

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	The Diocese of Lichfield Educational Trust Ltd Mr Tyrone Field Mr Matthew Jevons Dr Tony Wynn-Jones
Trustees	Mr Tyrone Field, Chair of Trustees ¹ Mrs Jenny Birch, Chair of Finance Committee (resigned 7 October 2024) Miss Jodie Parker, CEO / Accounting Officer (appointed 1 September 2024) Mr Paul Bowman (resigned 31 August 2025) Mrs Fay Hayward ¹ Mr Dominic Napier ¹ Miss Sarah Gamble (appointed 9 December 2024) Rev Jonathan Pedley (appointed 9 December 2024) Mr Andrew Marchisio-King (appointed 9 December 2024, resigned 10 March 2025)
	¹ Member of the Finance Committee
Company registered number	10204653
Company name	Codsall Multi Academy Trust
Principal and registered office	St. Nicholas Ce (Vc) First School Belvide Gardens Codsall Staffordshire WV8 1AN
Company secretary	Mr Ian Moore
Chief executive officer	Miss Jodie Parker
Senior management team	Miss Jodie Parker, CEO, Headteacher, St Nicholas' CE First School Miss Sabrina Varricchione, Deputy CEO, Headteacher, Birches First School Mrs Kirstin Reade, Headteacher, Codsall Middle School Mr Ian Moore, Chief Finance and Operations Officer

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
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Independent auditors	WR Partners Chartered Accountants Belmont House Shrewsbury Business Park Shrewsbury Shropshire SY2 6LG
Bankers	Lloyds Bank Queen Square Wolverhampton WV1 1RF
Solicitors	Howes Percival LLP Nene House 4 Rushmills Northampton Northamptonshire NN4 7YB

CODSALL MULTI 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 auditors' 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 Codsall Multi Academy Trust (also referred to as "The Trust" or "CMAT") operates 1 middle school and 2 first schools in Codsall, Staffordshire. Its academies have a combined pupil capacity of 930 and had a roll of 971 (excluding Nursery) in the school census in October 2025.

Structure, governance and management

CMAT Leadership Model

The Executive, non executive members of the board and senior leadership of schools in the Trust work within a leadership framework. This model supports the performance management of the senior management and personnel involved in the leadership of the Trust. The requirements are:

- Ethical: We play by the rules, act with integrity and are proud of our actions.
- Passionate: We care deeply about what we do and set high expectations.
- Accountable: We take ownership of our actions and we do what we say.
- Efficient: We value speed, simplicity and value for money.
- Transparent: We say what we think and make it okay to disagree.
- Learning: We want to learn and share knowledge with each other.

The vision for Trust Board:

Commitment: CMAT Commits – We invest in our people, leading them to flourish, including pupils, parents, staff and community members.

Compassion: CMAT Cares – We want to make a difference for the world for today and for tomorrow.

Community: CMAT Serves – We are a learning community and so much more. Our schools are places of safety and support and we are proud of our locality and its people.

CMAT Board Leadership Team

Tyrone Field: Chair of the CMAT Board

Tyrone joined the Codsall Middle School governing body in October 2018 and moved to the CMAT board in February 2019. In January 2021 after a board restructure, he was appointed chair. Tyrone has a BSc in Mathematical Business Analysis and has held a number of senior ICT roles in both public/private organisations before starting a market research company in 2009, focusing on measuring and improving business performance. The company was acquired in April 2019 by a larger London research agency. Tyrone is currently the Chief Information Officer (Europe) for the EG Group, one of the world's leading independent convenience retailers.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

Jodie Parker: CMAT Chief Executive

Jodie has 25+ years' experience of working in a range of educational settings, within the UK as well as internationally. She has carried out a range of roles and responsibilities within schools, including Assistant Head Teacher and SENCo. Jodie has established and maintained hubs of excellence for writing within clusters of schools and developed a self improving school system approach to improve Teaching and Learning in Maths and English. Previously Head Teacher of an outstanding small school recognised by OFSTED for their excellence in Maths, she is currently Head Teacher in a two form entry first school. Jodie has successfully completed the NPQEL and works closely with partners including LDBE and Staffordshire.

Sabrina Varicchione: CMAT Deputy Chief Executive

Sabrina's professional experience across the Primary age range, coupled with her extensive leadership within Early Years stands her in very good stead as Head Teacher of Birches First School. As Headteacher and Deputy CEO Sabrina has a profound commitment to educational excellence, fostering a child-centred learning approach where every child can thrive personally, socially, and academically. She is dedicated to developing well-rounded individuals who are prepared for future challenges. Her extensive experience in leadership roles has enabled her to support and inspire both staff and children, fostering a collaborative and positive MAT culture.

a. Constitution

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

The charitable company's Memorandum of Association is the primary governing document of the Trust. The constituent academies of the Trust are:

- St Nicholas CE First School
- Codsall Middle School
- Birches First School

The Trustees of Codsall Multi Academy Trust ("the Trust" or "CMAT") are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as Codsall Multi Academy Trust.

Details of the Trustees who served during the period, and to the date these accounts are approved 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.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

c. Trustees' indemnities

Within the Trust's insurance policy there is a provision for 'Governor Trustee and management liability' and the limit of indemnity is £5,000,000.

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

Our approach to the recruitment and appointment of Trustees is based on a number of key inputs: guidance from the National College for Teaching and Leadership, the UK Corporate Governance Code and the CMAT Memorandum and Articles of Association.

