



**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

Annual Report and Financial Statements

Year End August 2025





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Reference and administrative details



**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

Members:

H Thomas
G Ball
E Conway
A McKerracher (Armstrong)
The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham

Trustees:

S Roberts, Chair
D Wheeldon, Vice Chair
F Kinkhabwala
B Matthews
L Roan
H Thomas
J Lennon (resigned 21 January 2025)
J Howell (appointed 27 November 2024)
R Moat (appointed 26 March 2025)
N Smith (appointed 26 March 2025)
O Rararty (appointed 11 December 2024)

Company registered number:

10654935

Company Name:

King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham

Principal and registered office:

Foundation Office
Edgbaston Park Road
Birmingham
West Midlands
B15 2UD

Company Secretary:

D. Canton

Executive Team:

J Dhesi, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer
G Langston, Chief Finance Officer
S Cunningham, Chief People and Systems Officer
J Waddington, Director of Education
G Cousens, Director of Strategic Management
A Abbas, Director of Digital, Data and Transformation
M Brady, North Cluster Lead
R Elcocks, South Cluster Lead
K Stevens, Central Cluster Lead





Academies within Trust - Headteacher/Principial:

King Edward VI Aston School - M Brady, Headteacher
King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy - D McGarvey, Headteacher
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys - R Bowen, Headteacher
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls - K Stevens, Headteacher
King Edward VI Five Ways School - S Bird, Headteacher
King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls - D Goodwin,
Headteacher
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys - T Johnson,
Headteacher
King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy - K Takhar,
Headteacher
King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys - D, Clayton,
Headteacher
King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls - K Cooney, Headteacher
King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls - N Jones, Headteacher
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy - R Elcocks, Headteacher

Independent auditor:

Crowe U.K. LLP
Black Country House
Rounds Green Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 2DG

Bankers:

Lloyds Bank
Solihull Business Centre - GLC
Creynolds Lane
Shirley
Solihull
B90 4ES

Solicitors:

Stone King LLP
Colmore Gate
2-6 Colmore Row
Birmingham
B3 2QD





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

The Academy Trust operates twelve Academies, six selective and six non-selective, for pupils aged 11 to 18 serving the City of Birmingham. Its Academies had a combined pupil capacity of 11,763 and had a roll of 12,047 in the school census in October 2024.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The Academy Trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

It is governed by its Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The Trustees of the Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company operates as King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details.

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' Indemnities

The Academy Trust, through its insurance provision, indemnifies the Trustees against claims made arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions whilst on Academy Trust business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 in any one claim.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The number of Trustees must not be less than three but shall not be subject to any maximum.

The Academy Trust shall have the following Trustees:

- up to eight Trustees appointed by Members;
- up to two Trustees appointed by the Foundation;
- a minimum of two Parent Trustees elected or appointed in the event that no School Governing Bodies (SGBs) are established; and
- any Co-opted Trustee; provided that at least eight of the Trustees must at all times also be members of the Board of Trustees of the Foundation

In making appointments of Trustees, the Members and Trustees (as the case may be) shall have regard to the need to ensure an appropriate mix of skills on the board, including, but without limitation finance, HR and school improvement.

Structure, governance and management cont.

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

All new Trustees are provided with an induction pack which contains essential documents including the Articles of Association, Decision Making Matrix, Scheme of Governance, Scheme of Financial Delegation and Master Funding Agreement. The new Trustee will meet with the Chair and key Academy Trust personnel.

f. Organisational structure

Meetings of the Board of Trustees usually take place seven times throughout the year with extra meetings taking place as required. The Board met seven times in the year under review.

It also receives reports from the undernoted Academy Trust Committees:

- **Finance** and Estates
- Audit, Risk and Compliance
- Education and Safeguarding
- HR including separate Equality, Diversity and Inclusion and Staff Liaison Committees
- Governance and Nominations
- Remuneration
- Joint Strategy

These committees meet regularly throughout the year on a cycle to complement the board meetings. Much of the detailed work is undertaken by the committees as per their terms of reference,

The Accounting Officer of the Academy Trust is the Chief Executive Officer. The Academy Trust has an executive team that oversees day-to-day management.

All Trustees of the Board and Governors of the SGBs are unpaid in their roles.

The Trustees are responsible for the governance and supervision of the Academy Trust, its committees (including the SGBs) and the management of the relationship with the Academy Trust Executive Team (in relation to the provision of services provided to the Academy Trust and the Academies by Foundation Office staff through the Provision of Services Agreement).

The Trustees have a number of duties and responsibilities relating to the management of the Academy Trust and its finances.

In summary, the Trustees are responsible for:

- establishing the vision, mission and values for the Academy Trust;
- carrying on the Academy Trust in accordance with the objects of the Academy Trust (as set out in the Articles) and safeguarding the assets of the Academy Trust;
- designing strategy and structure for the operation of the Academy Trust;
- oversight of the operation of the Academies and directing the education, pastoral care, financial and other policies of the Academies in accordance with the Articles and the Funding Agreements (including the DfE's Academies Handbook);
- ensuring sound management and administration of the Academy Trust, and ensuring that managers are equipped with the relevant skills and guidance;
- financial controls and the financial management of the Academy Trust in accordance with the provisions of the Handbook, which sets out in detail provisions for the financial management of each Academy including guidance on financial systems and controls and accounting and reporting requirements;
- setting standards of conduct and values, monitoring performance and the achievement of objectives, and ensuring that plans for improvement are acted upon;



Structure, governance and management cont.

- risk management, including identifying, quantifying and devising systems to minimise the major risks affecting the Academy Trust; and
- ensuring the activities of the Academy Trust and the Academies are conducted in compliance with the general law.

The role of each Academy SGB is to:

- provide advice to the Trustees on the functioning of that Academy;
- act as a key link between the Academy Trust and the Schools;
- act as a sounding board for the Headteacher and Academy Trust Senior Leadership Team and offer challenging but positive support to the Headteacher;
- continually review the overall impact of the Academy;
- assist with and review the implementation of certain Academy policies, such as student admissions and behaviour;
- set an annual budget for the Academy and monitor performance against budget in year;
- appoint, remove and set the remuneration of the Headteacher.

The SGB is made up of individuals who may or may not also be Trustees in accordance with the Articles. Each Academy has a leadership team in place for day-to-day management.

g. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

In line with the Academy Trust's Articles, the Academy Trust sponsor, the Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham (the 'Foundation'), appoints the Chief Executive Officer and donates his Senior Leadership services to the Academy Trust. The Foundation Remuneration Committee sets the pay and remuneration of key leadership posts of the Foundation. The Chair of the Academy Trust is a member of the Remuneration Committee.

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

The Academy Trust is sponsored by the Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham (the 'Foundation') charity. The Foundation has both a governance-based and a contractual relationship with the Academy Trust. For example, the Chair of the Academy Trust's Board of Trustees from time to time is an ex-officio member of the advisory group known as the Joint Strategy Advisory Group (JSAG). The JSAG recommends general strategy and a plan for the Foundation and Academy Trust as a whole; recommends educational policy and strategy for the Foundation and Academy Trust as a whole; recommends the allocation and distribution of the Foundation's resources for all purposes, in relation to the above; and keeps under review the role and performance of all the Foundation's schools. The JSAG is strictly advisory and not decision-making. All decisions pertaining to the Academy Trust are made solely by the Academy Trust Board.

Any recharged central service/senior leadership costs, above those that are donated from the Foundation, are recharged as part of an agreed Service Level Agreement and at no more than cost.

i. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

A Staff Liaison Committee was formed by the Academy Trust in 2017 and includes representatives (both teaching and non-teaching) from each of the schools within the Trust. The group meets on a termly basis to consider all aspects of the Trust, but in particular those relating to HR matters, and gives all staff a voice on a range of matters.



Structure, governance and management cont.

The Equal Opportunities Policy for the Academy Trust sets out the aims of the Trust to ensure that no job applicant receives less favourable treatment because of a Protected Characteristic. The policy also sets out how the Trust will support as much as possible an employee who becomes disabled and to ensure that they are not treated less favourably because of something related to their disability. The Academy Trust has an Equality Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee to progress an equalities agenda with governor and staff representation from across the Academy Trust. An Equality, Diversity and Inclusion strategy is in place which contains a five year action plan. The strategy is being delivered by committed individuals from across all the schools and governing bodies, including dedicated EDI Leads and EDI Foundation Leaders in Education. Both the Staff Liaison and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Committees report through the Academy Trust HR Committee.

In accordance with the Academy Trust's Equality, Diversity and Inclusion policy, the Academy Trust has long established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention, promotion, support and training of disabled staff.

Full details of these policies are available from the Academy Trust's offices.

Employees have been consulted on issues of concern to them by means of regular consultative committee and staff meetings and, through the Staff Liaison Committee, staff representatives inform and canvass staff for their views and opinions on employment and people matters. Staff representatives have the opportunity to add items to the agenda for discussion. The Academy Trust carries out exit interviews for staff leaving the organisation and has adopted a procedure of upward feedback for senior management and the Trustees. In addition, an experienced HR Partner is assigned to each of the schools, working closely with the head and leadership team to deliver on the school development plan, and to support through change and difficult circumstances.

The Academy Trust HR Committee focuses on strategic and operational HR matters, supporting the work and development of the department and at the same time holding it to account.

j. Engagement with suppliers, service users and others in a business relationship with the Academy Trust

The Academy Trust has regard to the need to foster the company's business relationship with suppliers, customers and others through the implementation of procedures to ensure that regularity, propriety and value for money is maintained for the Trust. The Academy Trust tries to achieve best value for money for all its purchases ensuring that services are delivered in the most economical, efficient and effective way, within available resources.

Wherever possible, the Academy Trust will engage with local businesses, which in turn financially supports the local communities and the families in Birmingham.

