
Annual Report and Accounts

Year to **31 AUGUST 2025**



London
**Design &
Engineering**
UTC

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FOREWORD FROM :

Anne Heal
Chair of the Board

I feel an immense sense of pride in chairing the Board of dedicated Directors, each one committed to making London Design and Engineering University Technology College (LDE UTC) an exceptional learning environment, with a mission to transform the life chances of learners throughout London.

The year 2024/25 saw the College's founding mission enacted daily: 'Empowering every learner to thrive in a dynamic, inclusive, and sustainable world through an employer-rich, future-focused education that develops creative, professional, and entrepreneurial mindsets, transforming lives, communities, and the UK talent pipeline.'

I am delighted with the academic outcomes secured by our learners, the exciting destinations they have progressed to, and the recognition from Ofsted that LDE UTC is making an exceptional contribution to the educational landscape.

The completion of the new T Level building, alongside the launch of new programmes of study, reaffirms our strategic direction to pursue measured growth and meet the needs of our hundreds of industry partners. The Board looks forward to supporting and constructively challenging the leaders at LDE UTC as the College extends its provision of school-to-school support.



FOREWORD FROM:

Geoffrey Fowler
CEO and Founding Principal

What an incredible journey LDE UTC has travelled. The 2024/25 academic year saw the College secure its strongest ever results for attainment and progress at Key Stage 4, alongside the highest outcome scores in our history at Key Stage 5. Many learners join LDE UTC seeking a fresh start after disengaging from traditional schooling. Through our distinctive employer engagement approach, female learners achieved GCSE results placing them in the top 10 percent nationally, while male learners ranked in the top 25 percent nationally. The College has truly provided a transformative space where young people re-engage, excel, and redefine what they believe is possible for their futures.

Since opening in 2016, LDE UTC has delivered a fully inclusive educational experience that brings together rigorous technical learning, strong academic foundations, and exceptional personal development. Shaped by sustained employer partnerships, our curriculum ensures learners gain the knowledge, skills, and professional behaviours needed to progress into higher education, apprenticeships, and skilled employment. This innovative model, combining an employer rich pedagogy with consistently strong outcomes, both academically and in destinations, continues to attract interest from education leaders and international visitors who want to understand how the UTC achieves such high levels of progress, inclusion, and destination success.

LDE UTC is more than a technical College. It is a community committed to nurturing talent, addressing sector wide skills shortages, and strengthening the local and national workforce. With steadfast support from industry sponsors and our vibrant local community, we continue to provide young people in Newham with opportunities that may once have felt out of reach.

The College offers high quality academic and technical pathways across engineering, construction, digital technologies, aviation, craft and design, and mechatronics, systems and control. These STEM focused programmes open routes into university, higher apprenticeships, and technical professions, enabling learners to progress into a wide range of future facing careers.

Looking ahead, our mission is to share our proven expertise with other schools and Colleges. If you are interested in visiting us and learning more about our latest innovations, such as IndEX and EmployABLE, please visit our website and book onto an upcoming event.

MEMBERS

..... Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust
 Costain Ltd
 Skanska UK PLC
 Thames Water Utilities
 University of East London

DIRECTORS

..... Prof H Abdalla
 S Ahmad
 S Duffy
 G Fowler (CEO)
 A Heal (Chair)
 C Hunter (Resigned 10 September 2025)
 D Jebanesan (Appointed 14 July 2025)
 C Kennett
 G Lois (Staff Director) (Resigned 30 June 2025)
 S Moss
 N Rathbone
 C Ritman-Smith (Appointed 1 March 2025)
 U Salman (Parent Director)
 R Sargsyan (Appointed 6 October 2025)
 P Sheikh (Parent Director)
 H Wain (Vice Chair)

STRATEGIC LEADERSHIP TEAM

G Fowler..... CEO and Principal
 V Webb Head of Upper School
 K Drugzani..... Head of Lower School
 D Hughes..... Chief Financial and Operating Officer
 (Appointed 11 November 2024)

COMPANY REGISTRATION NUMBER

08283657 (England & Wales)

Principal & REGISTERED ADDRESS

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 London
 E16 2RD
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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR

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 United Kingdom

BANKERS

Lloyds Bank plc
 PO Box 1000
 Andover BX1 1LT



LDE UTC feels different because we're not just reading about engineering or design, we're doing it. Working on real briefs and competitions has helped me understand what the industry actually expects, and it's made me more confident about my future.

DIRECTORS’ REPORT

The Directors of London Design & Engineering UTC (“the Academy Trust”) present their annual report, together with the audited financial statements, for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. This report fulfils the requirements of a Trustees’ Report, Directors’ Report and Strategic Report in accordance with company law.

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the accounting policies detailed on pages 46 to 49 of the accompanying accounts. They comply fully with the Academy Trust’s Memorandum and Articles of Association, all relevant legislative requirements, and Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice (SORP) applicable to charities preparing financial statements under the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and the Republic of Ireland (FRS 102).

The Academy Trust operates The London Design & Engineering UTC, a University Technical College, alongside its apprenticeship provision, the Engineering Skills College. Together, these institutions serve learners aged 13 and above. The UTC opened in September 2016, followed by the apprenticeship centre in 2017. Based in the London Borough of Newham, on the dockside of the Royal Albert Dock, the Trust provides education and skills training to learners from across Greater London.

For the 2025/26 academic year, the UTC continues to be heavily oversubscribed, with enrolment exceeding 900 learners. This includes approximately 300 learners in National Curriculum Years 9–11, 570 learners in the Sixth Form (Years 12 and 13), and 36 apprentices undertaking specialist programmes delivered through the Engineering Skills College.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and operates as an exempt charity. Its primary governing documents are the Memorandum and Articles of Association. The Directors of the London Design & Engineering UTC Trust serve simultaneously as the trustees of the charitable company and as its directors for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is registered under the name London Design & Engineering UTC. A full list of Directors who served during the reporting period is provided on page 3 of the accompanying financial statements.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

At the core of the UTC's vision lies a dedication to developing the next generation of technically skilled, future-ready young people who can apply knowledge creatively to address real-world challenges, including those linked to sustainability, infrastructure, innovation, and emerging technologies.

LDE UTC incorporates cutting-edge technology, employer-designed learning environments, and an ambitious curriculum that blends academic study with technical mastery. Through authentic, employer-led projects, learners translate theoretical understanding into practical applications, cultivating resilience, independence, and professional confidence. Every element of the curriculum is intentionally aligned with learner aspirations, ensuring equitable access to high-value opportunities.

LDE UTC learners are known for their excellent attitudes, behaviours, and professional competence. Their ability to articulate technical knowledge, collaborate effectively, and present confidently makes them highly attractive to leading employers. Strong partnerships, ongoing mentoring, and access to industry networks ensure that learners progress to exceptional destinations and are supported long after leaving the UTC.

LDE UTC Aims to Achieve the Following:

1. Empower Every Learner to Become Future-Ready, Skilled and Ambitious. Learners leave the UTC as confident, work-ready and independent young professionals who are proud of their achievements, grounded in their identity and equipped with strong digital and technical skills. They develop clear, actionable plans for their future, supported by resilience, ambition and an enterprising mindset.
2. Deliver a High-Quality, Employer-Rich and Industry-Aligned Curriculum. Maintain strong alignment with industry needs by designing a relevant, sustainable and innovative curriculum that blends academic rigour, technical mastery and meaningful employer engagement. Ensure learners develop the transferable skills and behaviours essential for thriving in 21st-century sectors.
3. Achieve Exceptional Progress, Attainment and Destinations for All Learners. Secure substantial progress from all starting points through high-quality teaching, precise assessment and targeted support. Ensure outcomes exceed national averages across academic and technical pathways, enabling progression to high-value university courses, apprenticeships and skilled employment.
4. Sustain a Centre of Excellence Rooted in Professional Mastery and Innovation. Maintain LDE UTC's outstanding reputation in Design, Engineering, Mechatronics and Aviation by continuing to create, model and share high-quality educational practice. Foster highly skilled, motivated and professionally confident staff and learners who are fully engaged with the UTC's vision, mission and values.
5. Champion Inclusion, Well-being, Character and a Safe, Ethical Culture. Ensure every learner feels valued, safe and supported, with barriers removed so they can thrive academically and personally. Develop professionalism, oracy, character and confidence through an ethos where "every day is an interview day," sustained by strong safeguarding, ethical leadership and a positive, aspirational culture.
6. Share the success of the organisation across a wider range of educational establishments through Trust growth, further partnership work and the distribution of resources and materials, including books and computerised software, to disseminate the exceptional practice recognised by Ofsted throughout 2025.

Objectives, Strategies and activities: Public Benefit

As laid down in its Articles of Association the Academy Trust exists for the benefit of public education in the United Kingdom. Secondary to this, is an object to promote high aspirations and self-belief amongst our learners, leading to an abundance of employment opportunities and the creation of an employment pipeline for the benefit of our many industry sponsors. This will benefit the inhabitants of the areas in which the Academy is situated.

