

Company Registration Number: 08272256 (England & Wales)

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

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WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

	Mr J Conroy (resigned 23 July 2025) Mr R Robinson (resigned 6 November 2025) Ms C Duberry (resigned 14 July 2025) Mr R Sopp (appointed 6 November 2025) Ms T Doyle (appointed 1 October 2025) Ms A Lorenzo (appointed 14 July 2025)
Trustees	Ms J Ryder, Principal (appointed 1 September 2024) Mr J Conroy (resigned 23 July 2025) Mrs L Clark (resigned 29 October 2024) Mrs N Cranch (resigned 7 December 2024) Mrs A Joiner Cllr J Kent Ms S Muldowney Mr C Radford Mr R Sopp, Chair of Trustees Ms L Cottis (resigned 23 July 2025) Rev M Ralph Ms J Thomas Ms N Mathurine (appointed 13 October 2025) Ms T Young (appointed 13 October 2025)
Company registered number	08272256
Company name	Woodside Academy
Principal and registered office	Grangewood Avenue Grays Essex RM16 2GJ
Company secretary	Ms F Gardner
Accounting Officer	Ms J Ryder
Senior management team	Ms J Ryder, Principal Mrs A Joiner, Joint Vice Principal Mr C Radford, Joint Vice Principal
Independent auditors	MWS Accountants Limited Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditor 4 Chester Court Chester Hall Lane Basildon Essex SS14 3WR

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Bankers

Lloyds TSB Bank PLC
34 High Street
Grays
Essex
RM17 6LX

Solicitors

Anthony Collins Solicitors LLP
134 Edmund Street
Birmingham
West Midlands
B3 2ES

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees (who are also directors of the charity for the purposes of the Companies Act) present their annual report together with the audited financial statements of Woodside Academy (the academy) for the year ended 31 August 2025. The Trustees confirm that the Annual report and financial statements of the academy comply with the current statutory requirements, the requirements of the academy's governing document and the provisions of the Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) "Accounting and Reporting by Charities" issued January 2019.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The academy is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The company registration number is 08272256. The charitable company was incorporated on 29th October 2012.

The governors act as the trustees for the charitable activities of Woodside Academy and are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as Woodside Academy.

Details of the governors who served throughout the year except as noted are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnities

The Academy through its Articles has indemnified its Governors to the fullest extent permissible by law. During the period the Academy also purchased and maintained liability insurance for its Governors.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The make-up of the governing body is outlined in the academy's articles of association and consists of:

- 3 members who are the core trust and can appoint future members and the appointed governors
- 1 chair of governors (who is also a member)
- 2 community governors
- 2 parent governors who are elected by parental ballot (increased to 4 during the year)
- 2 staff governors who are elected by staff ballot
- The academy principal (ex officio).

In certain circumstances the secretary of state may appoint additional governors.

From this year there will be separate meetings for the governing body and the core trust members to whom they are accountable.

All governors have a term of office of four years, excluding the principal. Any governor may be re appointed or re elected after this term, providing they remain eligible under the terms set out in the articles.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Structure, governance and management (continued)

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The academy gives all governors access to relevant training covering a comprehensive range of issues and topics. This ensures they have a full understanding of the role and responsibilities of being a school governor and are able to fulfil this role effectively and with confidence.

f. Organisational structure and pay policy for key management personnel

The governing body as a whole group meet at least six times a year to discuss the management and running of the academy. It is their responsibility to oversee the academy is effectively managed and delivering its aims and objectives as set out in the vision statement.

The Governing Body meetings focus alternatively on learning related activities, resources and finances. The learning focused meetings ensure the governing body are checking that the standards of teaching and learning at the academy is effective, ensuring pupils are making good progress and challenging senior staff as necessary. In addition to this the governing body are able to ensure that the academy is setting a useful and successful curriculum to support pupils' further learning.

Resource and finance meetings focus on the operational aspect of the running of the academy. The governing body ensure that the school building is safe and well maintained and this and other resources are adequate for the needs of the children and that finances are used in the most efficient ways to realize the vision of the academy.

As well as these two regular foci, the governing body have a finance, risk and audit committee, as well as committees for both staff pay and appeals, and convenes further committees as needed should there be any grievances, disciplinary issues or any other issues.

The Principal is responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operational procedures within the academy, on behalf of the Governing Body. This includes implementing the policies agreed and set by the GB and ensuring high levels of teaching and learning are in place to achieve the best possible results for pupils. The principal works with other members of the leadership team, as outlined above, to effectively manage the school, and in particular, the teaching and support staff. Efficient management of resources around the school is shared between staff, this can be teachers who are given the responsibility of being a subject leader or phase leader, and more senior members of support staff. Effective management of resources ensures that the academy is not wasteful and is making the most of everything that is owned and purchased by the academy.

Trustees are unpaid although staff who become governors have their usual staff salary. Non-staff governors review the remuneration of teaching staff and in particular decide on annual increments paid to the senior leadership team. These relate to performance management in which the academy has chosen to follow the appraisal national guidelines for community schools, and for the principal, is conducted by a small group of governors assisted by a professional independent advisor. All teaching staff, including the senior leadership team, are given pupil achievement targets as part of this process.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Structure, governance and management (continued)

g. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	1
Full-time equivalent employee number	1

Percentage of time spent on facility time

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
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Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	3,681,223
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	- %
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h. Trade Union Facility Time

One employee was a relevant union official during the reporting period, but there was no time spent on facility time and no related costs.

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

Our aims and objectives are encapsulated in our Mission Statement; "To give every learner the best possible lifetime opportunities by providing the best possible education", and further defined in our Vision Statement, Excellence and Opportunity:

Excellence striving for the best:

- We want the very best teaching and learning experiences for our children.
- We expect every child to try hard to improve.
- We insist on excellence in our communications with parents and the wider community.
- We strive for high academic standards and value all achievement.
- We believe our children deserve an excellent environment and that everything we offer, from buildings to books, should be the best we can provide.

Opportunity a fair chance for all:

- We want the best possible lifetime opportunities for every child.
- We believe every child has a right to be safe, to be healthy, to enjoy and achieve, to make a positive contribution and to achieve economic well being.
- We insist on every child's entitlement to a broad range of knowledge and skills.
- We want every child to have opportunities in sport and the arts as well as academic achievement.
- We are committed to equality of opportunity for everyone.
- We want all our children to learn positive attitudes so that they never limit the opportunities of others through stereotyping or intolerance.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Objectives and activities (continued)

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

Woodside Academy is fully committed to offering the very best educational experience to all pupils across a broad curriculum. The academy's Senior Leadership Team look at ways to bridge the gap in attainment by reviewing teacher assessments half termly in order to provide effective support and interventions as required. It also supports pupils by recognising achievements weekly in assemblies and promotes rewards for good behaviour and conduct around the school. This works effectively and can be seen both around the school and by the local community.