The Academy Trust also assesses in advance, where relevant, the health and safety competence of contractors, taking account of the Company's policies and procedures.

Payment for supplies and services are made within 30 days upon receipt of an invoice once it has been confirmed that goods or services have been received and are of the quality expected. Every effort is made to ensure the school benefits from early payment discounts.



Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Objects of the Academy Trust (the purposes it exists to further) are:

- 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 schools offering a broad and balanced curriculum ("the mainstream Academies") or educational institutions which are principally concerned with providing full-time or part-time education for children of compulsory school age who, by reason of illness, exclusion from school or otherwise, may not for any period receive suitable education unless alternative provision is made for them ("the alternative provision Academies") or 16 to 19 Academies offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students ("the 16 to 19 Academies") or schools specially organised to make special educational provision for pupils with Special Educational Needs ("the Special Academies"), and
- to promote for the benefit of the inhabitants of the areas in which the Academies are situated the provision of facilities for recreation or other leisure time occupation of individuals who have need of such facilities by reason of their youth, age, infirmity or disablement, financial hardship or social and economic circumstances or for the public at large in the interests of social welfare and with the object of improving the condition of life of the said inhabitants

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham was established in 2017 with an overarching mission to make Birmingham the best place to be educated in the UK. The Academy Trust has grown since its inception, with King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy joining on 1 September 2018, King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy joining on 1 September 2019, King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls joining on 1 September 2021, King Edward VI Lordwood School for Girls joining on 1 September 2022 and King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys joining on 1 January 2024.

The core values are:

- Excellence
- Accessibility
- Collaboration
- Ambition
- Care
- Integrity

The purpose of the strategy is to ensure that we can deliver our values to:

- Raise aspirations, providing opportunities and giving confidence alongside excellent academic standards.
- Widen access and transform lives for all young people, no matter their background.
- Encourage open-mindedness, equality for all, honesty, fairness, understanding and accepting the views of others.
- Create a love of learning, which will foster creativity, imagination and the capacity to communicate.
- Instil a sense of community and the desire to support and work with others.
- Build character and relationships, along with a sense of morality, care and respect for others.
- Ensure successful transition to the world of further study and work through strong academic outcomes.



Strategic Objective 1 (SO1): Learning with us

- SO1.1 Academic Outcomes and Progress
- SO1.2 Access and Impact
- SO1.3 Pathways in Birmingham and Beyond
- SO1.4 Well-being, Character and Learning Skills
- SO1.5 Curriculum and Resources
- SO1.6 Foundation Identity

Strategic Objective 2 (SO2): Working with us

- SO2.1 Collaborative Working, Learning and Culture
- SO2.2 Innovation, Research and Performance
- SO2.3 Modern Strategy for People
- SO2.4 Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- SO2.5 Efficient Systems and Data
- SO2.6 Working Environment, Resources and Sustainability

Strategic Objective 3 (SO3): Partnering with us

- SO3.1 Growth and Reputation
- SO3.2 Educational Partners
- SO3.3 Civic and Corporate Partners
- SO3.4 Fund-raising and Support
- SO3.5 Excellence in Governance and Compliance
- SO3.6 Heritage

The Strategy seeks to put education firmly at the heart of all of the decisions we make: strategic, operational and financial. It is based on the spirit that the King Edward VI Academy Trust has often been a force for change and moved with the times while retaining its core principles. To achieve our bold mission, it sets out how we can work genuinely towards an ethos of 'one organisation' in which collaboration and efficiencies lead to a better education for the children and young people whom the Academy Trust serves. While there is excellence in all our schools, we recognise that every school can also improve and that working together and sharing our resources and ideas is the most effective way of doing that.

c. Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission through the objectives, strategies and activities detailed within this report and when exercising their powers or duties.



Strategic report

Achievements and performance

The Academy Trust has achieved the following in 2024/25:

a. Key Performance Indicators

The Strategy has a range of Key Performance Indicators for each of the objectives outlined above. Key highlights from 2024/25 were that:

S01: Learning with us

- Our Academy Trust has the second highest pupil attainment and is the 16th best for pupil progress, of over 1000 multi-academy trusts in the country.
- Half of our academies (6 out of 12) are in the top 10% nationally for pupil progress.
- At GCSE, pupils in our schools achieve half a grade more at GCSE than their peers nationally.
- As of June 2025, all 12 of our academies are rated Good or Outstanding by Ofsted. No schools are rated Inadequate or Requires Improvement.
- King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy is now a Good school for the first time in 18 years (having joined the Trust four years ago as Inadequate).
- Five of our schools are in the top 10 for their type in the West Midlands according to the Sunday Times, with two being in first place.
- More of our outstanding schools have retained their ratings than nationally.
- All of our schools are oversubscribed in Year 7.
- On average, pupils who are disadvantaged perform better in our state schools than non-disadvantaged pupils do nationally.
- Our pupils are less likely to be suspended and are more likely to attend school frequently than in schools nationally.

S02: Working with us

- For the first time, all our employees have engaged in an organization-wide collaborative event.
- Many more of our teachers and leaders are now working cross-school, promoting a culture of collaboration and shared development.
- For the first time, we have an organization-wide HR and Payroll system.
- We are spending more of our apprenticeship levy, building skills and knowledge across the organization.
- By the end of 2025, almost half of Foundation schools will be using a new single central Microsoft enterprise platform, with all schools set to join by 2026.
- We are on track to implement the first unified management information system (MIS) for the Academy Trust by 2026, set to save schools £340,000.
- Equality, Diversity and Inclusion are a major focus and a group with school representatives has spearheaded a new ED&I strategy.
- Schools have benefitted from improved service provision from the Foundation Office. Structural changes have been beneficial and collaboration has improved as a result.



Strategic report

S03: Partnering with us

- We now have an equal number of comprehensive and grammar schools.
- We have worked with the Department for Education to secure two new build school commitments.
- We have reformed our governance structure to improve efficiency of meetings and join up strategy.
- The Foundation Archive is being catalogued for the first time.
- We have a wider range of partners both collaborative and in a supportive role.
- Strategic partnerships with five primary schools have been established to increase awareness of the Foundation and the grammar school entrance test.
- Through our Corporate Partnership with the Association of Project Management, staff in schools now have access to networks and opportunities to develop project management skills.

Pupil-initiated activity around the promotion of equality, diversity and inclusion continued throughout the academic year, supported by staff to use their voice to secure change.

The Academy Trust was able to meet the vast majority of its targets in relation to the delivery of high-quality support services to our Academies. In particular, the delivery of procurement savings, the quality of HR advisory services and the dedicated finance support underpinning the continued healthy financial outlook for the Academy Trust were notable successes.

b. Going concern

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

c. Promoting the success of the Trust

The trustees act in good faith to make decisions, the outcome of which they consider will be most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members as a whole both in current periods and in the long term.

In discharging their duties above, the trustees carefully consider amongst other matters the impact on and interests of other stakeholders in the company and factor these into their decision making process.

Employees

Trustees receive information on various staff KPIs. The trustees are committed to promoting a healthy workforce comprising both physical and mental wellbeing. The trustees keep staff informed of key issues through structured communication channels, promote inclusion in the workplace and also provide training and development opportunities where they are considered of benefit to the company and employees. Using the Trust's recruitment and development strategies, the directors seek to attract and retain talented staff. The Trust's policy regarding disabled persons is set out in the Trustees' Report as well as further detail regarding communication with employees.

Service Users

The trustees commit considerable time, effort and resources into understanding and responding to the needs of the service users with a view to fostering long term mutually beneficial partnerships. We act to service users' needs to the highest standards and work quickly to resolve any isolated disagreements that may arise from time to time.



Suppliers

The trustees have established Trust procedures to ensure that external suppliers are individually verified to ensure they meet with the health and safety, regulatory and financial security standards required by the Trust. The Trust seeks to pay all suppliers any undisputed amounts due and that conform with the Trust's billing requirements within agreed terms. The Trust has established procedures for dispute resolution in a timely and fair manner.

Community and the environment

The Trust takes its role within the community very seriously and promotes and encourages community and charitable contribution. The Trust also recognises the importance of its environmental responsibilities and has measures in place to monitor and control its impact on the local environment and its compliance with any regulatory environmental standards. The Trust seeks to implement policies aimed at reducing any potential detrimental environmental impact of its activities.

Standards and conduct

The Trust has a series of defined codes of practice regarding ethical standards and the conduct of business. These are clearly communicated to every staff member, adherence to which is expected and enforced.

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees is assured that the trustees have acted in a way most likely to promote the success of the Trust, and in doing so have had regard to:

- The likely consequences of any decision in the long term
- The interests of the company's employees
- The need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers, and others
- The impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment
- The desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct
- The need to act fairly as between members of the company

Financial review

The King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham (the Trust) comprises twelve academies serving communities across the city. The Trust's financial model is designed to ensure long-term sustainability while enabling ongoing investment in buildings, facilities and educational improvement. Financial planning and oversight are exercised through the joint Executive Committee and Finance and Estates Advisory Group of The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham, ensuring alignment across the wider Foundation group.

The Trust operates within a sustainable financial framework which aims to achieve at least a 2% annual operating surplus from 2026/27 onwards. This approach underpins the capital charge mechanism that will contribute to the wider Foundation's Strategic Investment Fund. Financial performance is monitored through consistent key indicators, including operating surplus, staff-cost ratio and reserves position, with schools supported to manage within these parameters.

Results for Year Ended 31 August 2025

The Trust achieved a consolidated operating surplus of £2.9 million, equivalent to 2.7% of income. This represents an improvement of £1.3 million on the final forecast and £0.3 million above budget, reflecting disciplined management across schools and higher-than-expected income from interest and grants.