Achievements and Performance

The London Design & Engineering University Technical College (LDE UTC) has now completed its ninth year of operation, marking a significant period of sustained growth and resilience. Despite the challenges of operating from temporary accommodation for its first two and a half years, the College has established itself as a thriving, employer-led, oversubscribed and multicultural institution serving learners across Key Stages 3, 4, 5 and with post-18 apprentices.

Throughout 2024 and 2025 LDE UTC has been formally inspected twice by Ofsted. The first inspection in 2024 graded the apprenticeship provision as Good with Outstanding features, and the inspection of the main College under the new framework provided the College with an exceptional score card. This reinforces the accuracy of the Board and Strategic Leadership Team’s own internal self-evaluation and monitoring processes.

Strategic Priorities for 2024/25

Throughout the 2024/25 academic year, LDE UTC focused on two core priorities aligned with its long-term strategy:

1. Continuous Improvement.

The College has continued to refine its curriculum, enhance teaching quality and strengthen its support for learners to ensure consistently high standards across all phases.

2. Expansion and Growth.

In response to sustained local and regional demand for high-quality technical education, the UTC has explored opportunities to grow and enhance its provision, ensuring more young people can access its specialist pathways. It has been outwardly focused creating a range of resources to share with other organisations in both electronic and print formats and by providing bespoke face-to-face training.



T-level Building Development

A major achievement during 2024/25 was the successful progression and completion of the new T-level Building. Working closely with the main contractor, technical advisors, planning consultants, the Department for Education (DfE) and the Greater London Authority (GLA), the project moved to practical completion and was officially handed over on 22nd September 2025.

This state-of-the-art facility provides specialist workshop spaces for LDE UTC's expanding suite of T-level courses, including:

- Craft & Design: Furniture Making
- Craft & Design: Upholstery
- Engineering Construction
- Mechatronics

Recruitment for the 2025/26 T-level intake has exceeded expectations, reflecting strong demand for high-quality technical pathways.

The new site has been re-branded as the East London Furniture Institute (ELFI), a name that honours the East End's long-established tradition of furniture craftsmanship, a heritage spanning more than 125 years.

In addition, the standalone ELFI facility enabled LDE UTC to secure DfE approval to increase its Published Admissions Number (PAN) for Year 12 to 350 learners. With this expansion, the College now educates more than 900 learners, reinforcing its growth trajectory and alignment with strategic objectives.

Commitment to Inclusion and Well-being

LDE UTC continues to strengthen its commitment to inclusion and the well-being of learners and staff. The College holds a Gold Equality Award from EqualiTeach and provides a multi-faith Chaplaincy service, with Equality, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) embedded throughout its culture and supported by two highly trained EDI leads.

Staff well-being remains a key strategic priority. The UTC has implemented a range of measures to promote a healthy and supportive working environment, including:

- Flexible working arrangements
- A confidential Employee Assistance Programme
- Employment of a trained, on-site counsellor
- A programme of well-being events and initiatives

This holistic approach fosters a positive, inclusive and supportive community where both learners and staff thrive.

Quality of Education (QoE) Results for Key Stage 4 Learners 2024-2025

Outcomes for Key Stage 4 learners during the 2024/25 academic year were strong and in terms of value added and raw attainment, represent LDE UTC’s best results ever:

The College uses a variety of data providers to assess its position relative to other schools and Colleges nationally and triangulation illustrates the strength of the College.

DfE performance data (2025) confirms that LDE UTC performs above both borough and national averages on all major indicators.

When compared with Newham’s 21 secondary schools, LDE UTC performs above the borough average despite its highly technical curriculum and Year 9 entry model.

- **68%** of learners achieved grades 4 to 9 in both English and Maths.
This is 3% higher than the national average figure
- **53.5%** of learners achieved grades 5 to 9 in English and Maths.
This is 8% higher than the national figure

Grade 5 or above in England & Maths GCSEs

School - 53.5%

Local Authority Average - 53.1%

England Average - 45.2%

- Science grades were very good. **91%** of learners achieved grades 5 to 9 in Biology, Chemistry and Physics
- **43%** of grades in the technical specialisms of Engineering Manufacture and Engineering Mechatronics were graded at Distinction or Distinction Star

The DfE also reported that within the national network of 44 University Technical Colleges, LDE UTC ranks among the top three UTCs nationally for EBacc Average Point Score (APS) and within the top four UTCs for English and Maths grade 5+ outcomes. With an Attainment 8 score of 49.4, English and Maths 5+ at 53.5%, and EBacc APS of 3.87, LDE UTC performs above the national UTC averages.

The College also matches or exceeds the performance of long-established high-performing (and formerly Ofsted outstanding) UTCs such as Ron Dearing UTC, Portsmouth, Elstree. These outcomes place LDE UTC firmly within the top 10% of UTCs nationally.

Overall performance at end of key stage 4 in 2025 - all pupils

SCHOOL NAME	TYPE OF SCHOOL	NUMBER OF PUPILS AT END OF KEY STAGE 4	ATTAINMENT 8 SCORE	GRADE 5 OR ABOVE IN ENGLISH & MATHS GCSES	ENTERING EBACC	EBACC AVERAGE POINT SCORE	STAYING IN EDUCATION, OR ENTERING APPRENTICESHIPS OR EMPLOYMENT (2023 LEAVERS)
Cambridge Academy for science & technology	Academy	104	56.8	63.5%	1.9%	4.44	89% 93 of 105 pupils
Thomas Telford University Technical College	Academy	157	53.4	60.5%	17.2%	4.39	96% 66 of 69 pupils
London Design & Engineering UTC	Academy	99	49.4	53.5%	3.0%	3.87	96% 87 of 91 pupils
University Technical College Norfolk	Academy	115	49.4	57.4%	0.0%	3.86	89% 103 of 113 pupils

The College uses an independent data analytic tool provide by ALPs to appraise the quality of the education provision.

- The ALPs Quality Indicator score identifies that the College results place learners in the top 25% of schools nationally for progress overall (top 10% for female learners)
- ALPs data analysis confirms the success of the College in meeting the needs of the most vulnerable. Learners with EHCP's performed in the top 10% of schools nationally with learners eligible for FSM and disadvantaged learners performing in the top 25%

The College also uses evidence from Baker Dearing Trust which provides comparative data for UTC's

**Baker Dearing
Educational Trust**

UTC: London Design & Engineering UTC

2025	KS4					
ALL UTCs*	Y11 Roll	Attainment 8 points			Basics	En &
		English	Maths	EBacc 3 Inc Sci	% 4+	% 5+
		11.0		14.6		
90th %ile	140	10.9	10.6	14.0	77	54
			9.9		68	53
75th %ile	118	10.0	9.4	13.0	67	44
	100					
50th %ile	99	8.7	8.7	10.7	57	31
25th %ile	77	7.2	7.2	8.0	42	22
10th %ile	65	6.6	6.2	6.4	32	13

UTC: London Design & Engineering UTC

2025	Progress from entry baseline (GL) Grades above baseline projection								
ALL UTCs using GL baselines (only)	Y11 Roll	English		Maths		EBacc 3 Inc. Science		Specialist Qualifications	
		2025 Grade	Progress	2025 Grade	Progress	2025 Grade	Progress	2025 Grade	Progress
		5.5	1.0			4.9	0.9		
90th %ile	135	5.4	0.8	5.3	1.1	4.8	0.8	4.7	1.1
				5.0					
75th %ile	122	5.0	0.6	4.9	0.9	4.4	0.6	4.5	0.5
	100				0.9			4.3	0.1
50th %ile	100	4.3	0.0	4.3	0.5	3.6	-0.3	4.0	0.1
25th %ile	77	3.6	-0.4	3.6	0.2	2.8	-0.4	3.3	-0.5
10th %ile	60	3.3	-0.7	3.2	-0.2	2.5	-0.8	2.9	-1.0
Mean per entry	103	4.3	0.0	4.3	0.5	3.7	0.0	3.9	0.1

Baker Dearing's Educational Trust national dataset of 44 UTCs positions LDE UTC within the top quartile for attainment and progress, and within the top decile for English and Maths progress. GL Progress shows English +1.0 and Maths +0.9, placing LDE UTC in the 90th percentile nationally. These findings confirm that LDE UTC's outcomes exceed those of comparable technical institutions and are in line with the highest-performing UTCs nationally.

Trends over time

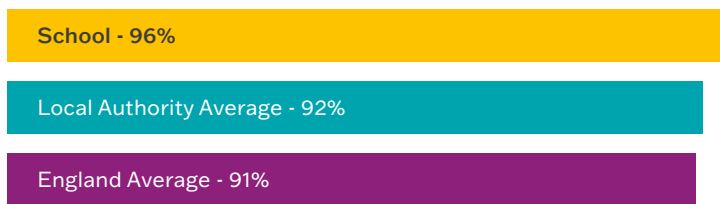
Results at LDE UTC have been on an upward trajectory and the year 24/25 demonstrated a continuation of this trend with the College securing its highest APS, progress score to date at Key Stage 4.

