

The Mossley Academy Trust

(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

Annual Report and Financial Statements

For the year ended 31 August 2025

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Reference and Administrative Details

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Members	J Graham I Enticott S Hennam-Dale Chester Diocese Board of Education
Trustees	J Graham (Chair) A Swindells A Johnson B Heades I Enticott K Smith D Dentith H Harrison S Hennam-Dale (Resigned 11 June 2025) M Winstanley (Resigned 27 March 2025) L Pepper (Appointed 12 December 2024)
Senior Leadership Team	H Harrison (Headteacher and Chief Executive Officer) B Heades (Deputy Head) L Swift (Assistant Head) G Utteridge (SENCO) B Ayre (Chief Finance Officer)
Company name	The Mossley Academy Trust
Principal and Registered Office	Mossley C E Primary School Boundary Lane Congleton Cheshire CW12 3JA
Company Registration Number	09104491 (England and Wales)
Independent Auditor	Murray Smith LLP, Darland House 44 Winnington Hill, Northwich Cheshire, CW8 1AU
Bankers	Lloyds Bank plc 13 Victoria Street Crewe CW1 2JQ

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

The trustees present their annual report together with the accounts and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for pupils aged 4 to 11 serving an area on the edge of the Cheshire market town of Congleton. It has a roll of 414 in the school census on 31 August 2025.

Structure, governance and management

Constitution

The academy trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee (company number 09104491) and an exempt charity. The company was incorporated on 26 June 2014 and on 1 August 2014 converted to an academy. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust. The trustees of The Mossley Academy Trust are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as The Mossley Academy Trust.

Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1 together with its registered office address.

Members' liability

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

Trustees' indemnities

The academy trust has purchased insurance to cover trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring while on academy trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees

There are 12 trustees (board of trustees) and there are 4 members. The board of trustees is responsible for appointing 3 members, the board of trustees have agreed that the chair of trustees, 2 chairs of committee (as voted by the board of trustees) and the Diocese representative is appointed by the Diocese.

Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees

The training and induction provided for new trustees will depend on their existing experience. Where necessary induction will provide training on charity and educational legal and financial matters. All trustees are provided with relevant copies of policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and any other documents that will support them in carrying out their role as trustees. As the appointment of trustees is not a regular i.e. annual appointment, induction will need to be by necessity informal and tailored to the individual appointed.

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Organisational structure

The structure of the academy consists of three levels: the members, the trustees (governors) and the senior leadership team (SLT).

The trustees are responsible for monitoring the general policy, reviewing the annual plan and budget. The members have delegated decision making to the board of trustees (governing body) and relevant committees and the SLT.

The trustees (governors) are responsible for the strategic leadership of the academy along with the SLT, approving the annual plan and budget. Monitoring the use of the budget and making major decisions about the direction of the academy, capital expenditure and senior staff appointments.

The SLT are the headteacher, the deputy headteacher, the assistant headteacher and the SENCO. The headteacher, who is the accounting officer, controls the academy at an executive level implementing policies agreed by the trustees and reporting back to them and is responsible for the authorisation of spending within the budget as laid down in the Academy Trust Handbook. The SLT are responsible for the education and curriculum as taught across the school.

The members meet once a year in the autumn term of the academic year.

The board of trustees meet once in every term of an academic year.

The SLT meet on a weekly basis.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The school use the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions Document (STPCD) to form the basis of Mossley's Pay Policy. Mossley purchases HR support from Cheshire East who produce a model pay policy incorporating the STPCD; Mossley adopts this policy making changes to fit the academies' senior management structure. This is reviewed annually and ratified by the Resource and Finance Committee; then it is placed before the full Governing Board. Normal practice is to undertake this in the Autumn Term. The Mossley Academy Trust benchmarks against local and national schools using both the DfE benchmarking website and the "View my financial insights" (VMFI).

Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The academy trust has a partnership agreement with the ECP (Education Community Partnership) which is a limited charitable company, renewable every three years. The head teachers of some Congleton schools are directors of this company and one trustee from each school sits on the board of trustees of this company. The partnership commissions services such as Family Support, Play Therapy and Health and Well-being. Groups such as Deputies, ECT and RQT, Early years, Core curriculum, Sports and SEND all add to the provision in all the schools.

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Our Values

- Compassion
- Kindness
- Hope
- Endurance
- Respect
- Self-control

Objects and aims

- To provide a firm Christian foundation.
- To maintain a happy, secure, harmonious community built on mutual respect and shared goals.
- To provide high quality and innovative teaching and learning, striving for excellence for all.
- To create an atmosphere of value and worth, developing confident people.
- To encourage a climate of self-motivation, discipline, responsibility and personal excellence.
- To develop an awareness and understanding of others, their religions, cultural and social characteristics, so that the children may become caring and tolerant members of society.

Vision statement

Mossley Primary School is an inclusive community where all are safe, happy, valued and nurtured in a stimulating, motivating environment that challenges everyone, and promotes a lifelong love of learning.

Objectives, strategies and activities

The main objectives of the academy during the period ending 31 August 2025 are summarised below:

Quality of Education

- To improve writing outcomes in both key stages further improve % achieving GDS.
- To improve transcription across the school.
- Ensure effective summative assessment in foundation subjects.
- Improve assessment for learning opportunities throughout lessons.
- Classroom pedagogy
- To improve the attainment gap between disadvantaged and non-disadvantaged children.

Behaviour and Attitudes

- To introduce and embed "The Mossley Way" across school.

Personal Development

- To formalize the personal development offer and to ensure it has coverage.