Staff costs remain the Trust's largest area of expenditure, representing around 75.3% of total income. While this remains within the sustainable range, it continues to be closely monitored through the Integrated Curriculum and Financial Planning (ICFP) framework to ensure long-term efficiency in timetabling and staffing deployment.



The Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) moved from a deficit position in 2023/24 to an estimated £7 million surplus at 31 August 2025. In accordance with accounting standards, no asset has been recognised due to the application of the asset-ceiling rules, and the balance-sheet position is therefore presented as nil.

Management and Statutory Performance Reconciliation

The Trust measures its financial performance on an operating basis before depreciation and capital grants, as this most accurately reflects the underlying trading position of its schools. The table below reconciles this internal management measure to the statutory result reported in the Statement of Financial Activities (SoFA).

Measure	2024/25 (£000)	2024/25 (£000)
Operating income	£98.2	£89.2
Operating expenditure (before depreciation)	(£95.2)	(£84.5)
Operating surplus before capital grants and depreciation)	£2.9	£4.6
Capital grants (excluding donated asset)	£3.5	£3.3
Depreciation	(£7.5)	(£6.8)
Net surplus (deficit)	(£1.1)	£1.2

The statutory result includes non-cash depreciation and the recognition of capital grants, which do not affect the Trust's operational cash performance.

This is inflated in the year by the recognition of the rebuild of King Edward VI Handsworth Wood School for Girls as a capital asset of £29.7m. This has been funded via the Department of Education's Building Schools programme.

Key Financial Indicators - 2024/25	2024/25 Actual	Target / Commentary
Indicator	£2.9m (2.7% of income)	Above budget and above 2% long-term target
Operating surplus		
Staff costs as % of income continued	75.3% overall	Within sustainable range; focus on ICFP to
maintain efficiency		
Central risk buffer (minimum reserves)	£5.5m	Held at Trust level, equivalent to four weeks of GAG (7.7%)
Total free reserves	£23m total	Available to support risk mitigation, and future investment in schools and the estate
Cash and investment balance	£30.3m	Strong liquidity; includes unspent SCA and balances earmarked for capital
Capital expenditure	£6.6m	Includes £3.0m SCA-funded projects and school-funded improvements Ring-fenced for strategic projects Used to fund digital, cluster and organisational development projects
Strategic Investment Fund 9SIF)	£5.4m	
Interest income	£1.0m	



Reserves, Cash and Investment Position

Total reserves remain strong across the Trust, with healthy balances in most schools. At 31 August 2025, the Trust held cash and investment balances of £30.3 million, broadly unchanged from the previous year.

A major movement in fixed assets and reserves during the year relates to the new build at Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy, delivered and funded by the Department for Education under the Schools Rebuilding Programme. The asset addition has been recognised within the year-end balance sheet, materially increasing fixed assets and matching restricted income, with no cash impact for the Trust.

The Trust continues to hold a centralised risk buffer of approximately £5.5 million (around four weeks of GAG income) to safeguard financial resilience at Trust level. In addition, total GAG and unrestricted reserves of around £18 million provide flexibility to support future investment in schools, including digital transformation, education strategy initiatives and capital development. These reserves are planned to reduce over the coming years as existing and new projects are delivered.

Capital Investment and Estate Development

Capital expenditure during the year totalled £6.6 million, encompassing both school-funded projects and major works financed through the £3 million School Condition Allocation (SCA) grant. Following completion of urgent condition works identified in earlier surveys, attention has now turned to developing the next phase of projects focused on enhancing facilities and the pupil experience.

The Trust continues to adopt a systematic approach to capital prioritisation, combining SCA funding, school reserves and Strategic Investment Fund support to deliver a coordinated and prioritised programme of works across all schools. This represents a shift from reactive maintenance to strategic investment in improvement and expansion - a key objective under the new strategic framework for 2026-2031.

Outlook

The 2024/25 results confirm that the Trust is in a strong and stable financial position, with healthy operating performance, robust reserves and the capacity to invest. The year ahead will see continued focus on ensuring all schools meet or exceed the operating-surplus target, embedding the ICFP framework across the Trust, and progressing capital projects that deliver meaningful improvement to the schools infrastructure, facilities and estate.

Through these actions, the Trust is well placed to pursue its commitment to sustain high-quality education while developing facilities that meet the needs of pupils and communities across Birmingham.

Alignment with the 2026-2031 Strategic Framework

In July 2025, the Board approved the new Strategic Framework for 2026-2031, setting a clear and measurable financial plan for the Academy Trust and its schools. The framework establishes a set of key performance indicators that now underpin financial planning and reporting across the Academy Trust.

These include maintaining a minimum operating surplus of 2% of income, managing staff costs within a sustainable range at or near to 75% of income (with an 80% upper guardrail), and holding a central reserve equivalent to at least four weeks of General Annual Grant income. Together these benchmarks ensure the longterm sustainability of the Trust while enabling ongoing reinvestment in school improvement and estate development.

The Trust's 2024/25 results demonstrate strong alignment with these principles. The consolidated operating surplus of 2.0%, robust reserves and well-managed liquidity position provide a sound foundation as the Trust enters the next strategic period. The capital programme, supported by School Condition Allocation funding, school reserves and the Strategic Investment Fund, will remain central to delivering the framework's wider ambition - ensuring that every school has facilities that reflect the quality and aspirations of their educational provision.



Balance Sheet

a. Reserves policy

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually and on a regular basis through the annual budgeting and business planning process. This review encompasses the nature of the income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with financial commitments and the nature of reserves. The Trustees compare the reserve levels to the target for the Academy Trust.

Reserves are classified as either restricted or unrestricted. Restricted reserves include the restricted income fund which represents any unspent balance of General Annual Grant (GAG) from the Department for Education (DfE) and the National College for Teaching and Leadership (NCTL) plus the restricted fixed asset fund. The deficit on the pension reserve representing the FRS102 pension liability for the West Midlands Local Government Pension Scheme is included within restricted reserves.

Unrestricted reserves represent any surplus funds on activities where there is no restriction on their use. These funds can be carried forward without limit. The Academy Trust's free reserves are those income funds that are freely available for general purposes, which under SORP 2015 are the unrestricted reserves of £7,389,148.

Reserves are required in order to cover the risks of an unforeseen emergency or other unexpected need for funds (e.g. unexpected repair costs or covering the cost of prolonged staff absences); to support the strategic ambitions of the Academy Trust by planning for future capital and revenue investment (e.g. new or improved school buildings); to recognise the risk that as pupil funding changes, staffing and non-staffing expenditure may not be aligned to income levels fast enough and also to hold back a contingency to cover unknown future cost increases (e.g. National Insurance and Pension Schemes).

In accordance with DfE and Charity Commission guidance Trustees assess that the underlying viability of the Academy Trust is determined by the level of reserves within the unrestricted income funds and restricted income fund (for General Annual Grant (GAG)) less funds held in any designated fund (if applicable) and funds committed for capital projects.

For the purpose of this policy this figure is defined as "available reserves". The pension reserve is not deducted from available reserves. Calculating a prudent level of available reserves that the Academy Trust should hold is a matter of judgement for the Trustees. On the one hand a high level of reserves demonstrates to stakeholders that the Academy Trust is financially secure and can deal with unforeseen circumstances and events, but the counter argument is that funding may not have been directed in a timely manner to the welfare of the Academy Trust's beneficiaries - its recent, current and future pupils.

Reserves are an inherent part of the risk management process of the Academy Trust. The need for reserves will vary depending on its current and future financial position. At present given the future uncertainty around the National Funding Formula for pupil funding and the inherent risks during the early years of a new Academy Trust the Trustees have assessed that a cautious approach is required. Trustees have therefore assessed that the Academy Trust should hold a level of available reserves representing a minimum of 4 weeks of annual GAG income (i.e. 7.7% of GAG income).

Last year the Trustees rebased school reserves to reduce complexity by managing risk at Trust level, so the central Trust fund will hold the minimum reserve level, equating to c£5.5m leaving schools with reserves that are available for investment. Rebased the reserves created a Trust Strategic Investment Fund of c£5m which can be used to fund Trust capital programmes. Several projects have and continue to be considered as part of a new approach to major project governance and projects are due to start in the next financial year.



The total level of reserves held at 31 August 2025 was £191,764,231 (2024: £161,730,553) as set out in the Balance Sheet and Note 19 to the accounts. Within the total reserves figure is an amount of £168,414,122 (2024: £141,566,371) represented by the restricted fixed asset fund. This fund includes the cumulative value of the Academy Trust's capital grant and donations less depreciation and will normally equal the net book value of the Academy Trust's fixed assets, unless any amount of grant or donations have not been spent at the year-end, where in this case the net book value will be lower.

This fund cannot be spent and is therefore not a free reserve nor is it included in the calculation of the target level of available reserves.

At 31 August 2025 the available reserves of the Academy Trust were £23,350,109, representing 14 weeks of budgeted GAG income for the 2024/25 financial year. During the year several exciting projects were approved and building work commenced, these include the Community Hub at Camp Hill School for Boys, completion due in 2026/27, a 6th form build at Handsworth School for Girls, expansion and reconfiguration at Camp Hill School for Girls which completed in August 2025.

b. Investment policy

The Academies Handbook provides the freedom to allow the Academy Trust to invest surplus funds if the investment risk is properly managed.

When considering an investment, the Board of Trustees must:

- act within its powers to invest as set out in its articles
- ensure that investment decisions are in the best interests of the trust
- set investment objectives
- set the parameters that deposit counterparties need to meet
- consider the level of liquid cash required to be held within current accounts
- monitor and review the trust's investments and investment policy on a regular basis
- approve the type of product that the Trust can invest in and seek external guidance if required
- define processes to manage and make investment decisions

Purpose

The Trust does not consider the investment of surplus funds as a primary activity, rather an opportunity to further the trust's charitable aims.