Destination Data

At LDE UTC 96% learners secured a sustained destination with few students falling into the Not in Education, Employment or Training (NEET) category. The level of NEET students varies nationally, but in the district of Newham was recorded as 8% of pupils remaining inactive after leaving school and nationally 9% NEET. Once again LDE UTC statistics show a favourable picture.

LDE UTC Year 11 Destinations

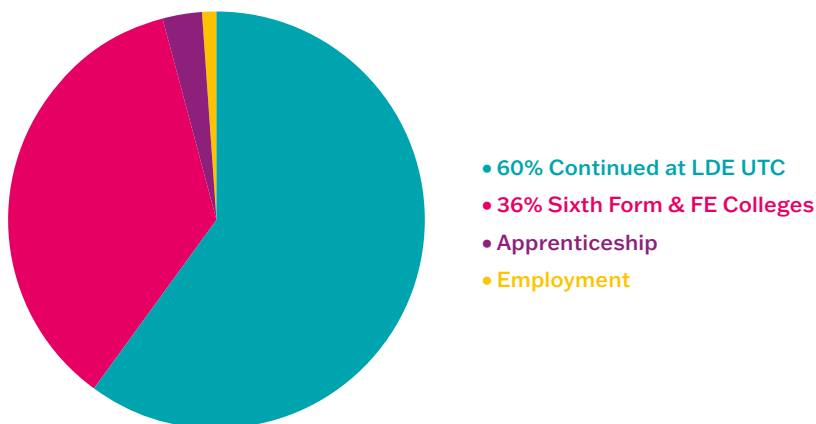
Staying in education, or entering apprenticeships or employment



This shows the number of pupils who either stayed in education, or went into apprenticeships or employment after finishing key stage 4 (after year 11, usually aged 16).

The majority of Year 11 learners (60%) opted to continue their education at LDE UTC, with 36% opting to join other institutions. A handful of students chose to go directly into employment and apprenticeships at the age of 16 years.

Year 11: 2024 - 2025 Graduate Destination Data



Quality of Education (QoE) Results for Key Stage 5 Learners 2024-2025

Outcomes for Key Stage 5 learners during the 2024/25 academic year were robust and the raw attainment scores are pleasing:

- 40% of Grades were at A or Distinction grade
- 49 % of Grades were graded B or higher
- 76% of Grades secured a grade C, Merit grade or higher
- The overall examination pass rate was 98%

Overall Performance Trends

National data shows LDE UTC learners have been close to average for attainment over the last three years in A-level, Applied General and Technical qualifications (IDSR Nov 2025). The table below provides comparative data and illustrates the upward trajectory.

KS5 Results	National 2024	LDE UTC 2025	LDE UTC 2025	LDE UTC 2023
Technical	28.6	36.7	35.2	35.3
Applied General	28.9	26.8	24.5	25.2
A-level	32.9	32.8	30.9	25.8
Academic	33	32.9	30.4	26.1

The College also purchases a data analytic package from Redborne and this suggests the following:

- Biology and Chemistry results (APS and VA) have both significantly improved from 2024
- Disadvantaged learners have improved their attainment and progress across all four disciplines from 2024
- Disadvantage learners performed inline or above national average grades in all except Business Studies, which is an Applied General qualification

UTC Comparisons with other similar organisations

- As at Key stage 4, comparisons with other UTC’s proved favourable.
- The College performed in the top 10% of UTCs for A-level results
- The College performed in the top 25% of UTCs for Technical results
- The new T Level courses and the Applied General Business Studies show their infancy and have been targeted for swift improvement in the 25/26 academic year

Baker Dearing Educational Trust UTC Comparisons for 2025

UTC: London Design & Engineering UTC

2025		16 - 19 Level 3											
All UTCs*	Year 13 Roll	KS4 average Points	Qualification type										
			A/L Points	A/L Grade	App Gen Points	App Gen Grade	Tec Points	Tech Grade	T-level Core Points	T-level Core Grade	T-level OS Points	T-level OS Grade	
		6.0	32.8	C+									
90th %ile	124	6.0	32.4	C+	37.3	Dist+	38.7	Dist+	32.2	C+	48.1	Mer+	
							38.1	Dist+					
75th %ile	90	5.3	29.8	C	34.1	Dist	37.3	Dist+	30.0	C	43.1	Mer	
50th %ile	52	5.0	27.0	C-	30.0	Dist+	33.4	Dist	29.3	C	37.0	Mer	
					26.8	Mer+			26.0	C-			
25th %ile	34	4.4	22.9	D+	25.0	Mer	31.2	Dist-	23.2	D+	28.1	Pass+	
											26.4	Pass+	
10th %ile	19	3.9	19.5	D	22.9	Mar-	23.2	Mer-	20.6	D	25.4	Pass+	

Notes: *Data for 43 UTCs. Ebacc3: as per A8 formula and curriculum adjusted.

UTC Mean

2025		16 - 19 Level 3											
All UTCs*	Year 13 Roll	KS4 average Points	Qualification type										
			A/L Points	A/L Grade	App Gen Points	App Gen Grade	Tec Points	Tech Grade	T-level Core Points	T-level Core Grade	T-level OS Points	T-level OS Grade	
2024-25*	70	5.126	27.8	C-	30.9	Dist-	33.9	Dist	27.3	C-	35.5	Mer-	
2023-24	-	-	26.1	C-	30.2	Dist-	32.2	Dist-	-	-	-	-	
2022-23	-	-	25.5	C-	30.8	Dist-	31.3	Dist-	-	-	-	-	
Increase	-	-	2.3	-	0.1	-	2.6	-	-	-	-	-	

UTC Mean

2025		All state-funded schools and Colleges											
England	Year 13 Roll	KS4 average Points	Qualification type										
			A/L Points	A/L Grade	App Gen Points	App Gen Grade	Tec Points	Tech Grade	T-level Core Points	T-level Core Grade	T-level OS Points	T-level OS Grade	
2023-24	-	-	34.38	C+	29.09	Mer+	28.11	Mer+	25.3	C-	36.3	Mer-	
2022-23	-	-	34.2	C+	29.5	Mer+	28.5	Mer+	28.9	C	38.0	Mer	

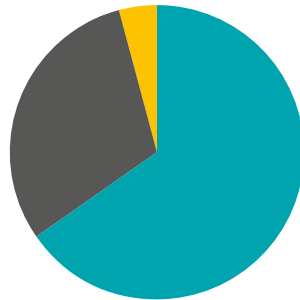
UTCs with fewer than 5 entries within the qualification category are not included in the above Level 3 percentile calculations.

Destination Data

As the College offers both one year sixth form programmes and two year programmes, destinations are tracked both at the end of year 12 and 13.

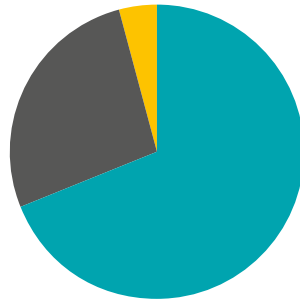
Pie chart 1

Illustrates the sustained high proportion of Post 16 learners progressing into STEM subjects (over 65%) reflecting the strong alignment between our curriculum and technical pathways.



Year 13: 2024 - 2025 Graduates moving into STEM

- 66% STEM
- 31% Other
- Creative & Design

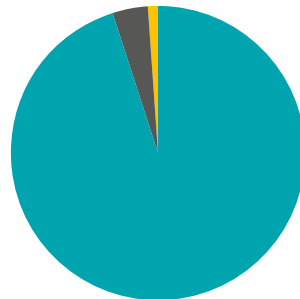


Year 13: 2023 - 2024 Graduates moving into STEM

- 69% STEM
- 27% Other
- Creative & Design

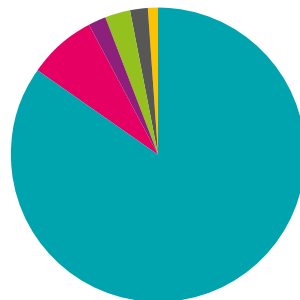
Pie chart 2

Illustrates the increase in learners continuing into further programmes of study after Year 12 at LDE UTC 6th form (95%, up from 89%) indicating growing confidence in the Sixth Form offer and successful retention strategies.



