camden and workshops included the spoken word/poetry, acrobatics, stilts, beatboxing, flag making and drumming.

The RSAA Art Prizes, awarded in respect of imaginative interpretations of the Artsfest theme, were won by a pupil at Arrow Vale (London event) and by a pupil at Church Hill Middle School (Redditch event).

Some of the comments received from pupils about Artsfest were: “I enjoyed stepping out of my comfort zone and performing to a crowd.... I was worried but the RSA made it feel like a safe place.” “I enjoyed meeting new people and being able to socialize better.”

The RSA Pupil Design Awards final judging session was held on 11th July 2019 at Hanbury Hall, London. The national competition sets three briefs each year that challenge Year 7-12 pupils to design a solution to a social issue. The issues this year were (i) the relationship between food, health and wellbeing; (ii) loneliness; and (iii) work experience. Church Hill and Ipsley CE Middle Schools made it to the final, with four Ipsley pupils winning the Year 7 & 8 category for designing an app (*Friendly Friends*) to help pupils move to a new school and make friends based on common interests (fully integrated into the school’s safeguarding system).

Led by Tania Coke FRSA, the Japanese theatre company, Tarinainanika, visited RSA Academy, Tipton, on 14th February 2020 to deliver a corporeal mime and physical theatre performance, *Coffee and I*, reflecting on routines and everyday life. This was seen by 80 pupils from several of our schools and was followed by a careers talk and workshop led by the company.

Our new project, the RSAA Contemporary Art Space (in partnership with the visual arts organisation, Iniva) launched in September 2019 and involves three schools in its first phase - Abbeywood, Arrow Vale and Holyhead. This is a two-year project concerned with participatory art-making and is designed to explore young people’s sense of identity through co-commissioning artworks in response to social issues. The theme is “oracy”. We are very grateful to our funders, the Saintbury Trust (£10,000) and Foyle Foundation (£20,000) for supporting this innovative project. RSAA has also contributed £15,000.

We appointed a Curator (Josie Reichert) and three artists, Rudy Loewe (Holyhead), Laurie Ramsell (Abbeywood), and Nilupa Yasmin (Arrow Vale) to work with the schools. In October 2019, the pupil steering group for each school participated in ArtLab, a process to devise ideas for each artwork. The resulting artworks themselves were installed in each of the three schools in early 2020. A programme of engagement events was scheduled for the Spring and Summer Terms 2020. The art installations are intended to stimulate whole-school discussion and focus around the importance and meaning of art, its social dimension, and how this reflects human experience. The art works will transfer to another three schools in the autumn of 2020.

Connections with the world beyond the school gate

The World beyond School Commitment has been broadened to extend its focus beyond careers onto personal development, character education and active citizenship (social action).

The sixth Takeover Day took place on 26th November 2019 at RSA House in London. Several of our academies were represented and took part in a combination of workshops led by RSA Fellows, tours of the building, presentation skills workshops led by RSA staff, and a social action competition which was judged by several “dragons”. St Stephen’s won the £250 prize to put their project on loneliness into action.

Illustrator/author Marion Deuchars RDI visited Year 4 Abbeywood pupils in late June 2019 to support a special workshop to design new road safety signs following their pitch at Takeover day concerned with traffic driving too fast close to the school.

The RSA4 Primary Social Action project for Year 4 pupils (launched in January 2019) This is closely modelled on the RSA8 project (for Year 8 pupils). RSA4 involves ten schools across the West Midlands including four RSA Academies, Abbeywood, Sutton Park, Oldbury Park and St Stephen’s. Forty pupil leaders took part in initial skills training workshops and a planning day at Worcester University before supporting other pupils in their classes to engage with the project. The project was then implemented from the Summer Term 2019.

An early evaluation of the project took place through the Behavioural Insights Team, using observations, interviews and pilot surveys. The evaluation was very positive and useful in shaping the future direction of the project.

RSA ACADEMIES TRUSTEES' REPORT (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

The RSA4 project delivers a 'double-benefit' by creating positive social change for the wider community, as well as empowering those young people leading the action. RSA4 not only supports pupil development but also provides teachers with the skills and confidence to build youth social action into the ethos of their school through specific training and support from expert organisations.

The RSA8 Leadership Programme launched on 10th October 2019, marking its sixth year, and provides Year 8 pupils with the opportunity to lead a social action project within their school whilst developing, leadership, problem solving, teamwork and communication skills. The skills workshops are followed by a Warwick University away day before planning their social action projects. There is an opportunity for RSA8 Alumni to take on the role of social action ambassadors and act as informal mentors to the RSA4 pupil leaders.