Objectives

To identify a level of funds that can be placed on deposit to generate additional interest income for the Trust to support its ongoing charitable objectives. Any investment decisions must be supported by a cashflow forecast in order to reduce the risk of the Trust not having the liquidity required to carry out its day-to-day activities.

The trustees delegate the day-to-day responsibility of managing and implementing the investment policy to the Head of Finance (AT) to ensure investments are managed in accordance with this policy and monitor regularly how the Trust's investments are performing.

A list of counterparties, their credit rating, our investment limits and duration is included within the full policy which is held at the Academy Trust's offices.

The balance held in the current account must be sufficient for the Academy Trust's financial commitments to be met without the bank account going overdrawn. The size of the balance will be determined by a forecast of future need and kept under review.



The balance deemed to be sufficient is derived from the reserves policy which sets out how much we should hold for risk purposes. This is currently £6m (7.7% of GAG annual grant) although this will be reviewed regularly and dictated by the monthly cashflow forecasts produced as part of the management accounts cycle.

Investment Products

The Trust can invest surplus funds in a mixture of interest-bearing accounts and money market facilities (where the capital is not placed at risk) including:

- Overnight (instant access)
- Notice accounts (typically from 30 days to 100+ days)
- Fixed term deposits (typically from 1 month to 12 months)

Investments for a fixed term should not normally exceed one year to provide flexibility for the following year's plans unless a clear rationale is provided for exceeding one year to the benefit of the Academy Trust.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The objectives of the Trust's Risk Management Policy and Strategy are to

- Integrate risk management into the culture of the Foundation
- Manage risk in accordance with best practice
- Anticipate and respond to changing social, environmental, and legislative requirements
- Prevent loss, disruption, damage and injury and reduce the cost of risk, thereby maximising resources
- Inform policy and operational decisions by identifying risks and their likely impact
- Raise awareness of the need for risk management

These objectives will be achieved by:

- Using the control attestations and risk event logging to identify, manage and report on our risk management and compliance
- Establishing clear roles, responsibilities, and reporting lines within the Trust for risk management
- At a Trust level, termly risk reporting to the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee
- At a Trust level, termly risk reporting to the Academy Trust Board
- At a school level, termly risk reporting to the School Governing Body
- Incorporating risk management considerations into the decision-making process within the Trust; this is achieved through the Director of Strategic Management participation in the Executive Team and strong relationships with our schools
- Maintaining risk registers for all significant projects
- Using the risk registers to inform the School Development Plan, School strategy and budgetary considerations.

Our risk methodology looks at a range of different areas across the Trust known as 'risk categories' - each category has a pre-mitigation risk score; determined by assessing the likelihood and impact of risk in those categories if no mitigating factor was applied.

Risk categories are the areas of the organisation which are exposed to risk, each has a description of what impact a risk could pose in that area. Controls have been mapped against each risk category and these serve to mitigate any potential risks.

Below is the list of risk categories and their mapped controls:



Below is the list of risk categories and their mapped controls:

Risk category	Description	Controls
<i>Areas of the organisation that could be exposed to a risk</i>	<i>What risks could occur in this area?</i>	<i>What internal controls you have in place to mitigate this risk?</i>
Safeguarding	Safeguarding is one of the main priorities of a school, failure to have appropriate safeguarding controls in place can lead to the death, injury, or abuse of a student or staff member. This could result in litigation, regulatory action, and Ofsted inadequate rating.	Access controls Safer recruitment KCSIE Training DSL Training Single Central Record Safeguarding policies Safeguarding governor
Education	Risks to the quality of education including SEND provision, pupil outcomes, behaviour and attendance could have an impact on rating, student numbers, staff retention and finances.	Quality educational provision Strong policies Internal and external quality assurance processes SEND Governor
Resourcing sufficiency	The school has insufficient or inadequate staffing to meet education expectations.	Performance Management Terms and conditions and employer proposition Recruitment and succession planning
Knowledge	Risk of unequipped workforce of governor set.	Recruitment and appraisal processes CPD and learning
General conduct and external relations	Risk of non compliance with regulations included GDPR, charity law, employment law, as well as risk of general conduct bringing the organisation into disrepute, or failing to attract pupils.	Specialist staff Policies Third party monitoring systems External DPO External Relations Attractive curriculum offer General governance



Below is the list of risk categories and their mapped controls:

Risk category	Description	Controls
Growth and development	Risk of lack of new joiner schools and missed opportunities	Due diligence Pipeline of new joiner schools
Physical assets and utilities	Risk of damage and disrepair to buildings and their physical and digital infrastructure. Risk of interruption to utilities or inability to access physical spaces	Health and Safety Contract Condition reports Health and Safety Audit Business continuity plan Insurance
Other sufficiency	Risk of failing to procure key goods and services, insufficient physical space, or insufficient access to specialist services	Business continuity plan Pupil number planning and curriculum planning Access to procurement frameworks
Governor sufficiency	The school either does not have sufficient governance in place to ensure its effective operation or suffers from a severe governance failure	Recruitment Training/knowledge/skills development Engagement and commitment Succession planning Conflicts of interest Clerking services Clerk training/knowledge/skills
General security	Risk of intruders gaining access to spaces and risk of failing to prevent violence and assaults	Site security arrangements Policies Training
Finance	Risks to expenditure, income, treasury, physical assets and reserves.	Segregation of duties Access controls Approval and authorisation Physical controls Record keeping Reconciliation Independent audits Compliance Treasury and endowment management Financial reporting Budgeting Asset management Procurement controls

Below is the list of risk categories and their mapped controls:

Risk category	Description	Controls
Digital and Technology	Risks to continuity of digital services, including payroll delivery, risk of cyber-attacks, risks to operating model, risks around AI.	Daily back-ups Policies, including Business Continuity Plan, Disaster Recovery Plan and Cyber response Plan. Insurance Monitoring of network Third party system support Governor IT provision.

d. Financial risk management objectives and policies

The objectives of the Academy Trust's Risk Management Procedure are to identify the principal risks facing the Academy Trust so that existing controls may be considered, and further action taken if required, including external insurances.

The Board of Trustees has compiled a comprehensive risk management process to identify and monitor the risks faced by the Academy Trust within the context of the Trust constitution.

The financial risks considered include: economic/financial uncertainty, liquidity and solvency, credit risk, the risk of fraud and non-compliance with financial statutory requirements.

e. Fundraising

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

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

In line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG) Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standards, King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham continues to be engaged in a process aimed at reducing energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

The Academy Trust records scopes one (1), two (2) and three (3) emissions, which include electricity and natural gas and transport emissions from our school vehicles.

The Academy Trust previously devised a strategy to reduce our carbon footprint by:

- Purchasing energy efficient equipment where appropriate in offices,
- Replacing HVAC systems with energy-efficient equipment where possible,
- Adopting behavioural change measures where possible.

The Academy Trust has a longstanding commitment to tackling climate change. Calculated carbon footprint for the current financial year is 3,619 tCo2e, whilst energy consumption was 17,900,018 kWh (17,900.02 MWh).



Methodology

The Academy Trust has reported all our emissions sources under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Reports) Regulations 2013 as required. Reporting of calculated emissions is in line with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and emission factors from the UK Government's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2023.

The reporting period is the school year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025, the same as that covered by the Annual Report and Financial Statements. The boundaries of the GHG inventory are defined using the operational control approach. In general, the emissions reported are the same as those which would be reported based on a financial control boundary.

The Academy Trust's greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are as follows:

Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	2025	2024
Scope 1 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	14,354,677	17,900,019
Gas, owned vehicles	1,776.04	1,814.64
Total scope 1	<u>1,776.04</u>	<u>1,824.64</u>
Scope 2 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	<u>204.00</u>	<u>1,657.41</u>
Purchased electricity	204.00	1,657.41
Total gross emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	<u>1,980.04</u>	<u>3,472.05</u>
Intensity ratio:		
Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil	<u>0.15</u>	<u>0.15</u>

Quantification and Reporting Methodology

The Trust have reported all of emission sources under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Reports) Regulations 2013 as required. Reporting of calculated emissions is in line with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and emission factors from the UK Government's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2025.

The reporting period is the financial year 2024/2025, the same as that covered by the Annual Report and Financial Statements. The boundaries of the GHG inventory are defined using the operational control approach. In general, the emissions reported are the same as those which would be reported based on a financial control boundary.

Intensity measurement

The intensity metric is based on a total pupil number of 12,047. Emissions have increased by 9.12% since the previous reporting period.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

1. Window replacements and double-glazing upgrades at King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls
2. Roof replacement to improve insulation at King Edward VI Kings Norton School for Boys
3. LED lighting upgrades and various smaller roofing and window projects at King Edward VI Kings Norton School for Boys



Objectives for 2025/26

1. Planned roofing upgrades across the portfolio
2. Planned replacement of single-glazed windows across the portfolio
3. Approved Sustainability Strategy for 2026-2031 alongside the Climate Action Plan

Plans for future periods

In July 2025, the Academy Trust Board ratified the approval of the new organisational strategy for 2026-2031. The three strategic pillars and their accompanying statements will remain the framework according to when the next strategic period will be set, anchored within the vision, mission and values.

- Build on the financial stability of the Academy Trust, embedding metrics and guardrails into financial planning and reporting.
- Support and prepare colleagues for upcoming Ofsted inspections under the new framework.
- Explore and develop new ways of working under the unified digital platform, including the benefit of a unified management information system.
- Retain the focus on effective governance structures, embedding changes introduced in 2024/25 following the governance review in 2024.
- Complete the 6th form build at King Edward VI Handsworth School for Girls and commence work on the Community Hub at King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys. There are also several other capital projects being prepared for Trust Board approval that we hope to commence in this financial year.

Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing bursary funds and grants from the DfE and other government bodies. Payments received and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. In some instances, the trust can use a percentage of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 17.