Year 12: 2024 - 2025 Graduate Destinations

- 95% LDE UTC
- FE College
- Apprenticeships

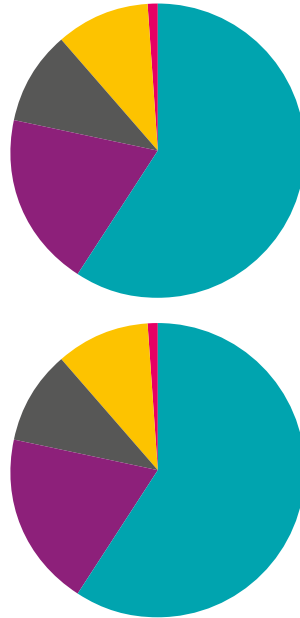


Year 12: 2023 - 2024 Graduate Destinations

- 89% Continued at LDE UTC
- 08% Sixth Form & FE Colleges
- Apprenticeship
- Moved Abroad
- NEET
- Employment

Pie chart 3

Illustrates the rise in university attendance for post 18 learners (+6%) suggesting more learners are prioritising academic progression. The stable employment figure (9%) demonstrates continued success in preparing learners for the workforce. However, the decline in apprenticeships (from 19% to 9%) may indicate reduced availability of opportunities or a shift in learner preference toward university routes.



Year 13: 2024 - 2025

Graduate Destination Data

- 64% University
- 15% Gap Year
- 9% Employment
- 9% Apprenticeships
- 5% Level 4 - FE College

Year 13: 2023 - 2024

Graduate Destination Data

- 58% University
- 19% Apprenticeship
- 13% Gap Year
- 9% Employment
- 5% FE College

Gap year uptake remains relatively stable at 15% (up from 13%), which reflects learners seeking flexibility or time to plan future steps. Overall, these changes highlight the continued need to balance guidance and support across all progression routes, ensuring that university, employment, and apprenticeships remain viable and attractive options for all learners.

Apprenticeship Outcomes

The timing of apprenticeship outcomes doesn't align as neatly with the financial year as it does for Key Stage 4 and 5 results. This year's cohort of 36 apprentices is making sound progress, and those who have completed their qualifications have achieved notably stronger outcomes. This demonstrates a clear improvement on last year's performance. The grade distribution indicates sustained high-level attainment:

- 78% achieved at Distinction*-Distinction (D*D)
- 83% achieved at Distinction*-Merit (D*M)
- 100% achieved at Distinction*-Pass (D*P)

Furthermore, two apprentices were recognised as winners at the Youth Build Awards 2025, with the ceremony held at the House of Commons in October.

The average grade score of those apprentices who have completed is 68.9, equivalent to a DD-, marking an upward shift from previous performance data. This improvement suggests strengthened teaching, effective assessment support, and positive learner engagement across the programme.

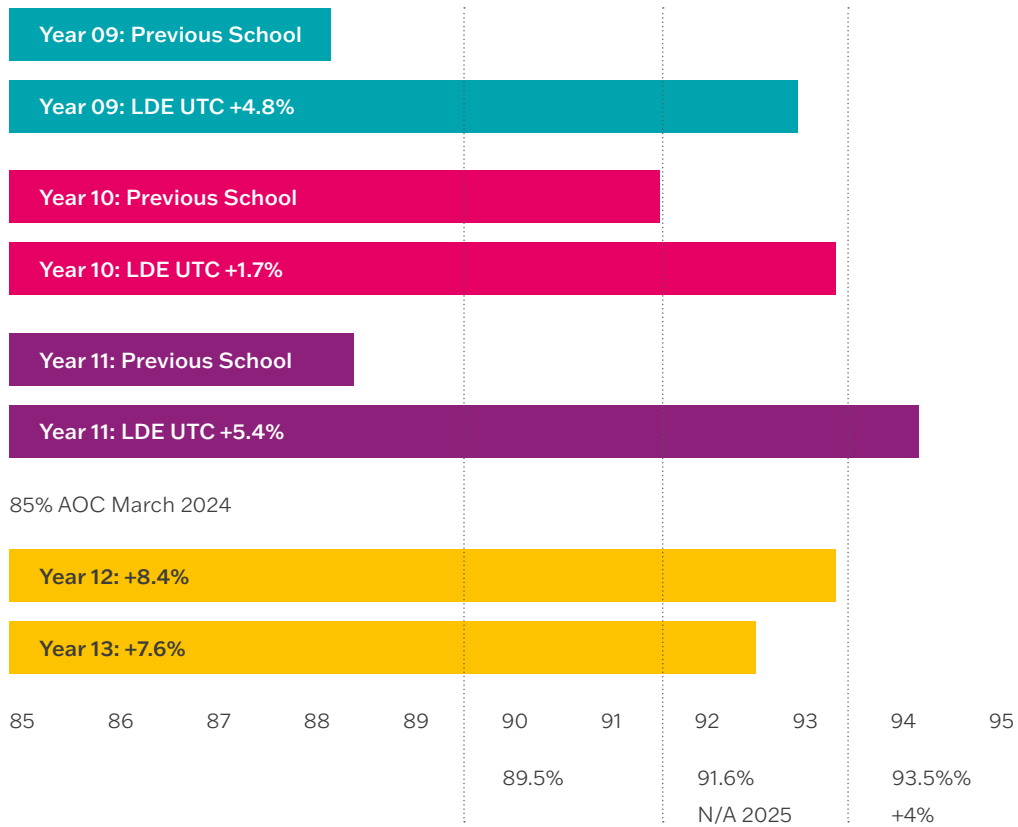
Overall, the results reflect a well-established and maturing apprenticeship provision, with outcomes that position the programme favourably against internal targets and sector expectations.

Additional KPIs

The Strategic Leadership Team share a range of information with the board in addition to educational outcomes.

Attendance Data

Given the context of many disaffected learners joining LDE UTC at year 9, it is useful to compare their current attendance with their previous attendance. In all Key Stage 4 year groups the improvement in attendance is stark.



Behaviour

Behaviour is also carefully monitored, and the College is proud of its track record of issuing zero exclusions and a handful of suspensions, with positive praise points outweighing any negative behaviour points. The culture of success and a ‘can-do’ attitude provides an immediate and impactful fresh start.

Behaviour			
Suspension	Permanent Exclusions	Bonus Points 2024 / 2025	
		Positive	Negative
4	0	18407	1906
3	0	12353	1550
1	0	8351	2075
1	0	16279	1166
4	0	10094	647

Learner profiles

Given the level of deprivation faced by many of the learners joining LDE UTC, with over half the learners at Key Stage 4 eligible for free school meals and classed as Pupil Premium, the outcomes they secure are all the more impressive. It is in the context of the data below, that it can be concluded that 2024/25 was an exceptionally productive period for all involved.

UTC: London Design & Engineering UTC

Learner Context										
	F	M	EAL	ME	FSM	PP	SEN	EHCP	K	TOTAL
Year 9	50%	50%	44%	82%	57%	55%	21%	11%	10%	102
Year 10	50%	50%	41%	74%	46%	48%	22%	4%	18%	102
Year 11	48%	52%	52%	85%	51%	55%	19%	3%	15%	97
LDE UTC	50%	50%	46%	80%	51%	52%	20%	6%	14%	301

Key:

- F** Female
- M** Male
- EAL** English as an Additional Language
- ME** Medical concern
- FSM** Free School Meals
- PP** Pupil Premium
- SEN** Special Educational Needs
- EHCP** Education and Health Care Plan
- K** Special Needs Support needed

Going concern

The Directors assess whether the use of going concern in the preparation of the accounts is appropriate and whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the UTC to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for the issue of the financial statements.

The Directors have considered the risks facing the UTC, the forecast of cash-flows, growth in pupil numbers, and the level of reserves, in the context of continued operational activities. The Directors have concluded that the UTC has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future, and that there are no material uncertainties about the UTC's ability to continue as a going concern. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

Financial review

The UTC generated total revenue for the period of £12,416K (2023-24: £8,559K), which includes £3,404K capital grant for the construction of the new T Level building. It incurred expenditure in the Statement of Financial Activity of £9,148K (2023-24: £7,709K). This resulted in net income of £3,268K (2023-24: £850K). The underlying operating surplus, excluding capital grant and depreciation was £648K (2023-24: £644K). This showed a continued increase in both revenue and surplus, reflecting the growth in student numbers, which supported investment in our new building.

During the year, the UTC invested £5,009K in constructing the T Level building, and capitalised £725K of spend on T level equipment. This was funded by the in-year capital grant from DfE, grant received and recognised in the prior year, and general reserves. Across the project lifetime to date, we have so far received £4,743K grant, and have invested £1,489K additional monies from revenue reserves. At 31 August, there remained £385K worth of expenditure contracted on this project, with £200K due from DfE.

Total funds therefore grew to £23.3m (2023-24: £20.1m), whilst revenue reserves were £296K (2023-24: £1,185k). This comprises both restricted and unrestricted funds; the main source of income for the UTC is grant from the Department for Education for the education of students, which is based on learner numbers. Under charities regulations, this revenue is recorded as restricted funds, reflecting the terms and conditions of the UTC's funding agreement.