The CMAT Memorandum and Articles of Association set out the framework for the management of the Trust. There are eight directors appointed by the Members two of which are nominated by the Church of England Central Education Trust. The CMAT Chief Executive is an ex officio director of the board. The remaining directors are appointed based on their skills, knowledge and experience to ensure that the CMAT Board is balanced and capable of fulfilling its responsibilities. The Members, where practical and possible, recognise the need to ensure that the Board reflects the diversity of our community.

Each School has its own Local Academy Board (LAB) with responsibility for:

- Teaching and Learning; and
- Special Educational Needs, Safeguarding and Wellbeing.

In CMAT LAB members can include:

- Parents
- Staff
- Headteachers
- Community Members
- Foundation Members
- Associate Members

Trustees are recruited by invitation from the Chair of the Board of Trustees after consultation with the Chief Executive Officer of persons known to the Multi Academy Trust who are able to benefit the Trust by their knowledge, experience and expertise. Recommendations are made to the Members who make the decision to appoint Trustees.

The principles of our appointment process are based on the UK Corporate Governance Code. The CMAT board must have the appropriate balance of skills and knowledge to enable them to discharge their respective duties and responsibilities effectively. The search for board candidates is conducted, and appointments are made, on merit, against objective criteria with due regard for the benefits of diversity on the board, including its gender balance.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance and management (continued)

The key steps in the appointment process include:

- Invitations to Trustees and local Governing Bodies to nominate prospective directors.
- Informal discussions between the Chair of the Board and Chief Executive with prospective Trustees.
- Review of curriculum vitae to establish skills, knowledge and experience.
- Background checks to ensure safeguarding and due diligence.
- Further interviews with the Board.
- Recommendations on appointments to the Members.

e. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

The induction and training of Trustees is critical in ensuring strong governance of Trust. The development of Trustees is therefore as important as the development of employees. Trustees who do not understand the strategy of the Trust can lead to a lack of co ordination resulting in poor performance from Trustees which is as great a risk to the Trust. All Trustees undertake development training and the CMAT governance policy requires three meetings to take place each year focused exclusively on continuous professional development.

Our induction and training process for new Trustees includes:

- Meetings with the Board of Trustees and the senior leadership team of the Trust;
- Visits to our schools and meeting with Headteachers and Senior Leadership Teams;
- Ongoing training in legislation and responsibilities;
- An induction pack which includes details of governance policy, Trust strategy and development planning, financial management standards and responsibilities and the Trust Annual Report and accounts;
- A six month review with the Chair of the Board and Chief Executive.

f. Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees are responsible for the overall strategic direction of the Trust. The Trustees have a duty to act in the fulfillment of the Trust's objects. They set the strategic direction and determine the policies and procedures of the Trust whilst holding each Academy within the Trust to account. The Trustees will meet at least three times a year and LABs will report to meetings of the board of Trustees throughout the year.

Each Academy, within the Trust, is governed by the Board of Directors who are responsible for the strategic direction of all schools.

Each school has a Local Academy Committee (formerly known as Board) "LACs" who are responsible for the management of

- 1) Teaching and Learning; and
- 2) SEN and Safeguarding.

The LACs engage with the local community, constructively challenge the leadership team of the Academy and provide evaluative feedback and supporting evidence to the board of Trustees on the impact and effectiveness of the collective and individual's aims, objectives, policies, targets and future plans.

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Structure, governance and management (continued)

The leadership and management across the Multi Academy Trust is delegated by the board of Trustees to the Senior Executive Team (SET). The SET is responsible for the delivery of the aims and objectives of CMAT as follows:

Jodie Parker – CEO/Headteacher St Nicholas CE First School

Overarching responsibility for the performance of CMAT including the staff within it. Strategic role in delivering the CMAT vision and management of the SET.

Sabrina Varricchione – Deputy CEO/Headteacher Birches First School

Line manages the leaders of each "Education Strategy Group" (ESG)

- 1) Teaching and Learning (T&L)
- 2) SEN and safeguarding

Ian Moore – Chief Finance and Operations Officer

Leads the Trust business teams and is responsible for finance and returns.

The SET is responsible at an executive level for implementing the policies laid down by board of Trustees and reporting back to them through various committees. This includes actions concerning the budget, staffing, and school improvement.

Finance and Audit

This committee is responsible for ensuring the sound financial planning, management and control of our resources with the regulatory funding framework. The Chief Executive as Accounting Officer and the Chief Finance and Operations Officer advise board members and assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Sites Building and Facilities

Two members of the Board have been designated as leaders of this area of work. The objective relates to the management of our facilities to create the conditions for learning and development and to safeguard our students. The Chief Finance and Operations Officer advise board members and assist them in fulfilling their responsibilities.

Stakeholder Engagement

Each individual Academy has a senior Leadership team which is directly responsible for the strategic leadership and day to day management of the Academy in accordance with CMAT aims and objectives. Each Academy operates under the auspice of "earned autonomy".

The CEO is the Accounting Officer and is responsible for the authorisation of spending within agreed budgets. Some spending control is devolved to designated budget holders within the hierarchy of limits and in accordance with the approved Financial Regulations and Financial Scheme of Delegation.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

The arrangements for setting the pay and remuneration of the key management personnel of the Trust are subject to the 'school teachers pay and conditions document and guidance on school teachers pay and conditions' and CMAT policies. The determination of leadership pay is in line with the school group size and relevant scale points attributed to the group pay range.

Incremental rises are dependent upon the successful completion of the previous years' performance management cycle and quality assured by the Senior Leadership Team within each school.