Disclosure of information to auditor

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 10 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Sharon Roberts

S. Roberts
Chair of Trustees



Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, 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 King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 6 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
S Robert, Chair	5	6
D Wheeldon, Vice Chair	5	6
F Kinkhabwala	5	6
B Matthews	5	6
L Roan	5	6
H Thomas	5	6
N Smith	2	2
R Moat	2	2
J Howell	4	5
J Lennon	2	2

Managing conflicts of interest

All trustees recognise they have a legal duty to act only in the best interests of the Trust and that they must not put themselves in any position where their duties as trustee may conflict with any personal interest they may have.

Trustees' personal and professional connections can bring benefits to the work of a charity, and they often form part of the reason why an individual has been asked to join the trustee body. However, there may be a situation where there is a conflict of interest where a trustee's personal interests or loyalties could, or could be seen to, prevent them from making a decision only in the best interests of the charity.

To address these rare situations, the Trust holds a full Register of Business Interests which is recorded on the Trust's website alongside the Scheme of Delegation and Governance Handbook.



Updates to the register are made as a result of information either resulting from a formal minuted committee meeting which records any Declarations of Interest in respect of agenda items or otherwise, or from the annual business interests returns which are refreshed during the year, as circumstances dictate.

If there is a conflict of interest, the committee clerk ensures that the written record of the decision shows that the Trust has acted properly and complied with their duties by recording:

- the nature of the conflict
- which trustee or trustees were affected
- whether any conflicts of interest were declared in advance
- an outline of the discussion
- whether anyone withdrew from the discussion
- how the trustees took the decision in the best interests of the charity

The Finance and Operations Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose includes:

- develop a financial strategy for the Academy Trust and consider policies, procedures or plans required to realise such a strategy;
- consider the Academy Trust's indicative funding, once notified by the DfE, and to assess its implications or the Academy Trust;
- consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the Academy Trust's budget to the Trustees; and
- monitor income and expenditure.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
B Matthews (Chair)	6	6
D Wheeldon	6	6
S Roberts	6	6
H Thomas	6	6
S Bartlett	4	6
S Sharoman	1	6
B Grundy	5	6

The Audit; Risk and Compliance Committee is also a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. Its purpose includes:

- to review, before submission to and approval by the Board of Trustees, and before clearance by the auditors and challenge where necessary, the actions and judgements of management, in relation to the audited financial statements, operating and financial review and related formal statements;
- to review Internal Control and Risk management;
- consider the requirement for internal auditors annually;
- recommend to the Academy Trust Board the appointment or reappointment of the external auditors;
- review the auditor's findings of their work; and
- receive and review the Academy Trust gift and hospitality register.



Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
J Lennon	1	1
C Wood	3	3
L Roan (Chair)	3	3
S Roberts	3	3
D Wheeldon	3	3
F Kinkhabwala	2	3

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust 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 Trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Updating and improving the Academy Trust's scheme of delegation
- Procuring more contracts on a Trust wide basis to support efficiencies and collaboration.
- Reviewing and agreeing financial guardrails for schools to work within to support financial stability, including integrated curriculum and financial planning metrics
- A Trust wide curriculum plan review to support the embedding of integrated curriculum and financial planning.

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 Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks, that has been in place for the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.



The risk and control framework

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

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

The Board of Trustees has employed RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP as internal auditor.

The Academy Trust has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has appointed RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP to carry out reviews of the systems as determined by the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee. During the year the internal auditors carried out reviews of key operational controls and followed up on reviews of IT cyber security.

On a termly basis, RSM Risk Assurance Services LLP reports to the Board of Trustees, through the Audit, Risk and Compliance Committee, on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year.

Review of effectiveness

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive Officer 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 external auditor;
- the work of the internal auditor;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy Trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance and Estates Committee and Audit, Risk and Compliance 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, Risk and Compliance 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.

Governance Statement



**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

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

Sharon Roberts

S. Roberts

Chair of Trustees

10 December 2025

A stylized signature of J. Dhesi in black ink.

J. Dhesi

Accounting Officer

10 December 2025

Statement of regulatory, propriety and compliance



**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

As Accounting Officer of King Edward VI 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 requirement 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 Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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

J. Dhesi
Accounting Officer
10 December 2025



Statement of Trustee's responsibilities for the year ended 31 August 2025



**KING EDWARD VI
ACADEMY TRUST
BIRMINGHAM**

Educational excellence for our City

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

Company law requires the Executive team to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Executive team 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 Executive team 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 judgements and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

Sharon Roberts

S. Roberts
Chair of Trustees
10 December 2025





Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham (the 'academy trust') for the year ended 31 August 2025 which comprise the Statement of financial activities, the Balance sheet, the Statement of cash flows and 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 Trust'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 Trust in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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



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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

Responsibilities of trustees

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

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy Trust 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.

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

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks 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. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Companies Act, Academies Accounts Direction and the Academy Trust Handbook. 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 fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context were General Data Protection Regulation, health and safety legislation, Ofsted and employee legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquire of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be in the following area: the override of controls by management, including posting of unusual journals; inappropriate treatment of non-routine transactions and areas of estimation uncertainty.

Because of inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk is also greater regarding irregularities occurring due to fraud rather than error, as fraud involved intentional concealment, forgery, collusion, omission or misrepresentation.

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.

Independent auditor's report on the financial statements to the members of the King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham



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Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy Trust'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 Trust'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 Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.

Matt Doyle-Healey (Senior statutory auditor)

for and on behalf of

Crowe U.K LLP

Statutory Auditor

Black Country House

Rounds Green Road

Oldbur

West Midlands

B69 2DG

Date: 17 December 2025



In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 5 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 King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham 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 King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham 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 King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham 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 King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 30 August 2017 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.

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 Trust's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes a review of the design and implementation of the Academy's internal controls and review processes on regularity, supported by detailed tests on samples of costs incurred by the academy and specific transactions identified from our review.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, except for the matters listed below nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2023 to 31 August 2024 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

Black Country House
Rounds Green Road
Oldbury
West Midlands
B69 2DG

Date: 17 December 2025

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 August 2025



**KING EDWARD VI
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	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants:	3					
Transfer from local authority on conversion		-	-	-	-	11,980,323
Other donations and capital grants		127,913	1,206,863	33,182,767	34,517,543	4,584,744
Other trading activities		2,390,727	-	-	2,390,727	1,660,404
Investments		1,085,525	-	-	1,085,525	1,230,134
Charitable activities:	4					
Academy Trust educational operations		3,132,799	90,100,709	-	93,233,508	84,206,625
SCITT and Training Centre		-	196,125	-	196,125	193,948
Total income		6,736,964	91,503,697	33,182,767	131,423,428	103,856,178
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		2,219,364	-	-	2,219,364	2,683,763
Charitable activities:	8					
Academy Trust educational operations		4,490,623	87,557,898	7,545,943	99,594,464	98,973,289
SCITT and Training Centre		-	256,922	-	256,922	233,835
Total expenditure		6,709,987	87,814,820	7,545,943	102,070,750	101,890,887
Net income		26,977	3,688,877	25,636,824	29,352,678	1,965,291
Transfers between funds	19	597,326	(1,808,253)	1,210,927	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses) carried forward		624,303	1,880,624	26,847,751	29,352,678	1,965,291

Statement of financial activities (incorporating income and expenditure account) for the year ended 31 August 2025



**KING EDWARD VI
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	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains brought forward		624,303	1,880,624	26,847,751	29,352,678	1,965,291
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	28	-	7,991,000	-	7,991,000	1,343,000
Pension surplus not recognised	28	-	(7,310,000)	-	(7,310,000)	-
Net movement in funds		<u>624,303</u>	<u>2,561,624</u>	<u>26,847,751</u>	<u>30,033,678</u>	<u>3,308,291</u>
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		5,506,792	14,657,390	141,566,371	161,730,553	158,422,262
Net movement in funds		624,303	2,561,624	26,847,751	30,033,678	3,308,291
Total funds carried forward		<u>6,131,095</u>	<u>17,219,014</u>	<u>168,414,122</u>	<u>191,764,231</u>	<u>161,730,553</u>

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

The notes on pages 42 to 79 form part of these financial statements.

Balance Sheet as at 31st August 2025



**KING EDWARD VI
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	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	166,427,528	137,809,165
Current assets			
Debtors	13	4,738,383	3,779,867
Investments	14	27,402,374	23,223,007
Cash at bank and in hand		2,915,083	8,133,158
		<u>35,055,840</u>	<u>35,136,032</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(9,702,937)	(9,575,244)
Net current assets		<u>25,352,903</u>	<u>25,560,788</u>
Total assets less current liabilities		<u>191,780,431</u>	<u>163,369,953</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	16	(16,200)	(32,400)
Net assets excluding pension asset / liability		<u>191,764,231</u>	<u>163,337,553</u>
Defined benefit pension scheme asset / liability	28	-	(1,607,000)
Total net assets		<u><u>191,764,231</u></u>	<u><u>161,730,553</u></u>

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	19	168,414,122	141,566,371
Restricted income funds	19	17,219,014	16,264,390
		<u>185,633,136</u>	<u>157,830,761</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension reserve	19	185,633,136	157,830,761
Pension reserve	19	-	(1,607,000)
Total restricted funds	19	<u>185,633,136</u>	<u>156,223,761</u>
Unrestricted income funds	19	<u>6,131,095</u>	<u>5,506,792</u>
Total funds		<u><u>191,764,231</u></u>	<u><u>161,730,553</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 37 to 79 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

Sharon Roberts

S Roberts
Chair of Trustees
Date: 10 December 2025

Statement of Cash Flows for the year ended 31st August 2025



**KING EDWARD VI
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	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	22	(457,879)	5,334,012
Cash flows from investing activities	24	(4,740,605)	(4,246,234)
Cash flows from financing activities	23	(19,591)	(19,591)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(5,218,075)	1,068,187
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		8,133,158	7,064,971
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	25, 26	<u>2,915,083</u>	<u>8,133,158</u>

The notes on pages 42 to 79 form part of these financial statements



1. Accounting Policies

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the Academy Trust, 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 2020 to 2021 issued by DfE, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

The financial statements represent the financial results and financial position of King Edward VI Academy Trust Birmingham ("the Academy Trust"), which comprised the following member academies at the 31 August 2025:

King Edward VI Aston School
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls
King Edward VI Five Ways School
King Edward VI Handsworth School
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy
King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy
King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy
King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls
King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls
King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys

1.2 Company status

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and is incorporated in England and Wales (registered number 10654935). The address of the registered office is Foundation Office, Edgbaston Park Road, Birmingham, B15 2UD. The members of the company are named in the reference and administration pages. In the event of the Academy Trust being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of the Academy Trust.