Reserves Policy

UTC reserves comprise:

- Fixed asset reserve, which represents investment in assets. The new building is shown as assets under construction, as it was not completed until 2025. This reserve consists of restricted funds, and any funds realised from disposal of assets must be reinvested in UTC assets;
- Pension reserve of nil. This is an actuarially determined representation of the UTC's share of the local government pension scheme's assets and liabilities at the balance sheet date, capped at the asset ceiling rate. The pension administrators are entirely independent of the UTC, and the UTC Board has no control over contribution levels, investment decisions or distribution of funds. The scheme is in surplus, but the UTC cannot recognise any asset. If the scheme is in deficit, this is underwritten by government;
- Restricted and unrestricted general funds (“revenue reserves”). This represents the balance carried forward from historic performance, including unspent government grant and surpluses from other activities. These funds are available for future investment to fulfil the UTC's charitable objectives but cannot be withdrawn from the UTC. In 2024-25, the UTC used cumulative reserves to support the construction of the new building

Directors seek to maintain an underlying level of revenue reserves equivalent to 6% of annual revenue or £500,000, whichever is the higher, plus additional amounts from time-to-time to fund future investment plans. This additional amount will fluctuate depending on operating results and the stages of the investment plans and needs. To meet these plans, the College will ordinarily budget to deliver at least 3% surplus on annual revenues, but not normally above 6 per cent.

Directors may agree to vary this on an annual or multi-year basis to fund investment needs, subject to:

- Preventing underlying reserves from falling below £500,000 other than in exceptional circumstances, and for a temporary period;
- Revenue reserves should not exceed 20% unless there is a clear plan for investment within a reasonable timeline

Directors determined that reserves should fall below £500,000 to fund the new building, and have agreed budgets to return the revenue reserves above this threshold by August 2029.

Investment policy

Surplus cash is invested in notice deposit accounts and drawn down to support cash-flow and capital projects.

Principal risks and uncertainties

The UTC Board assesses the risks facing the College under a number of different headings and has a formal risk management process in place to implement risk management strategies. The process is overseen and reviewed by the Directors throughout the year. The risks are then assessed and prioritised in terms of their potential impact and the likelihood of occurrence. Where necessary, actions to mitigate the risks identified are put in place.

The Principal risks for the academy trust cover the following:

- Reputational damage should the quality of education decline. Mitigated through an unwavering focus on high quality Teaching and Learning, robust staff development programmes and effective monitoring, as validated by the recent Ofsted inspections
- Technological Risks of losing the cutting-edge reputation of the quality of IT and machinery at LDE UTC resulting in reduced employer engagement. Mitigated through prudent budgeting to replace capital items, sourcing capital grants, identifying sponsorship arrangements and careful management of refresh policies
- Cyber security and social media risks. Mitigated through strengthening IT protection and employing key specialists. Social media risks are mitigated by having effective policies and procedures for social media usage by staff and students and the provision of regular scrutiny
- Risks linked to reduced funding, inflationary pressures and the need for effective cost management. Mitigated through careful budgeting and reporting processes, including scrutiny by the Board of the ongoing financial performance
- Compliance risks represent a generic risk in this regulated sector. This is mitigated through the provision of training and implementing processes and procedures to maintain a culture of risk management
- Staff capacity, recruitment and retention. This is a generic risk given national reports of the teacher recruitment crisis and has been mitigated through careful timetabling, the creation of several LDE UTC training programmes and recruitment from alumni. The College has also produced recruitment videos to assist the DfE in its national teacher recruitment campaigns
- Capacity concerns and dependency on key staff, particularly the leadership team, mitigated through the purchase of additional support where needed, clear succession planning and ongoing monitoring

Members' Liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to its assets in the event that the company is wound up while they are a member, or within one year of ceasing to be a member. The maximum amount each member may be required to contribute is £10, and this may only be used to settle debts and liabilities incurred by the charitable company prior to their membership ending.

Directors' Indemnities

The Academy Trust participates in the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA), a government-funded alternative to traditional insurance. The RPA provides financial cover for losses arising from academy operations and includes indemnity protection for Directors and Officers in respect of negligent acts, errors or omissions undertaken in the course of academy business.

The scheme provides cover up to an aggregate limit of £10,000,000 per membership year. As the RPA operates as a pooled arrangement, it is not possible to separately quantify the cost attributable specifically to Directors' and Officers' indemnity cover.

Recruitment, Appointment and Election of Directors

The Board of Directors consists of no fewer than 5 and no more than 17 UK-based Directors. This structure ensures a broad range of skills and perspectives while enabling effective governance and manageable meeting arrangements. The Board includes a minimum of two elected Parent Directors. The Principal/CEO serves as an ex-officio Director.

The Board may appoint a Staff Director through a process it determines, provided that no more than one third of the Board (including the Principal/CEO) are employees of the Academy Trust. The Directors may also appoint Co-opted Directors where additional expertise is required to support effective governance.

Induction and Training of Directors

All newly appointed Directors undertake a comprehensive induction programme.

This includes an introductory meeting with the Governance Professional to understand their statutory responsibilities, the Trust's governance structure, and the operation of the Board and its Committees.

New Directors also meet with the Chair and the Principal/CEO to discuss strategic priorities and contextual issues affecting the UTC, receive key governance documents for personal review, complete mandatory safeguarding training, and participate in a tour of the UTC to gain a practical understanding of the organisation.

Organisational Structure

The Academy Trust operates through an established governance and leadership framework comprising the Board of Directors (the governing body), its committees, the Principal/CEO, the Strategic Team (ST) and a wider Leadership Team (LT) that brings together leaders from across the College. This structure ensures clear delegation, accountability and robust decision-making, while enabling leadership at all levels and supporting the Trust’s commitment to continuous improvement.

The Board of Directors, supported by its committees, is responsible for determining the UTC’s strategic direction, providing rigorous oversight and ensuring strong financial governance. The Principal/CEO and the Strategic Team are responsible for the day-to-day leadership and operational management of the UTC, implementing Board policies and reporting regularly on performance, standards and financial matters.

The Board operates a three-committee governance structure, with each committee working under Board-approved terms of reference that define responsibilities, delegated authority and meeting frequency. The Finance, Operations and Audit Committee (FOAC) holds specific responsibility for monitoring financial management, compliance, risk and authorised spending limits. FOAC also convenes annually as the Remuneration Committee to review the Trust’s Pay Policy and determine recommendations for staff pay progression. The Remuneration Committee formally approves the annual pay award for the Principal/CEO.

The Committees operating during the 2024/25 period were:

- Quality of Education and Curriculum Committee
- Personal Development and Community Committee
- Finance, Operations and Audit Committee

Role of the Accounting Officer

The Principal/CEO also serves as the Accounting Officer and holds personal responsibility for:

- The propriety and regularity of public funds
- The maintenance of proper accounts
- Prudent and efficient administration
- The avoidance of waste and misuse of resources
- Achieving value for money
- Ensuring the effective use of all Trust resources

The Accounting Officer must operate within the schemes of delegation approved by the Board of Directors and is directly accountable for the proper stewardship of public funds.

Arrangements for Setting Pay and Remuneration of Key Management Personnel

The London Design & Engineering UTC operates a structured, banded pay framework benchmarked against comparable academies and schools to ensure fairness, transparency and competitiveness. Staff remuneration and progression are reviewed annually as part of the performance management cycle, taking account of value for money, contribution and organisational needs.

The Principal/CEO's performance appraisal is undertaken annually by the Chair of the Board, supported by a panel of Directors, and informs decisions regarding remuneration and objectives for the forthcoming year.

Trade Union Facility Time

No time was spent by recognised union officials on paid trade union duties during contracted employment hours within the reporting period, in accordance with the Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017.

Related Parties and Connected Organisations

The London Design & Engineering UTC Trust was established in November 2012 and is supported by five Member organisations: the Chelmsford Diocese Educational Trust, Costain plc, Thames Water Utilities Ltd, Skanska UK plc, and the University of East London (UEL).

The Trust was formed in response to the identified shortage of high-quality technical education and the need expressed by employer sponsors for a pipeline of work-ready young people equipped with the skills, behaviours and attitudes required by industry.

Each of the five Member organisations is an independent legal entity and operates autonomously. Their role as Members is strategic in nature, providing oversight and stewardship while maintaining independence from the Trust's operational activities.

Fundraising

The UTC does not actively solicit donations and therefore is not registered with the Fundraising Regulator and does not subscribe to any fundraising codes of practice.

When donations from individuals are received, the UTC aims to protect personal data and never sells data or swaps data with other organisations. During 2024/25 the UTC received no complaints about fundraising activities.

Auditor

In so far as the Directors are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the charitable company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Directors 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 Directors report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Directors, as the company directors, on 18 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

anne heal

A Heal, Chair

The links with employers are one of the best things here. Meeting professionals and getting feedback on our work makes it feel like we're already stepping into the world of work, not just preparing for it.



GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Directors, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that London Design And Engineering UTC 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.