Leadership and Management

- To improve action planning across leadership – to ensure change is not treated as an event.

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Early Years

- To improve writing outcomes for all learners.
- Vulnerable pupils- provision and outcomes for our SEND/Pupil premium children

Premises

- To improve learning spaces.
- To improve the offer at playtimes.

The academy trust promotes education for the benefit of the local community in Mossley and the environs of Congleton. We regularly work with local charities such as "Storehouse" - food bank and Ruby's Fund and National Charities such as Children in Need, Vysion and Comic Relief.

Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities our trustees have given careful consideration to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit, and in particular to its supplementary public benefit guidance on advancing education.

Strategic report

Below are the 2025 results for Mossley CE Primary School in the following areas: EYFS, KS1 & KS2.

Achievements and performance and key performance indicators

EYFS		Mossley GLD	National GLD	
		78%		

KS1		Mossley EXS	National EXS	Mossley GDS	National GDS
Year 1 PSC		88%	81%	N/A	
Year 2 PSC resit		50%	N/A		

KS2		Mossley EXS	National EXS	Mossley GDS	National GDS
KS2 SATS attainment	Reading	84%	75%	49%	
	Writing	73%	72%	2%	
	Maths	79%	74%	44%	
	SPaG	79%	73%	49%	
Combined (RWM)		68%	62%	2%	N/A

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

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.

Financial review

Most of the academy's income is obtained from the DfE in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE during the period ending 31 August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

Reserves policy

The academy seeks to have 1 month's overheads. £180k, in general restricted and unrestricted reserves. This was amended by the Governors in 2025.

The trustees review the reserve levels of the academy trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. These reserves are reviewed regularly during the year by the finance committee.

The academy trust level of reserves as at 31 August 2025 is:

Restricted	£49,947
Unrestricted	£648,416

The reserves in the period ending 31 August 2025 is in line with financial management expectations. Reserves are at the minimum level set by the governors. The position is being continuously monitored.

The academy trust's current level of free reserves (total funds less the amount held in fixed assets and restricted funds) is £698,363.

Authorisation to use reserves of any kind will be made by the trustees and/or the finance committee at the next available meeting the approval should be noted in the minutes.

Investment policy and powers

The aim of this policy is to ensure that funds which The Mossley Academy Trust does not immediately need to cover anticipated expenditure are invested in such a way as to maximise income but without risk.

The trust will therefore now look to invest surplus cash reserves (should they exist) with the trust's high street banker, Lloyds, where capital invested is guaranteed. Should this funding be invested the finance committee will receive a quarterly report on the performance of the investment. Interest incurred will be used for the benefit of children attending The Mossley Academy Trust.

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Principal risks and uncertainties

The system of internal control (as noted in the Academy Trust Handbook) is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than eliminate it, actions to mitigate the risk have been planned for.

Principal risks and uncertainties as noted by the trustees are:

- Change in government funding regime.
- Reduction in student numbers through competition, a damaged reputation, low standards or poor OFSTED grading.
- Business continuity in the event of major disaster.
- Loss of key senior staff.
- Long term staff sickness.

Controls put in place to mitigate these risks include:

- Attending conferences relating to change in government funding; reading relevant literature to ensure the trustees and finance committee are up to date with possible changes.
- Regular challenges to staff around standards and performance and the academy's public profile.
- Have a sound emergency contingency plan in place with financial electronic data held off site.
- Succession planning strategies.
- Sound reserves to cover unexpected long term absence.

Overall Quality of Education

- To continue to construct the curriculum that is ambitious and for all learners.
- To ensure that the curriculum is coherently planned and sequenced.
- To ensure teachers have good subject knowledge.
- Subject matter is clear and taught effectively.
- Knowledge is taught in an upward spiral.
- Assessment is used effectively.
- Children learn within a positive learning environment.
- To ensure that all children develop their knowledge and achieve well.
- That sustained improvements in progress is achieved for all.
- That end of stage results continue to improve.
- To increase the reading at EXS and further secure the greater depth.
- To improve spelling across the school.
- SEND provision.
- Pupil premium monitoring and provision.

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Behaviour and attitudes

- To ensure high expectations for all, in all aspects of school life.
- To continue to create a culture of calm and mutual respect.
- To ensure through direct and indirect teaching that BAME is recognised and celebrated.
- To ensure the behaviour policy is used to support behaviour – a positive approach, using the Jason Bangbala principles.

Personal Development

- The curriculum provided by schools should extend beyond the academic,
- Developing responsible, respectful and active citizens who are able to play their part and become actively involved in public life as adults
- Development of spiritual, moral, social and cultural provision.

Leadership and management

- Leaders have a clear and ambitious vision for providing high-quality education to all pupils. This is realised through strong, shared values, policies and practice.
- For Governors to ensure that the school has a clear vision and strategy, that resources are managed well and that leaders are held to account for the quality of education. To obtain the Governor Quality Mark.

Premises

- Improved learning environment.
- To replace the boilers.
- To make repairs to the flat roof.
- To ensure there is a rolling programme of toilet improvement and upgrade.
- A rolling programme of improvement to include carpets, decoration.
- Field improvements.

Fundraising

The academy trust does not use any external fundraisers. All fundraising undertaken during the year was monitored by the Trustees.

Plans for the future

- Improve classroom spaces in KS1 and year 3
- Implement OPAL play at playtimes
- CIF bid for roof improvements

Trustees' Report

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The auditors, Murray Smith LLP, will be proposed for re-appointment at the forthcoming Annual General Meeting.

The Trustee's Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 9 December 2025 and signed on the board's behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Graham', with a stylized, cursive script.