1.3 Going concern

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



1.4 Income

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

- **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 Trust has provided the goods or services.

- **Donated goods, facilities and services**

Goods and services that are received as donations in kind are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities as incoming resources. A corresponding expenditure of the same amount is also recognised.

- **Transfer of existing academies into the Academy Trust**

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the Academy Trust, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the Academy Trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the Academy Trust within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets acquired.



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.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.6 Government grants

Government grants relating to tangible fixed assets are treated as deferred income and released to the Statement of Financial Activities over the expected useful lives of the assets concerned. Other grants are credited to the Statement of Financial Activities as the related expenditure is incurred.

1.7 Taxation

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

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

1.8 Operating leases

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



1.9 Tangible fixed assets

Assets costing £5,000 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 assets, less their estimated residual value, over their expected useful lives.

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Licence to occupy - 2% - 10%
Long leasehold property - 0.8% - 2%
Long leasehold improvements - 5%
Furniture and fixtures - 10%
Motor vehicles - 20%
Computer equipment - 33.33%
Freehold property - 2%

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use and reclassified to freehold or leasehold land and buildings.

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

1.10 Current asset investments

Short term investments comprise funds held on Money Market and Call Notice deposit accounts and are not readily accessible within 3 months or 32 days respectively.

1.11 Financial instruments

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



Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 15 and 16. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.12 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust acts as an agent in distributing bursary funds and grants from DfE, other government bodies and King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Charitable Fund. Payments received and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the Academy Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. In some instances the trust can use a percentage of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

1.13 Pensions

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

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy Trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially 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 Trust in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance sheet date. The amounts charged to 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 Transfer on conversion

Where assets and liabilities are received by the academy trust on conversion to an academy, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised as transfer on conversion within donations and capital grant income to the net assets received.



1.15 Transfer of existing academy into the trust

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust, the transferred net assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the balance sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust within donations and capital grant income to the net assets acquired.

1.16 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) 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 28, 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. During each annual reporting period between triennial valuations, asset returns are estimated using 11 months of market experience and one month of extrapolation being assumed.



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 with the pensions note to the financial statements.

The Academy Trust receives donated services from Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham (the 'Foundation') valued at £1,141,863 (2024: £1,055,459) which is an approximation of the service costs provided to the Academy Trust, this has been included as both income and expenditure.

Critical areas of judgement:

There are no further critical judgements which would have a material impact on the financial statements.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Donation of property	-	-	29,714,842	29,714,842
Donations	127,913	1,206,863	132,736	1,467,512
Capital Grants - DfE	-	-	3,330,689	3,330,689
Government grants	-	-	4,500	4,500
	127,913	1,206,863	33,182,767	34,517,543

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Transfer from local authority on conversion	938,823	(281,000)	11,322,500	11,980,323
Donations	181,703	1,092,539	2,526	1,276,768
Capital Grants - DfE	-	-	3,307,976	3,307,976
	1,120,526	811,539	14,633,002	16,565,067



4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Funding for educational operations (note 5)	3,132,799	90,100,709	93,233,508
SCITT and Training Centre	-	196,125	196,125
Total 2025	3,132,799	90,296,834	93,429,633
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Funding for educational operations (note 5)	1,821,454	82,385,171	84,206,625
SCITT and Training Centre	-	193,948	193,948
Total 2024	1,821,454	82,579,119	84,400,573



5. Funding for Academy Trust's Educational Operation

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant	-	62,451,043	62,451,043
Other DfE grants			
Pupil premium	-	3,403,640	3,403,640
Teachers pay grant	-	1,113,821	1,113,821
Teachers pension grant	-	2,236,327	2,236,327
16 to 19 funding	-	16,813,235	16,813,235
Core School Budget grant	-	2,379,646	2,379,646
Other DfE grants	-	757,610	757,610
	-	89,155,322	89,155,322
Other Government grants			
Other local authority grants	-	945,387	945,387
	-	945,387	945,387
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	3,132,799	-	3,132,799
Total 2025	3,132,799	90,100,709	93,233,508



5. Funding for Academy Trust's Educational Operation (cont.)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant	-	56,904,592	56,904,592
Other DfE grants			
Pupil premium	-	3,126,483	3,126,483
Teachers pay grant	-	1,049,177	1,049,177
Teachers pension grant	-	1,233,999	1,233,999
16 to 19 funding	-	15,920,593	15,920,593
Other DfE grants	-	1,245,367	1,245,367
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	2,038,356	2,038,356
	-	81,518,567	81,518,567
Other Government grants			
Other local authority grants	-	598,277	598,277
Other revenue grants	-	268,327	268,327
	-	866,604	866,604
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	1,821,454	-	1,821,454
Total 2024	1,821,454	82,385,171	84,206,625



6. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Other trading activities	2,390,727	2,390,727

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Other trading activities	1,500,655	159,749	1,660,404

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	1,926,652	95,964	196,748	2,219,364
Charitable activities:				
Direct costs	62,160,695	7,545,943	11,855,033	81,561,671
Allocated support costs	9,700,424	5,848,085	2,484,284	18,032,793
Teaching school:				
Direct costs	131,594	–	27,233	158,827
Allocated support costs	46,735	–	51,360	98,095
	73,966,100	13,489,992	14,614,658	102,070,750



7. Expenditure (continued)

	Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	1,770,162	70,586	843,015	2,683,763
Charitable activities:				
Direct costs	54,963,158	6,112,599	20,861,466	81,937,223
Allocated support costs	9,006,342	5,873,382	2,156,342	17,036,066
Teaching school:				
Direct costs	120,553	-	40,391	160,944
Allocated support costs	44,598	-	28,293	72,891
	<u>65,904,813</u>	<u>12,056,567</u>	<u>23,929,507</u>	<u>101,890,887</u>

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Provision of education	81,561,671	18,032,793	99,594,464
SCITT and Training Centre	158,827	98,095	256,922
	<u>81,720,498</u>	<u>18,130,888</u>	<u>99,851,386</u>
	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Provision of education	81,937,223	17,036,066	98,973,289
SCITT and Training Centre	160,944	72,891	233,835
	<u>82,098,167</u>	<u>17,108,957</u>	<u>99,207,124</u>



8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	9,747,159	9,050,940
Other costs	1,788,060	1,869,286
Premises expenses	6,006,835	5,873,382
Legal and professional	507,502	247,296
Governance	81,332	68,053
	18,130,888	17,108,957

9. Net (income)/expenditure

Net income for the year includes:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating lease rentals	138,703	46,661
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets (see note 12)	7,545,943	6,802,658
Impairment of tangible fixed assets (see note 12)	-	10,540,782
Transfer of building (Rebuild at King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy)	(29,714,842)	-
Transfer in on conversion	-	(11,980,323)
Fees paid to auditor for:		
- audit	49,000	48,325
- other services	17,700	11,310



10. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	53,326,745	48,459,422
Social security costs	6,129,691	4,979,941
Pension costs	12,469,987	10,437,198
	71,926,423	63,876,561
Agency staff costs	2,031,049	1,847,751
Staff restructuring costs	8,628	180,501
	73,966,100	65,904,813

Included in staff costs is £2,131,831 (2024 - £2,144,025) relating to off payroll arrangements for the cost of staff employed by the Foundation providing services to the Academy Trust.

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2025 £	2024 £
Redundancy payments	8,628	-
Severance payments	-	180,501

b. Severance payments

The Academy Trust paid 1 severance payment in the year (2024 - 3), disclosed in the following bands:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
£0 - £25,000	1	-
£25,001 - £50,000	-	2
£100,001 - £150,000	-	1

c. Special staff severance payments

There was one non-statutory/non-contractual severance payment during the year amounting to £8,628 (2024: three amounting to £180,501). Individually the payment was £8,628 (2024: £106,541, £30,000 and £43,960).



10. Staff (continued)

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Management	91	94
Teachers	668	685
Support	557	504
	1,316	1,283

e. Higher paid staff

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	63	41
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	38	20
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	13	9
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	4	3
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	3	3
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	3	3
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	2	-
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	1	-

f. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Executive team as listed on page 1. The Foundation donation for the provision of Key Management Personnel (listed on page 1) to the Trust amounted to £541,869 (2024 - £476,898).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the year, no Trustees received any remuneration or other benefits (2024 - £NIL).

During the year ended 31 August 2025, Trustees received reimbursement of expenses for £NIL (2024 - £NIL).



12. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Licence to occupy properties £	Long leasehold property £	Long leasehold improvements £	Furniture and fixtures £	Motor vehicles £	Computer equipment £	Assets under construction £	Total £
Cost or valuation									
At 1 September 2024	30,357,500	69,969,690	65,930,973	3,211,087	2,060,093	168,945	3,768,211	1,315,609	176,782,108
Additions	-	2,759,093	29,720,121	1,322,084	531,374	161,773	968,725	1,094,257	36,557,427
Disposals	-	-	(175,344)	-	(217,055)	(25,681)	(97,045)	-	(515,125)
Transfers between classes	-	936,695	-	84,256	-	-	-	(1,020,951)	-
At 31 August 2025	30,357,500	73,665,478	95,475,750	4,617,427	2,374,412	305,037	4,639,891	1,388,915	212,824,410
Depreciation									
At 1 September 2024	1,181,100	24,640,915	8,570,344	1,092,641	878,089	94,104	2,515,750	-	38,972,943
Charge for the year	534,750	4,055,343	1,958,672	105,190	206,227	32,804	652,957	-	7,545,943
On disposals	-	-	-	-	-	(24,959)	(97,045)	-	(122,004)
At 31 August 2025	1,715,850	28,696,258	10,529,016	1,197,831	1,084,316	101,949	3,071,662	-	46,396,882
Net book value									
At 31 August 2025	28,641,650	44,969,220	84,946,734	3,419,596	1,290,096	203,088	1,568,229	1,388,915	166,427,528
At 31 August 2024	29,176,400	45,328,775	57,360,629	2,118,446	1,182,004	74,841	1,252,461	1,315,609	137,809,165



12. Tangible fixed assets (continued)

Leasehold

The long-leasehold land and buildings for King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy, built under the Buildings Schools for the Future programme, were transferred to the Academy on a peppercorn lease of 125 years.

The long-leasehold land and buildings for King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys were transferred to the Academy on a peppercorn lease of 125 years. The legal owners of the leasehold properties are The Trustees of the Charity called Handsworth Grammar School.

The long-leasehold land and buildings for King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy and King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy were transferred to the Academy on a peppercorn lease of 125 years. The legal owners of the leasehold properties are Birmingham City Council.

The long-leasehold land and buildings for King Edward VI Lordwood School for Girls were transferred to the Academy on a peppercorn lease of 125 years. The legal owners of the leasehold properties are Calthorpe Estates.

Licence to occupy

The licence to occupy properties represent the value of the land and buildings that were transferred to the schools from the registered charity The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham and which each school has use of on a 21 year licence to occupy that commenced 1 September 2017. The value of the land and buildings was independently valued in 2012 by GVA Grimley Ltd, Birmingham using the depreciated replacement cost method of valuation and the net book value was transferred in on conversion at 1 September 2017.

Freehold

Included in freehold property is land of £1,365,000 which is not depreciated.

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	285,281	88,560
Other debtors	1,564,238	1,551,472
Prepayments and accrued income	2,888,864	2,139,835
	4,738,383	3,779,867

14. Current asset investments

	2025 £	2024 £
Short term deposits	27,402,374	23,223,007



15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Salix loans	16,200	19,591
Trade creditors	3,101,183	2,627,905
Other taxation and social security	1,422,320	1,146,615
Other creditors	3,075,668	3,677,569
Accruals and deferred income	2,087,566	2,103,564
	9,702,937	9,575,244
	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	1,046,847	715,800
Resources deferred during the year	1,074,798	1,046,847
Amounts released from previous periods	(1,046,847)	(715,800)
	1,074,798	1,046,847

Included in deferred income are grants and other trip income received in advance of entitlement for the 24/25 academic year.

16. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Salix loans	16,200	32,400

The loans amounting to £32,400 are interest free Salix loans which were agreed as part of the CIF applications before the constituent schools joined the Trust. The loans are due for repayment by instalments of which none is due for repayment after more than 5 years.



17. Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust distributes bursary funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the Academy Trust received £519,719 (2024: £524,304) and disbursed £566,802 (2024: £343,974) in relation to this fund. An amount of £886,177 (2024: £839,094) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds.

The Academy Trust distributes PGCE training bursaries to students as an agent for the NCTL. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the academy received £378,500 (2024: £409,500) and disbursed £383,000 (2024: £405,000) from the fund. An amount of £Nil (2024: £4,500) is included in other creditors relating to amounts due to the NCTL.

The Academy Trust distributes funds on behalf of King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Charitable Fund. The Charitable Fund reimburses the Academy Trust on a regular basis. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the academy received £Nil (2024: £Nil) and disbursed £50,653 (2024: £62,071) from the fund. An amount of £132,298 is included in other debtors (2024: £81,646) relating to amounts due from the Charitable Fund.

18. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the Academy Trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £2,000,000 on any one claim and the cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.



19. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	375,947	6,736,964	(6,709,987)	597,326	-	1,000,250
Transfer on conversion	5,130,845	-	-	-	-	5,130,845
	<u>5,506,792</u>	<u>6,736,964</u>	<u>(6,709,987)</u>	<u>597,326</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,131,095</u>
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	10,828,787	65,332,905	(62,509,231)	(1,827,844)	-	11,824,617
Pupil premium	-	3,403,640	(3,403,640)	-	-	-
16 to 19 funding	-	16,813,235	(16,813,235)	-	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	1,113,821	(1,113,821)	-	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	2,236,327	(2,236,327)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	255,394	(255,394)	-	-	-
Other local authority	-	945,387	(945,387)	-	-	-
Donations	-	1,206,863	(1,206,863)	-	-	-
Funds inherited on conversion	5,349,835	-	-	-	-	5,349,835
King Edward Consortium	137,759	196,125	(256,922)	-	-	76,962
Salix loans	(51,991)	-	-	19,591	-	(32,400)
Pension reserve	(1,607,000)	-	926,000	-	681,000	-
	<u>14,657,390</u>	<u>91,503,697</u>	<u>(87,814,820)</u>	<u>(1,808,253)</u>	<u>681,000</u>	<u>17,219,014</u>



19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DfE Capital grants	3,757,206	3,330,689	-	(5,101,301)	-	1,986,594
Tangible fixed assets	137,809,165	-	(7,545,943)	36,164,306	-	166,427,528
Other capital grants	-	4,500	-	(4,500)	-	-
Other donations	-	132,736	-	(132,736)	-	-
Transfer of new school building	-	29,714,842	-	(29,714,842)	-	-
	<u>141,566,371</u>	<u>33,182,767</u>	<u>(7,545,943)</u>	<u>1,210,927</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>168,414,122</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>156,223,761</u>	<u>124,686,464</u>	<u>(95,360,763)</u>	<u>(597,326)</u>	<u>681,000</u>	<u>185,633,136</u>
Total funds	<u>161,730,553</u>	<u>131,423,428</u>	<u>102,070,750)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>681,000</u>	<u>191,764,231</u>

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

Unrestricted funds

These funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the charitable company at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted funds

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received and include grants from the Department for Education and the Local Authority(ies).

Restricted fixed asset funds

These funds represents the carrying value of fixed assets that have either been received upon conversion of constituent Academies of the Trust or have been purchased from grants received from the DfE or from The Schools of King Edward VI in Birmingham. It also includes grants from the DfE plus other amounts received which have yet to be spent on future capital assets.

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



19. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds	189,544	4,733,946	(4,547,543)	-	-	375,947
Transfer on conversion	4,192,022	938,823	-	-	-	5,130,845
	<u>4,381,566</u>	<u>5,672,769</u>	<u>(4,547,543)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>5,506,792</u>



19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	11,345,247	56,904,592	(53,708,352)	(3,712,700)	-	10,828,787
Pupil premium	-	3,126,483	(3,126,483)	-	-	-
16 to 19 funding	-	15,920,593	(15,920,593)	-	-	-
Teachers pay grant	-	1,049,177	(1,049,177)	-	-	-
Teachers pension grant	-	1,233,999	(1,233,999)	-	-	-
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	2,038,356	(2,038,356)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	1,513,694	(1,513,694)	-	-	-
Other local authority	-	598,277	(598,277)	-	-	-
Other trading activities	-	159,749	(159,749)	-	-	-
Donations	-	1,092,539	(1,092,539)	-	-	-
Funds inherited on conversion	5,349,835	-	-	-	-	5,349,835
King Edward Consortium	171,496	193,948	(227,685)	-	-	137,759
Salix loans	(71,582)	-	-	19,591	-	(51,991)
Pension reserve	(3,338,000)	(281,000)	669,000	-	1,343,000	(1,607,000)
	<u>13,456,996</u>	<u>83,550,407</u>	<u>(79,999,904)</u>	<u>(3,693,109)</u>	<u>1,343,000</u>	<u>14,657,390</u>



19. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Restricted fixed asset funds						
DfE Capital grants	3,408,529	3,307,976	-	(2,959,299)	-	3,757,206
Tangible fixed assets	137,175,171	-	(17,343,440)	17,977,434	-	137,809,165
Other donations	-	2,526	-	(2,526)	-	-
Transfer of new school building	-	11,322,500	-	(11,322,500)	-	-
	<u>140,583,700</u>	<u>14,633,002</u>	<u>(17,343,440)</u>	<u>3,693,109</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>141,566,371</u>
Total Restricted funds	<u>154,040,696</u>	<u>98,183,409</u>	<u>(97,343,344)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,343,000</u>	<u>156,223,761</u>
Total funds	<u><u>158,422,262</u></u>	<u><u>103,856,178</u></u>	<u><u>(101,890,887)</u></u>	<u><u>-</u></u>	<u><u>1,343,000</u></u>	<u><u>161,730,553</u></u>



19. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
King Edward VI Aston School	1,369,944	1,058,641
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys	1,825,649	1,906,211
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls	1,297,321	1,184,165
King Edward VI Five Ways School	635,665	852,119
King Edward VI Handsworth School	2,447,325	2,244,237
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys	681,785	670,685
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy	1,404,869	883,080
Central Services	11,290,910	11,140,089
King Edward Consortium	96,981	138,008
King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy	843,706	552,372
King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy	369,481	259,665
King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls	668,408	580,713
King Edward VI Lordwood School for Girls	264,220	105,293
King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys	153,845	195,904
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	23,350,109	21,771,182
Restricted fixed asset fund	168,414,122	141,566,371
Pension reserve	-	(1,607,000)
Total	191,764,231	161,730,553

In the previous year, the Trust Board approved a rebasing of reserves, so that the central Trust fund holds the minimum reserve level according to the Reserves Policy. The reserves held at school level are available for schools to invest in approved projects.



19. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

Expenditure incurred by each academy during the year was as follows:

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2025 £
King Edward VI Aston School	5,086,770	776,317	168,284	1,497,336	7,528,707
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys	4,911,349	867,799	232,786	1,397,933	7,409,867
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls	5,332,532	948,816	198,387	1,273,346	7,753,081
King Edward VI Five Ways School	6,128,313	1,071,998	274,312	2,013,772	9,488,395
King Edward VI Handsworth School	6,033,447	886,598	240,793	1,551,519	8,712,357
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys	5,059,726	970,540	307,195	1,346,767	7,684,228
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy	6,894,041	997,734	571,889	1,268,176	9,731,840
Central Services	436,849	1,394,516	87,264	1,751,944	3,670,573
King Edward Consortium Teaching school	131,594	46,735	–	78,593	256,922
King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy	5,614,224	744,323	309,856	1,289,025	7,957,428
King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy	2,494,952	607,344	187,004	618,305	3,907,605
King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls	4,446,190	748,587	397,557	780,709	6,373,043
King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls	5,139,243	673,868	223,794	1,148,925	7,185,830
King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys	4,583,059	938,636	262,008	922,478	6,706,181
Academy Trust	62,292,289	11,673,811	3,461,129	16,938,828	94,366,057



19. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Teaching and educational support staff costs £</i>	<i>Other support staff costs £</i>	<i>Educational supplies £</i>	<i>Other costs excluding depreciation £</i>	<i>Total 2024 £</i>
King Edward VI Aston School	4,625,456	710,918	137,487	1,451,290	6,925,151
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys	4,384,067	783,413	202,471	1,529,079	6,899,030
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls	4,727,386	885,199	118,254	1,402,541	7,133,380
King Edward VI Five Ways School	5,578,383	950,633	202,143	1,477,882	8,209,041
King Edward VI Handsworth School	5,511,430	838,781	154,643	1,532,591	8,037,445
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys	4,558,882	900,062	213,163	1,467,535	7,139,642
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath Academy	6,082,894	946,982	427,560	1,361,265	8,818,701
Central Services	111,045	1,427,633	105,705	1,139,429	2,783,812
King Edward Consortium	120,553	44,598	-	68,684	233,835
King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls' Academy	5,424,968	791,990	375,598	1,348,508	7,941,064
King Edward VI Balaam Wood Academy	2,342,319	507,199	140,687	609,580	3,599,785
King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls	3,848,910	803,674	321,750	835,533	5,809,867
King Edward VI Lordswood School for Girls	4,967,713	669,825	139,663	1,127,617	6,904,818
King Edward VI King's Norton School for Boys	2,800,782	560,195	140,073	610,826	4,111,876
Academy Trust	55,084,788	10,821,102	2,679,197	15,962,360	84,547,447



20. 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	-	-	166,427,528	166,427,528
Current assets	6,131,095	26,938,151	1,986,594	35,055,840
Creditors due within one year	-	(9,702,937)	-	(9,702,937)
Creditors due after one year	-	(16,200)	-	(16,200)
Total	6,131,095	17,219,014	168,414,122	191,764,231

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	137,809,165	137,809,165
Current assets	5,506,792	25,872,034	3,757,206	35,136,032
Creditors due within one year	-	(9,575,244)	-	(9,575,244)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	(32,400)	-	(32,400)
Provisions for liabilities and charges	-	(1,607,000)	-	(1,607,000)
Total	5,506,792	14,657,390	141,566,371	161,730,553



21. Central services

The Academy Trust has provided the following central services to its academies during the year:

- strategic support;
- governance, including the provision of a Company Secretary and Clerks;
- finance support, including dedicated Finance Managers;
- human resources and payroll, including dedicated HR Business Partners;
- estates, including support for capital projects, health and safety and the co-ordination of central contracts (e.g. insurance)
- marketing and communications; and
- admissions (where applicable).

The Academy Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

Each academy pays a contribution to central services. For 2024/25 this was based on a standard figure of £150,000 (2024: £130,000).

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
King Edward VI Aston School	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Boys	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Camp Hill School for Girls	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Five Ways School	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Handsworth School	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Handsworth Grammar School for Boys	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Sheldon Heath	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Handsworth Wood Girls Academy	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Balam Wood Academy	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Northfield School for Girls	150,000	130,000
King Edward VI Lordwood School for Girls	150,000	130,000
King Edward Kings Norton School for Boys	150,000	86,696
Total	1,800,000	1,516,696



22. Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	29,352,678	1,965,291
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	7,545,943	6,802,658
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(4,802,701)	(3,310,502)
Investment income	(1,085,525)	(164,166)
Pension scheme liabilities acquired on conversion	-	281,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	58,000	161,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less payments incurred	(984,000)	(830,000)
Increase in debtors	(960,158)	(440,865)
Increase in creditors	132,726	1,651,314
Fixed assets transferred from existing academies/on conversion	-	(11,322,500)
Donated new school building	(29,714,842)	-
Impairment of fixed assets	-	10,540,782
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(457,879)	5,334,012

23. Cash flows from financing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Repayments of borrowing	(19,591)	(19,591)

24. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Interest receivable	1,085,525	164,166
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(6,449,464)	(6,658,263)
Losses from the disposal of tangible fixed assets	-	3,329
Purchase of investments	(4,179,367)	(1,065,968)
Capital funding received from sponsors and others	4,802,701	3,310,502
Net cash used in investing activities	(4,740,605)	(4,246,234)



25. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand and at bank	<u>2,915,083</u>	<u>8,133,158</u>

26. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	8,133,158	(5,218,075)	-	2,915,083
Debt due within 1 year	(19,591)	19,591	(16,200)	(16,200)
Debt due after 1 year	(32,400)	-	16,200	(16,200)
	<u>8,081,167</u>	<u>(5,198,484)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>2,882,683</u>

27. Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements	<u>3,100,748</u>	<u>1,725,425</u>



28. Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £1,496,835 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £1,037,037) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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.



28. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £10,177,532 (2024- £8,379,140).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/-/media/documents/member/documents/factors/valuation/tps-ew-2020-valuation-results-report-261023-002.ashx>).

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.

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 £3,860,000 (2024 £3,354,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £3,137,000 (2024 - £2,725,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 723,000 (2024 - £629,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.7% per cent for employers and between 5.5% and 12.5% per cent for employees.

The Company is aware of the 2023 ruling in the Virgin Media vs NTL Pension Trustee case and subsequent court of appeal ruling published in July 2024. These ruled that certain amendments made to the NTL Pension Plan were invalid because they were not accompanied by the correct actuarial confirmation.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy Trust, 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 Trust at the balance sheet date.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/academies-and-local-government-pensions-scheme-liabilities/dfe-local-government-pension-scheme-guarantee-for-academy-trusts>

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.70	3.65
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.70	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5.00



28. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 Years	2024 Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	19.9	19.7
Females	22.9	22.9
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	20.6	20.4
Females	24.9	24.8

Sensitivity analysis - impact on net obligation

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	35,339	39,198
Discount rate -0.1%	36,787	40,908
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	37,506	41,655
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	34,620	38,451
CPI rate +0.1%	36,774	40,884
CPI rate -0.1%	35,352	39,222

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2025 £	At 31 August 2024 £
Equities	22,120,000	19,992,000
Corporate bonds	16,482,000	13,456,000
Property	2,602,000	2,307,000
Cash and other liquid assets	2,169,000	2,691,000
Derecognition of surplus	(7,310,000)	-
Total market value of assets	36,063,000	38,446,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,990,000 (2024 - £1,149,000).



28. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	2,110,000	1,895,000
Net interest on defined liability	58,000	161,000
Past service charge	43,000	-
Total amount recognised in the Statement of financial activities	2,211,000	2,056,000

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	40,053,000	35,577,000
Conversion of academy trusts	-	1,171,000
Current service cost	2,153,000	1,895,000
Interest cost	2,051,000	1,930,000
Employee contributions	723,000	629,000
Actuarial gains	(7,994,000)	(194,000)
Benefits paid	(923,000)	(955,000)
At 31 August	36,063,000	40,053,000

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	38,446,000	32,239,000
Conversion of academy trusts	-	890,000
Interest income	1,993,000	1,769,000
Actuarial (losses)/gains	(3,000)	1,149,000
Employer contributions	3,137,000	2,725,000
Employee contributions	723,000	629,000
Benefits paid	(923,000)	(955,000)
Derecognition of surplus	(7,310,000)	-
At 31 August	36,063,000	38,446,000



29. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	174,709	139,479
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	251,024	140,078
	<u>425,733</u>	<u>279,557</u>

31. 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.



31. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy Trust and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees 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 Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

	2025 £	2024 £
Income		
Fees received for KES Teacher Training at KEC	8,400	13,000
Costs incurred by the Academy Trust and reimbursed by the Foundation	123,441	51,908
Payments made from Foundation Restricted Funds to the Academy Trust	24,948	9,928
	156,789	74,836
	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure		
Costs incurred by the Foundation and recharged to the Academy Trust	4,344	4,867
Secondment of Staff to the Academy Trust	1,092,053	1,088,566
	1,096,397	1,093,433
	2025 £	2024 £
Balance Sheet		
Amounts owed (to)/from the Foundation	318,331	13,379
Other income paid to the Academy Trust	137,200	7,939
	455,531	21,318