

Company Registration Number: 07650619 (England & Wales)

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Ms H G Barnett Mr L Conway Ms G Yates Mr J D Williets Mrs R Mahmood
Governors	Mrs R Mahmood, Chair Mr D M Sansom Ms T E Terleph, Vice Chair Mr H R Keshwala Mrs M C Reynolds Mr L Kay Mrs A Akhtar (appointed 16 October 2024) Mrs O Essani (appointed 8 May 2025) Mr A M Raja (resigned 25 September 2024) Mr G E Carpenter (resigned 17 October 2024)
Company registered number	07650619
Company name	Active Education Academy Trust
Principal and registered office	2nd Floor Apex House 30-34 Upper George Street Luton LU1 2RD
Company secretary	Mrs K C Paxton (resigned 19 June 2025)
Senior management team	David Sansom, Headteacher Adam Haywood, Deputy Headteacher Jane Vale, Assistant Headteacher Sue Jones, Chief Finance Officer Lois Anderson, Assistant Headteacher Sophie Amos, Assistant Headteacher Hannah Leech, Deputy Headteacher Emma Barton, Assistant Headteacher

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
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Independent auditor	Crowe U.K. LLP R+ Building 2 Blagrove Street Reading Berkshire RG1 1AZ
Bankers	Natwest Luton LU1 2YN
Solicitors	Pictons Solicitors LLP 28 Dunstable Road Luton Bedfordshire LU1 1DY

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GOVERNORS' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Governors, who are also directors of the Academy Trust for the purposes of the Companies Act 2006, present their report with the financial statements of the Academy Trust for the year ended 31 August 2025. The Governors have adopted the provisions of 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) (effective 1 January 2019) and the Academies Accounts Direction issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

The Governors present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. The Annual report serves the purposes of both a Governors' report and a Director's report under company law.

Active Education Academy Trust operates River Bank Primary School, a free school in the Biscot Ward of Luton. During the Academic Year 2024/2025 the school admitted pupils into Reception through to Year 6.

River Bank Primary School's catchment area falls predominantly in the Biscot Ward of Luton although pupils are admitted from a number of different areas in the town. Pupils are admitted based on the criteria stipulated in the school's admissions policy, which is consulted upon and in line with the requirements of the Department for Education's school admission code.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Governors of Active Education Academy Trust are also directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. The charitable company is known as Active Education Academy Trust. The free school operated by Active Education Academy Trust is known as River Bank Primary School.

Details of the Governors who served during the year 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. Governors' indemnities

The Academy Trust's insurers indemnify against any claims in respect of any civil liability, and which arises out of the conduct of the insured in their personal capacity as a director, Governor, or Officer of the Academy Trust.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Governors

As set out in the Articles of Association the Members are responsible for the recruitment and appointment of Governors, the Members may appoint up to 8 Governors; Staff Governors including the Headteacher must not exceed one third of the total number of Governors; a Parent Governor must be a parent of a pupil at the Academy at the time of election.

The Members will give consideration to the skills and experience mix of the Governing Body. This is to ensure the Governors have the necessary skills to contribute fully to the Academy's development.

e. Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of Governors

Governors have agreed that on appointment all new Governors will undertake an induction which includes meetings with the Headteacher and Chair of Governors. Newly appointed Governors will receive a copy of the Charity Commission's 'The Essential Trustee' and the Memorandum and Articles of Association for the Academy Trust. They are also referred to in the Academies Trust Handbook and the Active Education Academy Trust Funding Agreement and meet with the CFO.

The Academy Trust has appointed an experienced and high-quality Clerk who supports Governors and notifies them of appropriate ongoing Governor training.

f. Organisational structure

Active Education Academy Trust is governed by a Board of Governors (the Governing Body) constituted under a Memorandum of Association and Articles of association. The Governing Body is responsible for ensuring that high standards of corporate governance are maintained. It exercises its powers and functions with a view to fulfilling a largely strategic leadership role in the running of the Academy, addressing such matters as:

- Policy development and strategic development
- Ensuring sound management and administration of the Academy
- Ensuring compliance with legal requirements
- Establishing and maintaining effective internal controls
- The management of all resource
- The monitoring of performance
- Helping the Academy to be responsive to the needs of parents, carers, and the community
- Assessing and managing risk

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

The Governors meet a minimum of six times a year. Governors have established an overall framework for the governance of the Academy which determines membership, terms of reference and procedures for the full Governing Body and the associated subcommittee.

The Governors have further agreed that they may, from time to time, establish working groups to perform specific tasks over a set time scale.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

The day-to-day management of Active Education Academy Trusts rests with the Headteacher who has overall responsibility for the school. The Headteacher is responsible for establishing a Senior Management Team which includes the Deputy and Assistant Heads. The CFO works with the Head to manage the financial aspects and support the Governors and Head in the relevant areas.

g. Pay policy for Key Management Personnel

Whilst Trustees are classed as Key Management Personnel, they are volunteers and are not remunerated by the Academy for their work. The Headteacher is remunerated by the Academy but only in respect of their work as educators. There is no additional remuneration for their work in attending committees. Other Key Management Personnel include the two Deputy Heads and the CFO (provided by the Related Party SLA with Active Luton). All remuneration is in line with National Schoolteachers' Pay and Conditions or Local Government Pay and Conditions.

h. Connected organisations, including related party relationships

Active Luton is a related party, entity and the founding member of the Academy. Active Luton provided services relating to financial, facility management, IT and operational support for the Academy Trust and River Bank Primary School.

Service Level Agreements were established to clearly identify the role of Active Luton in the provision of the above services, which have been provided on a cost-only basis and have been approved by the ESFA.

Service Level Agreements were also established with Luton Borough Council for the provision of support related to School Improvement; Appeals & Admissions; HR Support & Payroll and Special Education Needs.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

Objects, aims and a summary of the year

Active Education Academy Trust is a Single Academy Trust in the Biscot Ward of Luton, serving a community with high levels of deprivation.

In accordance with the articles of association the Academy has adopted a funding agreement approved by the Secretary of State for Education. The funding agreement specifies, amongst other things, the basis for admitting pupils to the Academy and that the Academy provides a broad and balanced curriculum.

The object of the Academy Trust is to advance for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing, and developing a school offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

During the financial year the Academy provided free education to pupils of Reception, Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, and Year 6.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities (continued)

The Academy's strategy is encompassed in its vision statement which is 'Inspire, Empower, Achieve'. The values are based on those of the Olympic and Paralympic games:

- Friendship
- Respect
- Excellence
- Determination
- Inspiration
- Courage
- Equality.