Headteacher and Head of School performance appraisal is undertaken by the CEO and LAB Lead with external advice in accordance with statutory guidance. Performance management of senior CMAT leaders is undertaken by a Remuneration Committee appointed by the Board to undertake the task with the assistance of external advisors.

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

Related party transactions:

The members, board of Trustees, Academy committee members and the accounting officer all complete a pecuniary interest declaration on an annual basis. This declaration sets out any relationship with the Multi Academy Trust that is not directly related to their duties within these roles. Each individual is also required to declare a potential 'conflict of interest' if it arises between such declarations. Once a declaration has been made, the individual concerned takes no further part in any decision relating to the matter declared.

In respect of the current year, the Trust has made £NIL payments to related parties; (2024: £NIL)

i. Trade union facility time

During the year the Trust did not have any employees who were relevant union officials.

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The Trust Board has adopted a Balanced Scorecard approach to set out its mission, vision and to develop the objectives to deliver sustained success.

We are clear that CMAT exists "to work together, based on sound finance, to ensure every pupil in our care achieves their full potential: academically and personally".

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

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

The strategic goals of the Trust are:

To provide high quality education provision for all academies within the Trust that improve the outcomes of all of our pupils. This will be achieved by providing appropriate and proportionate support and challenge each Academy within the Trust. With a Church of England school within the Trust we are also focused on rooting decision making where appropriate for that school within the teachings of Jesus, allowing pupils, staff and stakeholders to experience the spiritual dimensions of life.

Our Trust's Vision and Values

Commitment

CMAT Commits: We invest in our people, leading them to flourish, including pupils, parents, staff and community members.

Compassion

CMAT Cares: We want to make a difference to the world for today and for tomorrow.

Community

CMAT Serves: We are a learning community and so much more. Our schools are places of safety and support and we are proud of our locality and its people.

Our Church School additionally has the Vision "Walking in the footsteps of Jesus" which is rooted in John 8 v 12.

Through our values the Trust seeks to enrich the community and the lives of those within it. We believe that our children and young people will realise their full potential academically, socially and spiritually through the promotion of our Trust values which:

- Ensures children are excited and ready to learn
- Allow children to experience servitude
- Promote a sense of belonging
- Teach the importance of tolerance and respect for one another
- Support pupils to achieve their best
- Allow children to explore faith and belief

CMAT is committed to working within an environment that provides safety and compassion for all. It is open to schools of all faiths and none, all educational phases and performance outcomes recognising and valuing uniqueness.

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

a. Pupil Achievement

Across all CMAT academies, pupils continue to achieve strong outcomes. Our assessment and recording systems are now fully embedded, ensuring consistency and reliability. Data analysis is being used proactively to pinpoint areas of strength and identify opportunities for improvement, enabling targeted interventions that drive progress. At MAT and individual school level, schools are focused on achievement for all groups with specific focus on Pupil Premium, WBWC Pupils and SEND pupils who statistically achieve less well both locally and nationally.

b. Teaching and Learning

We are strengthening collaboration in Teaching and Learning across the three schools through structured sharing of best practice. This approach is designed to tackle classroom-level challenges and leverage the expertise within our teaching teams to enhance professional development and improve outcomes for all learners.

To secure a sustained positive impact on pupil achievement, the Directors have prioritised the following strategic actions:

Governance: Continue to monitor robust governance structures through effective Academy committees whereby LAB Leads share expertise and network across the Trust.

School Improvement: Deliver tailored interventions informed by each school's self-evaluation and needs analysis. The continuation and increase in the role of Director of Education underpins this.

Curriculum Collaboration: Develop joint curriculum initiatives to build key skills and foster independence under the leadership of the Teaching and Learning lead. A key focus on collaborative working within Inclusion, English and identified Foundation Subjects.

Monitoring and Evaluation: Implement rigorous systems to track progress and drive continuous improvement. MAT reviews, engagement with external school improvement partners and supports.

Central Services: Ensure procurement delivers best value for shared services and look to evaluate how the use of technology can support efficiency (use of AI).

Professional Development: Promote collaborative sharing of best practice in Teaching and Learning. Development of a MAT coaching programme using expertise within the MAT.

Growth Strategy: Engage with local stakeholders, Headteacher/CEO forums and the DfE to identify schools interested in joining the Trust.

Capacity Building: Strengthen management structures by developing a more efficient central team to support the Board of Trustees.

Training Provision: Create and deliver training programmes based on internal expertise for other education providers building on what has commenced to date with Science.

Sector Collaboration: Build partnerships with external education providers to share innovation and best practice.

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

Objectives and activities (continued)

c. Public benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have referred to the guidance contained in the Charity Commissioner's general guidance on public benefit when reviewing the Trust objective and aims and in planning future activities for the period. The Trustees consider that the Trust can clearly demonstrate that its aims are to advance education for public benefit.

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

a. Key performance indicators

Schools have the following OFSTED ratings:

Codsall Middle School	Good (Ofsted Oct 2024)
St Nicholas CE First School	Good (Ofsted April 2025)
Birches First School	Good (Ofsted Nov 2023)

St Nicholas CE First School is rated as Outstanding in SIAMS in March 2018 and awaits a new inspection next year.

All schools continued to perform extremely highly in academic year 2024-2025 with significant areas well above national. They are categorised as Level 1 schools by the LA (schools causing no concern) As a 3 Tier MAT, we fall outside national norms with regards to end of school assessments. We therefore implement our own, rigorous, nationally recognised GL Assessments. These assessments demonstrate that our pupils are achieving at least in line with other pupils nationally across the 4-year journey in Codsall Middle School and the 5-6-year journey in First Schools. Indeed, in most cases, our pupils exceed national expectations.

