

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members

The Derby Diocesan Board of Education
The Diocesan Bishop of Derby, The Rt Revd Libby Lane
The Diocesan Director of Education (DDE) for Derby, Carolyn Shoyer
The Diocesan Secretary, Derby Diocesan Board of Finance, William Hagger
Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles, Chair of Trustees

Trustees

Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles, Chair of Trustees
Chair of the Education and Standards Committee
Mr. Henry Taylor-Toone, Vice Chair of Trustees (resigned 10 February 2025)
Mr. John Kelly, Vice Chair of Trustees
Chair of Audit and Risk Committee
Mr. Justin Wilson, Chair of Finance and Resources Committee
Revd Robert Atkins (appointed 17 December 2024)
Ms. Karen Beamish (appointed 17 December 2024)
Mr. Kevin Downs (appointed 17 December 2024)
Mr. Mark Emly, Safeguarding and SEND Link Trustee
Dr. Helen Galbraith, Careers Link Trustee
Ms. Harjinder Kaur (resigned 4 September 2024)
Ms. Sharron Philpot
Mr. Peter Upton
Ms. Susan Whyld

Company registered number

08980079

Company name

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust

Principal and registered office

Top Floor, Unit 3 Endcliffe Mount Deepdale Business Park, Ashford Road, Bakewell, Derbyshire, DE45 1GT

Company secretary

Michelmores Secretaries Limited
JN Hampton Limited

Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer

Dr. Sarah Clark

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

Senior management team

Dr. Sarah Clark, Chief Executive Officer
Ms. Jackie Stirland, Deputy Chief Executive Officer and Head of School Improvement (appointed 1 September 2024)
Mr. Patrick Mosley, Chief Finance Officer
Ms. Hayley Wharton, Chief Operating Officer

Independent auditor

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

Bankers

Lloyds Bank Plc, Iron Gate, Derby, DE1 3FT

Solicitors

Browne Jacobson LLP, Mowbray House, Castle Meadow Road, Nottingham, NG2 1BJ

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees present their Annual Report together with the financial statements and Auditor's Report of the Charitable Company for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025. The Annual Report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' Report, and a Directors' report under company law.

The Multi-Academy Trust operated thirty-three academies for pupils across Derbyshire and Derby City which include the statutory age range for pupils, in addition to nursery and Sixth Form provision. The thirty three academies are, St Giles CE Primary School, St Laurence CE VA Primary School, Turnditch CE Primary School, All Saints CE Junior School, All Saints CE Infant school, Holbrook CE Primary School, William Gilbert Endowed CE Primary School, Scargill CE Primary School, Bolsover CE Junior School, Arboretum Primary School, Griffe Field Primary School, Loscoe CE Primary School, St Werburgh's CE Primary School, Bishop Lonsdale CE Primary School and Nursery, Newbold CE Primary School, Walter Evans CE Primary School, Christ Church CE Primary School, Darley Churchtown CE Primary School, St Giles CE Primary School (Killamarsh), St George's CE Primary School, Firs Primary School, Hardwick Primary School, Derby Cathedral School, St Chad's CE Infant School, Woodthorpe CE Primary School, St Peter's CE Aided Junior School, Bakewell CE Infant School, Bishop Pursglove CE Primary School, St James' CE Junior School, Sale and Davys CE Primary School, Marson Montgomery Primary School, Long Lane CE Primary School and Stanley Common Primary School. The Multi-Academy Trust has a pupil capacity of 8829 and had a roll of 7737 in the school census on October 2024.

On 1 February 2024 the entire operations of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 2 (DDAT2), and its assets and liabilities have been transferred to Derby Diocesan Academy Trust (DDAT). This has created a single Trust structure and provides consistency and greater effectiveness by combining the two related organisations into a single legal entity.

DDAT is considering its future growth strategy in conversation with the Diocese, with the strategic plan outlining the phased approach. The growth plan has been included in the plans for future periods section. The current 'regional hub' model will be developed to ensure appropriate levels of responsibility and accountability are developed as the number of schools grow. DDAT has further utilised expertise within the schools to provide greater central trust support, and this is evidenced through executive headteacher models.

The growth within DDAT has enabled the appointment of additional central team staff and a successful Trust Capacity Fund (TCaF) bid has supported the implementation of new systems during this period including Finance, HR, CRM and school improvement.

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

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

a. CONSTITUTION

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

The Charitable Company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust.

The Trustees of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust are also the Directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of Company law.

The Charitable Company is known as Derby Diocesan Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

b. MEMBERS' LIABILITY

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

c. TRUSTEES' INDEMNITIES

The Academy Trust purchases indemnity insurance to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy Trust; provided that any insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the trustees in their capacity as Directors of the Academy Trust.

d. METHOD OF RECRUITMENT AND APPOINTMENT OR ELECTION OF TRUSTEES

Trustees are recruited to the board based on their specialist skills and empathy for the ethos of the Trust and its objectives. Trustees and officers nominate new trustees to the members for appointment after a recruitment process which includes an interview with existing representatives of the Board and Executive Leadership. Appointments are formally approved by resolution.

e. POLICIES ADOPTED FOR THE INDUCTION AND TRAINING OF TRUSTEES

New trustees are assessed for relevant experience and knowledge and an individual induction is provided on appointment by the Governance Professional, which includes an introduction to the Trust's governance framework, statutory duties and current strategic priorities. Ongoing assessment of trustee skills is maintained through the annual skills audit, with additional training arranged where required to ensure the Board continues to operate effectively.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT (CONTINUED)

f. ORGANISATIONAL STRUCTURE

Governance: The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring that the vision, ethos, and strategic direction of DDAT are clearly defined and ensuring the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources. Schemes of delegation and authorisation limits are set out in the Trust's financial regulations.

Management: The Trust's day-to-day operations are managed by the Accounting Officer/CEO, Chief Financial Officer, and Chief Operating Officer, with oversight by the Chair of the Board.

Academy Governance: Each Academy is governed by a local governing body. The functions of the governing body include:

- ensuring that the vision, ethos and strategic direction of the school are clearly defined
- ensuring that the headteacher performs his or her responsibilities for the educational performance of the school
- ensuring the sound, proper and effective use of the school's financial resources

The executive headteacher/headteacher's responsibilities at each academy include:

- the internal organisation, management and control of the school; and
- the educational performance of the school

g. ARRANGEMENTS FOR SETTING PAY AND REMUNERATION OF KEY MANAGEMENT PERSONNEL

The Trust's key management personnel are appointed by the Trustees. Academy key management staff are appointed by the LGB and Trust representatives.

The Trust's key management personnel are considered to be the executive leadership team as noted on page 2.

Trade union facility time [see The Trade Union (Facility Time Publication Requirements) Regulations 2017].

Relevant union officials Nil.

Percentage of time spent on facility time Nil.

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

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

a. OBJECTS AND AIMS

The Trust's aim is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom, in particular but without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing Academies which shall offer a broad and balanced curriculum, and which shall include:

- Church of England schools designated as such which shall be conducted in accordance with the principles, practices and tenets of the Church of England both generally and in particular in relation to arranging for religious education and daily acts of worship, and having regard to any advice issued by the Diocesan Board of Education; and
- Other Academies whether with or without a designated religious character; but in relation to each of the Academies to recognise and support their individual ethos, whether or not designated Church of England.

b. OBJECTIVES, STRATEGIES AND ACTIVITIES

Vision and Values

The Derby Diocese Board of Education has established a Multi-Academy Trust "to nurture and empower everyone to reach their fullest potential, supporting each other on this journey. Inspired by the teachings of Jesus Christ, we cultivate a vibrant learning community where children and young people flourish academically, emotionally, and spiritually."

DDAT is approved by the DFE as an academy sponsor. DDAT supports schools with an exceptional school improvement strategy and looks after the business elements of running an academy, protecting the distinctively Christian nature of each school.

DDAT aims:

- To promote excellence, equity, and integrity in all that we do, so that our children and young people are well prepared to thrive in an ever-changing world.
- To foster a thriving educational environment where every stakeholder is empowered to excel and flourish.
- To create a network of schools that, grounded in collaboration, innovation, and evidence-based practices, will be beacons of excellence, providing transformative opportunities for all.

How will we achieve our aims:

Harnessing Expertise: We leverage internal and external expertise and resources to inform our practices, ensuring that we remain at the forefront of educational innovation. Strategic partnerships enhance the quality of education we deliver, enriching our educational offerings with contemporary insights and advanced methodologies, guided by the Christian principles of seeking wisdom, knowledge, skills and understanding.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Professional Development: Every member of our staff team deserves the opportunity to grow and develop professionally. We provide comprehensive support and tailor professional development opportunities, enabling adults to reach their full potential and drive continuous improvement, fostering a culture of lifelong learning in line with the Christian commitment to personal growth and development.

School Improvement: All schools within our Trust are on an ongoing journey of improvement. Through bespoke, evidence-based school improvement plans tailored to each institution's unique needs, we empower schools to reach their full potential and provide the highest quality learning experiences for all students. Our schools are dynamic, inclusive communities where everyone can flourish, reflecting the Christian call to build community, nurture and support one another through life-giving love.

Resource Management: We ensure that all schools have the necessary resources and funding to deliver a high-quality and sustainable learning environment. Trust-wide systems effectively target resources and manage risk, with funded plans to support needed investments, ensuring that every student learns in a well-resourced, safe, and respectful environment, rooted in the Christian values of stewardship and care for God's creation.

Student Outcomes: Our goal is to prepare all children to achieve aspirational outcomes and embrace life in all its fullness. By instilling a love for learning, fostering courageous hope, and nurturing essential life skills, we empower our children and young people to thrive and make meaningful contributions to society; equipped with the knowledge, skills, and values they need to succeed in an ever-changing world. This commitment reflects the Christian aspiration for every individual to live a purposeful life, contributing positively to their community and the world around them.

As Academies within DDAT develop and improve, they will be expected and required to share their journey, skills, and expertise with other DDAT academies. DDAT will encourage and nurture the dissemination of good practice, fostering a self-sustaining culture of aspiration for educational excellence across all schools and exemplifying Christian values in every area.

School Improvement Strategy

DDAT has a structured approach to school improvement. An educational audit of the school prior to conversion will highlight areas where, and to what level, the Trust board, through the Deputy CEO will support the school post conversion. There will be a minimum of six visits each year by a member of the school improvement team.

Each school is aiming to achieve the strongest outcomes on the Ofsted framework, but the barriers to this in each school can be very different. Therefore, DDAT supports school leaders to develop bespoke action plans to bring about rapid improvement in those academies that need it or to ensure that the high standards are maintained in high performing schools.

This approach ensures early intervention in all schools before it is too late to protect the interests of the children.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Future Challenges:

- Keep the focus on rigorous school improvement so that all schools receive at least the expected standard on the new Ofsted Framework.
- Developing further hub models and centralisation of services supported by robust systems, policies, and procedures.
- Managing growth and resisting the temptation to grow too quickly.
- Secure a partner secondary school for Derby Cathedral School to work with, and in its absence link to other Trusts for partnership work.
- Building capacity of our own central team so that DDAT can provide the high-quality services expected by schools on joining.
- Developing and maintaining positive links with professional associations.
- Ensuring that the continuing professional development for all our staff team is up-to-date and relevant and supported by the People Strategy. Ensuring safe and effective practice safeguarding the welfare of all pupils and staff.
- Ensuring that our schools are able to support pupils with more complex needs.

c. PUBLIC BENEFIT

DDAT provides significant public benefit through the dedicated school improvement programme. This programme will improve the quality of teaching and learning in the Derby and Derbyshire catchment area. The aims and objectives described earlier detail how the work of the Trust provide public benefit.

d. STRATEGIC REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

Overall Effectiveness:

Attendance at many schools remains above national averages in each phase, although challenges such as high mobility in Derby City and Chesterfield provide regional challenges compared to the national context. Attendance for DDAT primary schools for the 2024/25 academic year was 94.5% which was above the national average for (93.1%). Attendance at Derby Cathedral School (93.7%) was above the national average for secondary schools (92.1%).