Our vision is ensuring through the values and mission statement that every child strives to achieve their personal best and that:

- Physical Education and School Sport are used as a key improvement tool.
- River Bank is viewed as an integral part of the wider community it serves.
- River Bank is a learning community that is a positive and inspirational place to work and learn for both adults and children where everyone is valued.

The ongoing strategic plan for Governors, concluding in August 2025 contained the following priorities.

Leadership and Management

- Embedding the high expectations and a shared understanding of the qualities that make a River Bank leader.
- Providing opportunities to develop and grow our leaders through a visible distributed leadership across the school.
- Empowering subject leaders to use their expertise to enhance the teaching of the curriculum across the school.
- An outward looking school keen to share expertise and learn from others.

Quality of Education

- Inspirational, research based, innovative teaching that meets the needs of the learners.
- An ambitious curriculum coherently planned and sequenced.
- Enrichment activities which complement and extend the curriculum.
- High expectations of children with SEND, EAL or from disadvantaged families.

Personal Development

- An inclusive school where pupils take pride in the successes and achievements of themselves and others.
- Promoting confidence and resilience in pupils who are secondary ready when they leave.

Behaviour and Attitudes

- High expectations where learners, their families value and foster a positive attitude to learning.
- Maintaining and further strengthening our positive environment which promotes wellbeing, safeguarding, and good behaviour.
- Focus on improving attendance and engaging in escalation procedures where appropriate.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Objectives and activities (continued)

Trust / Governance / Board

- Through robust scrutiny, holding school leaders to account with particular reference to the curriculum.
- A Governing Body focused on effective stakeholder liaison and communication.
- A strong and shared understanding of the future development and sustainability of Active Education as a strong Academy Trust.

b. Public benefit

The Governors have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commission's published general and relevant sub-sector guidance on public benefit. We have referred to this guidance when reviewing our aims, our strategy and in planning future activities. All activities undertaken by the School are for the public benefit.

The Academy provides a state primary education for children aged 4 to 11 living in the local area. This Academy is specifically restricted to advance, for public benefit, education in the United Kingdom.

Strategic report

a. Achievements and performance

The school elected to take part in an external review of governance, carried out by an independent provider. The review of the governing body demonstrated real strengths.

The school elected to take part in an independent review of SEND provision carried out by NASEN – the report showed significant strengths.

The school was judged to be good by Ofsted in October 2019.

An ungraded Ofsted inspection in January 2025 stated that evidence gathered during inspection suggests that the school's work may have improved significantly across all areas since the previous inspection.

The Ofsted parent survey in January showed 100% of respondents would recommend our school.

The attainment of pupils below is based on an external assessment for the end of the 2024-2025 academic year.

EYFS

% pupils reaching GLD at end of EYFS					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
School	26.0%	50.0%	50%	54%	66%
Local		56.8%	58.7%	62%	
National		65.2%	67%	67.9%	69%

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Strategic report (continued)

Phonics

Pupils are counted as achieving the standard in Y1 and by end of Y2 (the latter measure is cumulative).

% pupils achieving phonics standard by end of Year 1					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
School	78.0%	89.0%	88%	77%	87%
Local		50.0%	74%	62%	
National		75.0%	79%	80%	80%

% pupils achieving phonics standard by end of Year 2					
	2021	2022	2023	2024	2025
School	81.8%	92%	95%	95%	95%
Local		89%	86.5%		
National		87%	88.6%	89%	91%

Y4 Multiplications Timetables Check

% achieving EXS+ in Y4 MTC				
	2022	2023	2024	2025
25/25	59.3%	51%	50%	26%
No. pupils	86	85	120	90
Average score /25	22	23	23.4	22.4
25/25 (national)	30%	31%	34%	38%
Average score (national)	20	20.4	20.6	21.1

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Strategic report (continued)

Key Stage 2 (figures before discounting)

% achieving EXS+ and high score/GDS in RWM at KS2				
	2023	2024	2025	2025 diff to national
School EXS+	62%	77%	73%	+11%
School GDS	3%	6%	7%	-1%

% achieving EXS+ and high score in reading at KS2				
	2023	2024	2025	2025 diff to national
School EXS+	79.8%	88.4%	81%	+6%
School GDS	29.8%	32.6%	34%	+1%

% achieving EXS+ and GDS in writing at KS2				
	2023	2024	2025	2025 diff to national
School EXS+	72.8%	81.4%	76%	+4%
School GDS	6%	12.8%	13%	+1%

% achieving EXS+ and high score in maths at KS2				
	2023	2024	2025	2025 diff to national
School EXS+	83.3%	91.9%	89%	+15%
School GDS	14%	25.6%	32%	+6%

% achieving EXS+ and high score in GPS at KS2				
	2023	2024	2025	2025 diff to national
School EXS+	86%	83%	83%	+10%
School GDS	34%	49%	40%	+11%

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report (continued)

Pupil Attendance

- Overall, whole school attendance is 92.9% compared to the national average of 94.8% in 2024-2025 for primary schools.
- Persistent absenteeism was 20.7% compared to the national average of 13.5% in 2024-2025 for primary schools.

Staffing

The Academy had no teacher vacancies in 2024-2025.