The curriculum is discussed by teaching staff at weekly meetings. Support staff meetings and training sessions ensure staff share the same understanding of the academy's objectives and have the necessary skills to work together and achieve them. Teaching and learning is supported by all members of staff and guided by the Senior Leadership Team. Teachers work together to plan lessons and this is overseen by the Senior Leadership Team to ensure there is consistent high-quality learning throughout the school.

The academy regularly examines the procedures to achieve the desired results and pupil information and teacher assessments are looked at each termly to monitor progress and put interventions in place as and when needed. This ensures that pupils make as much progress as they can and are given support throughout the year. As well as monitoring pupil progress, staff follow a professional development programme set out during their appraisals each year. Lessons, planning, assessments and children's work are monitored to ensure the level of teaching is constant and of the best possible quality. In addition to this staff share good practice and discuss curriculum at regular staff meetings and training sessions.

The academy recognises that as well as the classroom learning experience; pupils need to feel safe and comfortable in the school environment and has employed a pastoral support worker to help children with any problems.

Each year pupils choose a key worker, who is a member of staff in the school whom they can approach if and when they feel they need to talk about anything. However, pupils are reminded that they can speak to any member of staff if they feel necessary. The staff work hard to ensure all pupils feel comfortable and safe to discuss any problems they may have. Pupils and staff meet daily in assemblies which emphasise the values of the school and celebrate achievements of all kinds. The staff at Woodside Academy are constantly working to improve the school experience and policies, procedures and day to day running of the school are continually reviewed.

The academy runs an extensive range of extra-curricular activities which are very much appreciated by pupils and parents. This helps to support academic learning, develops wider personal skills and provides many successful sports teams which compete with other local schools together with a sought-after steel band, choirs and drama groups which make a significant contribution to the cultural life of the community. Before and after school care are provided by the academy as both a service to parents and to extend children's learning in a safe environment. Additional before school learning sessions were provided for children leading up to KS2 SATS and for children who had fallen behind when learning at home.

Woodside Academy is in a training partnership with the University of Greenwich, Anglia Ruskin University, and the Osbourne Trust (TES). This enables the school to recruit and train graduates as effective teachers who may then work at the school or at other schools in the borough. In 2024-25 three graduates were trained at Woodside.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Public benefit

The Academy provides more than its core role of delivering education to children in the local area. It is a significant employer, annually trains qualified teachers and other adults to work in schools, provides an extended schools programme of before and after school and holiday care and learning, makes significant contribution to the cultural life of the borough and to charitable causes, makes its facilities available to a number of local groups and actively develops its grounds for wildlife diversity and champions sustainable travel. The Governors confirm that they have complied with the duty in the Charities Act to have due regard to the public benefit guidance provided by the Charity Commission.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Objectives and activities (continued)

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

KPI's for Trustees Report 24/25

Key Performance Indicators	2024 - 25
Age Range	4 to 11
Average class size	30
NOR	670
GAG Funding	£2,989,720
Pupil Premium Funding	£213,472
All ESFA & LA funding (excl UIFSM)	£3,965,567
Total Income	£4,310,598
Teaching Staff Costs	£1,905,360
Non-teaching Staff Costs	£1,775,863
Total Expenditure	£4,400,017
Total Staff Costs excluding pension costs	£3,681,223
Staff Percentage (the percentage against ESFA & LA funding, excl UIFSM)	92.8%
Total Staffing FTE	79
Total % of SEN Students with an EHCP	5.1%
Total % of Pupil Premium Students	18.9%
In Year Surplus/Deficit	-£89,419
Total Expenditure as a % of Total Income	102.1%

Woodside Academy Statutory Test Results – July 2025

	Woodside	National
Grammar, Punctuation and Spelling	87%	73%
Reading	86%	75%
Writing	84%	72%
Mathematics	83%	74%

These show the percentage of children who reached the expected standard in the tests.

b. Going concern

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

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

c. Review of activities

During the academic year 2024-25 Woodside successfully renewed accreditation for the Greater Essex Music Hub Lead School, Eco Schools Green Flag, The Primary Science Quality Mark at Gilt level, Active Essex award, Music Mark, Sing Up Silver Award, The British Council International Award, School Sports Platinum, Diversity Mark Gold, Modeshift Stars Platinum, and ArtsMark Gold. These awards both celebrate achievements of staff and pupils and provide a clear framework for a continual cycle of school improvement as each award is regularly reviewed. The wide range of these activities is in addition to high expectations for attainment in statutory assessments, and the hard work and focused teaching of staff produce impressive results reflecting outstanding progress.

Financial review

The Woodside Academy started operating as an Academy on 1st December 2012.

The majority of the Academy's income is derived from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). The income is in the form of recurrent grants, of which the use is restricted to particular purposes. These grants and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities. The Academy also receives grants for capital expenditure from the ESFA and local authority; all these grants are shown as restricted income. Funding has continued to support our key objective of raising teaching and learning standards, with a particular focus on the development of literacy skills through the provision of extra teaching and support staff.

a. Reserves policy

The Governing Body regularly monitors the reserves to ensure that sufficient funds are maintained to meet anticipated future needs whilst avoiding long term accumulation of excessive sums.

At 31st August 2025, the Academy had net current assets of £280,089 (2024: £369,509) which includes free reserves of £217,885 (2024: £333,936) and restricted reserves of £62,204 (2024: £35,571).

The Governing Body maintains a prudent level of reserves in line with their policy to spend funding received on the pupils in the Academy at that time, except where a specific project required funding to be built up over several years.

It is the Governing Body's intention to utilise reserves in line with the School Development Plan.

On conversion, the Academy was operating with a Local Government Pensions Scheme Deficit of £399,000.

The Academy's share of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) the restricted funds was in surplus at the year-end. However, this does not mean that the surplus is immediately repayable. The actuary has determined that the asset surplus is not recoverable and therefore it has been derecognised. This Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) deficit in previous years has resulted in an increase in the employers' pension contributions over a period of years. Currently it is unclear if they will be reassessed for the surplus. The Academy Trust will continue to monitor its budget plans to ascertain how these costs may affect its future funds.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

b. Investment policy

The charitable company's current policy is to invest surplus funds in short term cash deposits. There are no investments held beyond cash deposits retained with the major UK clearing banks. Speculative investments are not permitted.