J Graham
Chair of Trustees

Governance Statement

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Scope of responsibility

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

As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Governance Guide.

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 The Mossley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met three times during the year (September 2024 - August 2025). The Resource and Finance Committee meet twice every term making financial reports to the whole board. This ensures effective oversight of funds is maintained. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Trustees was as follows:

Governor attendance at Meetings

Full Governor meetings (September 2024 to August 2025)

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs D Dentith	3	3
Mrs H Harrison	3	3
Mr B Heades	3	3
Mr K Smith	2	3
Mrs S Hennem-Dale (Resigned August 2025)	1	3
Mr A J Swindells	2	3
Rev'd I P Enticott	1	3
Mrs J Graham	3	3
Mrs Leonie Pepper (Appointed 11 December 2024)	2	3
Mr Mike Winstanley (Resigned 27 March 2025)	1	3

The board of trustees undertakes an annual review of skills through a skills audit. This audit identifies areas of strength and committees are based on these areas. The trustee board also identify areas for further development which informs any training needs, and the person specification when vacancies arise.

The Resource and Finance Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees.

The committee will meet at least once per term.

Governance Statement

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Functions and Powers

Subject to the requirements of relevant legislation, the committee is authorised:

1. To consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the academy's budget, based on the recommendation of the Finance and Audit Committee, at the start of each financial year.
2. To contribute to the formulation of the academy's development plan, through the consideration of financial priorities and proposals, in consultation with the Headteacher, with the stated and agreed aims and objectives of the academy.
3. To 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.
4. To consider and support effective Marketing and Communications ICT and Policies, inclusive of:
 - To oversee the school profile, effectiveness of communication with key stakeholders and overall marketing of the school;
 - To establish and keep under review an Accessibility plan;
 - To monitor and evaluate ICT within the school and plan for its continual development;
 - To monitor and evaluate Pupil and Parent perceptions of the school through questionnaires and report back to parents; To liaise with the School Council; and
 - To annually review all mandatory, non-curricular policies including charges and remissions policies and expenses policies.
5. To liaise with and receive reports from the CPP committee, Headteacher and others parties, as appropriate and to make recommendations to those committees and/or persons about financial aspects of the matters being considered by them.
6. To support retention, development and terms & conditions of all staff, Inclusive of:
 - To draft and keep under review the staffing structure in consultation with the Headteacher;
 - To establish a Pay Policy for all categories of staff and to be responsible for its administration and review;
 - To oversee the appointment procedure for all staff;
 - To establish and review a Performance Management policy for all staff; To oversee the process leading to staff reductions;
 - To keep under review staff work/life balance, working conditions and well-being, including the monitoring of absence;
 - To consider any appeal against a decision on pay grading or pay awards; To form the Dismissal and Appeal panels.

Governance Statement

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

7. To encourage and develop Partnerships in Community and Business both locally and internationally:

- To be involved in positive International, Community and Business links;
- To make arrangements for the Governing Body to be represented within the CECP and for reports to be received by the Governing Body

8. Performance:

- To contribute to the relevant section of SEF and the development of the SSDP;
- To consider, advise and monitor available data and external benchmarking information to ensure value for money relative to outcomes and consider additional investment requested to support the same;
- To oversee & scrutinise relevant areas of school performance in line with the pertinent DfE & Ofsted criteria.

9. To annually review the school asset management plan and strategic plans for the site development and capital projects and advise upon, and monitor maintenance, repair and refurbishment which ensures the school environment is conducive to quality learning and the effective delivery of the curriculum.

Finance & Audit Resources Committee Meetings

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mrs H Harrison	3	3
Mr B Heades	3	3
Mr K Smith	2	3
Mr A J Swindells	2	3
Mrs J Graham	3	3
Mrs Leonie Pepper (Appointed 11 December 2024)	2	3
Mr Alex Johnson	5	6
Mr Mike Winstanley (Resigned 27 March 2025)	1	3

The Finance and Audit Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees.

Terms of reference:

BUDGET

- To scrutinise the School's accounts, including performance against projected expenditure on a termly basis and ensure compliance with the overall financial plan for the academy, and with the financial regulations of the DfE, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of the governing body.
- To 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.

Governance Statement

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

- To prepare the financial statement to form part of the annual report of the governing body for publication and for filing in accordance with Companies Act. To develop (annually) a three-year budget for sign off by the Mossley Board of Governors.

Last reviewed: July 2025

AUDIT

- To receive auditors' reports and to recommend to the full trust board action as appropriate in response to audit findings.
- To recommend to the full trust board the appointment or reappointment of the auditors of the academy.
- To discuss with the external auditor the nature and scope of each forthcoming audit and the findings of the audit once completed.
- To consider and advise the board on the school's annual and long term audit programme, ensuring that the school's internal controls are subject to appropriate independent scrutiny at least in accordance with Government standards.
- To consider all relevant reports by the responsible officer, any internal auditors or the appointed external auditor, including reports on the schools accounts, achievement of value for money and the response to any management letters.
- To monitor the implementation of action to address adverse control findings by the Responsible officer, any internal auditors or the appointed external auditor.

POLICY /PROCEDURE

- To review the effectiveness of the schools internal control system established to ensure that the aims, objectives and key performance targets of the organisation are achieved in the most economic, effective and environmentally preferable manner.
- To review the school's internal and external financial statements and reports to ensure that they reflect best practice.
- To review the operation of the school's code of practice for Trustees and code of conduct for staff.
- To consider any other matters where requested to do so by the Board.
- To report at least once a year to the Board on the discharge of the above duties.