Current demographics show variation in pupil number predictions with some rural communities showing a decline and others likely to benefit from several new housing developments and children living in the area. Some schools remain under PAN, but action is being taken including extending the age range to include nursery age children and implementing a PR/ Marketing strategy.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Pupil Attainment and Progress

A summary of school performance in line with published data is shown below:

		Expected Standard %		Higher Standard %	
		Trust	National	Trust	National
Early years and Key Stage 1 2024/25	EYFSP GLD	67.1	68.3		
	Year 1 Phonics	81.8	80		
	KS1 Reading	67		18%	
	KS1 Writing	60		9%	
	KS1 Maths	68		18%	

		Expected Standard %		Higher Standard %	
		Trust	National	Trust	National
Key Stage 2 2024/25	MTC 100%	32.3	37		
	MTC APS	20.4	21		
	KS2 Reading	71.8	75	29	33
	KS2 Writing	63.9	72	14	13
	KS2 Maths	67.7	74	24	26
	KS2 GPS	68.8	73	27	30
	KS2 Combined	54.9	62	8	8

Key Stage 4 Results 2025

	Attainment 8	9-4 Eng & Maths	9-5 Eng & Maths
Derby Cathedral School	41.5	57.3%	35.4%

Key Stage 5 Results 2025

	Academic		Applied General		Level 3 Overall	
	Average Grade	APS Per Entry	Average Grade	APS Per Entry	Average Grade	APS Per Entry
Derby Cathedral School	C=	29.3	Merit+	27.02	C=	28.64

Academy Inspection Reports

Ofsted conducted a section 5 inspection of St Peters CofE Junior School 24 September to 25 September 2024. All areas were judged good. This is substantial progress for the school which was judged 'Inadequate' before it joined the Trust in 2020.

Ofsted conducted a section 5 inspection of Scargill CofE Primary School 12 and 13 November 2024, which was previously judged as Requires improvement 2022. All areas were judged good.

Ofsted conducted a section 8 inspection of Darley Churchtown CofE Primary School on 17 December 2024, and the judgment was that the school 'continues to be good'.

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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

Ofsted conducted a section 8 inspection of Turnditch CofE Primary School on 10 December 2024, and the judgment was that the school 'continues to be good'.

Ofsted conducted a section 5 inspection of St George's CofE Primary School on 07 to 08 January 2025; all areas were judged 'Good'. This is substantial progress for the school which was judged overall 'Requires Improvement' in 2022 and 'Inadequate' before it joined the Trust in 2017.

Ofsted conducted an ungraded Inspection of Christ Church CofE Primary School on 14 to 15 January 2025; the school was judged to have improved significantly in all areas since the previous inspection where it was judged 'Good'.

Ofsted conducted a graded Inspection of Hardwick Primary School on 25 to 26 February 2025; all areas judged 'Good', except Personal development which was judged to be 'Outstanding'.

Ofsted conducted a graded Inspection of Sale and Davys CofE Primary School on 11 to 12 March 2025; all areas were judged to be 'Good', except Personal development which was judged to be 'Outstanding'.

Ofsted conducted a graded Inspection of Holbrook CofE Primary School on 29 to 30 April 2025; all areas were judged to be 'Good', except Behaviour and Personal Development which were both judged to be 'Outstanding'.

Ofsted conducted an ungraded Inspection of All Saints CofE Infant School on 17 to 18 June 2025; the school was judged to have taken effective action to maintain the standards identified at the previous inspection of Good.

All schools in the SIAMS inspection window 2024 - 5 have been visited by inspectors and in all published reports these schools are judged J1.

- Bolsover CofE Junior School
- Long Lane CofE Primary School
- Scargill CofE (VA) Primary School
- St George's CofE Primary School
- St Laurence CofE (VA) Primary School
- Turnditch CofE Primary School
- Walter Evans CofE (VA) Primary School
- Holbrook CofE Primary School

No schools have joined DDAT during the period.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED)

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

a. KEY PERFORMANCE INDICATORS

Financial and education performance KPI's are produced for each school and the central trust. These are reviewed and analysed by the operations team, finance subcommittee and board.

Key measures include expenditure costs against income and progress and attainment in each school.

KPIs for achievement and performance have been outlined, but in addition attendance is also monitored.

Financial KPIs are also produced and monitored by the Trust and are also benchmarked against national data.

Alongside these priorities, a successful TCaF bid secured £457.5K funding at the beginning of November 2023 for DDAT. All funding was spent and all activities evidenced by 31 March 2025. School Business Managers (SBMs) have been consulted in the process of procuring a new finance and HR platform across the Trust, which is now being implemented.

b. GOING CONCERN

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

c. PROMOTING THE SUCCESS OF THE COMPANY

- Working with Dr Sarah Hardman Charles to promote DDAT as an 'employer of choice' with NQTs at Derby University
- Promotion of DDAT throughout the Diocese by the Chair of DBE, Rt Revd Malcolm Macnaughton, and the Diocesan Director of Education, Carolyn Shoyer
- Consideration of consequences of decision making as part of the longer-term strategic plan, and the impact on maintaining or improving the educational, operational, and financial health of the Trust and its academies.
- Working with other Trusts, including Diocesan to support strategic developments within the Trust
- Working with other partners including the local authority to explore the possibility of developing alternative provision and provision for pupils with special educational needs.
- Consideration of the interests of the Trust's employees through on-going consultation and strategic plans to develop the workforce and address workload.
- Strengthening the Trust's impact on community and the environment through recruitment of an Estates and H&S lead.
- Maintaining the Trust's reputation for high standards of conduct in all aspects of operation.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The main sources of income for the Academy Trust are grants from the Department of Education (DfE) in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. The grants received from the DfE

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ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE (CONTINUED)

during the period ended 1 August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities. The charging model for schools was reviewed 2024 – 25 so that all schools, except for a PFI school, are on the same management charge of 7% from September 2025. This has supported the Trust to expand the service offer and provide greater equity to all schools.

In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities' (SORP 2015), any capital grants and donations of fixed assets are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the useful life of the assets concerned as defined in the Academy Trust's accounting policies.

During the period ended 31 August 2025, total expenditure of £60,614,333 (2024: £48,975,134) was covered by recurrent grant funding from the DfE together with other incoming resources. The in year deficit on free reserves was £2,126,577 (2024: £2,957,183). These figures exclude the deficit on the Local Government Pension Scheme (see note 23 to the accounts). At 31 August 2025 the net book value of fixed assets was £55,473,314 (2024: £55,242,917) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 13 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Academy Trust.

a. RESERVES POLICY

The Trustees review the reserve levels of the Academy Trust annually. This review encompasses the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match income with commitments and the nature of reserves. With no material designated projects the Trust's longer term policy with regard to the available free reserves is to use them strategically to maintain the high standard of teaching and learning across the academies.

The Academy is holding reserves at 31 August 2025 of £67,289,517 (2024: £65,504,826).

This comprises of:

Restricted Funds of £-(2024: £Nil)

Unrestricted Funds of £8,747,696 (2024: £7,511,773)

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds of £58,541,821 (2024: £57,993,053)

Restricted Funds comprises:

£- (2024: £Nil) general funds to support the academy's budget in 2024-25.

£Nil (2024: £Nil) is the deficit on the defined benefit pension scheme.

The free reserves of the Academy Trust are £8,747,696 (2024: £7,511,773) at 31 August 2025 before the transfer out of the Academies. This represented approximately 3 months of the Trust's annual payroll costs plus contingency for capital spend and unexpected costs which is considered to be a reasonable level of reserves in the current economic climate.

The Trustees have reviewed these reserves and believes they are adequate to provide sufficient working capital for the Academy Trust to continue to operate within its financial resources, and to cover unexpected urgent work. Specific use to which the respective funds can be applied are detailed in note 16. The Trustees plan to review the reserves policy alongside the review of the Scheme of Delegation.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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b. INVESTMENT POLICY

A return on working capital shall be optimised whilst allowing easy access of the funds. In balancing risk against return the Academy policy is geared towards avoiding risk rather than to maximise return. The Academies current investment policy is to maximise income but from a low-risk strategy. All monies are currently held on bank deposit and are attracting interest.

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c. PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Trustees review a register of principal risks at each meeting and receive a report from officers how the risks are being alleviated. The principal risks are listed in the table below:

Trust Capacity	The requirements of conversion projects, and new schools joining the Trust, will make significant demands on Trust capacity at times which carries the risk of poor performance, key deadlines being missed and reputational damage.
Governance	Trust may be unable to recruit individuals to the Local Academy Committees who possess the required skills and knowledge. This results in poor performance, a lack of local context in the management of the school and disengagement with the local community.
Growth	DDAT's current strong reputation with the Department for Education as an Academy Sponsor is compromised and growth is halted.
Demand & Viability	Insufficient pupil demand for charity's services leaves it unsustainable. Removal of the Minimum Funding Guarantee.
Competition	Presence of other organisations with similar objects and little scope for differentiation.
Strategic & Reputational	Risk of the impact an uncontrollable event will have on the charity e.g., fire, flood, oil crisis, war, recession.
Strategic & Reputational	An inspection of a DDAT school results in a downgrading of Ofsted rating and has a negative impact on the reputation of the Trust and school improvement service.
HR	Failure to comply with employment law- e.g., unfair dismissal of an employee - attracts adverse publicity.
Governance	Committees not established with delegated authority, e.g., finance, personnel etc.
HR	Key person loss/succession risk.
HR	Recruitment risk - recruiting an individual not capable of performing duties and/or unsuitable to work with children.
Operational	Risk health and safety and/or employment legislation is not adhered to at schools.
Finance	Risk that school and/or Trust budgets will be in deficit.
Finance	Risk that actual performance is not measured against budget on a regular basis.
Operational	Risk that assets built by contractors do not meet specifications, or actual cost exceeds budget.
Finance	Risk that charity has entered future commitments without having the future funding available to meet them.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Schools within the Trust are supported through an SLA with YMD Boon to ensure that Heath and Safety requirements are met and to achieve Trust wide savings. YMD Boon conduct annual Heath and Safety audits across the DDAT estate and outcomes are discussed at regular health check meetings with the Trust Executive team. Whilst most schools have dedicated premises staff and local arrangements for the maintenance of grounds, schools who do not have a competent employee currently receive three health and safety visits per academic year with the audits taking place during the spring term through YMD Boon.

YMD Boon also conducts condition surveys which include sampling for Asbestos and RAAC the outcomes of which inform deployment of the school condition allocation; priorities are shared with Trustees for approval. The SLA also supports due diligence in relation to new schools joining the Trust. Trustees have reviewed the central team structure, and as a result a strategic lead of Estates and Health & Safety has been recruited. This is supporting ensuring value for money alongside the implementation of the strategic plan 2025 - 28.

d. PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

DDAT2 merged with DDAT on 1 February 2024. This has created a single Trust structure and provides consistency and greater effectiveness by combining the two related organisations into a single legal entity. The combined size of the Trust exceeds the 7,500 pupils identified as a benchmark for a strong Trust in the White Paper published March 2022.