Assessments are now implemented from Years 1 – 8 and are augmented with robust, moderated teacher assessments. As a result of this data, schools are well informed with regards to pupils' progress and pro actively address any underachievement. The termly School Performance reviews undertaken by a Director with the CEO ensure that the schools remain on track and identify at the earliest stages where there may be a risk of not being.

From entry to exit

- Pupils make better than expected progress and the trend is consistent
- Pupils attainment and school attendance is higher than pupils nationally in almost all areas
- The mean standard age score for Year 8 pupils when they leave the school is above National average in English and Maths

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

b. Going concern

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

Financial review

Income for the period was £6,838,810 (2024: £6,430,186) of which £5,544,389 (2024: £5,211,003) was provided by the Department of Education (DfE) by means of standard grants to cover operational and capital costs. This was supplemented by donations and Capital Grants and other trading activities including third party lettings and funds generated by extended school activities which totalled the remaining balance.

All expenditure supports the Trust key objectives to deliver quality education to our pupils and community. Expenditure for the period was £6,707,627 (2024: £6,645,809) with the largest element of this expenditure being attributed to staff costs totalling £5,445,862 (2024: £5,364,281) for the period.

The depreciation and amortisation charge on assets of £121,293 (2024: £126,535) has been included. Net movement in funds for the period was a surplus of £131,183 (2024: deficit of £215,623) before the deficit movement on the defined benefit pension scheme of £115,000 (2024: £70,000 surplus). The Trust element of the Staffordshire Pension fund that forms part of the Local Government Pension Scheme was valued at 31 August 2025, showing a net value of £0 (2024: £0).

As at 31 August 2025, the net book value of fixed assets was £9,706,692 (2024: £9,769,748). The assets were used exclusively in providing education and the associated support services to the pupils across the Trust. The Multi Academy Trust complies with the principles of financial control as outlined in the Academies Financial Handbook and the Accounts Direction. The financial procedures, Scheme of Delegation and Value for Money statement together with systems of financial control ensure that the Trust conforms to the requirements of propriety, regularity and sound financial management.

We were fully aware and committed to addressing the areas for improvement identified from the previous statutory audit reports and feel confident that we have a leadership structure in place to ensure that this happens. The Board of Trustees are accountable for the allocation of resources to meet the objectives set out in the School Development Plans. The Accounting Officer together with the Finance Committee are responsible for reviewing the Financial Procedures on an annual basis and recommending approval to the main board of Trustees. Budgets are monitored monthly and updated projections are sent to the Chair of the Board and members of the Finance Committee. A more detailed report and commentary on the Trust's finances and three-year projections is provided to the Finance Committee and Board of Trustees on a termly basis.

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

a. Reserves policy

Any reserves held are in accordance with the requirements laid down in the Master Funding Agreement and by the Education & Skills Funding Agency/DfE. The level of reserves held considers the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them to commitments, including future capital projects, and the need to maintain sufficient reserves to cover any unexpected urgent expenditure requirements, especially to buildings repair not covered by insurance. The board of Trustees identify capital projects on an annual basis and reserves are reviewed alongside this exercise. The board of Trustees will review the level of reserves and reserves policy annually.

As at 31 August 2025 the Trust has reserves of £10,041,153 (2024: £10,024,972). Of these reserves £293,341 (2024: £181,076) were unrestricted and represent the Trust's free reserves.

Some of the revenue reserves are in deficit, measures have been taken by the Trust and the central deficit has reduced again in 2024/25. Codsall Middle School also has a deficit balance at the end of 2024/25 and the Trust is working closely with the school on cost savings and a deficit recovery plan to bring the school back into an overall balanced position within the next three academic years.

b. Investment policy

The investment policy supports the reserves policy. The Trust seeks to adopt a cautious, prudent and well diversified investment stance taking into account future cash flow projections to balance potential returns with appropriate levels of risk whilst attracting as high an interest returns as possible.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The Finance and Audit Committee have approved a risk management framework. The starting point is the development of a statement of context to understand the external and internal position of the Trust and conditions and framework within which risk is identified, assessed and managed. Our principle risks relate to our ability to achieve our strategic and operational objectives. Our risk mitigation and management framework is based on:

- Avoiding the risk by deciding not to start or continue with the activity that gives rise to the risk.
- Accepting or increasing the risk in order to pursue an opportunity.
- Removing the risk source.
- Changing the likelihood.
- Changing the consequences.
- Sharing the risk with another party or parties (including contracts and risk financing).
- Retaining the risk by informed decision.

There is a risk register in place, approved by the Board, which provides a framework for the monitoring, measuring, analysis and evaluation of risk in a dynamic framework.

Fundraising

The Trust undertakes general fundraising at each academy through fundraising events. All funds are donated voluntarily and the trust does not apply any pressure to donate. Funds are typically generated for equipment or experiences that enhance the learning of students or for donation to charity. All fundraising is carried out in house by academy staff and no individuals or agencies are engaged to fundraise on the trust's behalf.

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TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
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Plans for future periods

Whilst ensuring that individual academies in the Trust build upon their own identities, the shared DNA of the Trust is further embedded.

To strengthen the Trust Board to ensure appropriate representation in all key areas and to recruit a permanent Chair of the Finance and Audit Committee.

To continue to work with a group of other small multi-academy trusts in the local area to share expertise and to secure better value for money through collaborative working and shared procurement opportunities.