The Board of Directors has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between London Design And Engineering UTC and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the Board of Directors any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Directors Report and in the Statement of Directors Responsibilities. The Board of Directors has formally met five times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the Board of Directors was as follows:

Director	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Prof H Abdalla.....	5	5
S Ahmad	2	5
G Fowler (CEO).....	5	5
A Heal (Chair).....	5	5
G Lois (Staff Director) (Resigned 30 June 2025) ..	3	4
N Rathbone.....	3	5
H Wain (Vice Chair)	3	5
P Sheikh (Parent Director).....	3	5
U Salman (Parent Director)	4	5
C Kennett	4	5
C Hunter (Resigned 10 September 2025)	0	5
S Moss	5	5
S Duffy	4	5
C Ritman-Smith (Appointed 1 March 2025).....	0	2
D Jebanesan (Appointed 14 July 2025).....	0	0
R Sargsyan (Appointed 6 October 2025)	0	0

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

During the period, Gill Lois resigned as a Staff Director on 30 June 2025. Also, during the period Daniel Jebanesan was appointed as a Director on 14 July 2025, following a recommendation by the Chelmsford Diocesan Educational Trust.

After the period end, Charlene Hunter resigned as a Director on 10 September 2025. The Board then appointed Ruzanne Sargysan on 6 October 2025 to fill that Director vacancy.

Conflicts of interest

All Directors and senior staff make an annual declaration of any pecuniary, personal and or related interests. The Directors' declarations are collated and published on the College's website for all to see.

Furthermore, at every Board and Committee meeting, all Directors and attendees are asked to declare any new or any interests in relation to any agenda item. If any declarations are made then these are recorded in the minutes of the meeting. Should any conflicts of interest arise at a governance meeting the Chair will take advice from the governance professional and will decide how best to manage that conflict of interest. This could include withdrawing from all or part of the meeting or abstaining from any decision-making that may be required.

The Board and its Committees as part of their work receive and scrutinise a range of data on key performance indicators for the College. These included learner progress data, examination outcomes, pupil premium data, behaviour, and attendance data, safeguarding and SEN data; management accounts; financial data and benchmarking data. The Board also receives information from external reviews to help challenge and hold the College leadership to account.

Governance reviews

Directors have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's Academy Trust Handbook and competency framework for governance. A governance review was conducted in 2021/22, which concluded that governance was outstanding and had contributed to the continuing success of the LDE UTC. There are plans to undertake an external governance review in 2025/26. Relationships between College Leaders and Directors are exemplary with mutual respect fostered in the shared ambition for all learners. Leaders and Directors are resolute in their determination to constantly improve and raise the bar in all aspects of the College's work. The Directors have established a Governance Working Group, which meets annually to review governance and to keep making improvements to ensure governance remains outstanding.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Finance, Operations & Audit Committee Meetings

Director	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
G Fowler (CEO).....	4	4
N Rathbone (Chair)	4	4
S. Moss	2	4
U Salman (Parent Director)	2	4
C Carlisle (Co-opted Director)	3	4
R Jacob (Co-opted Director).....	3	4

**Geoffrey Fowler is an attendee only for the Audit Committee portions of these meetings.*

Quality of Education & Curriculum Committee Meetings

Director	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
S Ahmad (Chair).....	2	3
H Wain.....	2	3
S Duffy	2	3
C Ritman-Smith	3	3
C Hunter.....	2	3
G Fowler (CEO).....	3	3
C. Genovese (Co-opted Director)	3	3
Prof M Bellgard (Co-opted Director)	1	1

Personal Development & Community Committee Meetings

Director	Meetings Attended	Out of a possible
Prof H Abdalla.....	1	3
G Fowler (CEO).....	3	3
A Heal (Chair).....	3	3
P Sheikh (Parent Director)	3	3
C Kennett	3	3

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the Principal/CEO 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 trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the Board of Directors where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate.

The Trust has process in place for the reviewing procurement across the estate and has buildings which are just over 5 years old. The accounting officer is in charge of ensuring that the trust utilises its funding effectively to ensure that the estate remains safe, well-maintained and compliant with relevant regulations through prudent financial management and prioritising key areas within the estate requiring urgent attention, thereby mitigating potential risks to its capital assets.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in London Design And Engineering UTC for the period 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 Directors 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 Directors is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Directors.

The risk and control framework

The academy trust has developed a system of internal financial control which 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 Directors;
- regular reviews by the Finance, Operation & Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (continued)

- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- delegation of authority and segregation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Directors has considered the need for a specific internal audit function and has appointed Price Bailey LLP to carry out a programme of internal checks.

The role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. In particular, the checks carried out in 2024/25 included a check of key finance controls and procurement. Results are reported to the Board of Directors through the Finance, Operations & Audit Committee, with any recommendations considered and implemented in a timely manner. No significant internal control weaknesses have been identified during the 2024/25 reviews.

Review of effectiveness

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the work of the external auditor
- the use of a specialist financial management company to review practices, improve accounting and reporting functions, and to ensure compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook and grant conditions

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

Conclusion

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

Approved by order of the Board of Directors on 18 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

anne heal

.....
A Heal, Chair

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of London Design and Engineering UTC, 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 the Department for Education (DfE), and the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management. I have also considered my responsibility to notify the academy trust Board of Directors and DfE of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Board of Directors 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 Directors and DfE.

Geoffrey Fowler

.....

G Fowler

Accounting Officer

18 December 2025



I've grown so much since joining LDE UTC. There's no sense of 'this subject is for boys' or 'that role is for girls,' everyone is encouraged to try everything. Teachers treat you like someone with potential, not just another student, and that support has pushed me to aim higher than I thought I could.

STATEMENT OF DIRECTORS' RESPONSIBILITIES

The directors (who also act as trustees for London Design and Engineering UTC) are responsible for preparing the Directors report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 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 Directors to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Directors 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 Directors are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles in the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025;
- make 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; and
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business

The Directors 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 Directors 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 that grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended. The Directors 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 Directors on 18 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Geoffrey Fowler

G Fowler
CEO

Aine Heal

A Heal
Chair

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON DESIGN AND ENGINEERING UTC**

Opinion

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

In our opinion the accounts:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the charitable company'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;
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Directors 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 Directors with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON DESIGN AND ENGINEERING UTC (continued)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the annual report other than the financial statements and our auditor's report thereon. The Directors 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.

Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

- the information given in the Directors report including the incorporated strategic report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements; and
- the Directors report including the incorporated strategic report has been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Directors report, including the incorporated 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 financial 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 Directors remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON DESIGN AND ENGINEERING UTC (continued)**

Responsibilities of Directors

As explained more fully in the statement of Directors responsibilities, the Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors 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 Directors either intend to liquidate the charitable company, 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.

The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud, is detailed below.

We obtain and update our understanding of the entity, its activities, its control environment, and likely future developments, including in relation to the legal and regulatory framework applicable and how the entity is complying with that framework. Based on this understanding, we identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. This includes consideration of the risk of acts by the entity that were contrary to applicable laws and regulations, including fraud.

In response to the risk of irregularities and non-compliance with laws and regulations, including fraud, we designed procedures which included:

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
TO THE MEMBERS OF LONDON DESIGN AND ENGINEERING UTC (continued)**

- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by the Department for Education;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias

Because of the 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 of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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

Use of our report

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



Catherine Cooper FCCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

For and on behalf of Azets Audit Services,
Statutory Auditor
Chartered Accountants

19th December 2025

Azets Audit Services
First Floor
River House
1 Maidstone Road
Sidcup
Kent
DA14 5RH
United Kingdom

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON
REGULARITY TO LONDON DESIGN & ENGINEERING UTC AND THE
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 2 June 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, 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 London Design and Engineering UTC during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to London Design and Engineering UTC 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 London Design and Engineering UTC 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 London Design and Engineering UTC and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of the accounting officer of London Design and Engineering UTC and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of London Design and Engineering UTC's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education and the Academy Trust Handbook, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance, and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied for the purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

Approach

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

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LONDON DESIGN AND ENGINEERING UTC AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31 AUGUST 2025

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO LONDON DESIGN & ENGINEERING UTC AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (continued)


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.

Our work included identification and assessment of the design and operational effectiveness of the controls, policies and procedures that have been implemented to ensure compliance with the framework of authorities including high level financial control areas and areas assessed of presenting a higher risk of impropriety. We undertook detailed testing, based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity, where such controls, policies and procedures apply to classes of transactions. This work was integrated with our audit on the financial statements to the extent evidence from the conduct of that audit supports the regularity conclusion as well as additional testing based on our assessment of risk of material irregularity.

Conclusion

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



Reporting Accountant

19th December 2025

Azets Audit Services
First Floor
River House
1 Maidstone Road
Sidcup
Kent
DA14 5RH
United Kingdom



Everyone's here because they want to create and build something and that energy is contagious. It's a really positive community, and you're encouraged to explore your ideas and be yourself.