To manage growth in a sustainable manner, Trustees have agreed that schools should not be brought into the Trust on a first come, first served, basis. Trustees formally consider which schools to bring into the trust on a termly basis against an agreed list of priorities. The growth plan is being considered by a Trustee Project Steering group and in conversation with the Diocese and other MATs within Derbyshire.

Growth Plan

Context

This narrative sets out the continuing strategic plan for a 24-month period. Growth is matched to strengthened capacity and there is a deliberate focus on improved accountability and governance and implementation of Trust wide systems that become essential for the successful management of a larger number of schools.

Growth Rationale and Context 1: Small School Solutions

Derby Diocese supports 33 Voluntary Aided (VA) Church of England (CE) Primary Schools and 77 Voluntary Controlled (VC) CE Primary Schools representing approximately 15,000 children. The diocese has many small schools, 53% with fewer than 110 pupils and 82% with fewer than 210 pupils. Many small schools may not be viable, especially after the removal of Minimum Funding Guarantees and as other protection built into the National Funding Formula in Derbyshire dissipates over time. Many of our schools work in supportive clusters, often including community schools, but for our schools and LGB Committees to address the requirement to embrace alternative models of leadership the Trust completed a deep review the Scheme of Delegation 2024 - 25.

DDAT has a pipeline of schools wanting to join the Trust but is unwilling to take on schools that do not have a viable financial future. We need schools with structures that have the authority to remodel educational resource across groups of schools. The Diocese is working with other MATs to facilitate this, but our own MAT (DDAT) must also model this approach and be part of the solution.

DDAT can provide a sustainable solution for many of the smaller schools, providing that they are brought into the MAT with other schools within the same geographical location. In this way DDAT can create sustainable "units of school" within a regional hub of six to eight schools. The geographic importance is critical to ensure that staffing can be restructured across the group of schools to provide shared expertise from staff with the requisite skills.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Six to eight schools in rural Derbyshire are unlikely to offer enough pupils to form a viable MAT that adds value. However, as a regional hub it could be viable if the economies of scale are within a larger Trust. In this context smaller schools can deliver high quality provision as part of a larger Trust if they also work with other hubs that are effectively collaborating.

Growth Rationale and Context 2: Delivering in Derby

Derby Diocese serves schools within Derby City LA as well as Derbyshire LA. DDAT have been working to deliver key priorities to support Derby as an opportunity area through two key projects.

Derby Cathedral School, an 11-18 CE secondary school opened in September 2018 with planned admission allowing for 1200+ pupils over time. This school is not a faith school for the faithful but a church school for the community and continues to reach PAN, with applications from students from a diverse range of communities within the city. This school has now reached capacity with the first Year 13 graduating August 2025.

Growth priorities

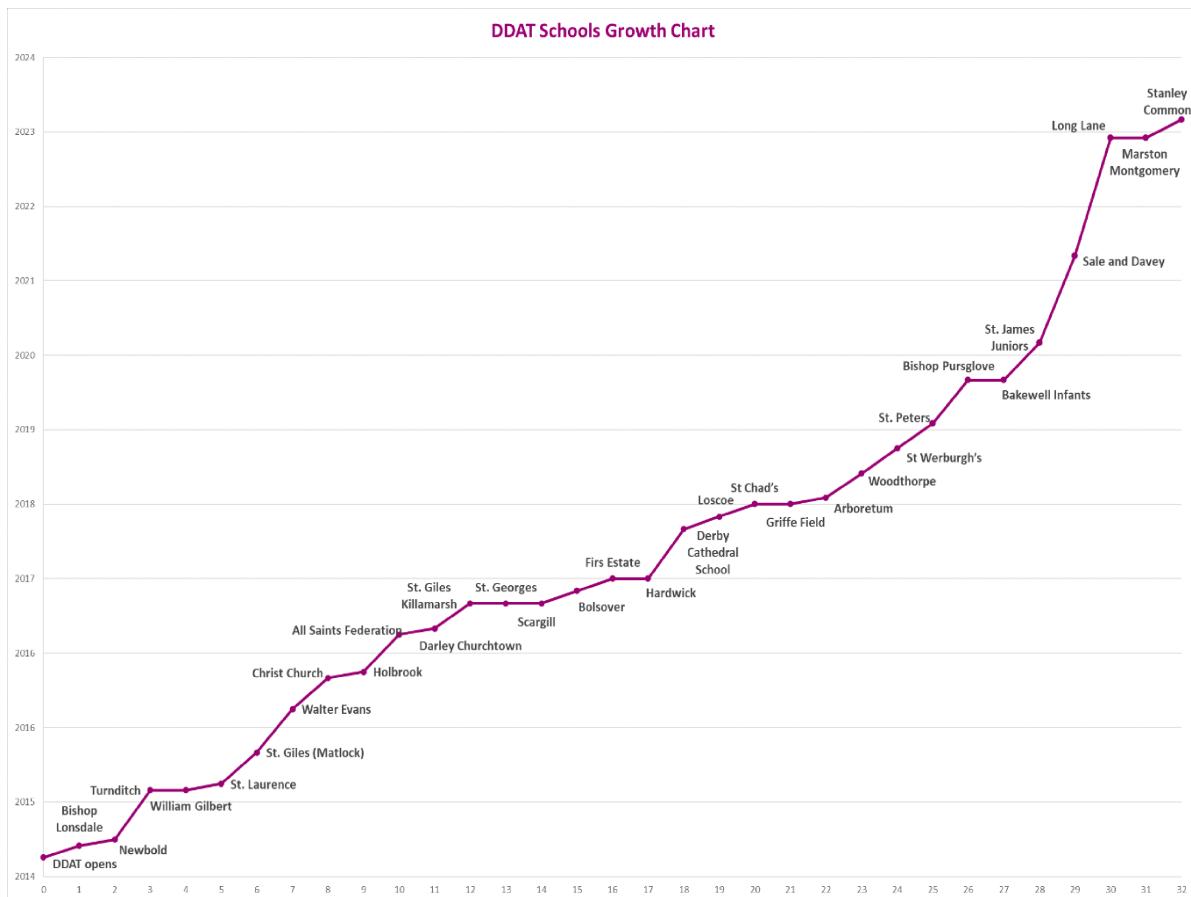
Growth has always had to be managed carefully and the DDAT Board prioritise schools not on a first come first served basis, but in a manner, which should promote secure and stable growth. Schools joining the Trust must add value in terms of their contribution to viable regional hubs. All schools must embrace the "stick of rock" values for our Trust.

Priority order:

- A partner secondary school for Derby Cathedral School.
- Church of England schools that are "eligible for intervention".
- Strong schools (at least two thirds good or better) to ensure sustained capacity of Trust.
- A blend of small and larger schools.

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Developing capacity for the next phase

The DDAT Strategic Growth Plan is being revisited and the Trust is cognisant that the growing scale of operation will require key capacity building activity in the following areas.

1. The central team
2. Financial security over time, whilst providing an increased level of core service efficiently from the centre,
3. Strengthened Governance at all levels, which has been supported by implementation of a new scheme of delegation.
4. Increased alignment of Trust wide systems
5. Review of leadership structures to support the development of regional hubs.

Growing Cautiously

Trustees are very cognisant of information provided by robust due diligence exercises before taking on a school. As such there are often periods of pause. Trustees have not followed any trajectory without proper consideration of the risks. Due diligence includes a formal review of Buildings, Finance, Human Resource, ICT and School improvement.

The DDAT board recognise the value of becoming a cross-phase MAT. The new Derby Cathedral Secondary Free school opened on 1st September 2018. Trustees have a vision for this secondary school to be fed by a hub of DDAT feeder primary schools to offer high quality educational provision to the city of Derby for pupils from 3-18 years of age. It should be noted that this hub and secondary school will offer education to some significantly disadvantaged pupils. Derby has been highlighted as one of six areas nationally where social mobility has been extremely limited.

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FUNDRAISING

The Academy Trust's approach to fundraising is confirmed as conforming to recognised standards.

This includes Protection of the public, including vulnerable people, from unreasonably intrusive or persistent fundraising approaches, and undue pressure to donate.

No fundraising work is undertaken with any commercial participators/professional fundraisers. No fundraising complaints have been received.

The basis of fundraising is undertaken at the individual schools and takes the form of three specific models. These being, Parents and Teachers Association (PTA) fundraising through separate bodies from the trust, school-based fundraising for the academy's benefit and fundraising for charities.

All funds raised by the school are recorded as unrestricted income and expenditure is recorded similarly. Funds raised for external charities are collected and sent onwards in their entirety.

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING

UK energy use and associated greenhouse gas emissions

The Trust is pleased to report its current UK based annual energy usage and associated annual greenhouse gas emissions pursuant to the Companies (Directors' Report) and Limited Liability Partnerships (Energy and Carbon Report) Regulations 2018 ("the 2018 Regulations") that came into force 1 April 2019.

Organisational boundary

In accordance with the 2018 Regulations, the energy use and associated GHG emissions are for those assets owned or controlled within the UK only as defined by the operational control boundary. This includes all thirty-three schools controlled during the reporting period, along with Trust owned vehicles and personal vehicles utilised for business mileage (referred to as "grey fleet").

Reporting period

The annual reporting period is 1st September to 31st August each year and the energy and carbon emissions are aligned to this period.

Quantification and reporting methodology

The 2019 UK Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines and the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard (revised edition) were followed. The 2025 UK Government GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting were used in emission calculations as these relate to the majority of the reporting period. The report has been reviewed independently by Zenergi Limited (trading as Briar Consulting Engineers Limited).

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STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Electricity and gas consumption were based on invoice records, while mileage and expense claims was used to calculate energy and emissions from fleet vehicles and grey fleet. Where gaps in the data were identified, pro rata, direct comparison, and apportioning estimation techniques were applied to ensure completeness and accuracy. Gas has been seasonally adjusted to account for school holidays and seasonal weather changes. Gross calorific values were used except for mileage energy calculations as per Government GHG Conversion Factors.

The emissions are divided into mandatory emissions according to the 2018 Regulations, then further divided into the direct combustion of fuels and the operation of facilities (scope 1), indirect emissions from purchased electricity (scope 2) and further indirect emissions that occur as a consequence of company activities but occur from sources not owned or controlled by the organisation (scope 3).

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STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

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

	2025	2024
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	6,798,773	7,034,257
ENERGY CONSUMPTION BREAKDOWN (KWH):		
Gas	4,542,844	4,743,919
Electricity	2,115,917	2,151,851
Transport fuel	14,792	37,547
Oil (Voluntary)	125,219	102,940
SCOPE 1 EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):		
Gas & Oil consumption	863.3	893.1
Owned transport	1.5	0.8
TOTAL SCOPE 1	<hr/> 864.8	<hr/> 893.9
SCOPE 2 EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):		
Purchased electricity	374.5	447.0
SCOPE 3 EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):		
Business travel in employee-owned or rental vehicles	2.1	8.3
TOTAL GROSS EMISSIONS (IN TONNES OF CO2 EQUIVALENT):	<hr/> 1,241.4	<hr/> 1,349.2

Intensity ratio:

Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil - 0.160 (2024: 0.174)

Tonnes of CO2e per square meter floor area - 0.023 (2024: 0.024)

The Academy Trust has followed and used the following quantification and reporting methodologies:

- the 2019 HM Government Environmental Reporting Guidelines;
- the GHG Reporting Protocol - Corporate Standard; and
- the 2020 UK Government's Conversion Factors for Company Reporting.