Review of value for money

The value for money statement for The Mossley Academy Trust includes:

- Improving educational results.
- Financial governance and oversight.
- Better purchasing.
- Reviewing controls and managing risks.

Governance Statement

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

As accounting officer the principal understands the responsibility for value for money. Over the last financial period, The Mossley Academy Trust has continued to take a wide range of steps to ensure that the education standards and levels of attainment for all pupils have continued to improve.

The academy's business manager, the principal and the deputy headteacher review expenditure and income on a weekly basis and this is minuted and is shared with the chair of trustees and the chair of the Finance and Audit Committee. The headteacher together with the finance team review the expenditures on a monthly basis and report to the trustees quarterly. Any issues that arise are dealt with by the business manager/headteacher as and when required.

Already, significant savings have been made in the areas of staff and buildings insurance, energy bills and purchasing general materials. The continued management of the kitchen and gaining better quality produce and value for money has seen an overall improvement in school dinner provision. We now have a better service for ICT in both improvement of the infrastructure and on-going break and fix. All of the above have been discussed with trustees and passed by the resources committee and ratified by the Full Trust Board. The Senior Leadership Team have developed a premises plan, a robust five-year budget and SDP which are all triangulated to ensure value for money.

The trust has used the services of the Congleton Education Community Partnership (CECP) through the manager to gain best value for shared services such as Family Support, Play Therapy and Well-being.

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 The Mossley Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The board of trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and accounts. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of trustees.

Governance Statement

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the board of trustees;
- regular reviews by the finance and resources 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 board of trustees has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has decided to not appoint an auditor for this purpose. However, a trustee has been appointed to carry out a programme on internal checks.

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

Trustees have agreed that for the financial year 2024-25, they will employ Halliard Trust as internal auditor.

Review of Effectiveness

As accounting officer the Headteacher 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 reviewer;
- the work of the external auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;

The resources committee with the help of the responsible officer reviews the controls and manages the risk on a termly basis.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Governance Statement
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the Finance and Audit committee and the Accounting Officer, the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 9 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



J Graham
Chair of Trustees



H Harrison
Accounting Officer

Statement of Regularity, Propriety and Compliance For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

As Accounting Officer of The Mossley Academy Trust, I confirm that I have had due regard to the framework of authorities governing regularity, propriety and compliance, including the trust's funding agreement with DfE, and the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust board of trustees and DfE of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I, and the board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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



H Harrison

Accounting Officer

9 December 2025

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

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

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

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 9 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Graham', with a stylized, cursive script.

J Graham
Chair of Trustees

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Mossley Academy Trust

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of The Mossley Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and notes to the financial statements. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, 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), and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by the Department for Education (DfE).

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy Trust's affairs as at 31 August 2025 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the period then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025.

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Mossley Academy Trust

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

Other information

The trustees are responsible for the other information. The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees' Report, but does not include the financial statements and our Report of the Independent Auditors thereon.

Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and 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, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact. We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

- proper accounting records have not been kept;
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- all the information and explanations required for the audit were not received.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Mossley Academy Trust

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities set out in the trustee's annual report, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Board of Trustees determines 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 Board of Trustees is responsible for assessing the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Board of Trustees either intends to liquidate the Academy Trust or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

The audit procedures designed to identify irregularities included:

- enquiry of management and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims
- enquiry of Academy Trust staff with responsibilities for compliance matters to identify any instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations
- reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations
- auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

Independent Auditor's Report on the Financial Statements to the Members of The Mossley Academy Trust

There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures described above and, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it. Also, the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, intentional misrepresentations or through collusion.

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 Report of the Independent Auditors.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Members, as a body, those matters we are required to state to them in an auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Academy Trust and the Members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Steven Williams FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)
For and on behalf of Murray Smith LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Darland House
44 Winnington Hill
Northwich
Cheshire
CW8 1AU

Date 9 December 2025

Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity to The Mossley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter and further to the requirements of the Department of Education (DfE), as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by The Mossley Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to The Mossley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to The Mossley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education 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 Mossley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the accounting officer of The Mossley Academy Trust and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of The Mossley Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academy Trust Handbook 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 extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts. 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 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied for the purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by DfE, which requires a limited assurance engagement as set out in our engagement letter.

Independent Reporting Accountant's Report on Regularity to The Mossley Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- review of arrangements in place over financial management; and
- review of the Trust's expenditure during the year.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggests that in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 has not been applied for the purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Murray Smith LLP

Date 9 December 2025

Chartered Accountants and Statutory Auditors
Darland House
44 Winnington Hill
Northwich
Cheshire CW8 1AU

Statement of Financial Activities for the year ended 31 August 2025

	Note	Unrestricted Funds	Restricted General Funds	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds	Total 2025	Total 2024
		£	£	£	£	£
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	2	17,687	-	(16,419)	1,268	239,549
Charitable activities:						
Funding for the Academy Trust's educational activities	3	114,278	2,347,531	-	2,461,809	2,253,990
Other trading activities	4	179,552	-	-	179,552	224,089
Investments	5	85	-	-	85	77
Total income		311,602	2,347,531	(16,419)	2,642,714	2,717,705
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	142,051	-	-	142,051	113,170
Charitable activities:						
Academy Trust's educational operations	7	-	2,396,706	83,471	2,480,177	2,360,377
Other		-	-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		142,051	2,396,706	83,471	2,622,228	2,473,547
Net income / (expenditure)		169,551	(49,175)	(99,890)	20,486	244,158
Transfers between funds	15	-	(38,264)	38,264	-	-
Other recognised gains / (losses):						
Actuarial gains / (losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	(33,000)	-	(33,000)	56,000
Net movement in funds		169,551	(120,439)	(61,626)	(12,514)	300,158
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		478,865	170,386	3,866,553	4,515,804	4,215,646
Total funds carried forward		648,416	49,947	3,804,927	4,503,290	4,515,804