In 2019/20 we also continued the new cross-family careers coordinator post, based at RSA Academy, Tipton.

The careers programme continues to be successfully strengthened through the Opening Doors to Business project in Redditch. This connects schools and local businesses in the area so that children can gain an understanding of the range of work opportunities that are available in their area. The project is now being rolled out into the Black Country, with a launch event taking place at the RSA Academy, Tipton on 10th July 2019.

A new careers-based project, "So you want to be a....?" launched at RSA Academy, Tipton on 22nd October 2019. The aim of the project is to help students explore a range of different career interests, challenging perceptions and building aspiration, so that they can make informed choices about their future career and further study opportunities. The first workshop, "So you want to be a medic?", delivered by The Medic Portal and aimed at pupils in Years 8-12, was attended by c. 100 pupils from schools across the West Midlands, including pupils from RSA Academy, Tipton, and Holyhead, and explored the history of medicine and the role of allied healthcare professionals as well as doctors. The aim is to hold one workshop per term.

RSA academies have participated in creating lesson plans for the launch of the World of Work (WOW) Show including a video looking at how the curriculum links into jobs in construction. The full programme launched on 27th February 2019 across the country and initially reached an estimated 100,000 school pupils. One teacher at Arrow Vale produced presentations relating KS4 Maths and Science to careers in construction. The lessons plans are available on the RSA Academies website.

Inclusive schools that meet the needs of the whole child

This is a relatively new area of focus for RSA Academies because of concern from our schools over the mental health and wellbeing of students and staff. Our schools continued to benefit from the work carried out as part of the programme *A Comprehensive Approach to Mental Health in Schools*, which ran through the 2017/18 academic year.

As part of a collaborative ESRC funded PhD at Warwick University, during a short placement with several of our schools, Krystal Douglas used her research findings and methodologies on how friendships and families influence career choices to create workshops for teachers, students and the RSA Academies Teaching School Alliance. The themes of her work are aspiration and wellbeing and how these influence pupils' perceptions of themselves and their future.

Staff are inspired to be confident and creative

Excellent teaching is dependent on strong teaching staff. The quality of teaching is currently rated by Ofsted as good or outstanding in six of the schools in the RSAA family.

The 2019/20 academic year saw another cohort of new teachers training with the RSA Academies Teaching School Alliance (RSAA TSA). Despite difficulties nationally with teacher recruitment, 23 secondary and 2 primary places were filled. There has been a 100% successful completion rate for initial teacher training, notwithstanding the difficult conclusion to the training year because of the lockdown. 52% of the secondary trainees have gone on to take up permanent positions within the RSA Family of Academies.

In 2020, there is an 93% completion rate for NQTs within the RSAA TSA compared with 87% nationally. The RSAA TSA is now the Appropriate Body for 17 schools across Birmingham, Stourport, Coventry and Dudley. 9 teachers took part in middle leadership training sessions whose aim is partly to encourage staff retention within the family of RSA schools. The "family" ethos of RSA academies is a unique selling point and helps encourage the retention of staff more generally who identify with the RSA's values.

RSA ACADEMIES TRUSTEES' REPORT (Continued) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

We ran the Design Thinking module as a part of the initial teacher training programme. Design thinking is being used instrumentally to help participants frame a research challenge and test it out, encouraging a culture of research and ongoing reflective practice in our schools.

Two Royal Designers for Industry (RDIs), Peter Higgins and Neil Thomas, supported a co-design session with the Central RSA Academies Trust on the Design and Technology (D&T) curriculum at Key stage 3. The aim of the session was both to shape a new D&T curriculum and to investigate how creative design principles could influence the development of the wider curriculum. Initiated by the Curriculum Lead for History within the Central RSA Academies trust, a group of Year 9 pupils from Arrow Vale visited RSA House on 21st November 2019 for a creative History Day, exploring the links between the enlightenment and the origins and archives of the RSA. One teacher commented that, for the pupils, the experience “made history real”.

Increased impact, locally and nationally

We continue to blog about a range of issues in relation to our key areas of work. Notable blogs for 2019/20 include those by Hannah Breeze: “Six Principles for effective social action in schools” (3rd September 2019) and “What is the role of teachers in youth-led social action?” (12th February 2020). RSAA issued Newsletters at the beginning of every term to our schools. Colin Hopkins wrote an article for the Central RSA Academies Trust’s *DesignEd* journal, December 2019, “A School with Soul” (on the RSAA Distinctiveness Framework) and also participated in a panel discussion at the Bett Show (London Excel, 24th January 2020) on “Why and how to embed creativity in teaching and learning”.