Intensity ratio

Two intensity ratios are reported showing emissions (tCO2e) per pupil and per square meter floor area.

Emissions per pupil is the recommended ratio for the sector for consistency and comparability and pupil numbers are based on the Autumn 2023 Census. Emissions per square meter floor area is reported to reflect the energy efficiency of the buildings, which are the source of most emissions.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Energy efficiency action during current financial year

In the reporting period September 2024 – August 2025, the Trust has taken the following energy efficiency actions:

Bakewell CofE Infant School

- Annual servicing of the boiler and gas soundness tests is carried out, along with the completion of the Display Energy Certificate.
- A new roof and insulation have been installed in Block 2 (EYFS) to improve thermal efficiency.
- LED lighting has been installed throughout the school, although no renewable energy systems are currently in place.
- Notices have been placed next to switches to remind staff and pupils to turn off lights and equipment when not in use.
- Newer laptops have been introduced, offering improved energy efficiency compared to older models.

Bishop Lonsdale

- Gas and electricity meters provide automated readings directly to suppliers. No oil is used on site.
- Behavioural changes have been implemented: heating is turned down during weekends and holidays in the winter months, and appliances such as laptop cabinets are switched off during school closures.
- Boiler and heating system servicing is maintained regularly to ensure efficiency. Lighting across the school is gradually being replaced with energy-efficient LED fittings as required.
- In November 2023, AT Services replaced radiators and thermostatic valves from EYFS to Year 4 when heating pipes were renewed. In the same month, Cripwell installed LED lighting in Rooms 33 and 36. In September 2024, ARC replaced the kitchen water heater.

Bishop Pursglove

- A new heating distribution system was installed in August 2023. Thermostats were fitted to all radiators, allowing each room to be independently temperature controlled.
- A Display Energy Certificate has been issued.
- LED lighting was introduced throughout the school in 2023 as part of the Department for Education's Energy Efficiency Grant.
- In July–August 2024, external corridor windows were refitted with double-glazed units, and insulation and boarding beneath the windows were replaced to improve thermal performance.

Christ Church

- The school uses automatic meter readers for both electricity and gas, ensuring accurate and efficient monitoring of energy consumption.
- Efforts have been made to reduce paper usage through smaller forms and the use of iPads to support teaching. White Rose Maths Books have replaced traditional paper worksheets. A whole-school campaign has been introduced to reduce food waste at lunchtime, alongside a "Switch Off" campaign to encourage staff and pupils to turn off lights and devices when not in use. The school also promotes the recycling of school uniforms.
- Regular servicing of the boiler and hot water systems is carried out to maintain efficiency and reliability.
- New LED lighting has been installed throughout the school, including external lighting, meaning the entire site now benefits from energy-efficient LEDs.
- The school recycles cardboard waste and has reduced heating operating times during the school day to lower energy consumption.

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

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Darley Churchtown

- New fire doors were fitted during 2023–2024 to improve building insulation and energy retention.
- Convector heaters were installed in February 2024 to provide more efficient heating.
- All windows across the school are now double glazed, helping to reduce heat loss.
- Boiler and heater maintenance servicing is fully up to date to ensure systems operate efficiently.
- Hot water boilers were added to the toilets by William Bailey to improve water heating efficiency and reliability.

Derby Cathedral

- Heating is managed more efficiently through improved use and upgraded heating controls.
- Energy efficiency has been enhanced through improved insulation, new glazing, draught proofing, and regular servicing and upgrades of boilers and hot water systems.
- LED lighting is installed in all classrooms. All IT equipment, including laptops and servers, is less than five years old and therefore more energy efficient.

Fir's Primary School

- All lighting throughout the school has been upgraded to LED to reduce electricity consumption.
- Four new gas boilers were installed in summer 2024 to improve heating efficiency.
- Insulation above all false ceilings was completed in summer 2024 to minimise heat loss.
- The school switches off heating from April to the October half-term to reduce unnecessary energy use.
- Heating operating hours have been shortened during the school day to further lower energy consumption.

Griffe Field Primary School

- The school uses Automatic Meter Readers for gas and electricity and receives a monthly Positive Energy Pack from Zenergi to compare expected and actual gas usage.
- The boiler and hot water systems are regularly serviced, with any required repairs completed promptly.
- Connect the Classroom funding work has been completed, and one final claim is pending processing.
- Severn Trent has completed a water efficiency survey and will carry out free corrective works to improve water usage.
- The underfloor heating system has been reviewed and will be replaced with an above-ground system in part of the school during the summer holidays of 2024.
- All classroom whiteboards have been replaced within the last year.
- A new server will be installed in the summer term of 2025, and all school lighting will be replaced with LEDs during the summer holidays of 2025.
- Quotes are being sought to replace two boilers, with YMD Boon managing the project, and replacement work is expected to be completed during the October half-term.

Hardwick, Long Lane CoFe, Marston Montgomery Primary School

- The school uses double-glazed windows to improve insulation and reduce heat loss.
- The school has installed LED lighting throughout to lower electricity consumption.

Holbrook Church of England Primary School

- The school has reviewed and amended heating timings to operate for shorter periods, reducing energy spend.
- All systems and components undergo annual servicing and review, with faulty elements (e.g., taps) replaced promptly.
- New laptops have been provided, and the school has migrated to a cloud-based server.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Loscoe CofE Primary School and Nursery

- The school installed LED lighting in December 2023, with further installations in April 2024 and July 2025 to improve energy efficiency.
- Four point-of-use (POU) water heaters were replaced in March 2024, with additional replacements in March and May 2025.
- The electric pedestrian gate was converted to manual operation in May 2024 to reduce unnecessary electricity use.
- Two access-controlled doors were installed in June 2024 to improve building efficiency and security.

Newbold CofE Primary School

- The school has installed Automatic Meter Readers for both electricity and gas, enabling precise monitoring and management of energy consumption.
- Refurbishments of infant toilets, classrooms, and corridors included the installation of energy-efficient lighting and modern controls, improving both sustainability and comfort.
- All seven classrooms have been upgraded with LED lighting, reducing energy usage while supporting a bright, efficient learning environment.

Sale and Davys Church of England Primary School

- The school carries out regular servicing of boilers and other key equipment to maintain efficiency and safety.
- LED lighting was installed throughout the school in July 2025, including all classrooms, corridors, and communal areas, reducing energy consumption, and enhancing the learning environment.

Scargill CofE (Aided) Primary School

- The school has installed new fire doors, which have also reduced drafts and improved overall heating efficiency.
- The computer suite has been upgraded and replaced with laptops, supporting energy-efficient technology use.
- Light fittings are being replaced with LED alternatives as part of an ongoing replacement programme.
- Automatic and sensor-operated toilets and taps have been installed in Reception and new toilet areas to conserve water.
- Pupils and staff are regularly reminded to save water wherever possible.
- Heating thermostats are monitored and regularly reviewed to ensure optimal energy use.
- Staff and pupils are encouraged to turn off lights and computer equipment when not in use; the school is also exploring the installation of automatic sensor lighting, subject to funding.
- Single-glazed windows in the Nursery are planned to be replaced with double glazing if funding permits, further improving energy efficiency.

St Chad's CofE Nursery and Infant School

- Gas and electricity meters provide automated readings directly to suppliers, ensuring accurate monitoring of energy consumption.
- Light fittings are replaced with LED alternatives as required, supporting ongoing energy efficiency improvements.
- Boilers are regularly serviced and maintained to ensure safe and efficient operation.

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

STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

St George's CofE Primary School

- Double glazing has been installed throughout the building, improving insulation and reducing heat loss.
- Thermostats have been fitted to the majority of radiators, allowing more precise control of heating and improving energy efficiency.
- An energy certificate has been produced, providing a formal energy rating for the school.
- LED lighting has been introduced throughout the school as part of the DfE Energy Efficiency Grant, reducing electricity consumption and supporting a sustainable learning environment.

St Giles Church of England Primary School (Matlock)

- One further classroom and offices have since been upgraded with LED lighting.
- Two external doors have been replaced with aluminium doors to improve insulation and durability.
- All LED lighting across the school was completed at the beginning of September 2025.
- All windows in the school are double-glazed, improving energy efficiency and reducing heat loss.
- Maintenance of boilers and heaters is up to date, with regular servicing carried out to ensure safe and efficient operation.

St James' Church of England Aided Junior School, St Laurence, and St Peters CofE Primary

- LED lighting has been implemented across the entire school as of June 2025.
- All lights are now LED and fully commissioned.
- Additional LED lighting upgrades have been conducted in classrooms and offices, with ongoing plans for further areas as funding permits.
- Two sides of one school building had timber windows replaced in August 2025.
- Two external doors were replaced with aluminium doors to improve insulation and reduce heat loss.
- All windows across another school are double-glazed, further enhancing energy efficiency.
- Heating and hot water controls have been adjusted to prevent unnecessary operation over long periods or during weekends.
- Heating was turned off in April 2025 and is scheduled to be turned back on during the October half-term, depending on weather conditions.
- Two heating control units were upgraded to improve efficiency.
- Boilers and heaters across the schools are regularly serviced and maintained to ensure safe and efficient operation.
- Automatic Meter Readers for electricity and gas have been installed on site, enabling accurate, automated energy monitoring.
- One school upgraded its computer suite, replacing desktops with a laptop.
- Seven standalone air conditioning units have been installed to improve comfort while maintaining energy efficiency.

St Werburgh's CofE Primary School

- The school operates a rolling replacement programme for laptops, ensuring technology remains up to date and energy efficient.
- When lighting replacements are required, LED fittings are installed to reduce energy consumption.
- The school's central heating boilers were replaced in November 2018, replacing old, inefficient units. The new boilers are regularly maintained and serviced on an annual basis.
- A new production kitchen became operational in September 2022, designed with modern efficiency standards.
- The Eco Council monitors energy usage and runs 'save energy' campaigns, encouraging staff and pupils to switch off lights and equipment when not in use.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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STREAMLINED ENERGY AND CARBON REPORTING (CONTINUED)

Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School

- Heating timings have been reviewed in line with guidance from energy advisor Matt Goy. Due to children being on site from 7:30 am to 6:00 pm, the school's heating schedule is longer than a typical school day, but it has been carefully adjusted to balance comfort and efficiency.
- Solar PV panels installed in 2014 have been faulty for some time. An engineer has visited to investigate and carry out repairs, though the school is still assessing how to maximize their effectiveness.
- A company has provided quotes for additional solar panels across all available roof space. There are multiple options under consideration, and further discussions with DDAT are planned to explore feasibility and funding.

William Gilbert Endowed Church of England Primary School

- A smart meter has been installed for electricity, enabling accurate energy reporting and monitoring.
- Gas central heating is controlled via a thermostat to improve heating efficiency and reduce unnecessary energy use.
- The school operates an Energy Wall powered by kinetic energy, helping to engage pupils with energy use and sustainability.
- A new boiler system was installed, with the project completed on 3 July 2024, replacing the previous system with a more efficient and reliable setup.
- The school's Display Energy Certificate is renewed annually to monitor and demonstrate energy performance.
- LED lighting has been installed around the school as part of a phased rolling programme, which has now been completed.