Pupil Enrichment and Personal Development

- Pupils engage well in the life of the school – particularly opportunities for extended learning that take place after school, including academic extended days for years five and six.
- Wide variety of clubs – typically 20 clubs each half term provided free of charge - autumn term 18 clubs attended by 305 children (80PP and 15 SEND), spring term 12 clubs attended by 317 children (80PP and 15 SEND), summer term 19 clubs attended by 350 children (115 PP and 30 SEND). Annual – 972 club places taken up – 78% of our children have attended at least one club, including specialist SEND and inclusion activities.
- 152 sporting or musical activities attended in 2024-2025 by pupils from all year groups, including specialist SEND and inclusion fixtures.
- EAL new arrivals benefit from support from specific EAL provision – this accelerates their English acquisition and allows them to engage in the curriculum more quickly than we experienced before. Children are assessed regularly to ensure they are progressing in alignment with targeted English language milestones.
- Pupils are engaged in a number of educational visits. Pupils have been involved in 65 visits in 2024-2025 including two residential trips, Harry Potter Studio, Clacton on Sea, local visits, faith tours, traffic and ecology surveys and London Zoo.
- Specific trips for vulnerable and disadvantaged pupils ran across the year.
- Visitors coming to the school to enrich pupils' experiences include Stone Age workshop, Roman workshop, Egyptian workshop, the fire service, the police, local church ministers, VR experiences, planetarium and local MPs. Activities from community groups such as African drumming workshops have also enhanced our children's experiences around Black History Month.
- Links with Active Luton and other local sporting groups to support children with healthy lifestyles including assemblies, workshops and glow dodgeball events.
- Healthy Mind Club after school club for pupils in Y5 and Y6 based on NHS 5 steps to wellbeing.
- Luton Foodbank and Level Trust charities have been well supported by pupils and by allowing our premises to be used for Holiday, Activity and Food programmes. Food bank collections have run successfully at points through the year including harvest donations.
- ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) has been working with 15 pupils across the school
- Quiet space at breaktime for Y3-6 as requested by school council.
- 60 children had additional support in 2024-2025, including 7 children who attended the CHUMS Encore programme held in school.

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GOVERNORS' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Strategic report (continued)

b. Promoting the success of the Company

The Trust is proud of the strong reputation it has built in the local area, as demonstrated by the year-on-year pupil number growth.

The trustees have acted in a way they consider, in good faith, would most likely promote the success of the academy trust for the benefit of its members as a whole. In doing so, they have had regard to the following matters:

- Long-term consequences of decisions: Trustees regularly review the trust's strategic plan to ensure decisions support sustainable educational outcomes and financial stability.
- Interests of employees: The trust values its staff and invests in professional development, wellbeing initiatives, and open communication channels.
- Relationships with suppliers, customers, and others: We maintain strong partnerships with suppliers and local communities, ensuring procurement practices are fair and transparent.
- Impact on the community and environment: The trust actively engages with parents, local authorities, and community stakeholders, and implements energy efficiency measures to reduce environmental impact. The trust has a nominated sustainability lead.
- High standards of business conduct: Trustees uphold principles of integrity and accountability, ensuring compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements.
- Fairness between members: Decisions are made collectively and transparently,

The trustees believe these actions have contributed positively to the trust's ability to deliver high-quality education and maintain financial resilience.

c. Management of Operations for the Academic Year 2024-2025

The school was fully operational for the full year.

d. Key performance indicators

The key financial performance indicators are:

- The Academy will continue to operate with sufficient balances so as to maintain the infrastructure of the Academy and to ensure the continuity of the education of pupils.
- The Academy will keep within the agreed budget unless a variation is agreed by the Board of Governors.

Non-financial performance indicators are: pupil numbers and staff costs and maintaining facilities and education to a high standard.

e. Going concern

Current pupil numbers are now full for the Early Years in the school. The school is now anticipating being at capacity by the 2027/2028 Academic Year at 840 pupils. Pupil numbers are continuing to increase as reduced-size year groups leave the school, and 4 full classes start in Early Years. Funding therefore continues to increase but with the annual time lag of GAG funding being detrimental to each specific year. The funding does not support the growth in pupil numbers at the relevant time. During the 2024/25 year, there continued to be significant underfunding with pupil numbers reaching 760 by the summer term, but GAG funding only funded 734. Staffing is managed accordingly, and the use of flexible contracts support where appropriate. This allows for

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

Strategic report (continued)

the cost base to be managed against the funding expected to be received where possible. Increased numbers of pupils on EHCP though do require a higher proportion of Support Staff ongoing with funding also short of the actual costs incurred. Overall, the team structure will be monitored throughout the next year as indications of affordability and future pupil numbers are finalised.

Operational Budgets (excluding capital reserve movements) are expected to breakeven in 2025/26 but continue to be in a deficit position for the following two years due to the lag in GAG funding, the increasing pupil numbers and continual increases in pay and other operational costs not sufficiently funded. Given the level of reserves carried forward, the school is in a secure position to support this, but some future investments may be restricted. Further funding and income opportunities will be considered as relevant and at the right time.

In the current year reported, the operational result was a deficit. All costs continue to be closely managed and monitored.

The budget for the current Academic Year to August 2025 is aimed at a breakeven position, but some cuts in services have had to be made to achieve this. Due to the lagged method of GAG funding, lower pupil numbers in October 2024 have resulted in lower funding in the current year despite pupil numbers now increasing.

Based on all these factors, the Board of Governors have a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

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

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review

a. Reserves policy

The Governing Body has developed and adopted a framework in line with the DfE Academies Trust handbook. The principal source of funding for the year has been the grants received from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA)/Department for Education (DfE) (operating and capital). These are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The Governing Body reviews the reserve policy on an annual basis to ensure that reserves are maintained at a level that is consistent with the Academy Trust having sufficient funds to operate at its planned activity levels taking into account the various financial risk factors that have been identified.

The Trustees have determined that a target of the value of reserves to hold should equate to two months' expenditure, which is currently £850,000. The current reserve value is £874,617 (2024: £1,084,833), so is in excess of our target which should allow for future investment and protect against current anticipated operational deficits. This would include restricted and free reserves but exclude the fixed asset fund and the pension reserve. This needs to be reviewed annually as the school's income and numbers continue to grow.

Total reserves amount to £6,941,903 (2024: £7,233,103), this represents £408,878 (2024: £614,082) unrestricted funds, £465,739 (2024: £470,751) restricted funds, £6,067,286 (2024: £6,148,270) restricted capital funds and a pension reserve of £Nil (2024: £Nil).

The Unrestricted Fund Reserves are there to build up for future investments. The Restricted Fund Reserves are there to cover potential shortfalls in future years as the pupil numbers remain higher than GAG funding and are still in a growth phase. The Restricted Capital Fund Reserves are there to cover the future depreciation of the building and future Fixed Assets.

b. Investment policy and objectives

The Academy Trust has the power to make investment decisions as it holds cash balances. Daily any surplus working capital funds are held in an instant access deposit account. Further funds are now held in notice deposit accounts. Fixed-term investments are also being regularly made to maximise returns on cash levels not needed as part of working capital commitments. NatWest are the Academy's bankers, which include a business reserve plus a 35 day and a 95-day notice account to maximise the interest earned but still for now allow reasonable access to cash reserves.

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

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

During this Academic Year, the Governing Body has continued to develop a comprehensive risk register and agreed on a process for review. A Finance, Audit & Risk committee meets a minimum of 3 times a year with the responsibility of a twice-a-year annual review of the register.