To continue to drive efficiencies across the Trust and maintain a working surplus position and also build up sufficient reserves to target investment in key areas which include building improvements, ICT refresh and staff CPD.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 8th December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr Tyrone Field
Chair of Trustees

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that the 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 Handbook and competency framework for governance.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day to day responsibility to the CEO, 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 the 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 control.

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' report and in the Statement of trustees' responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 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
Mr Tyrone Field, Chair of Trustees	4	4
Mrs Jenny Birch, Chair of Finance Committee	1	1
Miss Jodie Parker, CEO / Accounting Officer	4	4
Mr Paul Bowman	3	4
Mrs Fay Hayward	3	4
Mr Dominic Napier	4	4
Miss Sarah Gamble	3	3
Rev Jonathan Pedley	1	3
Mr Andrew Marchisio-King	1	1

There have been some changes to the Boards composition during academic year 2024/25. The Chair of the Finance Committee resigned in October 2024 and we have been actively pursuing a permanent replacement and they should be appointed before December 2025. The Director with responsibility for Safeguarding also resigned at the end of August 2025 and a replacement for this role should also be appointed before December 2025. We appointed three new Directors during 2024/25, with two of these being Foundation Trustees fulfilling the requirements of our Articles. The Board of Trustees has met 4 times in the year. In addition to this the Finance and Audit Committee which contained 4-5 Trustees during the year have met 3 times in the year ensuring that effective oversight of funds is maintained.

Minutes and reports from LABs, the Finance and Audit Committee, the Chief Executive Officer and Chief Finance and Operations Officer are provided to meetings of the Board of Trustees throughout the year.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

The Board of Trustees main purposes are:

- Finance policy development and strategic planning;
- Ensuring sound management and administration of the Trust and its Academies and ensuring that managers are equipped with relevant skills and guidance;
- Ensuring compliance with general legislative requirements;
- Establishing and maintaining a transparent system of prudent and effective internal controls;
- Management of the Trust's financial, human and other resources;
- Monitoring performance and the achievement of objectives and ensuring that plans for improvement are acted upon;
- Setting the Trust's standards of conduct and values;
- Assessing and managing risk, (including the preparation of a statement on academies risk management, or its annual report and accounts); and
- To hold to account the CEO, the Headteachers and Central Trust staff; within the parameters of the Scheme of Delegation.

Conflicts of interest:

Pecuniary interest forms are completed by all Trustees at the start of each academic year and any in-year updates should be communicated to the Chief Finance and Operations Officer. Any conflicts of interest in relation to specific items on meetings agendas are requested by the clerk at the start of each meeting.

The Finance and Audit Committee is a subcommittee of the main Board of Trustees. Its main purposes are:

- Assisting to promote the highest standards of propriety in the use of public funds and encourage proper accountability for the use of those funds.
- Promoting a climate of financial discipline and control which will help to reduce the opportunity for financial mismanagement.
- Contributing to the formulation of each Academy's Development Plan, through the consideration of financial priorities and proposals, in consultation with the CEO, the Chief Finance and Operations Officer and Head Teachers, with the stated and agreed aims and objectives of the Trust.
- Considering and recommending acceptance / non-acceptance of the Trust's budget at the start of the financial year.
- Monitoring and reviewing income and expenditure on a regular basis and ensuring compliance with the overall financial plan for the Trust, and with the Academies Financial Handbook, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of the Board.
- Assisting to promote the highest standards of propriety in the use of public funds and encourage proper accountability for the use of those funds.
- Improving the quality of financial reporting by reviewing internal and external financial statements on behalf of the Board;
- Promoting the climate of financial discipline and control which will help to reduce the opportunity for financial mismanagement.
- Promoting the development of internal controls and risk management systems which will help satisfy the Board that the Trust and its Academies will achieve their objectives and targets and are operating.
- In accordance with any statutory requirements for the use of public funds.
- Within delegated authorities laid down by board Directors.
- In a manner which will make most economic and effective use of resources available.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Mr Tyrone Field	3	3
Mrs Fay Hayward	2	3
Mr Paul Bowman	3	3
Mr Dominic Napier	3	3

No change to purpose of committee from previous years. The committee have again been dealing with the challenging financial forecasts for the Trust and have overseen the first year of the new leadership structure following the removal of the full-time CEO role from the end of 23/24.

Governance review

No external review of Governance was undertaken in 2024/25.

This year there has been a specific focus on growing the Board and we filled the two vacant Foundation Director roles in bringing us in line with our Articles. We have identified the key strengths of each Director and have been actively working to replace the key positions of Chair of Finance and Director for Safeguarding which have become vacant during 2024/25. We have now identified replacements and these should officially appointed before the next Trust Board meeting in December 2025.

Review of value for money

As Accounting Officer, the CEO has responsibility for ensuring that the 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 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 Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- To oversee a cost saving and income generation exercise across the MAT which realised total financial savings/additional income of £151,000 during the 2024/25 academic year.
- To build a medium-term financial strategy with further cost savings and income generation that has allowed the MAT to submit a balanced budget for 2025/26-2027/28.
- Continued the review and reduction in the cost of contracts and licences across the Trust and facilitate moves to MAT contracts where available.
- To review vacant posts in the structure and when staff leave a post to remove some from the Trust's structure to ongoing reductions in the annual cost.
- Tendered for the catering provision at St Nicholas' First School to start WEF 1/9/25

These measures have significantly reduced cost as well as impacting positively on the quality of provision across the MAT.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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

Capacity to handle risk

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

The risk and control framework

The 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:

- 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 Audit Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes.
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- identification and management of risks.

The Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Telford & Wrekin Council - Audit & Governance Team.