Balance Sheet as at 31 August 2025

	Notes	31 August 2025 £	31 August 2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	11	3,844,667	3,857,748
Current assets			
Debtors	12	98,369	201,022
Cash at bank and in hand		787,534	763,585
		885,903	964,607
Current Liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	13	(193,130)	(266,811)
Net current assets		692,773	697,796
Total assets less current liabilities		4,537,440	4,555,544
Creditors – amounts falling due after more than one year	14	(34,150)	(39,740)
Net assets excluding pension asset / liability		4,503,290	4,515,804
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / (liability)	25	-	-
Total net assets		4,503,290	4,515,804
Funds of the Academy Trust:			
Restricted funds			
Fixed asset fund	15	3,804,927	3,866,553
Restricted income fund	15	49,947	170,386
Pension reserve	15	-	-
Total restricted funds		3,854,874	4,036,939
Unrestricted income funds	15	648,416	478,865
Total funds		4,503,290	4,515,804

The financial statements on pages 26 to 54 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 9 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:


J Graham
Chair of Trustees


H Harrison
Accounting Officer

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31 August 2025

		Year ended 31 August 2025 £	Year ended 31 August 2024 £
	Note		
Cash flow from operating activities			
Net cash provided by (used in) operating activities	19	116,263	250,653
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(86,724)	(113,728)
Cash flows from financing activities	20	(5,590)	(6,573)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period		23,949	130,352
Cash and cash equivalents at 1 September 2024		763,585	633,233
Cash and cash equivalents at 31 August 2025	22	787,534	763,585

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies

The Mossley Academy Trust is a charitable company, incorporated in England and Wales. The address of the principal place of business is given on page 1 and the nature of its operations are set out in the Trustees' report.

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

Basis of Preparation

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historical cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by DfE, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The accounts are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the academy trust. Monetary amounts in these accounts are rounded to the nearest £.

Going Concern

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

Basis of accounting

The financial statements are prepared in accordance with the historical cost convention as modified by the use of previous valuations as deemed cost at transition for certain non-current assets.

Income

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

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Grants

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

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

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

Sponsorship Income

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy Trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

Investment Income

All income from short term deposit accounts is credited to the Statement of Financial Activity in the period in which it is earned 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 Academy Trust has provided the goods or services.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Donated goods, facilities and services

Goods donated for resale are included at fair value, being the expected proceeds from sale less the expected costs of sale. If it is practical to assess the fair value at receipt, it is recognised in stock and 'Income from other trading activities'. Upon sale, the value of the stock is charged against 'Income from other trading activities' and the proceeds are recognised as 'Income from other trading activities'. Where it is impractical to fair value the items due to the volume of low value items they are not recognised in the financial statements until they are sold. This income is recognised within 'Income from other trading activities'.

Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion/into the Academy Trust)

Where the donated good is a fixed asset, it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as income from donations and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy Trust's accounting policies.

Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

- **Expenditure on Raising Funds**

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

- **Charitable Activities**

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Tangible Fixed Assets

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

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

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

Land and buildings	– 50 years (land is not depreciated)
Computer equipment	– 3 years straight line
Fixtures, fittings and equipment	– 4 years 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 and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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.

Subsequent expenditure on existing fixed assets

Where significant expenditure is incurred on tangible fixed assets after initial purchase it is charged to the statement of financial activities in the period it is incurred unless it increases the future benefits to the Academy Trust, in which case it is capitalised and depreciated on the relevant basis.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

Liabilities

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

Provisions

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

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

Leased Assets

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

Financial Instruments

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

Financial assets – trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities – trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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 part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

Pensions 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.

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

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

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

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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 funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

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

Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

Valuation of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost (income) for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 25, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgement

The trustees do not believe there to be any areas of judgement critical to the academy trust's financial statements.

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

2. Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Capital grants	-	(16,419)	(16,419)	165,172
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	-
Other donations	17,687	-	17,687	74,377
Total	17,687	(16,419)	1,268	239,549

3. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
DfE / ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	1,936,200	1,936,200	1,896,561
Other DfE/ESFA grants				
UIFSM	-	83,089	83,089	79,316
Pupil premium	-	53,207	53,207	66,666
Additional grant	-	65,366	65,366	57,731
Others	-	98,990	98,990	66,802
Other DfE Group grants	-	-	-	-
Other Government grants				
Local authority grants	-	109,115	109,115	86,914
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	114,278	1,564	115,842	-
	114,278	2,347,531	2,461,809	2,253,990

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

4. Other trading activities

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Hire of facilities	2,850	-	2,850	1,637
Income from other charitable activities	170,737	-	170,737	222,452
Income from ancillary trading activities	5,965	-	5,965	-
Total	179,552	-	179,552	224,089

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted Funds £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
Short term deposits - interest	85	-	85	77
Total	85	-	85	77

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs £	Premises £	Other £	2025 Total £	2024 Total £
<i>Expenditure on raising funds:</i>					
Direct costs	142,030	21	-	142,051	113,170
Allocated support costs	-	-	-	-	-
<i>Academy Trust's educational operations:</i>					
Direct costs	1,605,002	-	194,596	1,799,598	1,521,889
Allocated support costs	224,773	210,236	245,570	680,579	838,488
Total	1,971,805	210,257	440,166	2,622,228	2,473,547