Our website was updated to include the latest versions of the three Commitments and RSAA’s suite of distinctiveness documents, and generally to improve navigation and refresh the information provided about our work.

The Impact of COVID-19

The national lockdown took place on 16th March 2020, shortly before our financial year end (31 March 2020). Our school-based activities were immediately curtailed, including the cancellation of a distinctiveness review at Holyhead School that had been scheduled for 18th March 2020.

During the period that schools were closed, after our financial year-end, RSAA staff continued to plan for work on current projects and devised several options for continuing these as and when the circumstances allowed. We contacted our funders to inform them of delays to project delivery and secured their agreement to rescheduling activity.

We have been very conscious of the challenges facing our schools in managing the situation and we have been supportive in accommodating our schools’ needs. We therefore developed plans to deliver projects in virtual format but without the normal cross-school engagement on account of the need to maintain discrete groups of pupils or ‘bubbles’. Our schools welcome the opportunity to continue with the enrichment activities that RSAA provides.

RSAA has not suffered any financial detriment as a result of Covid-19. The RSA and our schools have continued to meet their financial obligations under the various Memoranda of Understanding.

Future Arrangements and Plans

RSA Academies will continue to work with the academies to implement current plans and projects, notwithstanding the constraints caused by the Covid-19 pandemic. This will necessitate changes to timetables and ways of working, with more remote or virtual activity taking place where this is feasible.

In May 2020, the Board of the RSA took the decision not to renew its current Memorandum of Association with RSA Academies when this expires on 31st March 2022. At that point, the Licenses from the RSA to the academies will also expire. RSAA will also relinquish its role as the Principal Sponsor of the Central RSA Academies Trust from this date, necessitating a change to current governance requirements.

RSA Academies has conveyed these decisions to the academies and has been consulting about how current activity and projects can be brought to an orderly conclusion by the 31st March 2022. The RSA is currently consulting about the possibility of establishing a wider network of schools, in which it is expected the current academies will participate as a way of maintaining a continuing link to the RSA and building on RSA Academies’ legacy.

**RSA ACADEMIES
TRUSTEES' REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

Statement of Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in section 17 of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to public benefit guidance published by the Commission in determining the activities undertaken by the charity.

The benefits of our activities are described in this Annual Report, which incorporates our Impact Report, and relate directly to our aims and objectives.

The Trustees confirm that in planning the activities of RSA Academies they have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on Public Benefit.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

Overview

We are reporting total funds available of £103,861 at the end of the 2019/20 financial year (2018/19: £120,748).

Income

Our income in 2019/20 was £275,701 (2018/19: £270,733). This includes a core grant of £100,000 from the RSA and the remainder represented mainly by membership fees.

Expenditure

We spent £292,588 in 2019/20 (2018/19: £248,996). The achievement and performance section describes what was achieved as a result of this expenditure.

Reserves policy

The Trustees have adopted a reserves policy which they consider appropriate, in order to ensure the continuing ability of RSA Academies to meet its objectives and obligations; the aim is for this to be the equivalent of at least 3 months operating costs (salaries plus overheads), or around £66,000 at 2019/20 levels. The General fund at the year end was £50,996. Designated funds totalled £47,000 at the year end, and restricted funds were £5,865.

RSA Academies will close its activities on 31st March 2022 and will use its reserves during the 2020/21 and 2021/22 financial years to manage the cessation of activities. Any reserves remaining after 31st March 2022 will be used to meet the costs of closing the company and then any remaining balance will be returned to the RSA and academies on an agreed apportionment.

**RSA ACADEMIES
TRUSTEES' REPORT (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020**

Statement of Trustees' responsibilities

The law applicable to charities in England and Wales requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year which give a true and fair view of the charity's financial activities during the year and of its position at the end of the year. In preparing financial statements giving a true and fair view, the Trustees should follow best practice and:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the charities SORP FRS 102 (2019);
- make judgements and estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable accounting standards and statements of recommended practice have been followed, subject to any 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 charity will continue in operation.