The focus for internal scrutiny this year has been Finance with specific areas covered being:

- Payroll
- Human resources
- Governance
- Policies

On an annual basis, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees through the finance and audit committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares a summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

The reviewer has delivered their schedule of work as planned and there are no significant control issues arising this year as a result of the work undertaken.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of effectiveness

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

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

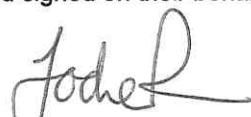
Conclusion

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:



Mr Tyronne Field
Chair of Trustees



Miss Jodie Parker
Accounting Officer

Date: 8th December 2025

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

I confirm that I, and the board of trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the academy trust, or material non-compliance with the framework of authorities.

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



Miss Jodie Parker

Accounting Officer

Date: 8th December 2025

CODSALL MULTI 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 judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

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

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

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

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



Mr Tyrone Field
Chair of Trustees

Date: 8th December 2025

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Codsall Multi Academy Trust (the '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 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 Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the 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 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.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Trustees Report (incorporating the Strategic Report and Directors Report) other than the financial statements and our Auditors' report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Trustees Report (incorporating the Strategic Report and Directors 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 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.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
CODSALL MULTI 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 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 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 Trust or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

- We reviewed the susceptibility of the Trust's financial statements to material misstatement and identified the principal risks, implementing a series of testing procedures to provide us with sufficient comfort to issue our opinion.
- We reviewed the Trust's regulatory environment to ensure we could conclude that it had acted in accordance with the framework relevant to the Trust and its environment and identify any instances of non-compliance.
- We also assessed the Trust's internal control procedures to ensure we could appropriately scrutinise these controls and establish whether our understanding of the control environment was sufficient to supplement our additional testing procedures.
- The engagement team consisted of a team that the engagement partner believes is equipped with the relevant level of technical and Trust awareness to carry out our work to the required standard.

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

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

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the charitable 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 charitable Trust's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the charitable Trust and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Andrew Malpass BA FCA (Senior statutory auditor)
for and on behalf of
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Date: 10/12/2025

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 July 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts 2024 to 2025, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether anything has come to our attention that would suggest, in all material respects, the expenditure disbursed and income received by Codsall Multi 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 Codsall Multi 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 Codsall Multi 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 Codsall Multi 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 Codsall Multi Academy Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Codsall Multi Academy Trust's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 29 September 2016 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 Trust's income and expenditure.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO CODSALL
MULTI 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.



Andrew Malpass BA FCA
WR Partners
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors

Belmont House
Shrewsbury Business Park
Shrewsbury
Shropshire
SY2 6LG

Date: *10/12/2025*

CODSALL MULTI 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	26,375	-	(28,485)	(2,110)	55,436
Other trading activities	5	223,456	-	-	223,456	245,966
Charitable activities	4	154,897	6,462,567	-	6,617,464	6,128,784
Total income	7	404,728	6,462,567	(28,485)	6,838,810	6,430,186
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		442,074	6,144,260	121,293	6,707,627	6,645,809
Total expenditure		442,074	6,144,260	121,293	6,707,627	6,645,809
Net (expenditure)/income		(37,346)	318,307	(149,778)	131,183	(215,623)
Transfers between funds	15	(53,696)	-	53,696	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(91,042)	318,307	(96,082)	131,183	(215,623)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	1,153,000	-	1,153,000	367,000
Pension surplus not recognised	22	-	(1,268,000)	-	(1,268,000)	(297,000)
Net movement in funds		(91,042)	203,307	(96,082)	16,183	(145,623)

CODSALL MULTI 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
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	181,076	-	9,843,896	10,024,972	10,170,595
Net movement in funds	(91,042)	203,307	(96,082)	16,183	(145,623)
Total funds carried forward	90,034	203,307	9,747,814	10,041,155	10,024,972

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

The notes on pages 33 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10204653

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

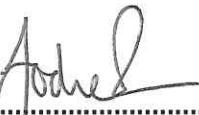
	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	12	9,706,692	9,769,748
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		9,706,692	9,769,748
Current assets			
Debtors	13	478,407	418,893
Cash at bank and in hand		351,829	391,755
		<hr/>	<hr/>
		830,236	810,648
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	14	(495,773)	(555,424)
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net current assets		334,463	255,224
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total assets less current liabilities		10,041,155	10,024,972
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets		10,041,155	10,024,972
		<hr/>	<hr/>
Total net assets		10,041,155	10,024,972
		<hr/>	<hr/>

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 10204653

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED)
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025	2024
		£	£
Funds of the Trust			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	15	9,747,814	9,843,896
Total restricted funds	15	9,747,814	9,843,896
Unrestricted income funds	15	293,341	181,076
Total funds		10,041,155	10,024,972

The financial statements on pages 28 to 60 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:


.....
Miss Jodie Parker
Accounting Officer

Date: 8th December 2025

The notes on pages 33 to 60 form part of these financial statements.

CODSALL MULTI 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	17	18,311	378,179
Cash flows from investing activities	18	(58,237)	(969,370)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(39,926)	(591,191)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		391,755	982,946
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	19, 20	351,829	391,755

The notes on pages 33 to 60 form part of these financial statements

CODSALL MULTI 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), judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

The financial statements of the 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 ESFA/DfE, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 Going concern

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the 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 Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Trust's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 Income

All incoming resources are recognised when the 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.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income (continued)

• **Donations**

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

• **Other income**

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

1.4 Expenditure

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

• **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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Taxation

The 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 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.