For the period ended 31st August 2025, the charitable company's cash balances generated a return of £71 (2024: £78).

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Academy Trust has a comprehensive Risk Register which is reviewed regularly. Falling pupil numbers would impact on funding streams for the Academy, making a deficit budget a possibility and affecting long term viability. Consequently, pupil forecasts are monitored carefully so that appropriate responsive action is taken. In setting the annual budget for 2024-25 governors did not need to draw on the academy's reserves, although staffing costs meant that reserves were drawn on throughout the year.

d. Financial risk management objectives and policies

Each year the Governing Body reviews the risks of the academy and ensures that procedures and rules are put in place to alleviate any major occurrences. The Governing Body agree on a set of financial regulations to ensure that financial risks are highlighted and procedures are put in place to protect both the academy's resources and staff well-being. In addition to this, the academy carries out risk assessment on all activities that take place and this information is available readily.

Possible risks that have been identified are:

- A possible change in management, both at director level and senior leadership level, and this is managed by having set procedures in place that have been thoroughly discussed to ensure there is no error in interpretations.
- Restrictions on government funding – budget planning and reviewing class numbers ensures that the academy are prepared for any changes in funding arrangements.
- Damages to property and buildings – an insurance policy is in place to deal with this if anything unexpected occurs, however the academy has effective site management and does not see this becoming an issue.

The academy has an insurance policy in place to cover themselves if any incidents were to occur and are in the process of reviewing procedures against fraud, damages to property and other relevant operational risks. This insurance policy includes indemnity and liability cover for all the directors and covers the academy as a whole.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

e. Principal funding

The Woodside Academy started operating as an Academy on 1st December 2012.

The majority of the Academy's income is derived from the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). The income is in the form of recurrent grants, of which the use is restricted to particular purposes. These grants and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities. The Academy also receives grants for capital expenditure from the ESFA and local authority; all these grants are shown as restricted income. Funding has continued to support our key objective of raising teaching and learning standards, with a particular focus on the development of literacy skills through the provision of extra teaching and support staff.

Fundraising

Woodside Academy hold a non-profit approach to fundraising. Any internal fundraising activities are fully used on activities or consumables for the pupils. Fundraising for external charities are fully paid out to these charities. All fundraising conforms to recognised standards. Woodside Academy have not had any complaints relating to fundraising. The school maintains public protection, including of vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and there is not any pressure to donate.

Fundraising activities in 2024-25 included raising money through our book fairs with which we purchased new books for classrooms and our library. A Christmas Bazaar, a Summer Inflatable day, and termly discos raised money for the school, and commission was received for the sale of school photographs. The academy is also involved in fundraising for established professional charities, chosen and led each year by the school council. This is seen as part of children's wider education and during the accounting year money was raised for the British Legion Poppy Appeal, Comic Relief, Children in Need and a Harvest Festival food collection which went to the Thurrock Food Bank. Monies raised by these activities go entirely to the charities concerned with totals reported to parents after each event and thank you certificates stating amounts donated displayed in school.

Plans for future periods

The academy has put in a provisional CIF bid for 2026-27 Replacement of the Demountables. The proposed removal of the two dilapidated demountable classrooms at Woodside Academy and their replacement with a new two-storey building that will contain four classrooms, giving space for a dedicated Special Educational Needs (SEN) nurture room, and an additional nursery class. This development is not only essential for addressing current space shortages but will also provide significant improvements to the educational experience and support for our community's children..

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

The Woodside Academy does not hold, and the Governors do not anticipate that it will in the future hold, any funds as custodian for any third party

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditors are unaware, and
- that 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 auditors are aware of that information.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Auditors

The auditors, MWS Accountants Limited, have indicated their willingness to continue in office. The designated Trustees will propose a motion reappointing the auditors at a meeting of the Trustees.

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 11 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:


.....
Mr R Sopp
(Chair of Trustees)

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

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 Woodside Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year. The newly formed Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Board, consider matters relating to internal control and auditors, report on the trust's internal control framework, and make recommendations as required. The committee meet termly, and met three times in 2024-2025.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of Trustees was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Ms J Ryder, Principal	6	6
Mr J Conroy (date of cessation 23.07.25)	2	6
Mrs L Clark (date of cessation 29.10.24)	1	1
Mrs N Cranch (date of cessation 07.12.24)	2	2
Mrs A Joiner	6	6
Cllr J Kent	2	6
Ms S Muldowney	1	6
Mr C Radford	6	6
Mr R Sopp, Chair of Trustees	4	6
Ms L Cottis (date of cessation 23.07.25)	5	6
Rev M Ralph	4	6
Ms J Thomas	5	6
Ms N Mathurine	0	0
Ms T Young	0	0

Conflicts of interest

The academy trust manages conflicts of interest by maintaining an up-to-date and complete register of interest, which is updated at every governing body meeting. The trust is aware that some transactions may attract public interest and so disclosure provides accountability and transparency to the public and demonstrates that potential conflicts of interest are being identified and managed.

Meetings

As per paragraph 2.3 of the Academy Trust Handbook 2024, the board and its committees meet regularly enough to discharge their responsibilities and ensure robust governance and effective financial management.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Governance reviews

The Academy Trust has undertaken a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of its governing board to ensure its governance practices align with the strategic needs of the school, adhere to best practices, and comply with relevant regulations. The review process involved a thorough self-evaluation, alongside feedback from board members and school leadership

Outcomes:

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Board, consider matters relating to internal control and auditors, report on the trust’s internal control framework, and make recommendations as required. The committee meet termly, and met three times in 2023-2024.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Ms J Ryder (advisory capacity)	3	3
Ms L Cottis	3	3
Mr R Sopp	3	3
Rev M Ralph	3	3
Governance reviews		

The Academy Trust has undertaken a comprehensive review of the effectiveness of its governing board to ensure its governance practices align with the strategic needs of the school, adhere to best practices, and comply with relevant regulations. The review process involved a thorough self-evaluation, alongside feedback from board members and school leadership

Outcomes:

- Self-Assessment Survey: Board members were asked to complete a detailed self-assessment survey focusing on key areas such as strategic leadership, accountability, financial oversight, and stakeholder engagement. This allowed the board to identify strengths and areas for improvement.
- Feedback from School Leadership: School leaders provided insights on how the governing board's decisions have impacted school performance, communication, and support for educational objectives.