Net income/(expenditure) for the period includes:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating lease rentals	45,612	24,990
Depreciation	83,471	80,051
Fees payable to auditor for:		
-audit	7,000	7,150
-other services	3,150	2,405

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

7. Charitable Activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Direct costs – educational operations	1,799,598	1,521,889
Support costs – educational operations	680,579	838,488
	2,480,177	2,360,377

Analysis of support costs

	2025	2024
	Educational Operations	Educational Operations
	£	£
Support staff costs	224,773	334,186
Depreciation	83,471	80,051
Technology costs	32,915	224
Premises costs	210,236	225,827
Legal costs – other	9,204	50,776
Other support costs	103,522	135,814
Governance costs	16,458	11,610
Total support costs	680,579	838,488

8. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the period were:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	1,463,073	1,361,914
Social security costs	140,351	121,371
Pension costs	346,428	302,072
Other employee benefits	-	-
	1,949,852	1,785,357
Agency staff costs	21,953	11,242
Other staff costs	-	7,797
Staff restructuring costs	-	1,726
Total staff costs	1,971,805	1,806,122

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

8. Staff (continued)

b. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the Academy Trust during the period was:

	2025	2024
	No	No
Teachers	14	15
Administration and support	51	44
Management	4	4
	69	63

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2025	2024
	No	No
£60,001 to £70,000 p.a.	1	1
£70,001 to £80,000 p.a.	-	1
£80,001 to £90,000 p.a.	1	-

d. Key management personnel

Key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the trustees and the senior leadership team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £470,304 (2024: £360,477).

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

9. Related party transactions – Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from employment with the Academy Trust. The principal and other staff trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their roles as Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

H Harrison (Headteacher and Trustee)

Remuneration £85,000-£90,000 (2024: £75,000-£80,000)

Employer's pension contributions £20,000-£25,000 (2024: £20,000-£25,000)

B Heades (Staff trustee)

Remuneration £65,000-£70,000 (2024: £60,000-£65,000)

Employer's pension contributions £15,000-£20,000 (2024: £15,000-£20,000)

A Johnson (Staff trustee)

Remuneration £40,000-£45,000 (2024: £25,000-£30,000)

Employer's pension contributions £10,000-£15,000 (2024: £5,000-£10,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2025 no travel and subsistence expenses were reimbursed or paid directly to the trustees (2024: None).

10. Trustees and Officers' Insurance

The Trust has opted into the Department for Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

11. Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings and Equipment	Total
Cost or valuation	£	£	£	£
At 1 September 2024	4,373,653	65,018	175,830	4,614,501
Additions	64,533	-	5,857	70,390
Disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2025	4,438,186	65,018	181,687	4,684,891
Depreciation				
At 1 September 2024	554,592	59,093	143,068	756,753
Charge for period	67,323	2,586	13,562	83,471
Eliminated in respect of disposals	-	-	-	-
At 31 August 2025	621,915	61,679	156,630	840,224
Net book value at 31 August 2024	3,819,061	5,925	32,762	3,857,748
Net book value at 31 August 2025	3,816,271	3,339	25,057	3,844,667

The net book value of land and buildings comprises:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Long leaseholds (over 50 years)	3,816,271	3,819,061

12. Debtors

Amounts falling due within one year:	2025	2024
	£	£
Trade debtors	7,328	7,342
VAT recoverable	42,840	84,214
Prepayments and accrued income	48,201	109,466
	98,369	201,022

Notes to the accounts**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025****13. Creditors: amounts falling due within one year**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Government loans	5,590	5,590
Trade creditors	18,891	101,476
Other taxation and social security	79,371	26,426
DfE creditors	1,400	731
Other creditors	2,811	37,201
Accruals and deferred income	85,067	95,387
	193,130	266,811

	2025	2024
	£	£
Deferred income at 31 August 2024	51,150	59,725
Released from previous years	(51,150)	(59,725)
Resources deferred in year	56,980	51,150
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	56,980	51,150

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding the following funds received in advance:

	2025	2024
	£	£
UIFSM	49,033	46,268
Trip income	7,947	4,882
	56,980	51,150

14. Creditors: amounts falling due after one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Government loans	34,150	39,740
	34,150	39,740

Government loans represents amounts from DfE under the CIF to help property development and maintenance projects. The loans are repayable over 10 years. The monthly repayment will be deducted from GAG.

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

15. Funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024	Income	Expenditure	Gains (Losses) and Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2025
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted General Funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	170,386	1,936,200	(2,018,375)	(38,264)	49,947
UIFSM	-	83,089	(83,089)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	53,207	(53,207)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	164,356	(164,356)	-	-
Other government grants	-	109,115	(109,115)	-	-
Other income	-	1,564	(1,564)	-	-
Pension Reserve	-	-	33,000	(33,000)	-
	170,386	2,347,531	(2,396,706)	(71,264)	49,947
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds					
Inherited on conversion	2,812,688	-	(45,920)	-	2,766,768
DfE group capital grants	769,919	(16,419)	(34,868)	-	718,632
Private sector capital sponsorship	283,946	-	(2,683)	38,264	319,527
	3,866,553	(16,419)	(83,471)	38,264	3,804,927
Total Restricted Funds	4,036,939	2,331,112	(2,480,177)	(33,000)	3,854,874
Total Unrestricted Funds	478,865	311,602	(142,051)	-	648,416
Total Funds	4,515,804	2,642,714	(2,622,228)	(33,000)	4,503,290

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

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

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

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Department for Education.