The charity's trustees are responsible for keeping accounting records in respect of the charity which are sufficient to show and explain all the charity's transactions and which are such as to disclose at any time, with reasonable accuracy, the financial position of the charity at that time and to ensure the accounts comply with the Charities Act 2011. The Trustees are responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charity and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention of detection of fraud and other irregularities,

Approved by the Board on 29 January 2021 and signed on its behalf by:



John Towers (Feb 11, 2021, 12:05pm)
John Towers
Trustee



Peter Fell (Feb 11, 2021, 12:55pm)
Peter Fell
Trustee

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF RSA ACADEMIES

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of RSA Academies (the 'charitable company') for the year ended 31 March 2020 which comprise of the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Cash Flow Statement and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law and United Kingdom Accounting Standards, including Financial Reporting Standard 102 *The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland* (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company's affairs as at 31 March 2020, and of the group's incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006.

Basis for opinion

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

Emphasis of matter – basis of preparation

We draw attention to Note 1 to the financial statements which explains that the directors intend to close the company and therefore do not consider it to be appropriate to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements. Accordingly the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than going concern as described in Note 1. Our opinion is not modified in this respect of this matter.

Other information

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

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the charitable company and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the strategic report and the directors' report.

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF RSA ACADEMIES (Continued)

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

We have been appointed auditor under the Companies Act 2006 and report in accordance with this Act.

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

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

Use of our report

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



Michael Cooper-Davis FCCA ACA
Statutory Auditor
Price Bailey LLP

24 Old Bond Street
London
W1S 4AP

Date: 11 February 2021

RSA ACADEMIES
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES
(including an Income and Expenditure account)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Unrestricted	Restricted	Year to	Year to
Note	Funds	Funds	31 March	31 March
	2020	2020	2020	2019
	£	£	£	£
INCOME				
Donations and legacies: Grant from RSA	100,500	33,369	133,869	123,445
Income from Charitable activities:				
Academy membership & activities	141,832	-	141,832	147,288
TOTAL INCOME	242,332	33,369	275,701	270,733
EXPENDITURE				
Expenditure on Charitable activities	2 265,084	27,504	292,588	248,996
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	265,084	27,504	292,588	248,996
Net (expenditure)/ income	(22,752)	5,865	(16,887)	21,737
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	(22,752)	5,865	(16,887)	21,737
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	120,748	-	120,748	99,011
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	97,996	5,865	103,861	120,748

All income and expenditure is derived from continuing activities.

RSA ACADEMIES (registered company number 07761509)**BALANCE SHEET****AS AT 31 MARCH 2020**

	Note	31 March		31 March	
		2020		2019	
		£	£	£	£
CURRENT ASSETS					
Debtors	6	14,982		13,255	
Cash at bank and in hand		<u>107,283</u>		<u>135,514</u>	
		122,265		148,769	
CREDITORS: amounts falling due within one year					
	7	<u>(18,404)</u>		<u>(28,021)</u>	
NET CURRENT ASSETS			103,861		120,748
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES			<u>103,861</u>		<u>120,748</u>
NET ASSETS			<u><u>103,861</u></u>		<u><u>120,748</u></u>
FUNDS					
General fund	8	50,996		73,748	
Designated fund	8	<u>47,000</u>		<u>47,000</u>	
			97,996		120,748
Restricted funds	8		5,865		-
			<u>103,861</u>		<u>120,748</u>

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to companies subject to the small companies' regime. They were approved, and authorised for issue, by the directors on 29 January 2021 and signed on their behalf by:-



John Towers (Feb 11, 2021, 12:05pm)
John Towers
Trustee



Peter Fell (Feb 11, 2021, 12:55pm)
Peter Fell
Trustee

RSA ACADEMIES
STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

	Year to 31 March 2020		Year to 31 March 2019	
	£	£	£	£
Cash flows from operating activities:				
Net (expenditure)/ income for the year	(16,887)		21,737	
Adjustments for:				
(Increase) in debtors	(1,727)		(6,800)	
(Decrease)/ increase in creditors	<u>(9,617)</u>		<u>11,231</u>	
Net cash (used in)/ provided by operating activities		<u>(28,231)</u>		<u>26,168</u>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(28,231)		26,168
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		135,514		109,346
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year		<u>107,283</u>		<u>135,514</u>

Analysis of changes in net debt

	Brought forward 1 April 2019 £	Cash flows £	Carried forward 31 March 2020 £
Cash at bank and in hand	135,514	(28,231)	107,283
	<u>135,514</u>	<u>(28,231)</u>	<u>107,283</u>

RSA ACADEMIES

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

1. ACCOUNTING POLICIES

CHARITY INFORMATION

RSA Academies is a private limited company limited by guarantee (registered number 07761509) which is incorporated and domiciled in England. The address of the registered office is 8 John Adam St, London, WC2N 6EZ. In the event of the charity being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member. The sole member of the Charitable Company is the Royal Society for the encouragement of the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (the RSA), a charity registered in England & Wales no. 212424 and in Scotland no. SC037784. Their registered office address and principal place of business is 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ.