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Long-term leasehold property	- 125 years
Building improvements	- 50 years
Furniture and equipment	- 5 years
Computer equipment	- 3 years

Where the Trust has been granted use of school buildings under a Church Supplement Agreement, the Academies Accounts Direction prescribes that under this agreement the risks and rewards if ownership remain with the Diocese and as such the assets are not recognised in the Trust's financial statements.

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.

Upon conversion to academy status the Trust entered into a long term lease agreement with the Local Authority to occupy the schools site over 125 years at a nil rental charge.

St Nicholas First School occupies land (including buildings) which is owned by the Diocese of Lichfield. The diocese is the provider of the academy on the same basis as when the academy was a maintained school. The Academy occupies the land (and buildings) under a mere licence. This continuing permission of the Diocese is pursuant to, and subject to, the Diocese' charitable objects.

The licence delegates aspects of the management of the land (and buildings) to the Trust for the time being, but does not vest any rights over the land in the academy trust company. The Diocese has given an undertaking to the Secretary of State that it will not give the academy trust company less than two years notice to terminate the occupation of the land (including buildings). Having considered the factual matrix under which the Trust company is occupying the land (and buildings) the Trustees have concluded that the value of the land and buildings occupied by the Trust will not be recognised on the balance sheet of the Trust.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.7 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid.

1.8 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.9 Liabilities

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

1.10 Provisions

Provisions are recognised when the Trust has an obligation at the reporting date as a result of a past event which it is probable will result in the transfer of economic benefits and the obligation can be estimated reliably.

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

1.11 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 13. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.12 Operating leases

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

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 Pensions

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

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

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

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

1.14 Fund accounting

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

CODSALL MULTI ACADEMY TRUST
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 22, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

St Nicholas First School

The school occupies the premises under a Supplemental Agreement with the Diocese. There is no readily available and reliable estimator of market rent. As such, the donation in kind and related rental charge have not been included within the accounts. The net effect on the financial statements is Nil.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2025	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
Donations	26,375	-	26,375	31,077
Capital Grants	-	39,720	39,720	24,359
Capital Project Underspend	-	(68,205)	(68,205)	-
Total 2025	26,375	(28,485)	(2,110)	55,436
Total 2024	31,077	24,359	55,436	

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

4. Funding for the Multi Academy Trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
DfE grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	4,804,815	4,804,815	4,541,448
Other DfE grants				
Other DfE / ESFA Grant Income	-	383,418	383,418	303,479
Pupil Premium	-	184,435	184,435	190,675
Universal Infant Free School Meals (UIFSM)	-	101,963	101,963	105,995
Rates reclaim	-	15,528	15,528	15,256
PE and Sports Grant	-	54,230	54,230	54,150
	-	5,544,389	5,544,389	5,211,003
Other Government grants				
Local Authority - SEN	-	361,582	361,582	300,818
Local Authority - Early Years	-	349,137	349,137	294,052
Government - Other Grants	-	4,152	4,152	5,000
	-	714,871	714,871	599,870
Other income				
Other Income	-	203,307	203,307	177,110
Catering Income	154,897	-	154,897	140,801
	154,897	203,307	358,204	317,911
	154,897	6,462,567	6,617,464	6,128,784
Total 2025	154,897	6,462,567	6,617,464	6,128,784
Total 2024	140,801	5,987,983	6,128,784	

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

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from ancillary trading activities	14,705	14,705	12,449
Income from other charitable activities	202,259	202,259	225,647
Hire of facilities	6,492	6,492	7,870
Total 2025	223,456	223,456	245,966
Total 2024	245,966	245,966	

6. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Direct costs	4,531,662	-	323,436	4,855,098	4,820,029
Allocated support costs	914,200	290,448	647,881	1,852,529	1,825,780
Total 2025	5,445,862	290,448	971,317	6,707,627	6,645,809
Total 2024	5,364,281	277,372	1,004,156	6,645,809	

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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	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£	£
Charitable activities	4,855,098	1,852,529	6,707,627	6,645,809
Total 2025	4,855,098	1,852,529	6,707,627	6,645,809
<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>4,820,029</i>	<i>1,825,780</i>	<i>6,645,809</i>	

Analysis of direct costs

	Academies Educational Operations 2025	Total funds 2025	Total funds 2024
	£	£	£
Staff costs	4,531,662	4,531,662	4,466,445
Educational Supplies	55,309	55,309	64,798
Technology Costs	17,269	17,269	16,096
Educational Consultancy	23,107	23,107	43,760
Other Staff Costs	38,993	38,993	38,851
Other Costs	592	592	12,796
School Trips	188,166	188,166	177,283
Total 2025	4,855,098	4,855,098	4,820,029
<i>Total 2024</i>	<i>4,820,029</i>	<i>4,820,029</i>	

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

7. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Academies Educational Operations	Total funds	Total funds
	2025	2025	2024
	£	£	£
Staff costs	914,200	914,200	897,836
Depreciation and Amortisation	121,293	121,293	126,535
Technology Costs	133,441	133,441	119,072
Special Facilities	60	60	552
Other Staff Costs	4,470	4,470	2,624
Insurance	26,455	26,455	23,569
Other costs	64,959	64,959	77,235
Rates	15,528	15,528	16,468
Energy	88,551	88,551	112,172
Repairs & Maintenance	38,811	38,811	24,967
Cleaning and Caretaking	18,519	18,519	19,783
Operating Leases	4,762	4,762	10,347
Security	2,384	2,384	2,515
Transport	8,727	8,727	6,205
Catering	197,159	197,159	194,436
Other Premises Costs	99,987	99,987	68,738
Non-educational contracts	77,527	77,527	76,160
Auditor Costs	35,696	35,696	46,566
 Total 2025	 1,852,529	 1,852,529	 1,825,780
 Total 2024	 1,825,780	 1,825,780	