Actions Taken:

- Development of a Governance Action Plan: Based on the findings from the self-evaluation, an action plan was created to address key areas such as improving board diversity, enhancing communication between trustees and staff, and refining financial oversight mechanisms.
- Training and Development: Trustees participated in professional development workshops on governance best practices, with an emphasis on the evolving educational landscape and legal obligations.
- Revised Committee Structure: To improve focus and decision-making, the committee structure was reviewed and streamlined. This included better-defined roles and responsibilities, ensuring each committee was aligned with the Trust’s strategic priorities.

Impact:

- Improved Decision-Making: The clearer division of responsibilities and improved communication channels led to more efficient decision-making processes, enabling quicker responses to the evolving needs of the Trust.
- Enhanced Governance Culture: Increased trustee engagement and accountability, bolstered by targeted training, has fostered a culture of continuous improvement within the governing board.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

- Stronger Relationships with Stakeholders: The Trust's relationship with stakeholders has improved as a result of better communication and transparency in decision-making.

Next Steps:

The next self-evaluation is planned for the Autumn Term of 2025/26, with an external review of governance scheduled for January 2026. This will involve an independent reviewer to provide an objective evaluation of the board's performance, with a particular focus on the effectiveness of the governance changes implemented following the internal review. The external review will also provide recommendations for further strengthening the board's leadership and strategic oversight.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

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

The accounting officer considers how the academy's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy has delivered improved value for money during the year by continuously striving to achieve the best possible academic outcomes whilst providing a full and broad curriculum for all pupils at the school.

For the academic year 2024/25 the academy achieved above national KS2 results and exceeded targets for both progress and attainment. Pupil levels are regularly monitored over the year using an effective data tracking system, this regular monitoring has ensured that the academy is making progress each year from EYFS to KS2. In addition to this we are able to ensure that interventions can be put into place to achieve the best possible results for all pupils. Teaching and support staff receive training to be able to provide the highest quality of teaching taking into account new methods and resources available. Specific funding received, for example the Pupil Premium, is used to ensure that the correct interventions and resources are in place for certain deprivation groups. This data is also monitored to ensure the funding received is being used in the best possible way.

The academy has a broad range of resources available that are shared throughout the school and used for and during extracurricular activities, this both motivates students as well as continues their education through additional activities, further to their classroom learning. The academy continually compares itself to other schools nationally and is committed to closing the achievement gap with all groups of children.

Financial Governance and Oversight, Controls and Managing Risks

A 3-year budget is reviewed annually, with the budget for the next financial year agreed by the senior leadership team (SLT) and by the governing body. The budget is put together by the CFO working together with the SLT and projects the likely costs to be incurred over the year. The academy ensures that the budget is balanced and realistic over the future years as well as current, so as to deal with any risks in the foreseeable future as soon and as possible. The Governing body and senior leadership team regularly oversee the academy's finances throughout the year and ensure that spending is in line with budget. They are then able to identify any spare resources or upcoming risks and can deal with them accordingly. This helps to ensure that funding is being used where it is needed throughout the year, and resources are used to the maximum utilisation.

In addition to this the academy works to ensure that it is compliant with the relevant financial regulations, policies and procedures. The financial regulations, policies and procedures are reviewed annually and agreed by the governing body.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee complete termly monitoring visits, reviewing specific items from the Academy's Risk Register, assessing the risks related to these items, and feeding these reviews back to the Full Governing Body.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money (continued)

Value for money and efficient and effective use of resources

Woodside Academy uses a range of suppliers to get the best value on purchases made. Best value is seen as the best products at the best prices. All the staff who actively seek to get best value on all resources throughout the school and work together to bulk purchase as and when possible to benefit from economies of scale.

Building works or large purchases are required to have 3 quotes to achieve best value and are chosen based on the best price and suitability of the job, including past experiences. The academy operates in the most cost-effective way possible following the financial regulations set out at the beginning of each year. All orders are viewed by the Principal, Deputy Headteacher or Assistant Headteacher along with the budget holder and the CFO to ensure that money is being utilised and allocated wisely.

Staffing is the largest cost within the academy and this is reviewed on an annual, or when necessary a termly basis to ensure that staff are deployed in the most effective manner to maximise teaching and learning.

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 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 Woodside Academy for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy 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's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Juniper Education. This option has been chosen as Juniper Education provide a thorough three-day scope of work providing independent assurance to the board that its financial and other controls, and risk management procedures, are operating effectively.

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

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

- Reviews and test checking of controls in all areas of the financial recording process
- Reviews of controls and procedures surrounding the overall governance of the academy

On a termly basis, the internal auditor reports to the board of trustees, through the audit and risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities. On an annual basis the internal auditor prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

Review of effectiveness

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


- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;

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

Conclusion

Based on the advice of the audit and risk committee and the accounting officer, the board of trustees is of the opinion that the academy trust has an adequate and effective framework for governance, risk management and control.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 11 December 2025 and signed on their behalf by:


.....
Mr R Sopp
Chair of Trustees

Jen Ryder - Accounting Officer
.....
Ms J Ryder
Accounting Officer

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Woodside Academy I have considered my responsibility to notify the academy board of Trustees and the Education & Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the academy, including for estates safety and management under the funding agreement in place between the academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2024.

I confirm that I and the academy board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the academy's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2024, including responsibilities for estates safety and management

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

Jan Ryder - Accounting Officer

Ms J Ryder
Accounting Officer
Date: 11 December 2025

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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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 of 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 DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

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

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 11 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



.....
Mr R Sopp
(Chair of Trustees)

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOODSIDE ACADEMY**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Woodside Academy (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by the Department for Education.

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOODSIDE ACADEMY (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual report. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the 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 our knowledge and understanding of the academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' report including the Strategic report.