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds: General Fixed asset £'000 £'000		Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Income and endowments from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	5	4	3,424	3,433	855
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	83	8,735	-	8,818	7,638
Other trading activities	5	31	101	-	132	12
Investments	6	33	-	-	33	54
Total		<u>152</u>	<u>8,840</u>	<u>3,424</u>	<u>12,416</u>	<u>8,559</u>
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	83	8,261	804	9,148	7,709
Total	7	<u>83</u>	<u>8,261</u>	<u>804</u>	<u>9,148</u>	<u>7,709</u>
Net income		69	579	2,620	3,268	850
Transfers between funds	16	-	(1,489)	1,489	-	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(48)	-	(48)	(36)
Net movement in funds		69	(958)	4,109	3,220	814
Reconciliation of funds						
Total funds brought forward		127	1,058	18,937	20,122	19,308
Total funds carried forward		<u>196</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>23,046</u>	<u>23,342</u>	<u>20,122</u>

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

**Comparative year information
Year ended 31 August 2024**

		Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds:		Total
	Notes	£'000	General	Fixed asset	2024
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Income and endowments from:					
Donations and capital grants	3	2	-	853	855
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	77	7,561	-	7,638
Other trading activities	5	2	10	-	12
Investments	6	54	-	-	54
Total		<u>135</u>	<u>7,571</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>8,559</u>
Expenditure on:					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	76	6,986	647	7,709
Total	7	<u>76</u>	<u>6,986</u>	<u>647</u>	<u>7,709</u>
Net income		59	585	206	850
Transfers between funds	16	-	(2)	2	-
Other recognised gains/(losses)					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	18	-	(36)	-	(36)
Net movement in funds		59	547	208	814
Reconciliation of funds					
Total funds brought forward		68	511	18,729	19,308
Total funds carried forward		<u>127</u>	<u>1,058</u>	<u>18,937</u>	<u>20,122</u>

BALANCE SHEET

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fixed assets					
Tangible assets	12		23,046		18,066
Current assets					
Debtors	13	479		282	
Cash at bank and in hand		935		2,401	
			1,414		2,683
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(1,118)		(627)	
Net current assets			296		2,056
Net assets excluding pension asset			23,342		20,122
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	18		-		-
Total net assets			23,342		20,122
Funds of the academy trust:					
Restricted funds	16				
- Fixed asset funds			23,046		18,937
- Restricted income funds			100		1,058
Total restricted funds			23,146		19,995
Unrestricted income funds	16		196		127
Total funds			23,342		20,122

The financial statements on pages 42 to 63 were approved by the Directors and authorised for issue on 18 December 2025 and are signed on their behalf by:

Geoffrey Fowler

G Fowler

CEO

anne heal

A Heal

Chair

Company registration number 08283657 (England and Wales)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

	Notes	2025		2024	
		£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash flows from operating activities					
Net cash provided by operating activities	19		962		649
Cash flows from investing activities					
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		33		54	
Capital grants from DfE Group		3,323		749	
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(5,784)		(630)	
Net cash (used in)/provided by investing activities			(2,428)		173
Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period			(1,466)		822
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year			2,401		1,579
Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year			935		2,401
Relating to:					
Bank and cash balances			281		1,345
Short term deposits			654		1,056

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

1 Accounting policies

London Design and Engineering UTC is a charitable company. The address of its principal place of business is given on page 3 and the nature of its operations are set out in the Directors report.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation

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

1.2 Going concern

The Directors assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate, ie whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the charitable company to continue as a going concern. The Directors 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. Thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 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 period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

Sponsorship income

Sponsorship income provided to the academy trust which amounts to a donation is recognised in the statement of financial activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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

Donated fixed assets

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

Interest receivable

Interest receivable is included within the statement of financial activities on a receivable basis.

1.4 Expenditure

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement, and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably.

Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges are allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

Expenditure on raising funds

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

Charitable activities

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

1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the balance sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding that require 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

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

Land and buildings	The lesser of 50 years or the remaining lease term
Assets under construction	Not depreciated until in use
Computer equipment	3 years
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	5 years

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.

1.6 Liabilities

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

1.7 Leased assets

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

1.8 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets

Trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities

Trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition.

Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

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

1.10 Pensions benefits

Retirement benefits to employees of the academy trust are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ('TPS') and the Local Government Pension Scheme ('LGPS'). These are defined benefit schemes and the assets are held separately from those of the academy trust.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the academy trust in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary based on quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. The 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 are recognised in the period to which they relate.

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

1.11 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 Directors.

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

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

1.12 Agency Arrangements

The Academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from DfE. Payments received from DfE 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. The trust can use 5% 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 note 25.

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

Accounting 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.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 18 will impact on 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 pension value also includes an asset ceiling adjustment and the assumptions used to calculate this are:

- The scheme is open to new entrants;
- There is a minimum funding requirement in relation to the LGPS;
- There is the ability to recover a surplus through the ability to reduce future contributions (not refund)
- In calculating the surplus, the present value of current and past service costs is offset against the future contributions over the future period;
- The present value in the above calculations are calculated using an annuity representing participation into perpetuity.

Critical areas of judgement

Useful economic lives of tangible assets

The annual depreciation charge for tangible assets is sensitive to changes in the estimated useful economic lives and residual values of the assets. The useful economic lives and residual values are re-assessed annually. They are amended when necessary to reflect current estimates, based on technological advancement, future investments, economic utilisation and the physical condition of the assets. See note 12 for the carrying amount of the property plant and equipment, and note 1.5 for the useful economic lives for each class of assets.

Bad debts

Debtors are regularly reviewed for recoverability, any debts which in the opinion of management are not recoverable are provided for as a specific bad debt.

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

3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Donated fixed assets	-	-	-	5
Capital grants	-	3,424	3,424	848
Other donations	5	4	9	2
	<u>5</u>	<u>3,428</u>	<u>3,433</u>	<u>855</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
DfE/ESFA grants				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	2,599	2,599	3,418
16-19 core education funding		5,071	5,071	3,325
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	144	144	143
- Turing Scheme	-	70	70	-
- Teachers pay and pension grants	-	306	306	215
- Core Schools Budget Grant	-	99	99	-
- Apprenticeship levy	-	139	139	160
- Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	-	-	-	88
- Others	-	74	74	82
	-	8,502	8,502	7,431
Other government grants				
Local authority grants	-	231	231	130
Other incoming resources	83	2	85	77
Total funding	83	8,735	8,818	7,638

5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Other income	31	101	132	12

6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Short term deposits	33	-	33	54

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £'000	Non-pay expenditure		Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
		Premises £'000	Other £'000		
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	4,782	804	906	6,492	5,418
- Allocated support costs	1,316	529	811	2,656	2,291
	<u>6,098</u>	<u>1,333</u>	<u>1,717</u>	<u>9,148</u>	<u>7,709</u>

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Operating lease rentals	72	70
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	804	644
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	-	3
Fees payable to auditor for:		
- Audit	15	14
- Other services	6	5
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability	(10)	(11)
	<u>72</u>	<u>70</u>

8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £'000	Restricted funds £'000	Total 2025 £'000	Total 2024 £'000
Direct costs				
Educational operations	-	6,492	6,492	5,418
Support costs				
Educational operations	83	2,573	2,656	2,291
	<u>83</u>	<u>9,065</u>	<u>9,148</u>	<u>7,709</u>

Analysis of support costs

	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Support staff costs	1,316	1,149
Technology costs	125	77
Premises costs	529	440
Other support costs	404	396
Governance costs	282	229
	<u>2,656</u>	<u>2,291</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

9 Staff

Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Wages and salaries	4,631	3,992
Social security costs	540	437
Pension costs	859	696
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Staff costs - employees	6,030	5,125
Agency staff costs	68	146
Staff restructuring costs	-	37
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Staff development and other staff costs	6,098	5,308
	71	34
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total staff expenditure	<u>6,169</u>	<u>5,342</u>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	-	27
Severance payments	-	10
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	37
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Staff numbers

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

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Teachers	55	49
Administration and support	41	39
Management	5	5
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	101	93
	<hr/>	<hr/>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

9 Staff

(Continued)

Higher paid staff

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	11	6
£70,001 - £80,000	6	3
£80,001 - £90,000	3	4
£90,001 - £100,000	3	1
£150,001 - £160,000	-	1
£170,001 - £180,000	1	-
	====	====

Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the Directors and the senior management team as listed on page 3. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £601k (2024: £669k).

10 Directors remuneration and expenses

One or more of the Directors has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The principal and other staff Directors only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of principal and staff members under their contracts of employment, and not in respect of their services as Directors.