The Trust remains committed to reducing its carbon footprint and continues to look out for new energy saving and funding opportunities going forward.

FUNDS HELD AS CUSTODIAN ON BEHALF OF OTHERS

There are no Funds held as Custodian Trustee on behalf of others.

TRADE UNION FACILITY TIME

The Trust employs no trade union officials and therefore had no time or costs spent on union activities during the current or prior financial period.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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EMPLOYEE INVOLVEMENT AND EMPLOYMENT OF THE DISABLED

Sickness absence may result from a disability or develop into a disability.

The Equality Act 2010 provides a single consolidated source of discrimination law and covers the disability provision.

You're disabled under the Equality Act 2010 if you have a physical or mental impairment that has a 'substantial' and 'long term' negative effect on your ability to do normal daily activities.

Managers/Headteachers and Governors have an obligation under the Equality Act 2010. The Act places a duty on the Trust and Governing Bodies not to discriminate against current employees on the grounds of disability. Schools should give consideration at each stage of the Sickness Absence Procedure as to whether there are reasonable adjustments that could be made to the requirements of the job, or practices to ensure as far as reasonably possible, that a disabled person can be supported at work or to assist them to return to work.

If you consider that you are impacted by a disability or any medical condition which affects your ability to undertake your work, you should inform your Manager/Headteacher to ensure that the right support is put in place to assist you in maintaining your attendance at work.

Disability discrimination

If you are disabled or become disabled, we encourage you to tell us about your condition so that we can support you as appropriately.

If you experience difficulties at work because of your disability, you may wish to contact your line manager or Human Resources to discuss any reasonable adjustments that would help overcome or minimise the difficulty. Your line manager or a member of the HR team may wish to consult with you and a medical adviser(s) about possible adjustments. We will consider the matter carefully and try to accommodate your needs within reason. If we consider a particular adjustment would not be reasonable, we will explain our reasons and try to find an alternative solution where possible.

We will monitor the physical features of our premises to consider whether they place disabled workers, job applicants or service users at a substantial disadvantage compared to other staff. Where reasonable, we will take steps to improve access for disabled staff and service users.

Employee consultation

Employee engagement and consultation has been maintained through the year.

Prior to schools joining the trust a full program of consultation with staff is undertaken. Following conversion staff are provided with a welcome pack and information on matters that may affect them, including details on HR and TUPE as well as the trust handbooks and regulations. A strategic committee has been implemented which includes headteachers from across the schools, whereby decisions are agreed to enable first hand communication of impact and rationale between the senior leaders and their staff. Unions are involved as appropriate for any proposed changes to terms affecting staff and changes are implemented only after formal consultation.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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DISCLOSURE OF INFORMATION TO AUDITOR

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

- so far as that Trustee is aware, there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware, and
- that Trustee has taken all the steps that ought to have been taken as a Trustee in order to be aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the charitable company's auditor is aware of that information.

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 19 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles
Chair of Trustees

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

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

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Chief Executive Officer, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Derby Diocesan Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal controls.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 7 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles	7	7
Mr. Henry Taylor-Toone	2	4
Mr. John Kelly	7	7
Mr. Justin Wilson	7	7
Revd Robert Atkins	4	4
Ms. Karen Beamish	1	4
Mr. Kevin Downs	4	4
Mr. Mark Emly	4	7
Dr. Helen Galbraith	6	7
Ms. Harjinder Kaur (resigned 4 September 2024)	0	1
Ms. Sharron Philpot	5	7
Mr. Peter Upton	6	7
Ms. Susan Whyld	7	7

Governance reviews

A Trustee skills audit is completed annually in the form of a robust survey that assesses the qualities and expertise of each Trustee in over 30 specific areas related to effective governance. It is used to review the effectiveness of the Board and to highlight any areas of individual development, as well as where further appointments would enhance overall effectiveness. This year's audit again highlighted strong expertise across many areas. In response to last year's findings, three new Trustees were appointed in December 2024, strengthening the Board's finance and governance expertise and ensuring additional capacity was in place from the beginning of the academic year. Looking ahead, further recruitment will now focus on securing additional secondary education expertise, reflecting both recent changes in Board composition and the increasing demands placed on Trustees.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

During 2024/25 the Trust has made further progress in strengthening its governance arrangements:

- The establishment of a Chairs' Forum has strengthened connections between the Trust Board, Local Trust Committees and schools, enhancing communication and alignment across all levels of governance.
- The introduction of the new Scheme of Delegation has provided greater clarity and consistency across governance tiers, strengthening accountability and enabling the Trust to move from a model of earned autonomy towards aligned autonomy across its schools. It has also supported the revised management fee model, which underpins the developing reserves strategy.
- Local governance was exercised through Local Academy Committees (LACs) for each academy, following the transition from Local Governing Bodies (LGBs) in 2023/24. From September 2025, these will be referred to as Local Trust Committees (LTCs) to reflect the continued development of the Trust's governance framework.
- The governance function has been further strengthened with the appointment of a full-time Governance Lead during 2024/25, alongside the transition of the Governance Professional role into a directly employed position from September 2025.
- The Trust and the Diocese have agreed updated Articles of Association, approved by both the Department for Education and the Charity Commission in August 2025, with adoption scheduled for 2025/26.
- The legal steps to complete the liquidation of DDAT2 are progressing to conclusion, reflecting the Trust's consolidated operating position.
- The Trust continues to draw on external expertise, including advice from the NGA (through a retained consultant) and engagement with sector bodies such as the CST, to support the ongoing development of its governance arrangements.

The Trust is committed to ensuring that all Employees, Members, Trustees and LGB Members understand what constitutes a conflict of interest and their responsibility to identify and declare any conflicts that might arise; and that the conflict and the actions taken are recorded to ensure that the conflict does not affect decision-making at any level within the governance of the Trust. Declarations of interest and a review of the register of business interests are standing agenda items at each board meeting.

The Finance and Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees. The Committee's remit is to provide financial scrutiny and oversight and in particular to:

- oversee the adoption of a financial strategy and plan to ensure the sustainability and solvency of the Trust
- ensure effective financial control and due diligence takes place in relation to Trust operations

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr. Justin Wilson, Chair of the Committee	4	4
Ms. Karen Beamish (appointed 17 December 2024)	2	2
Mr. Kevin Downs (appointed 17 December 2024)	2	2
Ms. Harjinder Kaur (resigned 4 September 2024)	0	0
Mr. Henry Taylor-Toone (resigned 10 February 2025)	2	2

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. The Committee's remit is to advise the Board on the adequacy of the Trust's internal control framework, including financial and non-financial controls and risk management arrangements, to direct a programme of internal scrutiny and to consider the results and quality of external audit.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr. John Kelly, Chair of the Committee	3	3
Revd Robert Atkins (appointed 17 December 2024)	1	1
Dr. Helen Galbraith	3	3
Mr. Peter Upton	3	3

The Education and Standards Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of Trustees. The Committee's remit is to support the Trust in the delivery of its vision, which is for all our schools to provide its pupils with a substantial, broad and balanced curriculum, ensuring that they are fully immersed in knowledge, skills, vocabulary, opportunities, responsibilities and experiences relevant to the world in which they live. The values and ethos that the Trust is built upon are Christian in nature and represent values and principles that are important to people of all faiths and no faith.

In particular, the Committee will:

- oversee outcomes for the pupils in each school, providing challenge and support for school leaders and officers of the Trust.
- ensure decisions taken in each school are in the best interests of the pupils and fully reflect the Christian principles and values that provide our foundation.
- develop the Trust's capability to lead and improve schools whilst preserving their individual distinctiveness.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles, Chair of the Committee	2	3
Mr. Mark Emly	2	3
Ms. Sharron Philpot	3	3
Ms. Susan Whyld	3	3

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the Chief Executive 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 achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

- Implementing the Trust's highly regarded school improvement service it ensures that public funds are used effectively and efficiently to improve teaching and learning.
- Actively encouraging collaboration between Academies and other Church of England schools in Derbyshire to share best practice and mutual support to deal with issues assists the continuing improvement in pupil attainment.
- Implementing joint purchasing for the Academies and use of third-party assessors to get the best value for money.

The purpose of the system of internal control

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively, and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 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 Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating, and managing the Academy Trust's significant risks that has been in place for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

The Board of Trustees have developed a programme of internal scrutiny which is managed and monitored through the Audit and Risk Committee. For period of 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 the Board of Trustees have established both a Finance and Resources Committee and an Audit and Risk Committee.

Internal scrutiny for the period of 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 is in process by using independent professional external reviews across key areas highlighted and formally agreed by the Audit and Risk Committee.

Summary of work undertaken and standards 2024/25

Thorough H&S audits have been completed with percentage ratings supplied for each school within the trust in distinct areas namely: Management of health and safety, in-house compliance, and contractor compliance. YMD Boon Ltd have acted as specialist independent scrutineers. All schools who did not achieve 100% in their previous years audit and do not have a competent employee received three health and safety visits per academic year with the audits taking place in the spring term during 2024 - 2025. Those who achieved 100% or have a competent person received two visits.

Utilities - One supplier for Water is in place enabling economies of scale, administrative efficiency savings and consolidated reporting. Many schools are also on a consistent gas/electricity contract with one supplier, with the aim to move all schools in the future.

Budget/Finance monitoring and Payroll- Provides ongoing financial scrutiny for all schools within the trust. Actioned by the central Finance team and reported/monitored to the Finance and Resources committee. External consultants S4S provide quality assurance across all schools to highlight areas of support and further training.

Procurement Controls - All procurement activity followed the trust's financial regulations and scheme of delegation, with appropriate authorisation and competitive tendering applied where required. The trust considered value for money in all spending decisions, complied with related party transaction rules, and incorporated risk management into procurement processes.

Health Check meetings - All schools receive a thorough health check across all functions including HR, Finance, Operations, Governance, Estates & Premises and School Improvement.

HR Compliance – further work has taken place with the compliance functionality within SAMPeople to ensure greater Trust oversight.

The Trust will continue to prioritise internal scrutiny. The Audit and Risk committee will continue to identify areas for review in the subsequent years. The trust will continue to use qualified and experienced external companies to undertake the specific review areas as directed along with suitably qualified internal directors and partners for financial scrutiny. The trust has agreed that the option of internal scrutiny being conducted by bought in audit services from external organisations and individuals is most appropriate with additional finance scrutiny from our qualified internal directors and external working partners. This decision is based on the board's wish to ensure that specialists inform them on areas of development and scrutiny identified by the audit committee rather than peer reviews or non-employed trustees. Other approaches have been considered and will continue to be reviewed dependent on complexity and risk profile of the elements included in the internal scrutiny.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

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

- the financial management and governance self-assessment process;
- work with external partners;
- 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;
- correspondence from DfE e.g. FNtl/Ntl and 'minded to' letters.

The Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Board of Trustees and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

Conclusion

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

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



Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles
Chair of Trustees
Date: 19 December 2025



Dr. Sarah Clark
Accounting Officer

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust, I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Trust Board of Trustees and the Department for Education (DfE) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety and management, under the funding agreement between the Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Trust Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy Trust, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy Trust's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook.