Systems and procedures have been developed by the Academy Trust to manage the identified risks. As a developing school, the key risks identified and focused on this year have been:

- Increasing SEND students in total numbers and how to manage the relevant support required both operationally and financially.
- Loss of extra space for academic interventions necessary as school numbers continue to grow
- Reliance on GAG funding with 1-year delay.
- Managing of teacher and grade mix.
- Increasing risk of cyber attacks.

d. Risk management

The Governors have to identify and review the risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed to and to ensure appropriate controls are in place to provide reasonable assurance against fraud and error. The Academy follows an appropriate risk management process which identifies the types of risks the Academy faces. A risk register has been produced by the Governing Body and is reviewed and updated regularly.

e. Estate management

Health and Safety is a key item in the management of the school. Termly inspections are carried out by the Operations Manager, Site Staff and Health & Safety Representative from the Trust membership. The Trust member has experience of working in schools and is experienced in Health and Safety.

Health and Safety is reported termly via the Headteacher's report to Governors and an annual staff survey is ongoing. The local authority also carry out Health and Safety audits which feeds in to our Planned Preventative Maintenance.

The Headteacher and CFO work with the Estates Manager (provided by the SLA) to identify key capital projects that are necessary which ensures that the condition survey is up to date, and an associated action plan is in place, that ties in with the identification of budget requirements, along with an annual programme of planned maintenance. This group also reviews building maintenance contracts and any retendering requirements, reporting back to the Board on a regular basis.

Fundraising

The Academy's fundraising has increased and is more significant in the last couple of years. Fundraising ventures such as the summer fair are now planned as an annual event and the popular circus is now held alternative year. Book fairs also help to support. All the fundraising activities are carried out by the staff with assistance from parents and pupils. Currently fundraising is ongoing to support the development of further space required for particular pupils who may require quieter working areas. Funds are being held until sufficient amounts have been raised. The Operations Manager is responsible for these events.

The aim is to create funds to treat the pupils to events that otherwise the school or parents would not be able to fund.

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

Fundraising (continued)

The Academy does not engage in large-scale fundraising activities. No direct mail campaigns are run. The Academy does not employ a professional fundraiser and therefore does not see it as necessary to sign up to any regulatory code of fundraising practices. No complaints have been received about any aspect of the fundraising and consideration is always given to privacy and diplomacy to ensure any fundraising is appropriate.

Plans for future periods

Future developments

The future plan for the academy trust is to continue to expand annually until the academy includes all years from Year R to Year Six at 120 pupils. During the Academic Year 2024-2025 the school had pupils in all year groups, but some year groups were still at lower numbers.

Ongoing from 2025, it is planned that the school will continue to take 4 form groups into reception.

The current strategic priorities for the next three years are:

- Inspirational, research based, innovative teaching that meets the needs of the learners
- An ambitious curriculum coherently planned and sequenced
- Enrichment activities which complement and extend the curriculum
- High expectations of children with SEND, EAL or from disadvantaged families.

The Academy Trust has also been working to achieve the desired aim of establishing a comprehensive programme of community use for both term time and school holidays. The school had built community use to six days per week with usage by local community groups such as the Scouts and several physical activity related activities for targeted groups. 2024-2025 saw further development and support from the Academy for the Holiday Activity and Food programme to provide community activity in school holidays which further supported our own Academy pupils

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Governors are aware:

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

The Governors' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Governors, as the company directors, on 17 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs R Mahmood
(Trustee)

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Governors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, 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 Active Education Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Governors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Governors' report and in the Statement of governors' responsibilities. The Board of Governors has formally met 8 times during the year.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Governors was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs R Mahmood, Chair	8	8
Mr D M Sansom	8	8
Ms T E Terleph, Vice Chair	8	8
Mr H R Keshwala	8	8
Mr A M Raja	0	1
Mr G E Carpenter	1	2
Mrs M C Reynolds	6	8
Mr L Kay	7	8
Mrs A Akhtar	6	7
Mrs O Essani	3	3

Changes in the composition of the Board of Governors can be found in the administrative details section on page 1.

The Governing Body undertakes self-evaluations of the effectiveness of their work on a regular basis. Reviews are based around the guidance given by the N.G.A. Overall the findings of the reviews have shown that it is a high performing Governing Body with the necessary skills to carry out its duties. Areas for development are addressed through training sessions, both internal and external.

The skills audit is undertaken annually as part of a wider review which includes a Board self-evaluation and 360 review of the Chair. It is also updated if a Governor leaves the Board to help inform the recruitment and training process. Due to recent recruitment to the Board, all areas scored well in the review undertaken in August 2025.

During the year 2024/25 the Trustee Board decided to undertake a Governance Review to ensure they could continue to develop as Board and work on any areas of development. This was carried out by an independent organisation and involved completion of questionnaires, in-depth meetings with the Chair and Vice Chair and further review and presentations to the main Board.

The report did confirm some recommendations but most of these were relatively minor changes that were required to process or practice. The review concluded that the Board is an "open, honest and reflective Board

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

with a desire to be practical in their approach to developing the capacity of their Board and improving the school.”

Governors share their learnings from training attended; there is a regular item included in the Board Agenda. The Board requires all Governors to undertake some specific training particularly in Safeguarding and Prevent which they must update annually. Regular training and development are now included as part of Board meetings to ensure that all Governors are involved and the programme of work for the Board has been reorganised to include dedicated development meetings where Governors have an opportunity to learn more about education topics and the working of the school. Governors are also signposted to other relevant or interesting training and encouraged to attend.

The Finance, Audit and Risk group is a sub-committee of the main Board of Governors. Its purpose is to assist the decision making of the Governing Body, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the Academy's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring, and probity. During this period, the committee has focused on ensuring good financial practice and policy is established in the school and also revisited the risk management.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Finance, Audit & Risk sub-committee was as follows:

Governor	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mrs R Mahmood	3	3
Mr H R Keshwala	3	3
Mr L Kay	3	3
Mrs O Essani	1	1

Conflicts of interest

The Academy proactively manages any conflict of interest that may arise from its Trustee/Governing Body and its Senior Management Team.

A register of interests is held and managed by the Academy's clerk. An annual review takes place with all key personnel completing a register of interest form.

At all Governors' meetings, the conflict of interest is noted as an agenda item and all Governors are asked if there are any further changes to note.