The Academy Trust is not subject to GAG carried forward limits.

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

15. Funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023	Income	Expenditure	Gains (Losses) and Transfers	Balance at 31 August 2024
	£	£	£	£	£
Restricted General Funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	56,543	1,896,561	(1,782,718)	-	170,386
UIFSM	-	79,316	(79,316)	-	-
Pupil premium	-	66,666	(66,666)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	156,338	124,533	(280,871)	-	-
Other government grants	(23,931)	86,914	(62,983)	-	-
Other income	10,631	11,141	(21,772)	-	-
Pension Reserve	(70,000)	-	14,000	56,000	-
	129,581	2,265,131	(2,280,326)	56,000	170,386
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds					
Inherited on conversion	2,858,608	-	(45,920)	-	2,812,688
DfE group capital grants	637,556	165,172	(32,809)	-	769,919
Private sector capital sponsorship	198,069	-	(1,322)	87,199	283,946
	3,694,233	165,172	(80,051)	87,199	3,866,553
Total Restricted Funds	3,823,814	2,430,303	(2,360,377)	143,199	4,036,939
Total Unrestricted Funds	391,832	287,402	(113,170)	(87,199)	478,865
Total Funds	4,215,646	2,717,705	(2,473,547)	56,000	4,515,804

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

16. Analysis of Net Assets between Funds

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,844,667	3,844,667
Current assets	659,174	217,944	8,785	885,903
Current liabilities	(10,758)	(167,997)	(14,375)	(193,130)
Non-current liabilities	-	-	(34,150)	(34,150)
Pension scheme liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	648,416	49,947	3,804,927	4,503,290

Comparative information in respect of the previous period as at 31 August 2024 is as follows:

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted General Funds £	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £	Total Funds £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	3,857,748	3,857,748
Current assets	478,865	476,937	8,805	964,607
Current liabilities	-	(266,811)	-	(266,811)
Non-current liabilities	-	(39,740)	-	(39,740)
Pension scheme liabilities	-	-	-	-
Total net assets	478,865	170,386	3,866,553	4,515,804

17. Capital and other commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Commitments contracted for, but not provided for in the financial statements	-	-

Notes to the accounts**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025****18. Long-term commitments, including operating leases****Operating leases**

At 31 August 2025 the total of the Academy Trust's future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases was:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Amounts due within one year	31,525	35,224
Amounts due between one and five years	56,530	46,550
Amounts due after five years	-	-
	88,055	81,774

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net income / (expenditure) for the period	20,486	244,158
Adjusted for:		
Depreciation	83,471	80,051
Capital grants from DfE and other capital grants	16,419	(165,172)
Interest paid	-	-
Interest receivable	(85)	(77)
Defined benefit scheme cost less contributions payable	(32,000)	(27,000)
Defined pension scheme finance cost	(1,000)	13,000
(Increase) / decrease in debtors	102,653	(10,593)
Increase / (decrease) in creditors	(73,681)	116,286
Net cash provided by operating activities	116,263	250,653

20. Cash flows from financing activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Repayments of borrowing	(5,590)	(6,573)
Cash inflows from new borrowing	-	-
Interest paid	-	-
Net cash provided by / (used in) financing activities	(5,590)	(6,573)

Notes to the accounts**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025****21. Cash flows from investing activities**

	2025	2024
	£	£
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(70,390)	(185,156)
Capital grants from DfE	(16,419)	71,351
Interest received	85	77
Net cash provided by / (used in) investing activities	(86,724)	(113,728)

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	787,534	763,585
Notice deposits (less than 3 months)	-	-
Total cash and cash equivalents	787,534	763,585

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash	763,585	23,949	787,534
Cash equivalents	-	-	-
	763,585	23,949	787,534
Loans falling due within one year	(5,590)	-	(5,590)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(39,740)	5,590	(34,150)
Total	718,255	29,539	747,794

24. 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.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

25. Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £44,096 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024: £36,222) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

25. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

The result of this valuation was implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £228,877 (2024: £188,000).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website. (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2023/10/valuation-result.aspx>)

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £190,000 (2024 £174,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £151,000 (2024 £138,000) and employees' contributions totalled £39,000 (2024 £36,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 22.3% for employers and between 5.5% and 12.5% for employees.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	At 31 August 2025	At 31 August 2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.40	3.35
Future pensions increases	2.70	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.10	5.00

Notes to the accounts**For the Year Ended 31 August 2025****25. Pension and similar obligations (continued)**

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

	At 31 August 2025 Years	At 31 August 2024 Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	19.4	19.2
Females	24.5	24.4
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	21.4	21.2
Females	25.8	25.7

Sensitivity Analysis

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Discount rate: + 0.1%	(35)	(41)
Discount rate: - 0.1%	35	41
Mortality assumption: 1 year increase	62	69
Mortality assumption: 1 year decrease	(62)	(69)
CPI rate: + 0.1%	35	41
CPI rate: - 0.1%	(35)	(41)

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

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Equities	1,085	924
Bonds	643	576
Property	261	227
Cash and other liquid assets	<u>20</u>	<u>17</u>
Total fair value of assets	<u>2,009</u>	<u>1,744</u>

The actual return on the scheme assets was £95k (2024 £142k).

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

25. Pension and similar obligations (continued)

Amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities

	2025	2024
	£000	£000
Current service cost	(119)	(111)
Interest income	91	79
Interest cost	(90)	(82)
Admin expenses	-	-
Notional asset not being recognised	<u>(453)</u>	<u>(10)</u>
Total amount recognised in the SOFA	<u>(571)</u>	<u>(124)</u>

The Trustees have not recognised the asset reported by the actuaries as there is significant uncertainty over whether the Trust would benefit from the asset through reduced contributions in the future.