BASIS OF PREPARATION

These financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102). The Charity is a public benefit entity for the purposes of FRS 102 and therefore has also prepared the financial statements in accordance with the Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (The FRS 102 Charities SORP).

There are no key judgements used in the preparation of these financial statements. There are no key assumptions concerning the future or other key sources of estimation uncertainty at the reporting date that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year.

GOING CONCERN

The Charity's has announced its intention to cease trading on the 31st March 2022, at which point residual assets and liabilities will be transferred to the sole member, The Royal Society for the encouragement of the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (RSA). As a result of this, the financial statements have been prepared on a basis other than that of a going concern, which has not resulted in any adjustments in respect of writing down assets, given assets are currently measured at their net realisable value in line with established accounting policies. No provision for contractual commitments that have become onerous at the balance sheet date as there are no items that fall under this category. The financial statements do not include any provision for the future costs of terminating the business of the Charity, except to the extent that such costs were committed at the balance sheet date.

FUNCTIONAL CURRENCY

The functional currency of RSA Academies is pounds sterling as this is the currency of the primary economic environment in which the charity operates. The financial statements are also presented in pounds sterling.

FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted (General) funds are available for use at the discretion of the trustees in furtherance of the general objectives of the charity.

Designated funds are unrestricted funds earmarked by the trustees for particular purposes.

Restricted funds are subjected to restrictions on their expenditure imposed by the donor.

INCOME

Income is recognised and included in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA) when:

- the charity becomes entitled to the income;
- the trustees consider the receipt of the income as probable; and
- the monetary value can be measured with sufficient reliability.

Income with related expenditure

Where income has related expenditure (as with fundraising or contract income) the income and related expenditure are reported gross in the SoFA.

Grants and donations are only included in the SoFA when the charity has unconditional entitlement to the income.

Donated services and facilities

These are only included in income (with an equivalent amount in expenditure) where the benefit to the charity is reasonably quantifiable, measurable and material. The value placed on these resources is the estimated value to the charity of the service or facility received.

RSA ACADEMIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

EXPENDITURE AND LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to pay.

FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Charity only has financial assets and financial liabilities of a kind that qualify as basic financial instruments. Basic financial instruments are initially recognised at transaction value and subsequently measured at their settlement value. All other assets and liabilities are recorded at cost which is their fair value.

DEBTORS

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

2. EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year to 31 March 2020	<i>Year to 31 March 2019</i>
	£	£	£	£
Direct costs	213,372	27,504	240,876	196,030
Support costs (see Note 3)	51,712	-	51,712	52,966
	265,084	27,504	292,588	248,996

RSA ACADEMIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

3. SUPPORT COSTS

	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted Funds	Year to 31 March 2020	Year to 31 March 2019
	£	£	£	£
Governance				
Audit fee	4,200	-	4,200	-
Independent Examination fee	300	-	300	1,000
Board meetings	2,941	-	2,941	2,093
Board travel and expenses	849	-	849	2,530
	<u>8,290</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,290</u>	<u>5,623</u>

Other support costs

Staff costs recharged by RSA relating to support activities	23,150	19,237
Room hire and catering	247	4,730
Insurance	1,694	3,161
Communications	2,000	-
Staff travel and expenses	5,691	5,793
IT costs	2,039	500
Training	223	595
Accountancy	5,990	6,830
Other professional fees	1,798	5,895
Bank charges	590	602
	<u>51,712</u>	<u>52,966</u>

4. TRUSTEES

During the year, no trustee received any remuneration. Five trustees were reimbursed travel and subsistence expenses totalling £849 (2019: seven trustees were reimbursed £2,530).

In addition, the charity purchased trustees indemnity insurance policy at a cost of £1,286 (2019: £1,210).

5. PAID EMPLOYEES

The charity has no employees.

Staff working for the charity are employed by RSA and costs are invoiced to RSA Academies.

No charges are made for an employee of the RSA who is also a Trustee of RSA Academies.