The value of Directors remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

G Fowler (principal and trustee):

- Remuneration £170,000 - £175,000 (2024: £150,000 - £155,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £45,000-£50,000 (2024: £35,000 - £40,000)

G Lois (staff trustee) (resigned 30 June 2025):

- Remuneration £35,000 - £40,000 (2024: £40,000 - £45,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £5,000 - £10,000 (2024: £5,000 - £10,000)

During the current and prior years, no expenses were paid directly or reimbursed to the trustees.

Other related party transactions involving the Directors are set out within the related parties note.

11 Directors and officers' insurance

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

12 Tangible fixed assets

	Land and buildings	Assets under construction	Computer equipment	Fixtures, fittings & equipment	Total
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cost					
At 1 September 2024	19,860	534	1,109	1,918	23,421
Additions	-	5,009	50	725	5,784
At 31 August 2025	19,860	5,543	1,159	2,643	29,205
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	2,549	-	1,031	1,775	5,355
Charge for the year	450	-	71	283	804
At 31 August 2025	2,999	-	1,102	2,058	6,159
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	16,861	5,543	57	585	23,046
At 31 August 2024	17,311	534	78	143	18,066

The asset under construction relates to the new T level building construction costs. The building was opened on 22nd September 2025.

13 Debtors

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Trade debtors	68	-
VAT recoverable	107	66
Other debtors	23	1
Prepayments and accrued income	281	215
	479	282

14 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Trade creditors	142	193
Other taxation and social security	128	103
Other creditors	600	224
Accruals and deferred income	248	107
	1,118	627

Other creditors include £415k (2024: £nil) of retentions payable in respect of ongoing building projects.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

15 Deferred income

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	-	55
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	55	24
Released from previous years	(55)	(24)
Resources deferred in the year	-	55
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

Last year the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for T level placement funding and school trips

16 Funds

	Balance at			Gains,	Balance at
	1 September	Income	Expenditure	losses and	31 August
	2024	£'000	£'000	transfers	2025
	£'000			£'000	£'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	1,058	7,670	(7,139)	(1,489)	100
Pupil premium	-	144	(144)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	688	(688)	-	-
Other government grants	-	231	(231)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	107	(107)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	48	(48)	-
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	1,058	8,840	(8,261)	(1,537)	100
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	871	3,424	-	(4,295)	-
General fixed assets	18,066	-	(804)	5,784	23,046
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	18,937	3,424	(804)	1,489	23,046
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total restricted funds	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	19,995	12,264	(9,065)	(48)	23,146
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	127	152	(83)	-	196
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
Total funds	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>
	20,122	12,416	(9,148)	(48)	23,342
	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>	<u> </u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

16 Funds

(Continued)

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

General Annual Grant: Income received from the DfE (formerly ESFA) to cover the normal running costs of the Academy.

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

Pupil Premium : Income received from the DfE/ESFA as described.

Other DfE/ESFA grants: This includes Teachers Pension and Pay Grants, Recovery Grant, Mainstream Schools Additional Grant, Rates and apprenticeship funding.

Other government grants: This includes SEN funding, growth funding and additional pupil premium.

Other restricted funds: This includes trip income. and other donations received for specific purposes,

The transfer of funds relate capital expenditure funded by GAG.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £'000	Income £'000	Expenditure £'000	Gains, losses and transfers £'000	Balance at 31 August 2024 £'000
Restricted general funds					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	511	6,743	(6,204)	(2)	1,048
Pupil premium	-	143	(143)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	545	(545)	-	-
Other government grants	-	130	(130)	-	-
Other restricted funds	-	10	-	-	10
Pension reserve	-	-	36	(36)	-
	<u>511</u>	<u>7,571</u>	<u>(6,986)</u>	<u>(38)</u>	<u>1,058</u>
Restricted fixed asset funds					
DfE group capital grants	651	848	-	(628)	871
General fixed assets	18,078	5	(647)	630	18,066
	<u>18,729</u>	<u>853</u>	<u>(647)</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>18,937</u>
Total restricted funds	<u>19,240</u>	<u>8,424</u>	<u>(7,633)</u>	<u>(36)</u>	<u>19,995</u>
Unrestricted funds					
General funds	68	135	(76)	-	127
Total funds	<u>19,308</u>	<u>8,559</u>	<u>(7,709)</u>	<u>(36)</u>	<u>20,122</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

17 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	23,046	23,046
Current assets	196	1,218	-	1,414
Current liabilities	-	(1,118)	-	(1,118)
Total net assets	196	100	23,046	23,342
	Unrestricted	Restricted funds:		Total
	Funds	General	Fixed asset	Funds
	£'000	£'000	£'000	£'000
Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:				
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	18,066	18,066
Current assets	127	1,685	871	2,683
Current liabilities	-	(627)	-	(627)
Total net assets	127	1,058	18,937	20,122

18 Pension and similar obligations

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

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

Contributions amounting to £122k were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024: £104k) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

Introduction

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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 will be implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £564,119 (2024: £369,192).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website.

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 contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.3% for employers and 5.5% to 12.5% for employees.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of 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 GOV.UK.

Total contributions made	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Employer's contributions	221	194
Employees' contributions	88	81
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total contributions	309	275
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Principal actuarial assumptions	2025	2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.6	3.8
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.6	2.8
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.2	5.1
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

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

	2025	2024
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
- Males	21	19.2
- Females	23.7	22.7
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.7	20.6
- Females	25.5	24.2

Sensitivity analysis

Scheme liabilities would have been affected by changes in assumptions as follows:

	2025	2024
Discount rate + 0.1%	-37	-51
Discount rate - 0.1%	38	54
Mortality assumption + 1 year	35	57
Mortality assumption - 1 year	-34	-55
Salary rate + 0.1%	1	1
Salary rate - 0.1%	-1	-1

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme

	2025	2024
	Fair value	Fair value
	£'000	£'000
Equities	1,544	1,453
Cash and liquid assets	119	57
Property	302	289
Other assets	325	325
Total market value of assets	2,290	2,124
Restriction on scheme assets	(670)	(98)
Net assets recognised	1,620	2,026

The actual return on scheme assets was £130,000 (2024: £223,000).

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
Current service cost	181	168
Interest income	(109)	(93)
Interest cost	99	82
Benefit changes, curtailments and settlements gains or losses	2	1
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total amount recognised	173	158
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2024	2,026	1,531
Current service cost	181	168
Interest cost	99	82
Employee contributions	88	81
Actuarial (gain)/loss	(503)	179
Benefits paid	(271)	(15)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2025	1,620	2,026
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets	2025 £'000	2024 £'000
At 1 September 2024	2,124	1,642
Interest income	109	93
Actuarial gain	21	130
Employer contributions	221	194
Employee contributions	88	81
Benefits paid	(271)	(15)
Effect of non-routine settlements and administration expenses	(2)	(1)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2025	2,290	2,124
Restriction on scheme assets	(670)	(98)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets recognised	1,620	2,026
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

The net gain recognised on scheme assets has been restricted because the full pension surplus is not expected to be recovered through refunds or reduced contributions in the future.

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

18 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

Restriction of pension scheme assets

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Present value of defined benefit obligations	(1,620)	(2,026)
Fair value of plan assets	2,290	2,124
	<u>670</u>	<u>98</u>
Net asset	670	98
Restriction to level of asset ceiling	(670)	(98)
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Net asset recognised on the balance sheet	-	-
	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>

19 Reconciliation of net income to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2025	2024
		£'000	£'000
Net income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		3,268	850
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		(3,424)	(853)
Investment income receivable	6	(33)	(54)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	18	(38)	(25)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance income	18	(10)	(11)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		804	644
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		-	3
(Increase) in debtors		(96)	(13)
Increase in creditors		491	108
		<u>962</u>	<u>649</u>
Net cash provided by operating activities		<u>962</u>	<u>649</u>

20 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September	Cash flows	31 August
	2024		2025
	£'000	£'000	£'000
Cash	1,345	(1,064)	281
Cash equivalents	1,056	(402)	654
	<u>2,401</u>	<u>(1,466)</u>	<u>935</u>
	<u>2,401</u>	<u>(1,466)</u>	<u>935</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (continued)

21 Long-term commitments

Operating leases

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

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Amounts due within one year	72	89
Amounts due in two and five years	39	111
	<u>111</u>	<u>200</u>

22 Capital commitments

	2025	2024
	£'000	£'000
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	385	-
	<u>385</u>	<u>-</u>

At the year end there is an expected £385k still to be paid to complete the construction of the T-Level building.

23 Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the academy trust and the composition of the Board of Directors being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the Directors have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the Academy's financial regulations, the requirement of the Academy Trust Handbook and normal procurement procedures.

Expenditure related party transactions

Purchases of £37,535 (2024: £46,509) were made from the University of East London during the financial year at an arm's length basis.

24 Members' liability

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

25 Agency arrangements

The Academy Trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the trust received £78k (2024: £70k) and disbursed £48k (2024: £70k) from the fund. An amount of £48k (2024: £18k) is included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that is repayable to DfE.



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