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOODSIDE ACADEMY (CONTINUED)**

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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:

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks applicable to the Academy Trust and the industry in which it operates. We determined that the following laws and regulations were most significant:

The Companies Act 2006, Safeguarding (including statutory guidance Keeping Children Safe in Education), employment law and public sector pay and conditions. We enquired of management to obtain an understanding of how the Academy Trust is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks and whether they had any knowledge of actual or suspected fraud. We corroborated the results of our enquiries through our review of the board minutes for the year. We did not identify any matters relating to material non compliance with laws and regulation or matters in relation to fraud;

- We obtained an understanding of how the Company is complying with those legal and regulatory frameworks by making inquiries of management and those responsible for legal and compliance procedures;
- In assessing the potential risks of material misstatement, we obtained an understanding of the Company's operations, including its objectives and strategies to understand the expected financial statement disclosures and business risks that may result in risks of material misstatement;
- In assessing the appropriateness of the collective competence and capabilities of the engagement team, the engagement partner considered the engagement team's:
 - understanding of, and practical experience with, audit engagements of a similar nature and complexity through appropriate training and participation;
 - the specialist skills required and;
 - knowledge of the industry in which the client operates.
- We assessed the susceptibility of the Company's financial statements to material misstatement, including how fraud might occur. Audit procedures performed by the engagement team included:
 - assessing the design effectiveness of controls management has in place to prevent and detect fraud;
 - challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in its significant accounting estimates;
 - identifying and testing journal entries, in particular manual journal entries made at year end for financial statement preparation; and
 - assessing the extent of compliance with the relevant laws and regulations as part of our procedures on the related financial statement item.

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

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
WOODSIDE ACADEMY (CONTINUED)**

Use of our report

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

Jason Lamont

Jason Lamont ACA (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

MWS Accountants Limited

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

4 Chester Court

Chester Hall Lane

Basildon

Essex

SS14 3WR

Date: 18 December 2025

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WOODSIDE ACADEMY AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated July 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts 2024 to 2025, 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 Woodside Academy during the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Woodside Academy 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 Woodside Academy 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 Woodside Academy and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Woodside Academy's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Woodside Academy's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 16 January 2012 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2024, 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 2024 to 2025. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
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INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO WOODSIDE ACADEMY AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Approach

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

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

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

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

- Assessing the risk of material irregularity in the Academy Trust
- Commissioning a self-assessment review of the Trustees' governance arrangements and consideration of any material non-compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook
- Investigating any areas of significant risk identified
- Consideration of the work performed under our audit engagement and any impact this may have on our regularity conclusion or regularity risk assessment
- A review of the internal controls and internal audit procedures for areas of significant risk and performing further substantive testing where necessary.

In line with the Framework and guide for external auditors and reporting accountants of academy trusts issued April 2023, we have not performed any additional procedures regarding the Trust's compliance with safeguarding, health and safety and estates management.

Conclusion

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



MWS Accountants Limited
Chartered Accountants
Reporting Accountant

4 Chester Court
Chester Hall Lane
Basildon
Essex
SS14 3WR

Date: 18 December 2025

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

		Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
	Note					
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	4	-	11,497	122,836	134,333	123,529
Other trading activities		-	-	214,184	214,184	223,726
Investments	7	8,000	-	71	8,071	10,078
Charitable activities		3,973,507	-	-	3,973,507	3,643,345
Total income		3,981,507	11,497	337,091	4,330,095	4,000,678
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		-	-	10,904	10,904	11,006
Charitable activities		4,020,022	208,660	266,190	4,494,872	4,168,891
Total expenditure		4,020,022	208,660	277,094	4,505,776	4,179,897
Net (expenditure)/income		(38,515)	(197,163)	59,997	(175,681)	(179,219)
Transfers between funds	18	141,149	34,900	(176,049)	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		102,634	(162,263)	(116,052)	(175,681)	(179,219)
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	25	(76,000)	-	-	(76,000)	(120,000)
Net movement in funds		26,634	(162,263)	(116,052)	(251,681)	(299,219)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		35,571	6,253,194	333,938	6,622,703	6,921,922
Net movement in funds		26,634	(162,263)	(116,052)	(251,681)	(299,219)
Total funds carried forward		62,205	6,090,931	217,886	6,371,022	6,622,703

The Statement of financial activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 31 to 58 form part of these financial statements.

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08272256

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	14	6,090,932	6,253,193
		<u>6,090,932</u>	<u>6,253,193</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	15	82,031	50,770
Cash at bank and in hand		495,471	545,499
		<u>577,502</u>	<u>596,269</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(297,414)	(226,759)
		<u>280,088</u>	<u>369,510</u>
Net current assets		<u>280,088</u>	<u>369,510</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>6,371,020</u>	<u>6,622,703</u>
Net assets excluding pension asset		<u>6,371,020</u>	<u>6,622,703</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>6,371,020</u></u>	<u><u>6,622,703</u></u>
Funds of the academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	18	6,090,931	6,253,194
Restricted income funds	18	62,204	35,571
		<u>6,153,135</u>	<u>6,288,765</u>
Total restricted funds	18	<u>6,153,135</u>	<u>6,288,765</u>
Unrestricted income funds	18	217,885	333,938
		<u>6,371,020</u>	<u>6,622,703</u>
Total funds		<u><u>6,371,020</u></u>	<u><u>6,622,703</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 28 to 58 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on 11 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf, by:

.....
Ms J Ryder
Accounting Officer

.....
Mr R Sopp
(Chair of Trustees)

The notes on pages 31 to 58 form part of these financial statements.

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash used in operating activities	20	(15,199)	(116,356)
Cash flows from investing activities	21	(34,829)	4,734
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(50,028)	(111,622)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		545,499	657,121
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	22, 23	495,471	545,499

The notes on pages 31 to 58 from part of these financial statements

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

1. General information

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The company registration number is 08272256. The charitable company was incorporated on 29th October 2012.

2. Accounting policies

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

2.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

Woodside Academy meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102

2.2 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 academy 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 academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.3 Income

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

- **Grants**

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

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

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

- **Sponsorship income**

Sponsorship income provided to the academy which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of financial activities in the year in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions) where 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.

- **Other income**

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

2.4 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 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's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the academy apportioned to charitable activities.

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.4 Expenditure (continued)

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

2.5 Taxation

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

Accordingly, the academy is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

2.6 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £1000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Leasehold buildings	- 2% straight line basis
Furniture and equipment	- 25% straight line basis
Computer equipment	- 25% straight line basis
Motor vehicles	- 25% straight line basis

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of financial activities.

2.7 Debtors

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

2.8 Cash at bank and in hand

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

WOODSIDE ACADEMY
(A company limited by guarantee)

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.9 Liabilities

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

2.10 Financial instruments

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

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

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

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

2.11 Pensions

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

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

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

2. Accounting policies (continued)

2.12 Fund accounting

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

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

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

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

3. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 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 judgment:

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancements, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 13 for the carrying amount of tangible assets.