RSA ACADEMIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

6. DEBTORS

	31 March	<i>31 March</i>
	2020	<i>2019</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	1,609	<i>-</i>
Prepayments	652	<i>2,247</i>
Sundry debtors	5,627	<i>5,005</i>
Accrued income	7,094	<i>6,003</i>
	14,982	<i>13,255</i>

7. CREDITORS: AMOUNTS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR

	31 March	<i>31 March</i>
	2020	<i>2019</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Trade creditors	13,384	<i>15,850</i>
Accruals	5,020	<i>12,171</i>
	18,404	<i>28,021</i>

8. SUMMARY OF FUNDS

Summary of funds in the current year

	Brought forward				Carried forward
	31 March	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	31 March
	2019	Income	Expenditure	Transfers	2020
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted funds:					
RSA4	-	11,269	(11,269)	-	-
Contemporary Arts Space Project	-	22,100	(16,235)	-	5,865
	-	33,369	(27,504)	-	5,865
General fund	73,748	242,332	(265,084)	-	50,996
Designated fund: Investment fund	47,000	-	-	-	47,000
	120,748	275,701	(292,588)	-	103,861

Detail of restricted funds:

RSA4: RSA4 is a pupil-led youth social action project for Year 4 pupils across RSA Academies and local schools. It provides pupils with a chance to identify, research and take action on a social issue that will make a positive difference to their school and the local community.

RSA ACADEMIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

8. SUMMARY OF FUNDS (continued)

Detail of restricted funds (continued):

The Contemporary Art Space Project: Aims to grow an arts and culturally rich learning environment in RSA schools through the pupil-led commissioning of artworks linked to oracy. It gives pupils the opportunity to work with an artist and develop critical thinking skills by engaging with social issues.

Detail of designated fund:

The Investment fund was created for the purpose of supporting RSA Academies with greater potential to lever external funds from trusts and foundations by establishing a pot that could be used for match funding.

Detail of general fund:

General funds are used for delivery against the overall objectives of the charity.

All funds at the year end 31 March 2020 are represented by net current assets.

Summary of funds in the prior year

	<i>Brought forward 31 March 2018 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers £</i>	<i>Carried forward 31 March 2019 £</i>
Restricted fund: <input type="checkbox"/>					
Mental Health Project	10,000	4,050	(14,050)	-	-
Pupil Design Awards	-	945	(945)	-	-
Design Thinking Module	-	12,950	(12,950)	-	-
	<u>10,000</u>	<u>17,945</u>	<u>(27,945)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
General fund	42,011	252,788	(221,051)	-	73,748
Designated fund: Investment fund	47,000	-	-	-	47,000
	<u>99,011</u>	<u>270,733</u>	<u>(248,996)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>120,748</u>

All funds at the year end 31 March 2019 were represented by net current assets.

RSA ACADEMIES
NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (Continued)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2020

9. STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES - PRIOR YEAR

	<i>Unrestricted</i>	<i>Restricted</i>	<i>Year to</i>
	<i>Funds</i>	<i>Funds</i>	<i>31 March</i>
	<i>2019</i>	<i>2019</i>	<i>2019</i>
	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>	<i>£</i>
INCOME			
Donations and legacies: Grant from RSA	105,500	17,945	123,445
Income from Charitable activities:			
Academy membership & activities	147,288	-	147,288
TOTAL INCOME	<u>252,788</u>	<u>17,945</u>	<u>270,733</u>
EXPENDITURE			
Expenditure on Charitable activities	221,051	27,945	248,996
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	<u>221,051</u>	<u>27,945</u>	<u>248,996</u>
Net income/ (expenditure)	31,737	(10,000)	21,737
NET MOVEMENT IN FUNDS	<u>31,737</u>	<u>(10,000)</u>	<u>21,737</u>
TOTAL FUNDS BROUGHT FORWARD	89,011	10,000	99,011
TOTAL FUNDS CARRIED FORWARD	<u><u>120,748</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>120,748</u></u>

10. ULTIMATE PARENT UNDERTAKING AND RELATED TRANSACTIONS

The ultimate parent undertaking and sole member of the Charitable Company is the Royal Society for the encouragement of the Arts, Manufactures and Commerce (the RSA), a charity registered in England & Wales no. 212424 and in Scotland no. SC037784. Their registered office address and principal place of business is 8 John Adam Street, London WC2N 6EZ.

In the year to 31 March 2020, the RSA made unrestricted grants of £100,500 to the Charity, and restricted grants totalling £33,369 for the purposes as set out in Note 8.

In the year to 31 March 2020, the RSA charged the Charity £184,131 in staff time, and a further £6,334 for shared service costs at the Charity's office.

11. OTHER RELATED PARTIES

Transactions with the ultimate parent are disclosed in note 10. There were no other related party transactions in the year.