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

	2025	2024
	£000	£000
At 1 September 2024	1,734	1,527
Current service cost	119	111
Interest cost	90	82
Employee contributions	39	36
Actuarial (gain) / loss	(416)	7
Benefits paid	<u>(20)</u>	<u>(29)</u>
At 31 August 2025	<u>1,546</u>	<u>1,734</u>

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

	2025	2024
	£000	£000
At 1 September 2024	1,744	1,457
Interest income	91	79
Actuarial gain / (loss)	4	63
Employer contributions	151	138
Employee contributions	39	36
Benefits paid	<u>(20)</u>	<u>(29)</u>
At 31 August 2025	2,009	1,744
Notional asset not being recognised	<u>(463)</u>	<u>(10)</u>
At 31 August 2025 (after asset restriction)	<u>1,546</u>	<u>1,734</u>

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

26. Related party transactions

Due to the nature of the Trust's operations and the composition of the Board of Trustees (being drawn from local public and private sector organisations) it is inevitable that transactions will take place with organisations in which a member of the Board of Trustees may have an interest. All transactions involving organisations in which a member of the Board of Trustees may have an interest are conducted at arm's length in accordance with the Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

Expenditure related party transactions

A Smith, daughter of K Smith, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a teaching assistant. A Smith's appointment was made in open competition and K Smith was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. A Smith is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and receives no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee.

K Statham, daughter of A Swindells, a trustee, is employed by the academy trust as a teacher. K Statham's appointment was made in open competition and A Swindells was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. K Statham is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and receives no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee.

E Statham, grandson of A Swindells, a trustee, was employed by the academy trust as a casual playworker. E Statham's appointment was made in open competition and A Swindells was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. E Statham was paid within the normal pay scale for their role and received no special treatment as a result of their relationship to a trustee.

C Mitchell, sister of H Harrison, headteacher, accounting officer and trustee, was employed by the academy trust as an out of school deputy manager. C Mitchell's appointment was made in open competition and H Harrison was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. C Mitchell was paid within the normal pay scale for their role and received no special treatment as a result of their relationship to the headteacher, accounting officer and trustee.

O Gibson and A Gibson, daughters of B Ayre, CFO, are employed by the academy trust as an out of school playworker and midday assistant respectively. O Gibson and A Gibson's appointments were made in open competition and B Ayre was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointments. O Gibson and A Gibson are paid within the normal pay scale for their roles and receive no special treatment as a result of their relationship to the CFO.

Notes to the accounts

For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

O Stone, son of B Ayre, CFO, is employed by the academy trust as an out of school playworker. O Stone's appointment was made in open competition and B Ayre was not involved in the decision-making process regarding appointment. O Stone is paid within the normal pay scale for their role and receives no special treatment as a result of their relationship to the CFO.

During the 2024/25 year the Trust made contributions towards The Education & Community Partnership Ltd, based on a set fee and payment per pupil. The contributions totalled £5,700 (2024: £5,780). H Harrison, headteacher, accounting officer and trustee, is a director of the company. At the year end £nil was owed to the company.

During the 2024/25 year the Trust received training courses and acquired annual membership from East Cheshire Association of Primary Headteachers. The expenditure totalled £1,618 (2024: £1,489). H Harrison, headteacher, accounting officer and trustee, is a member. At the year end £nil was owed to the company.

During the 2024/25 year the Trust received CFO support and internal audit services from Halliard Trust, a Multi Academy Trust in Cheshire. The expenditure totalled £3,075 (2024: £3,370). The two trusts have a Trustee in common; Keith Smith. All services from Halliard Trust have been provided at or below cost and evidence of this has been received from Halliard Trust. At the year end £nil was owed to the company.

Income related party transactions

During the 2024/25 year the Trust raised sales invoices totalling £468 (2024: £9,640) to The Education & Community Partnership Ltd, a company of which H Harrison (headteacher and trustee) is a director. At the year end £nil was owed to the Trust.

No other related party transactions took place in the period of account, other than certain trustees' remuneration and expenses already disclosed in note 9.

Notes to the accounts
For the Year Ended 31 August 2025

27. Statement of Financial Activities for the Year Ended 31 August 2024

	Note	Unrestricted Funds £000	Restricted General funds £000	Restricted Fixed Asset Funds £000	Total 2024 £000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	2	63,236	11,141	165,172	239,549
Charitable activities:					
Funding for the Academy	3	-	2,253,990	-	2,253,990
Trust's educational activities					
Other trading activities	4	224,089	-	-	224,089
Investments	5	77	-	-	77
Total income		287,402	2,265,131	165,172	2,717,705
Expenditure on:					
Raising funds	6	113,170	-	-	113,170
Charitable activities:					
Academy Trust educational operations	7	-	2,280,326	80,051	2,360,377
Other		-	-	-	-
Total expenditure		113,170	2,280,326	80,051	2,473,547
Net income / (expenditure)		174,232	(15,195)	85,121	244,158
Transfers between funds	15	(87,199)	-	87,199	-
Other recognised gains / (losses):					
Actuarial gains / (losses) on defined benefit pension schemes	25	-	56,000	-	56,000
Net movement in funds		87,033	40,805	172,320	300,158
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		391,832	129,581	3,694,233	4,215,646
Total funds carried forward		478,865	170,386	3,866,553	4,515,804