If a conflict of interest arises relevant to a decision or approval, the Governor will be asked to leave the meeting for the relevant agenda item.

Conflict of interest situations are avoided and there are no regular instances of them occurring. What is important is ensuring the Academy obtains value for money. The only relationship to note currently is the relationship with the related party of Active Luton. This charity is a member of the Academy and provides various services. These services are disclosed under the Related Party note and have ESFA/DfE approval.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher 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, as well as estates safety and management, 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 Governors 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 managing external supplier relationships and ensuring issues with supply of goods and services are properly compensated.

There has been an increase in community services through extended school services and lettings which serve the local community and improve partnerships, and growth in this area continues.

The Academy also makes effective use of budgeting. The budget for the year ending 31 August 2025 was approved by the Governing Body. Expenditure has been controlled against this budget with any significant variances investigated and acted upon. All costs are challenged, and a reduction in the operational deficit has partly arisen due to this. The Academy has maintained and developed necessary procedures for assessing need, obtaining goods and services which provide the best value in terms of suitability, efficiency, time, and cost. These procedures were satisfactorily adopted to obtain the best possible quotes for goods and services.

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 ongoing 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 Active Education Academy Trust 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 Governors 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 Governors is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the Academy's significant risks that have 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 Governors. Ongoing the sub-committee of Finance, Audit & Risk will have delegated responsibility to review and make recommendations during the year.

Reviewing controls and managing risks

A risk register has been reviewed during the 2024-25 financial year and assesses the risks facing the school and covers a wide range of areas which includes strategy, financial, operational, compliance, IT, environmental and governance. This register is reviewed by the Finance, Audit & Risk committee. The Headteacher and CFO have regular meetings to discuss the monthly management accounts and any DfE reporting requirements. Cash Flow is tracked monthly. The Finance, Audit & Risk Committee meets a minimum of 3 times a year. The committee will report back to the Board with its findings and recommendations.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

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

The Board of Governors has decided to employ Raftery Consulting as internal auditor.

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

- testing of HR processes
- testing of IT security
- testing of key financial controls
- testing of Governance

On an annual basis, the internal auditor reports to the Board of Governors through the Finance, Audit and Risk committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Governors' financial responsibilities.

Any material control issues identified were immediately rectified as a result of the internal auditor's work. Other recommendations have been built into a work plan managed by the Finance, Audit & Risk committee.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- 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 auditor;

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance, Audit and Risk committee and a plan to 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.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Governors on *17th December 2025* and signed on their behalf by:



Mrs R Mahmood
Chair of Trustees



Mr D M Sansom
Accounting Officer

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

I confirm that I, and the Board of Governors are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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



Mr D M Sansom
Accounting Officer
Date: 17 December 2025

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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STATEMENT OF GOVERNORS' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Governors (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Governors' 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 Governors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors and signed on its behalf by:



Mrs R Mahmood
(Trustee)



Mr D M Sansom
(Trustee)

Date: 17 December 2025

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Active Education Academy Trust (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 Auditor's 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 Governors' 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 Governors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE
EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual report other than the financial statements and our Auditor's report thereon. The Governors 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 Governors' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Governors' 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 Governors' 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 Governors' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

Responsibilities of Trustees

As explained more fully in the Statement of Governors' responsibilities, the Governors (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 Governors 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 Governors 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 Governors either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Details of the extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations are set out below.

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

Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We identified and assessed the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements from irregularities, whether due to fraud or error, and discussed these between our audit team members. We then designed and performed audit procedures responsive to those risks, including obtaining audit evidence sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements, including financial reporting legislation and the Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006; Academies Accounts Direction 2024 and Academy Trust Handbook 2024 to 2025 and tax regulations. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be necessary to the Academy's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquiry of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF ACTIVE
EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the Academy's for fraud.

We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be within the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management, Finance, Audit, Risk, Premises and Staffing Committee about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the DfE, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

Owing to the inherent limitations of an audit, there is an unavoidable risk that we may not have detected some material misstatements in the financial statements, even though we have properly planned and performed our audit in accordance with auditing standards. For example, the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations (irregularities) is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely the inherently limited procedures required by auditing standards would identify it.

In addition, as with any audit, there remained a higher risk of non-detection of irregularities, as these may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal controls. We are not responsible for preventing non-compliance and cannot be expected to detect non-compliance with all laws and regulations.

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 Auditor's report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Academy and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Janette Joyce
(Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of
Crowe U.K. LLP
Statutory Auditor
R+ Building
2 Blagrove Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 1AZ

Date: 18 December 2025

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 8 September 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 Active Education Academy Trust 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 Active Education Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Active Education Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Active Education Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Active Education Academy Trust's Accounting Officer and the reporting accountant

The Accounting Officer is responsible, under the requirements of Active Education Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 11 June 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.

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**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO ACTIVE
EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST 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.

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- consideration of the evidence supporting the Accounting Officer's statement on regularity, propriety and compliance;
- analytical procedures on the general activities of the Academy Trust;
- a review of Minutes of Committees and Board Meetings which may be relevant to regularity;
- consideration of discussions with key personnel, including the Accounting Officer;
- tests of control have been carried out on key control activities which are relevant to regularity;
- substantive testing of individual transactions.

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.

Crowe UK LLP

Reporting Accountant
Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

R+ Building
2 Blagrove Street
Reading
Berkshire
RG1 1AZ

Date: 18 December 2025

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants		-	-	12,280	12,280	11,965
Other trading activities	4	73,473	-	-	73,473	64,482
Investments	5	32,468	-	-	32,468	39,440
Charitable activities	3	37,687	4,645,251	-	4,682,938	4,244,848
Total income		143,628	4,645,251	12,280	4,801,159	4,360,735
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	6	2,625	-	-	2,625	1,250
Charitable activities	6	-	4,876,961	173,773	5,050,734	4,598,628
Total expenditure		2,625	4,876,961	173,773	5,053,359	4,599,878
Net income/(expenditure)		141,003	(231,710)	(161,493)	(252,200)	(239,143)
Transfers between funds	15	(346,207)	265,698	80,509	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(205,204)	33,988	(80,984)	(252,200)	(239,143)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	681,000	-	681,000	120,000
Pension surplus not recognised	22	-	(720,000)	-	(720,000)	(141,000)
Net movement in funds		(205,204)	(5,012)	(80,984)	(291,200)	(260,143)