Critical Area of Judgment

At the reporting date the Academy Trust's estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeded the estimated liabilities. The Trust have judged that the value of the asset should be reduced to £nil, in line with the valuation of the actuary, with the expectation that future contributions will not reduce, nor will the Trust receive any refund of contributions already made.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

4. Income from donations and capital grants

	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Donations	-	23,628	23,628	28,440
Capital Grants	11,497	-	11,497	11,481
Educational trips and visits	-	99,208	99,208	83,608
	<u>11,497</u>	<u>122,836</u>	<u>134,333</u>	<u>123,529</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>11,481</u></u>	<u><u>112,048</u></u>	<u><u>123,529</u></u>	

5. Funding for the academy's charitable activities

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Educational Operations			
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	2,989,720	2,989,720	2,777,281
Other DfE grants			
UIFSM grants	96,570	96,570	97,583
Pupil Premium grants	213,472	213,472	207,110
Core schools budget grant	106,907	106,907	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	168,351	168,351	204,521
	<u>3,575,020</u>	<u>3,575,020</u>	<u>3,286,495</u>
Other Government grants			
Early Years Funding grants	255,190	255,190	239,724
SEN Funding grants	130,647	130,647	95,280
Other Local Authority Grants	12,650	12,650	1,800
	<u>398,487</u>	<u>398,487</u>	<u>336,804</u>
COVID-19 additional funding (DfE)			
Catch-up Premium	-	-	20,046
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>20,046</u>
	<u><u>3,973,507</u></u>	<u><u>3,973,507</u></u>	<u><u>3,643,345</u></u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

5. Funding for the academy's charitable activities (continued)

	3,973,507	3,973,507	3,643,345
	<u>3,973,507</u>	<u>3,973,507</u>	<u>3,643,345</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>3,643,345</u>	<u>3,643,345</u>	

6. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Hire of facilities	39,560	39,560	34,470
Catering income	69,142	69,142	69,863
School sales	105,482	105,482	119,393
	<u>214,184</u>	<u>214,184</u>	<u>223,726</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>223,726</u>	<u>223,726</u>	

7. Investment income

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Pension income	8,000	-	8,000	10,000
Short term deposits	-	71	71	78
	<u>8,000</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>8,071</u>	
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>10,000</u>	<u>78</u>	<u>10,078</u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

8. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £	<i>Total 2024 £</i>
Expenditure on raising voluntary income:					
Direct costs	-	-	10,904	10,904	11,006
Educational Operations:					
Direct costs	2,935,517	-	167,360	3,102,877	2,842,966
Allocated support costs	677,706	382,046	332,243	1,391,995	1,325,925
	<u>3,613,223</u>	<u>382,046</u>	<u>510,507</u>	<u>4,505,776</u>	<u>4,179,897</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>3,304,008</u></u>	<u><u>363,711</u></u>	<u><u>512,178</u></u>	<u><u>4,179,897</u></u>	

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Educational Operations	<u>3,102,877</u>	<u>1,391,995</u>	<u>4,494,872</u>	<u>4,168,891</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>2,842,966</u></u>	<u><u>1,325,925</u></u>	<u><u>4,168,891</u></u>	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

9. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Educational Operations 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	2,935,517	2,935,517	2,666,254
Technology costs	10,881	10,881	-
Educational supplies	102,098	102,098	109,988
Staff development	4,378	4,378	3,645
Educational consultancy	30,347	30,347	47,458
Other direct costs	19,656	19,656	15,621
	<u>3,102,877</u>	<u>3,102,877</u>	<u>2,842,966</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>2,842,966</u>	<u>2,842,966</u>	

Analysis of support costs

	Educational Operations 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	677,706	677,706	637,753
Depreciation	208,660	208,660	194,338
Recruitment and support	-	-	563
Maintenance of premises	65,408	65,408	47,110
Cleaning	58,898	58,898	64,827
Rent and rates	14,060	14,060	13,088
Energy costs	35,020	35,020	49,534
Insurance	18,086	18,086	16,642
Security and transport	5,340	5,340	7,391
Catering	192,831	192,831	193,200
Bank interest and charges	(303)	(303)	9
Legal and professional fees	66,227	66,227	67,019
Other support costs	50,062	50,062	34,451
	<u>1,391,995</u>	<u>1,391,995</u>	<u>1,325,925</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u>1,325,925</u>	<u>1,325,925</u>	

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

10. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Operating lease rentals	14,000	<i>14,000</i>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	208,660	<i>194,338</i>
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	8,300	<i>9,165</i>
- other services	2,000	<i>810</i>
	=====	=====

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

11. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	2,703,202	2,547,112
Social security costs	281,732	232,868
Pension costs	628,289	524,028
	3,613,223	3,304,008
	2025	2024
	£	£
Severance payments	-	11,439
	-	11,439

b. Severance payments

The academy paid - severance payments in the year (2024 - 1), disclosed in the following bands:

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
£0 - £25,000	-	1

c. Staff numbers

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

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Teachers	27	30
Administration and support	66	68
Management	3	4
	96	102

d. Higher paid staff

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

11. Staff (continued)

d. Higher paid staff (continued)

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	No.	<i>No.</i>
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	-
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	-	<i>1</i>
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	-
	<u>2</u>	<u><i>1</i></u>

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy was £376,392 (2024 £392,900).

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

		2025	2024
		£	£
Mr E Caines, Principal	Remuneration		55,000 -
			60,000
	Pension contributions paid		0 - 5,000
Mr C Radford	Remuneration	65,000 -	25,000 -
		70,000	30,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 -	5,000 -
		20,000	10,000
Mrs A Joiner	Remuneration	65,000 -	55,000 -
		70,000	60,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 -	10,000 -
		20,000	15,000
Ms J Ryder, Principal (appointed 1 September 2024)	Remuneration	90,000 -	
		95,000	
	Pension contributions paid	25,000 -	
		30,000	

During the year ended 31 August 2025, no Trustee expenses have been incurred (2024 - £NIL).

13. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost is part of the academy's general insurance. The total premium for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £18,086 (2024 - £16,416).