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



Dr. Sarah Clark
Accounting Officer
Date: 19 December 2025

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

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



Dr. Sarah Hardman Charles
Trustee
Date: 19 December 2025

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF DERBY
DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST**

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Responsibilities of Trustees

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

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

Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

We obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks within which the charitable company operates, focusing on those laws and regulations that have a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The laws and regulations we considered in this context were the Charities Act 2011 together with the Charities SORP (FRS 102), Companies Act 2006, Academies Accounts Direction and the Academy Trust Handbook. We assessed the required compliance with these laws and regulations as part of our audit procedures on the related financial statement items.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which might be fundamental to the charitable company's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. We also considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the charitable company for fraud. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context were General Data Protection Regulation, health and safety legislation, Ofsted and employee legislation.

Auditing standards limit the required audit procedures to identify non-compliance with these laws and regulations to enquire of the Trustees and other management and inspection of regulatory and legal correspondence, if any. We identified the greatest risk of material impact on the financial statements from irregularities, including fraud, to be the override of controls by management. Our audit procedures to respond to these risks included enquiries of management and the Board about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities, sample testing on the posting of journals, reviewing accounting estimates for biases, reviewing regulatory correspondence with the DfE, and reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

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

Use of our report

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



Dave Darlaston (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Crowe U.K. LLP

Statutory Auditor

Black Country House

Rounds Green Road

Oldbury

West Midlands

B69 2DG

Date: 19 December 2025

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 20 August 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts 2024 to 2025, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Derby Diocesan Academy Trust during the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Respective responsibilities of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Derby Diocesan Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 1 June 2014 and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2024, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

Approach

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

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

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

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

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Conclusion

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



Crowe U.K. LLP

Reporting Accountant

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

Date: 19 December 2025

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants:	3					
Transfer in of academy		-	-	-	-	23,708,707
Transfer from local authority on conversion		-	-	-	-	1,527,074
Other donations and capital grants		3,059	893,212	1,680,921	2,577,192	2,334,354
Other trading activities	5	1,236,797	-	-	1,236,797	1,500,343
Investments		114,090	-	-	114,090	1,066
Charitable activities	4	1,305,567	57,758,378	-	59,063,945	46,043,120
Total income		2,659,513	58,651,590	1,680,921	62,992,024	75,114,664
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds		522,171	-	-	522,171	439,106
Charitable activities		-	58,662,355	1,429,807	60,092,162	48,536,028
Total expenditure		522,171	58,662,355	1,429,807	60,614,333	48,975,134
Net income/(expenditure)		2,137,342	(10,765)	251,114	2,377,691	26,139,530
Transfers between funds	16	(901,419)	603,765	297,654	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		1,235,923	593,000	548,768	2,377,691	26,139,530
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	8,506,000	-	8,506,000	1,844,000
Pension surplus not recognised	23	-	(9,099,000)	-	(9,099,000)	(664,000)
Net movement in funds		1,235,923	-	548,768	1,784,691	27,319,530

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

Note	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted funds 2025	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
Total funds brought forward	7,511,773	-	57,993,053	65,504,826	38,185,296
Net movement in funds	1,235,923	-	548,768	1,784,691	27,319,530
Total funds carried forward	8,747,696	-	58,541,821	67,289,517	65,504,826

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 46 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 08980079

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	55,473,314	55,242,917
Current assets			
Debtors	14	4,049,238	4,318,158
Cash at bank and in hand		13,378,037	12,892,373
		17,427,275	17,210,531
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(5,611,072)	(6,948,622)
Net current assets		11,816,203	10,261,909
Total net assets		67,289,517	65,504,826
 Funds of the Academy Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	16	58,541,821	57,993,053
Total restricted funds	16	58,541,821	57,993,053
Unrestricted income funds	16	8,747,696	7,511,773
Total funds		67,289,517	65,504,826

The financial statements on pages 42 to 80 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:



Dr Sarah Hardman Charles
 Trustee
 Date: 19 December 2025

The notes on pages 46 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash provided by operating activities	18	351,564	4,051,720
Cash flows from investing activities	20	134,746	3,622,284
Cash flows from financing activities	19	(646)	(646)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		485,664	7,673,358
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		12,892,373	5,219,015
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	21, 22	13,378,037	12,892,373

The notes on pages 46 to 80 form part of these financial statements

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies

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

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

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

Derby Diocesan Academy Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

On 1 February 2024 the Trust merged with Derby Diocesan Academy Trust 2. The comparative information included within the Statement of Financial Activities contains 7 months activity of all schools transferred across, the current year includes a full 12 months.

1.2 COMPANY STATUS

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee. The Academy Trust is incorporated in England & Wales, registered number 08980079. The registered office is Top Floor, Unit 3 Endcliffe Mount Deepdale Business Park, Ashford Road, Bakewell, United Kingdom, DE45 1GT. The members of the company are named on page 1. In the event of The Academy Trust being wound up, the liability in respect of the guarantee is limited to £10 per member of The Academy Trust.

1.3 GOING CONCERN

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

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 INCOME

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

• Grants

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

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

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

• Sponsorship income

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

• Donations

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

The value of donated services and gifts in kind provided to the Academy Trust are recognised at their open market value in the period in which they are receivable as incoming resources, where the benefit to the Academy Trust can be reliably measured. An equivalent amount is included as expenditure under the relevant heading in the Statement of Financial Activities, except where the gift in kind was a fixed asset in which case the amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the Academy Trust's policies.

• Other income

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

• Donated goods, facilities and services

The rent of the land and buildings owned by the Church is donated by the Diocese/Charity at a market rate of rent and is recognised as income, with a corresponding expense in the Statement of Financial Activities. The supplemental agreements state a two year notice period and this is recognised within debtors with a corresponding creditor.

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 INCOME (CONTINUED)

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

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' 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.

1.5 EXPENDITURE

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

Costs of generating funds are costs incurred in attracting voluntary income, and those incurred in trading activities that raise funds.

• 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.

1.6 TAXATION

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

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

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Assets costing £5,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Leasehold Land	- Over the term of the lease
Leasehold Property	- 2% (straight line)
Leasehold Improvements	- 2% (straight line)
Furniture and equipment	- 10% (straight line)
Computer equipment	- 25% (straight line)

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

The Derby Diocese own the land and buildings of a number of the schools in the Trust giving the Trust access to occupy the premises for the provision of education. There is a Church Supplemental Agreement in place between the Diocese and the Trust. The rent of the land and buildings is donated by the Diocese/Charity at a market rate of rent and is recognised as income, with a corresponding expense in the Statement of Financial Activities. The supplemental agreements state a two year notice period and this is recognised within debtors with a corresponding creditor.

Land and buildings not owned by The Derby Diocese are held on long term leases, capitalised in Fixed assets and depreciated in line with the policies above.

The Hardwick Primary School building was granted under an existing PFI scheme.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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

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 OPERATING LEASES

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

1.10 PENSIONS

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

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

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

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

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

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 Trustees.

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

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

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

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

2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGEMENT

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

The asset values are reported using estimated asset allocations prepared by the scheme Actuary. The asset value is calculated at each triennial valuation. Thereafter it is rolled forward to accounting dates using investment returns, contributions received and benefits paid out. During each annual reporting period between triennial valuations, asset returns are estimated using 11 months of market experience and one month of extrapolation being assumed.

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

For valuation of the land and buildings in relation to converted academies, the Trust intended to use the desktop valuations provided by the Department for Education (DfE), however these are not available at the date of signing the audit report. Therefore, where an academy trust occupies premises on a long lease, in order to determine an appropriate fair value for the asset on acquisition an estimate is made using insurance values and other Local Authority school values on a £/sqm basis together with other factors such as condition of the building. The trust believes this method provides a reasonable and reliable estimate of the current value.

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

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
DONATIONS				
Other donations	3,059	893,212	-	896,271
Capital Grants	-	-	1,680,921	1,680,921
TOTAL 2025	3,059	893,212	1,680,921	2,577,192

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
DONATIONS				
Transfer in of academy	2,946,485	(1,260,000)	22,022,222	23,708,707
Transfer from local authority on conversion	456,074	335,000	736,000	1,527,074
TRANSFER FROM LOCAL AUTHORITY ON CONVERSION				
	3,402,559	(925,000)	22,758,222	25,235,781
Other donations	16,622	643,262	-	659,884
Capital Grants	-	-	1,674,470	1,674,470
TOTAL 2024	3,419,181	(281,738)	24,432,692	27,570,135

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

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS			
DFE GRANTS			
General Annual Grant	-	42,409,315	42,409,315
Other DfE Grants			
Pupil premium	-	3,809,131	3,809,131
Teachers Pension Grant	-	965,090	965,090
16 - 19 funding grant	-	1,420,268	1,420,268
Core schools grant	-	1,538,240	1,538,240
Other DfE grants	-	2,938,982	2,938,982
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	53,081,026	53,081,026
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS			
Local Authority Grants - SEN Funding	-	2,865,893	2,865,893
Local Authority Grants - Early Years Funding	-	1,639,918	1,639,918
Local Authority Grants - Other	-	171,541	171,541
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	1,305,567	-	1,305,567
TOTAL 2025	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> 59,063,945

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

4. Funding for the Academy Trust's educational operations (continued)

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024</i> £	<i>Restricted funds 2024</i> £	<i>Total funds 2024</i> £
EDUCATIONAL OPERATIONS			
DFE GRANTS			
General Annual Grant	-	33,391,330	33,391,330
Other DfE Grants			
Pupil premium	-	3,063,203	3,063,203
Teachers Pension Grant	-	362,079	362,079
16 - 19 funding grant	-	654,278	654,278
Mainstream schools additional grant	-	1,129,075	1,129,075
Other DfE grants	-	2,756,772	2,756,772
	-	41,356,737	41,356,737
OTHER GOVERNMENT GRANTS			
Local Authority Grants - SEN Funding	-	2,243,396	2,243,396
Local Authority Grants - Early Years Funding	-	1,103,892	1,103,892
Local Authority Grants - Other	-	190,928	190,928
	-	3,538,216	3,538,216
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	1,148,167	-	1,148,167
TOTAL 2024	1,148,167	44,894,953	46,043,120

5. Income from other trading activities

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2025</i> £	<i>Total funds 2025</i> £
Other income	1,236,797	1,236,797

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

5. Income from other trading activities (continued)

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Management recharges	-	255,511	255,511
Other income	1,244,832	-	1,244,832
TOTAL 2024	1,244,832	255,511	1,500,343

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	361,747	-	160,424	522,171
Educational Operations:				
Direct costs	37,781,204	1,428,137	4,192,872	43,402,213
Support costs	7,450,017	3,084,492	6,155,440	16,689,949
	45,592,968	4,512,629	10,508,736	60,614,333

	Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Direct costs	318,996	-	120,110	439,106
Educational Operations:				
Direct costs	29,571,633	1,250,345	2,780,031	33,602,009
Support costs	6,138,643	2,850,675	5,944,701	14,934,019
	36,029,272	4,101,020	8,844,842	48,975,134

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

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Educational Operations	43,402,213	16,689,949	60,092,162

	Activities undertaken directly 2024 £	Support costs 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Educational Operations	33,602,009	14,934,019	48,536,028

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	7,450,017	6,138,643
Technology costs	923,498	623,471
Other support costs	3,812,970	3,760,825
Premises expenses	3,164,639	2,876,565
Legal and professional fees	1,226,282	1,435,790
Governance costs	112,543	98,725
	16,689,949	14,934,019

Included within governance costs are any costs associated with the strategic as opposed to day-to-day management of the charitable company's activities. These costs will include any employee benefits for governorship, the cost of charity employees involved in meetings with governors, and costs relating to constitutional and statutory requirements including audit and preparation of statutory accounts.