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
(CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	614,082	470,751	6,148,270	7,233,103	7,493,246
Net movement in funds	(205,204)	(5,012)	(80,984)	(291,200)	(260,143)
Total funds carried forward	408,878	465,739	6,067,286	6,941,903	7,233,103

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.
The notes on pages 33 to 59 form part of these financial statements.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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REGISTERED NUMBER: 07650619

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	6,067,286	6,129,556
Current assets			
Debtors	13	175,134	126,562
Cash at bank and in hand		1,321,032	1,300,526
		1,496,166	1,427,088
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(621,549)	(323,541)
Net current assets		874,617	1,103,547
Net assets excluding pension asset		6,941,903	7,233,103
Total net assets		6,941,903	7,233,103
Funds of the Academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	15	6,067,286	6,148,270
Restricted income funds	15	465,739	470,751
Total restricted funds	15	6,533,025	6,619,021
Unrestricted income funds	15	408,878	614,082
Total funds		6,941,903	7,233,103

The financial statements on pages 29 to 59 were approved and authorised for issue by the Governors and are signed on their behalf, by:

Mrs R Mahmood
(Trustee)

Date:

17th December 2025

Mr D M Sansom
(Trustee)



The notes on pages 33 to 59 form part of these financial statements.

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	17	87,261	(112,456)
Cash flows (used in)/provided by investing activities	18	(66,755)	21,972
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		20,506	(90,484)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		1,300,526	1,391,010
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	19, 20	1,321,032	1,300,526
		<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The notes on pages 33 to 59 form part of these financial statements

ACTIVE EDUCATION ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. 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.

1.1 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 DfE, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

Active Education Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

1.2 Charity information

The principal activity of Active Education Academy Trust is currently to run River Bank Primary School, a free school in the Biscot Ward of Luton. The Trust is an exempt charity and a company limited by guarantee (company number: 07650619). It is incorporated and domiciled in the UK. The address of the registered office is 2nd Floor Apex House, 30-34 Upper George Street, Luton, LU1 2RD.

1.3 Going concern

The Governors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy to continue as a going concern. The Governors 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.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 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.

• **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.

1.5 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.

• **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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

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1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following basis:

Freehold property	-	2% straight-line
Leasehold improvements	-	2% straight-line
Furniture and fixtures	-	20% straight-line
IT equipment	-	33% straight-line

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.

1.7 Operating leases

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of financial activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.8 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.

1.9 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.

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1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.10 Liabilities and provisions

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

1.11 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 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments. 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 14. 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.

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

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 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.

1.14 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 Governors.

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.

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

2. 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 22, 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.

The asset values are reported using estimated asset allocations prepared by the scheme Actuary. The asset value is calculated at each triennial valuation. Thereafter it is rolled forward to accounting dates using investment returns, contributions received, and benefits paid out.

Where a scheme is in a surplus according to the accounting valuation the associated asset has not been recognised on the basis that it is not likely to be recoverable either through future reductions in contributions rates or future repayments. Further details of pension assets not recognised can be found within the pensions note to the financial statements.

Other than the LGPS noted above, the Governors consider that there are no other material judgements in applying accounting policies or key sources of estimation uncertainty.

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

3. Funding for Academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Educational operations			
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,668,092	3,668,092
Other DfE grants			
UIFSM	-	124,266	124,266
Other DfE/ EFSA grants	-	223,607	223,607
Pupil Premium	-	279,422	279,422
Teachers' Pay Grant	-	129,449	129,449
	-	4,424,836	4,424,836
Other Government grants			
Local Authority grants	-	220,415	220,415
	-	220,415	220,415
Other income	37,687	-	37,687
	37,687	4,645,251	4,682,938
	37,687	4,645,251	4,682,938

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

3. Funding for Academy's educational operations (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Educational operations			
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	3,313,141	3,313,141
Other DfE grants			
UIFSM	-	113,926	113,926
Other DfE/ EFSA grants	-	254,079	254,079
Pupil Premium	-	303,374	303,374
	-	3,984,520	3,984,520
Other Government grants			
Local Authority grants	-	229,028	229,028
	-	229,028	229,028
Other income	31,301	-	31,301
	<u>31,301</u>	<u>4,213,548</u>	<u>4,244,849</u>
	<u>31,301</u>	<u>4,213,548</u>	<u>4,244,849</u>

4. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Hire of facilities	20,560	20,560
Uniforms	286	286
Other income	12,130	12,130
Catering	29,836	29,836
After school clubs	10,661	10,661
	<u>73,473</u>	<u>73,473</u>

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

4. Income from other trading activities (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Hire of facilities	18,784	18,784
Uniforms	284	284
Other income	5,512	5,512
Catering	32,287	32,287
After school clubs	7,615	7,615
	64,482	64,482

5. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Interest received	32,468	32,468
	32,468	32,468

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Interest received	39,440	39,440
	39,440	39,440

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

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Raising funds:				
Allocated support costs	-	-	2,625	2,625
Educational activities:				
Direct costs	3,574,827	173,773	383,520	4,132,120
Support costs	370,764	-	547,850	918,614
Total 2025	<u><u>3,945,591</u></u>	<u><u>173,773</u></u>	<u><u>933,995</u></u>	<u><u>5,053,359</u></u>
	<i>Staff Costs</i> <i>2024</i> £	<i>Premises</i> <i>2024</i> £	<i>Other</i> <i>2024</i> £	<i>Total</i> <i>2024</i> £
Raising funds:				
Allocated support costs	-	-	1,250	1,250
Educational activities:				
Direct costs	3,184,064	169,685	364,868	3,718,617
Support costs	348,444	-	531,567	880,011
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>3,532,508</u></u>	<u><u>169,685</u></u>	<u><u>897,685</u></u>	<u><u>4,599,878</u></u>

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

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Costs for the Academy's educational operations	4,132,120	918,614	5,050,734

	<i>Activities undertaken directly 2024 £</i>	<i>Support costs 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Costs for the Academy's educational operations	3,718,617	880,011	4,598,628

Analysis of direct costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	3,574,829	3,184,064
Depreciation	173,773	169,685
Trips (unrestricted)	41,801	33,079
Educational supplies	87,699	118,522
Staff development	8,880	8,711
Technology costs	5,397	1,905
Other	14,142	13,168
Curriculum support	23,036	6,858
Catering	202,563	182,625
	4,132,120	3,718,617

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

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	370,764	334,444
Teaching and educational support costs	125,532	140,041
Educational supplies	126,788	120,331
Staff development	30,599	33,448
Support costs	106,813	94,181
Other support costs	8,219	4,307
Premises costs	29,105	30,440
Governance costs	29,554	26,912
Maintenance of premises and equipment	64,946	62,921
Cleaning	10,015	13,018
Insurance	28,279	24,968
Pension finance costs	(12,000)	(5,000)
	918,614	880,011

Included in other support costs are legal costs of £1,300 (2024: £Nil).

8. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £	<i>2024 £</i>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets :- owned by the charity	173,773	169,685
Operating leases	15,193	23,662
Auditor's remuneration - audit	19,500	16,700
Auditor's remuneration - other services	4,510	4,220

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

9. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	3,039,514	2,787,383
Social security costs	299,406	229,101
Pension costs	606,673	502,024
	<u>3,945,593</u>	<u>3,518,508</u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
Teachers	35	33
Administration and support	82	71
Management	7	7
	<u>124</u>	<u>111</u>

c. Higher paid staff

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

	2025	2024
	No.	No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	2	1
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	2	2
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	1	1
	<u>5</u>	<u>4</u>

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

9. Staff (continued)

d. Key Management Personnel

The Key Management Personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Governors 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 Trust was £744,282 (2024 - £467,164).

10. Governors' remuneration and expenses

One or more Governors has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy. The principal and other staff Governors 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 Governors' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

		2025	2024
		£	£
Mr D M Sansom (Headteacher)	Remuneration	95,000 -	90,000 -
		100,000	95,000
	Pension contributions paid	25,000 -	20,000 -
Mrs S A Smart (Staff Trustee in 2024)		30,000	25,000
	Remuneration	-	15,000 -
			20,000
	Pension contributions paid	-	0 - 5,000

Mrs S A Smart resigned as a staff trustee on 18 January 2024.

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

11. Governors' and Officers' Insurance

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

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

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Leasehold improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	IT equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2024	7,622,724	11,352	331,506	186,139	8,151,721
Additions	-	39,335	8,236	63,932	111,503
At 31 August 2025	<u>7,622,724</u>	<u>50,687</u>	<u>339,742</u>	<u>250,071</u>	<u>8,263,224</u>
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	1,522,732	465	312,829	186,139	2,022,165
Charge for the year	152,454	2,125	6,058	13,136	173,773
At 31 August 2025	<u>1,675,186</u>	<u>2,590</u>	<u>318,887</u>	<u>199,275</u>	<u>2,195,938</u>
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	<u>5,947,538</u>	<u>48,097</u>	<u>20,855</u>	<u>50,796</u>	<u>6,067,286</u>
At 31 August 2024	<u>6,099,992</u>	<u>10,887</u>	<u>18,677</u>	-	<u>6,129,556</u>

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	2,932	3,166
Other debtors	88,844	47,287
Prepayments and accrued income	56,537	65,522
Tax recoverable	26,821	10,587
	<u>175,134</u>	<u>126,562</u>

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

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	481,472	43,312
Other taxation and social security	-	96,029
Other creditors	19,505	9,260
Accruals and deferred income	120,572	174,940
	621,549	323,541
	621,549	323,541
	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	94,164	88,464
Resources deferred during the year	6,875	21,400
Amounts released from previous periods	(22,560)	(15,700)
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	78,479	94,164
	78,479	94,164

At the Balance Sheet date the Academy was holding funds relating to income received for free school meals, PE & sports premium, and the national tutoring programme for 2024/25. The Academy did not use the national tutoring grant and are expecting to return and pay this back to the DfE as requested.

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

15. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
Total unrestricted funds (iii)	614,082	143,628	(2,625)	(346,207)	-	408,878
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG) (i)	20,269	3,668,092	(3,875,559)	187,903	-	705
Other DfE/ESFA grants	274,824	352,501	(352,501)	-	-	274,824
Pupil premium grant	175,658	279,422	(264,870)	-	-	190,210
UIFSM	-	124,266	(202,061)	77,795	-	-
Other government grants	-	220,970	(220,970)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	39,000	-	(39,000)	-
	470,751	4,645,251	(4,876,961)	265,698	(39,000)	465,739
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DfE/ESFA capital grants (ii)	6,100,123	-	(173,773)	140,936	-	6,067,286
Other DfE grants	48,147	12,280	-	(60,427)	-	-
	6,148,270	12,280	(173,773)	80,509	-	6,067,286
Total Restricted funds	6,619,021	4,657,531	(5,050,734)	346,207	(39,000)	6,533,025
Total funds	7,233,103	4,801,159	(5,053,359)	-	(39,000)	6,941,903

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

15. Statement of funds (continued)

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

- (i) General Annual Grant must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy
- (ii) The Capital Grants represents fixed asset funding for various capital projects and the school building which was funded by DfE.
- (iii) Unrestricted funds included trips and activities, investment income and other income such as hire of facilities and sale of school uniform.

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.

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

15. Statement of funds (continued)

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						
Total unrestricted funds (iii)	<u>520,110</u>	<u>135,222</u>	<u>(1,250)</u>	<u>(40,000)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>614,082</u>
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG) (i)	271,355	3,313,141	(3,535,527)	(28,700)	-	20,269
Other DfE/ESFA grants	265,916	254,079	(245,171)	-	-	274,824
Pupil premium grant	147,875	303,374	(275,591)	-	-	175,658
UIFSM	-	113,926	(182,626)	68,700	-	-
Other government grants	-	229,028	(229,028)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(18,000)	-	39,000	-	(21,000)	-
	<u>667,146</u>	<u>4,213,548</u>	<u>(4,428,943)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>(21,000)</u>	<u>470,751</u>
Restricted Fixed Asset Funds						
DfE/ESFA capital grants (ii)	6,269,808	-	(169,685)	-	-	6,100,123
Other DfE grants	36,182	11,965	-	-	-	48,147
	<u>6,305,990</u>	<u>11,965</u>	<u>(169,685)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,148,270</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>6,973,136</u>	<u>4,225,513</u>	<u>(4,598,628)</u>	<u>40,000</u>	<u>(21,000)</u>	<u>6,619,021</u>
Total funds	<u><u>7,493,246</u></u>	<u><u>4,360,735</u></u>	<u><u>(4,599,878)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>(21,000)</u></u>	<u><u>7,233,103</u></u>