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

14. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2024	7,284,834	1,160,749	387,732	42,985	8,876,300
Additions	5,504	26,146	14,747	-	46,397
At 31 August 2025	<u>7,290,338</u>	<u>1,186,895</u>	<u>402,479</u>	<u>42,985</u>	<u>8,922,697</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	1,160,717	1,087,897	349,291	25,202	2,623,107
Charge for the year	145,807	35,930	19,300	7,621	208,658
At 31 August 2025	<u>1,306,524</u>	<u>1,123,827</u>	<u>368,591</u>	<u>32,823</u>	<u>2,831,765</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	<u>5,983,814</u>	<u>63,068</u>	<u>33,888</u>	<u>10,162</u>	<u>6,090,932</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>6,124,117</u>	<u>72,853</u>	<u>38,441</u>	<u>17,783</u>	<u>6,253,194</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

15. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	966	4,150
Other debtors	2,404	10,209
Prepayments and accrued income	78,661	36,411
	<u>82,031</u>	<u>50,770</u>

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	240	-
Other taxation and social security	62,515	51,387
Other creditors	138,440	70,903
Accruals and deferred income	96,219	104,469
	<u>297,414</u>	<u>226,759</u>

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	63,737	71,102
Resources deferred during the year	67,423	63,737
Amounts released from previous periods	(63,737)	(71,102)
	<u>67,423</u>	<u>63,737</u>

Deferred income is comprised of amounts relating to Universal Infant Free School Meal grant £56,988 and monies received in advance £10,435.

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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17. Transfer between funds

Funds have been transferred in respect of the following;

£34,900 has been transferred from the restricted fund (GAG) to the restricted fixed asset fund representing capital expenditure.

£176,049 has been transferred from the unrestricted fund to the restricted fund (GAG) representing the shortfall on that fund.

£307,000 has been transferred from restricted fund (GAG) to the restricted pension fund representing employer contributions made.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	333,938	337,091	(277,095)	(176,049)	-	217,885
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	-	2,989,720	(2,823,869)	(165,851)	-	-
Local Authority	-	398,487	(398,487)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	371,828	(345,212)	-	-	26,616
Pupil premium	35,571	213,472	(213,455)	-	-	35,588
Pension reserve	-	8,000	(239,000)	307,000	(76,000)	-
	35,571	3,981,507	(4,020,023)	141,149	(76,000)	62,204
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Inherited assets	1,887,230	-	(49,430)	-	-	1,837,800
DfE Capital grants	2,053,170	11,497	(60,821)	-	-	2,003,846
Donated by LA	1,925,712	-	(45,640)	5,504	-	1,885,576
Assets held	387,082	-	(52,769)	29,396	-	363,709
	6,253,194	11,497	(208,660)	34,900	-	6,090,931
Total Restricted funds	6,288,765	3,993,004	(4,228,683)	176,049	(76,000)	6,153,135
Total funds	6,622,703	4,330,095	(4,505,778)	-	(76,000)	6,371,020

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

Restricted general fund

These relate to the Academy's development and operational activities.

Restricted fixed asset fund

These grants relate to capital funding to carry out works of a capital nature.

Pension reserve

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Statement of funds (continued)

The pension reserve relates to the Academy's share of the deficit of the Pension Scheme.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2025.

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	407,091	335,852	(274,829)	(134,176)	-	333,938
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant	28,440	2,777,281	(2,635,057)	(170,664)	-	-
Local Authority	-	336,805	(336,805)	-	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	322,149	(322,149)	-	-	-
Pupil premium	34,181	207,110	(205,720)	-	-	35,571
Pension reserve	49,000	10,000	(211,000)	272,000	(120,000)	-
	111,621	3,653,345	(3,710,731)	101,336	(120,000)	35,571
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Inherited assets	1,936,570	-	(49,340)	-	-	1,887,230
DfE Capital grants	2,097,743	11,481	(56,055)	-	-	2,053,169
Donated by LA	1,971,352	-	(45,640)	-	-	1,925,712
Assets held	394,421	-	(40,178)	32,840	-	387,083
Donated assets	3,125	-	(3,125)	-	-	-
	6,403,211	11,481	(194,338)	32,840	-	6,253,194
Total Restricted funds	6,514,832	3,664,826	(3,905,069)	134,176	(120,000)	6,288,765

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

18. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds	<u>6,921,923</u>	<u>4,000,678</u>	<u>(4,179,898)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(120,000)</u>	<u>6,622,703</u>
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19. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	6,090,931	-	6,090,931
Current assets	359,618	-	217,885	577,503
Creditors due within one year	(297,414)	-	-	(297,414)
Total	<u>62,204</u>	<u>6,090,931</u>	<u>217,885</u>	<u>6,371,020</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	6,253,194	-	6,253,194
Current assets	262,331	-	333,937	596,268
Creditors due within one year	(226,759)	-	-	(226,759)
	(1)	-	-	(1)
Total	<u>35,571</u>	<u>6,253,194</u>	<u>333,937</u>	<u>6,622,702</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(175,681)	(179,219)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	208,660	194,338
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(11,497)	(54,712)
Interest receivable	(71)	(78)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(68,000)	(61,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(8,000)	(10,000)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(31,263)	35,662
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	70,653	(41,347)
Net cash used in operating activities	(15,199)	(116,356)

21. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	71	78
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(46,397)	(50,054)
Capital grants from DfE Group	11,497	54,710
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(34,829)	4,734

22. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand and at bank	495,471	545,499
Total cash and cash equivalents	495,471	545,499

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

23. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	545,499	(50,028)	495,471
	<u>545,499</u>	<u>(50,028)</u>	<u>495,471</u>

24. Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	-	5,186
	<u>-</u>	<u>5,186</u>

25. Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £76,092 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £ -) 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 full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million

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

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £389,627 (2024 - £317,380).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £379,000 (2024 - £337,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £307,000 (2024 - £272,000) and employees' contributions totalled £72,000 (2024 - £65,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 3 per cent for employers and 5.5-12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025 %	<i>2024</i> %
Rate of increase in salaries	2.95	3.8
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.55	2.8
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5.1
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.55	2.8
RPI increases	3.55	3.05
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The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	2025 Years	<i>2024</i> Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.8	20.7
Females	24.1	23.3
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	23.4	22
Females	25.8	24.7
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Sensitivity analysis

	2025 £000	<i>2024</i> £000
Discount rate +0.1%	(55)	(65)
Discount rate -0.1%	56	67
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	66	85
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(65)	(82)
Long term salary increase +0.1%	3	4
Long term salary increase -0.1%	(3)	(4)
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2025 £	<i>At 31 August 2024 £</i>
Equities	2,310,000	1,915,000
Gilts	56,000	59,000
Property	322,000	239,000
Cash and other liquid assets	64,000	58,000
Alternative assets	623,000	509,000
Other managed funds	725,000	628,000
Total market value of assets	4,100,000	3,408,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £165,000 (2024 - £183,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of financial activities are as follows:

	2025 £	<i>2024 £</i>
Current service cost	(239,000)	(211,000)
Interest cost	8,000	10,000
Administrative expenses	(2,000)	(2,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	(233,000)	(203,000)

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

	2025 £	<i>2024 £</i>
At 1 September	3,408,000	2,717,000
Current service cost	239,000	211,000
Interest cost	175,000	145,000
Employee contributions	72,000	65,000
Actuarial losses	239,000	301,000
Benefits paid	(33,000)	(31,000)
At 31 August	4,100,000	3,408,000

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

25. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
At 1 September	3,408,000	2,766,000
Interest income	183,000	155,000
Actuarial gains	163,000	181,000
Employer contributions	307,000	272,000
Employee contributions	72,000	65,000
Benefits paid	(33,000)	(31,000)
At 31 August	4,100,000	3,408,000

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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25. Pension commitments (continued)

Impact of the McCloud/Sargeant judgement on the Local Government Pension Scheme

An allowance was made in 2019 for the Court of Appeal judgement in relation to the McCloud & Sargeant cases which relate to age discrimination within the Judicial & Fire Pension schemes respectively. On 27 June 2019 the Supreme Court denied the Government's request for an appeal, and on 15 July 2019 the Government released a statement to confirm that it expects to have to amend all public service schemes, including the LGPS.

The estimated impact on the total liabilities at 31 August 2025 was allowed for as a past service cost and has resulted in a slight increase in the defined benefit obligation as at 31 August 2023.

This adjustment is an estimate of the potential impact on the Trust's defined benefit obligation as provided by the scheme's actuary.

On 13 May 2021, the Government issued a ministerial statement on the proposed remedy to be applied to LGPS benefits in response to the McCloud and Sargeant cases. It is not anticipated that there are any material differences between the approach underlying the estimated allowance in 2019 and the proposed remedy.

Guaranteed Minimum Pension (GMP) Equalisation

As a result of the High Court's Lloyds ruling on the equalisation of GMPs between genders, it is anticipated that the Fund will pay limited increases for members that have reached State Pension Age (SPA) by 6 April 2016, with the Government providing the remainder of the inflationary increase.

For members that reach SPA after this date, it has been assumed in the valuation that the Fund will be required to pay the entire inflationary increase. It is not therefore necessary to make any adjustments to the value placed on the liabilities as a result of the above outcome.

Goodwin case

Following a case involving the Teachers' Pension scheme, known as the Goodwin case, differences between survivor benefits payable to members with same-sex or opposite-sex survivors have been identified within a number of public sector pension schemes. As a result, the Government have confirmed that a remedy is required in all affected public sector pension schemes, which includes the LGPS.

It is anticipated that the impact on the value of LGPS liabilities as a whole, and for the majority of employers participating in the LGPS, will not be material. However, the impact on individual employers will vary depending on their specific membership profile.

Sufficient information is not currently available to assess the actual impact on the Academy Trust as such no provision has been included within these financial statements.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

25. Pension commitments (continued)

Asset Ceiling

At the reporting date the Academy Trust's estimated fair value of LGPS scheme assets exceeded the estimated total liabilities. The resulting surplus should only be recognised where there is an expectation that future contributions will reduce, or that the scheme will refund contributions already made.

The scheme actuaries have assessed the position and concluded:

- There is no right for the Trust to receive a refund of the surplus at a level required by the accounting standard.
- The Trust is expected and assumed, as an academy trust, to participate in the scheme indefinitely.
- The Trust is bound by a minimum funding requirement to make contributions to the fund, and there is no expectation for the contribution rates to change beyond the information provided by the existing Rates and Adjustments certificate.
- FRS102 does not require any additional liability recognised from an onerous funding commitment.
- Any reduction in contributions is expected to have an economic benefit of £nil.

As the recognition threshold for the surplus has not been reached the Academy Trust's share of the net plan assets/liabilities have been reduced to £Nil in the financial statements.

The amount of asset derecognised was £1,159,000 and is included in the gains and losses on the Trust's share of scheme liabilities.

Virgin Media Case

Where the rules of a contract-out defined benefit pension scheme have been amended, the Scheme Actuary provides a "section 37" confirmation that it continues to meet contracting-out requirements.

Following a July 2024 ruling from the Court of Appeal on the original court case from June 2023, it was decided that certain rule amendments were invalid where there was an absence of the actuarial certification (including potential cases where the confirmation is now unable to be located).

It is expected that new legislation will be introduced, following an announcement in June 2025, to allow pension schemes to apply retrospectively for written actuarial confirmation for historic changes where confirmation cannot be found, or was not obtained.

The Scheme Actuary for the LGPS is the Government Actuary's Department (GAD), who are reviewing historic amendments relating to the LGPS in this context and are liaising with the Scheme Advisory Board on the existence of relevant certificates where the scheme has had past changes.

HM Treasury is currently overseeing an assessment on what the implications of this ruling might be for all public service pension scheme. Their current view is that the relevant amendments in the LGPS have been made by legislation, and as such remain valid until revoked, repealed, or declared void by the court.

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26. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2025 the academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	<u>3,500</u>	<u>3,500</u>

27. 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.

28. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy's operations and the composition of the board of trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which a trustees has an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

During the year the academy paid remuneration to K Conroy, wife of the Chair of Trustees J Conroy, amounting to £46,265 (2024 £46,635) and the academy made pension contributions on her behalf of £13,269 (2024 £12,015). J Conroy does not sit on the remuneration committee and neither participated nor influenced decisions on the remuneration of K Conroy.

During the year the academy paid remuneration to S Conroy, daughter of the Chair of Trustees J Conroy, amounting to £9,792 (2024 £nil) and the academy made pension contributions on her behalf of £nil (2024 £nil). J Conroy does not sit on the remuneration committee and neither participated nor influenced decisions on the remuneration of K Conroy.

During the year the academy paid remuneration to L Glover, sister of trustee A Joiner, amounting to £50,471 (2024 £47,838) and the academy made pension contributions on her behalf of £14,475 (2024 £12,325). A Joiner does not sit on the remuneration committee and neither participated nor influenced decisions on the remuneration of L Glover.

During the year the academy paid remuneration to G Kent, son of trustee J Kent, amounting to £16,606 (2024 £15,381) and the academy made pension contributions on his behalf of £4,054 (2024 £3,602). J Kent does not sit on the remuneration committee and neither participated nor influenced decisions on the remuneration of J Kent.

29. Controlling party

There is no ultimate controlling party.