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

8. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets: owned by charity	1,428,137	1,250,345
Auditor's remuneration - audit	39,950	43,200
Auditor's remuneration - other services	9,525	10,300
Operating lease rentals	457,755	441,190
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

9. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	31,719,778	25,469,069
Social security costs	3,563,259	2,496,098
Pension costs	7,421,086	5,701,522
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Agency staff costs	42,704,123	33,666,689
Staff restructuring costs	2,858,218	2,327,853
	30,627	34,730
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	45,592,968	36,029,272

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2025 £	2024 £
Redundancy payments	8,173	-
Severance payments	22,454	34,730
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	30,627	34,730

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

9. Staff (continued)

b. Severance payments

The Academy Trust paid 2 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

	2025 No.
£0 - £25,000	2

Severance payments made during the year were for amounts of £18,254 and £4,200 (2024: £8,760, £23,635, £248, £870 and £1,217).

c. Staff numbers

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Teachers	350	309
Support	721	757
Management	72	70
	<hr/> 1,143 <hr/>	<hr/> 1,136 <hr/>

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	23	19
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	15	9
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	7	7
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	5	4
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	5	-
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	-	2
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	2	-
In the band £130,001 - £140,000	-	1
In the band £150,001 - £160,000	<hr/> 1 <hr/>	<hr/> -

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

9. Staff (continued)

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy Trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy Trust was £604,494 (2024: £464,910).

10. Central services

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

- Management Services
- Legal Services
- Education support services
- Maintenance and admin support services
- Finance and accounts support

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

Flat percentage of GAG income (4% to 6%). Any surplus generated is held as contingency reserve for use in future periods.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Bishop Lonsdale Church of England Aided Primary School and Nursery	63,914	56,845
Newbold Church of England VA Primary School	61,553	55,377
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	99,291	96,375
Christ Church CE Primary School	59,201	46,015
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	19,414	21,689
Firs Primary School	137,738	119,342
Hardwick Primary School	105,189	97,689
St George's Church of England Primary School	36,489	34,865
St Giles Church of England Primary School	86,946	77,830
Derby Cathedral School	423,747	348,943
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	40,581	35,116
Woodthorpe CofE Primary School	42,798	41,359
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	75,947	60,689
Bakewell CofE Infant School	18,472	16,464
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	26,250	29,153
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	92,252	100,516
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	30,433	27,127
Turnditch Church of England Primary School	25,473	11,897

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

10. Central services (continued)

William Gilbert Endowed Church of England Primary School	46,043	25,815
St Laurence CofE VA Primary School	49,161	27,913
St Giles Church of England Primary School	27,952	16,630
Holbrook Church of England Primary School	35,499	19,819
All Saints CofE Junior School	56,823	31,962
All Saints CofE Infant School	42,178	23,249
Scargill CofE (Aided) Primary School	91,926	55,403
Bolsover Church of England Junior School	77,222	42,149
Loscoe CofE Primary School and Nursery	46,661	25,820
Griffe Field Primary School	83,822	46,088
Arboretum Primary School	156,366	85,173
St Werburgh's CofE Primary School	74,438	40,723
Marston Montgomery Primary School	19,089	14,540
Long Lane Church of England Primary School	17,798	14,606
Stanley Common Church of England Primary School	23,447	11,767
 TOTAL	 2,294,113	 1,758,948

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

During the year ended 31 August 2025, expenses totalling £252 in relation to travel costs were reimbursed or paid directly to 3 Trustees (2024 - £247 to 2 Trustees).

12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Leasehold improvements £	Assets under constr. £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
COST						
At 1 September 2024	51,416,625	6,671,110	33,051	982,099	2,484,173	61,587,058
Additions	-	1,234,538	-	172,667	253,060	1,660,265
Disposals	-	-	-	-	(76,197)	(76,197)
At 31 August 2025	51,416,625	7,905,648	33,051	1,154,766	2,661,036	63,171,126
DEPRECIATION						
At 1 September 2024	3,753,938	341,444	-	372,638	1,876,121	6,344,141
Charge for the year	856,957	140,167	-	106,686	324,327	1,428,137
On disposals	-	-	-	-	(74,466)	(74,466)
At 31 August 2025	4,610,895	481,611	-	479,324	2,125,982	7,697,812
NET BOOK VALUE						
At 31 August 2025	46,805,730	7,424,037	33,051	675,442	535,054	55,473,314
At 31 August 2024	47,662,687	6,329,666	33,051	609,461	608,052	55,242,917

Long Leasehold property includes property that has been gifted to the Academy Trust on 125 year leases upon conversion of constituent schools to an academy. The legal owners of the leasehold property are Derbyshire County Council.

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

14. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	27,827	128,358
Other debtors	1,482,167	1,506,022
Prepayments and accrued income	2,125,795	2,239,790
VAT recoverable	413,449	443,988
	4,049,238	4,318,158

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Other loans	-	646
Trade creditors	598,534	1,875,184
Other taxation and social security	794,367	611,656
Other creditors	2,360,019	2,254,215
Accruals and deferred income	1,858,152	2,206,921
	5,611,072	6,948,622

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	1,001,200	661,226
Resources deferred during the year	806,785	1,001,200
Amounts released from previous periods	(1,001,200)	(661,226)
	806,785	1,001,200

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust is holding amounts within deferred income in respect of grants received in advance for Nursery funding, universal infant free school meals, rates, trips and local authority funding.

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

16. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
General Funds - all funds	7,511,773	2,659,513	(522,171)	(901,419)	-	8,747,696
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	42,409,315	(43,013,080)	603,765	-	-
Pupil premium	-	3,809,131	(3,809,131)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	171,541	(171,541)	-	-	-
Local authority - SEN funding	-	2,865,893	(2,865,893)	-	-	-
Local authority - Early years funding	-	1,639,918	(1,639,918)	-	-	-
Core schools grant	-	1,538,240	(1,538,240)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	2,938,982	(2,938,982)	-	-	-
Donations and other income	-	893,212	(893,212)	-	-	-
Teachers Pension Grant	-	965,090	(965,090)	-	-	-
16-19 funding	-	1,420,268	(1,420,268)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	593,000	-	(593,000)	-
	-	58,651,590	(58,662,355)	603,765	(593,000)	-

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS						
Fixed assets	55,242,917	-	(1,429,807)	1,660,204	-	55,473,314
School Capital Allocation	2,259,372	1,453,397	-	(1,065,134)	-	2,647,635
Devolved Formula Capital	490,764	227,524	-	(297,416)	-	420,872
	57,993,053	1,680,921	(1,429,807)	297,654	-	58,541,821
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	57,993,053	60,332,511	(60,092,162)	901,419	(593,000)	58,541,821
TOTAL FUNDS	65,504,826	62,992,024	(60,614,333)	-	(593,000)	67,289,517

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

- 1) General Annual Grant: this must be used for the normal running costs of the Academy Trust.
- 2) Other DfE Grant: this fund relates to other grants received which must be used for the purposes intended.
- 3) Other restricted: this fund relates to all other restricted funds received which must be used for the purpose intended.
- 4) Restricted fixed asset fund: this fund relates to resources which must be applied for specific capital purposes intended.

Transfers between funds represent capital expenditure from funds other than the restricted fixed asset fund and reclassifications of certain funds between restricted and unrestricted.

The difference between the fixed asset note and the restricted fixed asset funds represents unspent capital funding.

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

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Transfers in/out</i> £	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i> £	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024</i> £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS						
General Funds - all funds	4,097,909	563,429	(406,081)	3,256,516	-	7,511,773
Transfer on conversion	-	5,249,817	-	(5,249,817)	-	-
	<hr/> 4,097,909	<hr/> 5,813,246	<hr/> (406,081)	<hr/> (1,993,301)	<hr/> -	<hr/> 7,511,773
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	113,629	33,391,330	(35,169,312)	1,664,353	-	-
Pupil premium	-	3,041,678	(3,041,678)	-	-	-
Local authority grants	-	212,453	(212,453)	-	-	-
Local authority - SEN funding	-	2,243,396	(2,243,396)	-	-	-
Local authority - Early years funding	-	1,103,892	(1,103,892)	-	-	-
Mainstream Schools Additional Grant	-	1,129,075	(1,129,075)	-	-	-
Other DfE grants	-	2,756,772	(2,756,772)	-	-	-
Donations and other income	-	898,773	(898,773)	-	-	-
Teachers Pension Grant	-	362,079	(362,079)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	(508,000)	(925,000)	253,000	-	1,180,000	-
	<hr/> (394,371)	<hr/> 44,214,448	<hr/> (46,664,430)	<hr/> 1,664,353	<hr/> 1,180,000	<hr/> -

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS						
Fixed assets	32,807,425	966,322	(1,250,345)	22,719,515	-	55,242,917
Transfer on conversion	-	22,022,222	-	(22,022,222)	-	-
School Capital Allocation	1,390,374	1,219,357	-	(350,359)	-	2,259,372
Devolved Formula Capital	283,642	224,791	-	(17,669)	-	490,764
Other capital donation	317	-	-	(317)	-	-
	<hr/> 34,481,758	<hr/> 24,432,692	<hr/> (1,250,345)	<hr/> 328,948	<hr/> -	<hr/> 57,993,053
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS						
	<hr/> 34,087,387	<hr/> 68,647,140	<hr/> (47,914,775)	<hr/> 1,993,301	<hr/> 1,180,000	<hr/> 57,993,053
TOTAL FUNDS	<hr/>38,185,296	<hr/>74,460,386	<hr/>(48,320,856)	<hr/>-	<hr/>1,180,000	<hr/>65,504,826

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Primary School	72,288	104,775
Newbold Church of England Primary School	47,295	24,663
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	607,532	524,306
Christ Church CE Primary School	208,483	74,729
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	121,042	97,058
Firs Primary School	565,685	417,846
Hardwick Primary School	373,780	520,280
St George's Church of England Primary School	99,806	53,568
St Giles Church of England Primary School	229,370	7,593
Derby Cathedral School	992,380	767,004

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

	2025	2024
	£	£
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	225,780	264,194
Woodthorpe CofE Primary School	246,812	247,328
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	143,138	67,040
Derby Diocesan Academy Trust	1,265,701	1,030,877
Bakewell CofE Infant School	118,627	98,557
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	53,818	14,430
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	142,054	51,237
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	91,295	79,264
All Saints CofE Aided Infants School	235,525	163,089
All Saints CofE Junior School	166,084	164,808
Arboretum Primary School	301,466	498,761
The Bolsover School	391,656	180,344
Griffe Field Primary School	586,589	580,189
Holbrook CofE Primary School	39,743	71,728
Long Lane CofE Primary School	179,826	190,894
Loscoe CofE Primary School and Nursery	157,332	83,104
Marston Montgomery Primary School	194,950	190,890
Scargill CofE Primary School	107,666	170,327
St Giles CofE Primary School	92,965	80,437
St Laurence CofE Primary School	323,662	314,363
St Werburgh's CofE Primary School	58,138	89,358
Stanley Common CofE Primary School	150,382	121,695
Turnditch CofE Primary School	54,186	39,930
William Gilbert Endowed CofE Primary School	102,640	127,107
Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	8,747,696	7,511,773
Restricted fixed asset fund	58,541,821	57,993,053
TOTAL	67,289,517	65,504,826