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

16. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	6,067,286	6,067,286
Current assets	408,878	1,087,288	-	1,496,166
Creditors due within one year	-	(621,549)	-	(621,549)
Total	408,878	465,739	6,067,286	6,941,903

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	6,129,556	6,129,556
Current assets	614,082	794,292	18,714	1,427,088
Creditors due within one year	-	(323,541)	-	(323,541)
Total	614,082	470,751	6,148,270	7,233,103

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

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	(252,200)	(239,143)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation charges	173,773	169,685
Interest receivable	(32,468)	(39,440)
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(48,572)	73,484
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	298,008	(26,077)
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(12,280)	(11,965)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(12,000)	(5,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(27,000)	(34,000)
Net cash provided by/(used in) operating activities	87,261	(112,456)

18. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	32,468	39,440
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(111,503)	(29,433)
Capital grants from DfE	12,280	11,965
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities	(66,755)	21,972

19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	1,321,032	1,300,526
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,321,032	1,300,526

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

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	1,300,526	20,506	1,321,032
	<u>1,300,526</u>	<u>20,506</u>	<u>1,321,032</u>

21. Contingent liabilities

During the period of the Funding Agreement, in the event of the sale or disposal by other means of any asset for which a government capital grant was received, the Academy is required either to reinvest the proceeds or to repay to the Secretary of State the same proportion of the proceeds of the sale or disposal as equates with the proportion of the original cost met by the Secretary of State.

Upon termination of the Funding Agreement, whether as a result of the Secretary of State or the Academy serving notice, the Academy shall repay to the Secretary of State sums determined by reference to:-

- a) the value at that time of the Academy's site and premises and other assets held for the purpose of the Academy.
- b) the extent to which expenditure incurred in providing those assets was met by payments by the Secretary of State under the Funding Agreement.

22. 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 Bedford Borough 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.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

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

22. Pension commitments (continued)

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Academy participates in the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("the TPS") for its teaching staff. The pension charge for the year includes contributions payable to the TPS of £396,130 (2024: £308,869) and at the year-end £Nil (2024 - £Nil) was accrued in respect of contributions to this scheme.

The TPS is an unfunded multi-employer defined benefits pension scheme governed by The Teachers' Pensions Regulations 2010 (as amended) and The Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014 (as amended). Members contribute on a "pay as you go" basis with contributions from members and the employer being credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

The employer contribution rate is set by the Secretary of State following scheme valuations undertaken by the Government Actuary's Department. The most recent actuarial valuation of the TPS was prepared as at 31 March 2020 and the Valuation Report was published in October 2023. The Valuation Report shows notional assets of £222.2bn and liabilities of £262bn, resulting in a scheme deficit of £39.8bn.

The employer contribution rate for the TPS is 28.6%, and employers are also required to pay a scheme administration levy of 0.08% giving a total employer contribution rate of 28.68%.

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

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

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 Trust is unable to identify its share of the underlying assets and liabilities of the plan. Accordingly, the Academy Trust has taken advantage of the exemption in FRS 102 and has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Academy Trust has set out above, the information available on the scheme.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

22. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate Trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £282,000 (2024 - £289,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £219,000 (2024 - £220,000) and employees' contributions totalled £63,000 (2024 - £69,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 18% per cent for employers and 5.5% to 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 an Academy Trust closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on GOV.UK.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.15	5.1
Rate of increase in salaries	3.60	3.8
Rate of increase for pensions in payment (CPI)	2.60	2.8

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

	2025	2024
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.6	21.1
Females	24.2	23.9
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	22.7	22.1
Females	25.8	25.5

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£000	<i>£000</i>
Discount rate +0.1%	106	<i>179</i>
Salary +0.1%	111	<i>187</i>
Pension +0.1%	117	<i>195</i>

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31	<i>At 31 August</i>
	August 2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Equities	1,524,000	<i>1,474,000</i>
Corporate bonds	459,000	<i>435,000</i>
Property	383,000	<i>345,000</i>
Cash	87,000	<i>120,000</i>
Total market value of assets	2,453,000	<i>2,374,000</i>

The actual return on scheme assets was £227,000 (2024 - £240,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Current service cost	(189,000)	<i>(186,000)</i>
Interest income	117,000	<i>106,000</i>
Interest cost	(105,000)	<i>(101,000)</i>
Administrative expenses	(3,000)	<i>(2,000)</i>
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(180,000)	<i>(183,000)</i>

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

22. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Opening defined benefit obligation	2,233,000	1,907,000
Current service cost	189,000	184,000
Interest cost	105,000	101,000
Employee contributions	63,000	69,000
Actuarial (gains)/loss	(998,000)	(28,000)
At 31 August	1,592,000	2,233,000

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Opening fair value of scheme assets	2,233,000	1,889,000
Interest income	117,000	106,000
Return on assets less interest	110,000	134,000
Contributions by employer including unfunded	219,000	220,000
Contributions by employee	63,000	69,000
Actuarial gains/(loss)	(427,000)	(42,000)
Administration expenses	(3,000)	(2,000)
Derecognition of surplus	(720,000)	(141,000)
At 31 August	1,592,000	2,233,000

23. 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	15,193	7,056
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	44,990	27,637
	60,183	34,693

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24. Members' liability

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

25. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy and the composition of the Board of Governors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Governors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the DfE of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The following related party transactions took place in the period:

Expenditure related party transactions:

Active Luton - a charitable company with shared directors and founding member of Active Education Academy Trust.

The Academy Trust purchased services during the year relating to project & facilities management, financial, professional, and administration services from Active Luton (excluding VAT) totalling £101,994 (2024: £91,804 - excluding VAT). At the year end the balance outstanding with Active Luton was £Nil (2024: £4,912).

In entering into the transaction the Academy Trust has complied with the requirements of the Academies Financial Handbook 2024.

The element above £2,500 has been provided 'at no more than cost' and Active Luton has provided a statement of assurance confirming this.

Close family members of the Board of Governors received remuneration of £Nil (2024: £Nil).

Income related party transactions:

During the year Active Luton hired facilities excluding VAT totalling £4,403 (2024: £6,404 - excluding VAT). At the year end the balance outstanding from Active Luton (excluding VAT) was £Nil (2024: £266).

During the year no Trustees hired facilities £Nil (2024: £Nil). At the year end the balance outstanding was £Nil (2024: £Nil).