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2025 £
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Primary School	1,128,259	213,148	23,974	294,714	1,660,095
Newbold Church of England Primary School	1,141,894	185,010	33,302	224,714	1,584,920
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	1,908,556	340,284	36,291	470,256	2,755,387
Christ Church CE Primary School	776,598	134,733	29,649	292,623	1,233,603
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	309,748	63,813	22,007	81,728	477,296
Firs Primary School	2,342,629	356,310	48,900	593,439	3,341,278
Hardwick Primary School	3,079,938	367,661	100,139	973,830	4,521,568
St George's Church of England Primary School	448,786	121,395	12,690	149,084	731,955
St Giles Church of England Primary School	1,349,030	188,446	51,354	322,621	1,911,451
Derby Cathedral School	6,050,541	676,039	615,477	1,600,845	8,942,902
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	825,838	153,268	15,774	235,259	1,230,139
Woodthorpe CofE Primary School	664,029	125,881	25,438	192,061	1,007,409
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	957,563	124,105	18,279	308,344	1,408,291
Bakewell CofE Infant School	242,074	40,795	15,055	100,120	398,044
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	331,131	94,608	9,607	149,721	585,067
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	1,446,632	218,524	44,448	410,541	2,120,145
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	471,399	56,931	10,816	145,328	684,474
All Saints CofE Aided Infants School	629,352	75,284	23,888	175,508	904,032
All Saints CofE Junior School	773,614	207,725	55,819	264,574	1,301,732

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2025 £
Arboretum Primary School	3,011,310	653,505	99,276	540,986	4,305,077
The Bolsover School	1,206,031	139,352	17,036	356,698	1,719,117
Griffe Field Primary School	1,968,578	252,148	50,148	457,922	2,728,796
Derby Diocesan Academy Trust	(575,624)	1,673,958	(170)	1,487,747	2,585,911
Holbrook CofE Primary School	590,957	91,864	19,343	193,403	895,567
Long Lane CofE Primary School	228,731	34,404	8,077	86,859	358,071
Loscoe CofE Primary School and Nursery	812,530	161,462	19,292	248,362	1,241,646
Marston Montgomery Primary School	244,295	32,895	8,167	91,030	376,387
Scargill CofE Primary School	1,289,725	222,685	26,273	368,332	1,907,015
St Giles CofE Primary School	433,363	78,088	25,803	143,352	680,606
St Laurence CofE Primary School	737,347	184,421	32,698	220,639	1,175,105
St Werburgh's CofE Primary School	1,243,354	237,612	29,821	367,882	1,878,669
Stanley Common CofE Primary School	252,198	40,558	14,599	98,846	406,201
Turnditch CofE Primary School	406,075	39,434	6,333	157,936	609,778
William Gilbert Endowed CofE Primary School	1,054,723	225,418	31,827	206,493	1,518,461
ACADEMY TRUST	37,781,204	7,811,764	1,581,430	12,011,797	59,186,195

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Teaching and educational support staff costs</i> £	<i>Other support staff costs</i> £	<i>Educational supplies</i> £	<i>Other costs excluding depreciation</i> £	<i>Total 2024</i> £
Bishop Lonsdale C of E Primary School	1,005,174	196,894	23,215	299,770	1,525,053
Newbold Church of England Primary School	1,036,586	182,582	19,555	262,823	1,501,546
Walter Evans Church of England Aided Primary School	1,858,661	293,559	31,538	472,859	2,656,617
Christ Church CE Primary School	758,371	118,476	27,790	328,316	1,232,953
Darley Churchtown Church of England Primary School	345,839	44,231	8,356	125,791	524,217
Firs Primary School	2,002,964	352,655	75,852	578,454	3,009,925
Hardwick Primary School	2,802,486	388,045	89,816	968,969	4,249,316
St George's Church of England Primary School	464,143	124,274	15,183	159,614	763,214
St Giles Church of England Primary School	1,393,505	199,363	23,621	349,564	1,966,053
Derby Cathedral School	5,016,734	651,435	135,148	1,889,690	7,693,007
St Chad's CofE (VC) Nursery and Infant School	600,134	130,811	12,323	220,825	964,093
Woodthorpe CofE Primary School	600,816	114,505	9,210	202,143	926,674
St Peter's Church of England Aided Junior School	887,297	118,575	24,098	306,115	1,336,085
Bakewell CofE Infant School	222,389	41,211	9,696	129,213	402,509
Bishop Pursglove CofE (A) Primary School	402,895	94,091	16,729	176,494	690,209
St James' Church of England Aided Junior School	1,388,020	241,137	48,173	408,005	2,085,335
Sale and Davys CofE Primary School	451,397	65,671	7,776	150,327	675,171
All Saints CofE Aided Infants School	340,279	52,640	8,819	108,996	510,734
All Saints CofE Junior School	490,408	119,154	18,679	173,642	801,883
Arboretum Primary School	1,695,070	356,048	83,715	321,713	2,456,546

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Teaching and educational support staff costs</i> £	<i>Other support staff costs</i> £	<i>Educational supplies</i> £	<i>Other costs excluding depreciation</i> £	<i>Total 2024</i> £
The Bolsover School	679,684	83,500	19,772	209,032	991,988
Griffe Field Primary School	1,087,759	141,699	29,692	225,554	1,484,704
Derby Diocesan Academy Trust	(238,361)	1,515,359	39,068	1,417,657	2,733,723
Holbrook CofE Primary School	324,097	57,077	11,642	96,058	488,874
Long Lane CofE Primary School	153,160	22,646	8,796	78,887	263,489
Loscoe CofE Primary School and Nursery	452,262	112,030	13,381	142,558	720,231
Marston Montgomery Primary School	172,049	24,946	12,877	54,824	264,696
Scargill CofE Primary School	722,190	129,976	19,324	234,142	1,105,632
St Giles CofE Primary School	260,935	45,500	10,881	89,849	407,165
St Laurence CofE Primary School	420,533	106,647	14,921	152,310	694,411
St Werburgh's CofE Primary School	743,740	147,290	16,726	219,825	1,127,581
Stanley Common CofE Primary School	186,275	18,910	398	31,395	236,978
Turnditch CofE Primary School	243,431	38,220	6,113	89,688	377,452
William Gilbert Endowed CofE Primary School	600,711	128,482	10,112	117,420	856,725
ACADEMY TRUST	29,571,633	6,457,639	902,995	10,792,522	47,724,789

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

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	55,473,314	55,473,314
Current assets	14,358,768	3,068,507	17,427,275
Creditors due within one year	(5,611,072)	-	(5,611,072)
TOTAL	8,747,696	58,541,821	67,289,517

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	55,242,917	55,242,917
Current assets	14,460,395	2,750,136	17,210,531
Creditors due within one year	(6,948,622)	-	(6,948,622)
TOTAL	7,511,773	57,993,053	65,504,826

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

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	2,377,691	26,139,530
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation charges	1,428,137	1,250,345
Loss on disposal of fixed assets	1,731	-
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	237,564	583,885
Increase/(decrease) in creditors	(1,305,548)	2,714,081
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,680,921)	(1,674,470)
Defined benefit pension scheme obligation inherited on conversion	-	925,000
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(546,000)	(299,000)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(47,000)	46,000
Donated fixed assets on conversion	-	(22,230,026)
Donations of budget surpluses on local authority and school funds on conversion	-	(3,402,559)
Interest receivable	(114,090)	(1,066)
NET CASH PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	351,564	4,051,720

19. Cash flows from financing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Repayments of borrowing	(646)	(646)
NET CASH USED IN FINANCING ACTIVITIES	(646)	(646)

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

20. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025	2024
	£	£
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,660,265)	(1,455,811)
Capital grants from DfE Group	1,680,921	1,674,470
Interest received	114,090	1,066
Donations of budget surpluses on local authority and school funds on conversion	-	3,402,559
NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	134,746	3,622,284

21. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025	2024
	£	£
Cash in hand and at bank	13,378,037	12,892,373
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	13,378,037	12,892,373

22. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024	At 31 August 2025
	£	£
Cash at bank and in hand	12,892,373	485,664
Debt due within 1 year	(646)	646
	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
	12,891,727	486,310
	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>	<hr style="border-top: 1px solid black;"/>
		13,378,037

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

23. Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £849,265 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £784,068) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

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

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

23. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £5,237,017 (2024 - £3,715,273).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £3,604,000 (2024 - £2,831,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £2,810,000 (2024 - £2,197,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 794,000 (2024 - £634,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are between 16.90 and 30.90 per cent for employers and 5.50 per cent 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.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.10	5.00
Rate of increase in salaries	3.70	3.65
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.70	2.65

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

	2025	2024
	Years	Years
<i>Retiring today</i>		
Males	21.0	20.8
Females	23.8	23.8
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	21.8	21.5
Females	25.3	25.3

DERBY DIOCESAN ACADEMY TRUST
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

23. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis on scheme obligations

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	30,076	33,786
Discount rate -0.1%	31,490	35,480
Salary increase rate +0.1%	30,817	34,673
Salary increase rate -0.1%	30,749	34,593
Pension increase rate +0.1%	31,478	35,457
Pension increase rate -0.1%	30,088	33,809
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	32,014	36,018
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	29,552	33,248

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2025 £	At 31 August 2024 £
Equities	25,949,000	22,590,000
Bonds	10,137,000	8,824,000
Property	2,838,000	2,471,000
Cash and other liquid assets	1,622,000	1,412,000
Derecognition of surplus	(9,763,000)	(664,000)
TOTAL MARKET VALUE OF ASSETS	30,783,000	34,633,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £2,035,000 (2024 - £3,212,000).

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	2,262,000	1,898,000
Past service cost	2,000	-
Interest (credit)/cost	(47,000)	46,000
TOTAL AMOUNT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	2,217,000	1,944,000

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

23. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	34,633,000	16,442,000
Transferred in on academies joining the trust	-	14,604,000
Current service cost	2,264,000	1,898,000
Interest cost	1,796,000	1,347,000
Employee contributions	794,000	634,000
Actuarial losses/(gains)	(8,314,000)	67,000
Benefits paid	(390,000)	(359,000)
AT 31 AUGUST	30,783,000	34,633,000

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	34,633,000	15,934,000
Transferred in on academies joining the trust	-	13,679,000
Interest income	1,843,000	1,301,000
Derecognition of surplus	(9,099,000)	(664,000)
Actuarial gains	192,000	1,911,000
Employer contributions	2,810,000	2,197,000
Employee contributions	794,000	634,000
Benefits paid	(390,000)	(359,000)
AT 31 AUGUST	30,783,000	34,633,000

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

24. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	445,078	442,717
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	1,300,605	1,684,157
	1,745,683	2,126,874

The charitable company is committed to funding payments under the PFI Scheme for Hardwick Primary School. Separate funding is received from the DfE towards these costs which have been included in the commitment above.

25. Members' liability

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

26. Related party transactions

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

The Derby Diocese are considered related parties due to the both parties being under common control. The rent of the land and buildings owned by the Church (see note 1.7) is donated by the Diocese/Charity at a market rate of rent and is recognised as income of £744,048 (2024: £611,861), with a corresponding expense of £744,048 (2024: £611,861) in the Statement of Financial Activities. The supplemental agreements state a two year notice period and this is recognised within debtors of £1,488,095 (2024: £1,467,258) with a corresponding creditor of £1,488,095 (2024: £1,467,258).

27. Controlling party

The Derby Diocesan Academy Trust is an autonomous body, financed mainly by public funding and files separate entity accounts.

The Academy's sponsor, The Diocesan Board of Education, has the power to appoint Governors to the board of the Academy Trust.