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

8. Net (expenditure)/income

Net (expenditure)/income for the year includes:

	2025 £	2024 £
Operating lease rentals	1,920	6,970
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	121,293	126,535
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	14,200	13,100
- other services	6,500	5,850
	<hr/>	<hr/>

9. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	4,013,440	3,991,752
Social security costs	427,252	367,722
Pension costs	974,857	927,790
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Agency staff costs	30,313	77,017
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	5,445,862	5,364,281
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

	2025 £	2024 £
Redundancy payments	-	18,325
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	-	18,325
	<hr/>	<hr/>

b. Severance payments

The academy trust paid no severance payments in the year (2024- nil).

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

9. Staff (continued)

c. Staff numbers

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Teachers	45	44
Administration and Support	100	105
Management	12	13
	<hr/> 157	<hr/> 162
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <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	3	-
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	-	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	2	2
In the band £100,001 - £110,000	1	-
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	-	1
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the 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 Trust was £465,315 (2024 £580,442).

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

10. Central services

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

- Chief Executive Officer
- Internal and External Financial Services
- Human Resources
- Estates Management
- Internal and External Audit provision
- Curriculum Development Support
- MAT SENCO Support

The Trust charges for these services on the following basis:

Central services are charged to each school based on 6.5% of total income excluding capital income and contributions from parents towards the cost of trips and visits. This rate has been reduced from the 8% charged in previous academic years due to efficiency savings.

The actual amounts charged during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Codsall Middle School	215,829	244,525
St Nicholas First School	138,977	164,177
Birches First School	79,977	89,618
Total	434,783	498,320

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

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

		2025	2024
		£	£
Mr Peter Bowers, CEO / Accounting Officer	Remuneration	115,000 - 120,000	
	Pension contributions paid	30,000 - 35,000	
Miss Jodie Parker, CEO / Accounting Officer (appointed 1 September 2024)	Remuneration	100,000 - 105,000	
	Pension contributions paid	25,000 - 30,000	

Compensation of £NIL (2024 - £NIL) was paid to Trustees and past Trustees in respect of loss of office.

During the year ended 31 August 2025, expenses totalling £NIL were reimbursed to Trustees (2024 - £13). The prior year reimbursements were for equipment, postage and subsistence.

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

12. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Building improvements £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2024	7,040,772	3,286,888	193,660	160,790	10,682,110
Additions	-	37,153	1,148	19,936	58,237
At 31 August 2025	7,040,772	3,324,041	194,808	180,726	10,740,347
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	455,824	152,331	148,762	155,445	912,362
Charge for the year	58,818	42,916	15,342	4,217	121,293
At 31 August 2025	514,642	195,247	164,104	159,662	1,033,655
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	6,526,130	3,128,794	30,704	21,064	9,706,692
At 31 August 2024	6,584,948	3,134,557	44,898	5,345	9,769,748

13. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	1,059	1,367
Other debtors	78	76
Prepayments and accrued income	391,931	388,028
Tax recoverable	85,339	29,422
	478,407	418,893

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

14. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	56,944	56,939
Other taxation and social security	106,825	85,296
Other creditors	138,169	127,401
Accruals and deferred income	193,835	285,788
	<hr/> 495,773 <hr/>	<hr/> 555,424 <hr/>

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

15. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	181,076	608,035	(442,074)	(53,696)	-	293,341
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	4,804,816	(4,804,816)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	184,435	(184,435)	-	-	-
Other Income	-	1,168,046	(1,168,046)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	101,963	(101,963)	-	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	115,000	-	(115,000)	-
	-	6,259,260	(6,144,260)	-	(115,000)	-
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Class II Restricted Funds - all funds	9,769,747	-	(121,293)	58,238	-	9,706,692
Capital grant monies	74,149	(28,485)	-	(4,542)	-	41,122
	9,843,896	(28,485)	(121,293)	53,696	-	9,747,814
Total Restricted funds	9,843,896	6,230,775	(6,265,553)	53,696	(115,000)	9,747,814
Total funds	10,024,972	6,838,810	(6,707,627)	-	(115,000)	10,041,155

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

15. Statement of funds (continued)

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

Unrestricted funds

The unrestricted funds includes the parental contributions and adult and pupil paid meals, non-educational visits and donations to the Trust.

Restricted funds

The restricted funds of the Trust comprise of GAG and other grants received during the year from the Department of Education and Local Authority. These funds have been provided for the Trust's educational activities therefore are appropriately treated as restricted.

The Pension Reserve is the Trust's share of the deficit of the Local Government Pension Scheme overseen by the Local Authority.

Restricted fixed asset funds

The restricted fixed asset funds includes any additions purchased by the Trust during the year from restricted monies.

The capital grant monies represents CIF funding awarded for capital projects which has not been fully spent at year end.

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the 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

15. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023</i> £	<i>Income</i> £	<i>Expenditure</i> £	<i>Transfers in/out</i> £	<i>Gains/ (Losses)</i> £	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024</i> £
Unrestricted funds						
General Funds - all funds	402,181	417,844	(627,291)	(11,658)	-	181,076
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	4,541,448	(4,541,448)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	190,675	(190,675)	-	-	-
Other Income	-	1,149,865	(1,149,865)	-	-	-
UIFSM	-	105,995	(105,995)	-	-	-
Pension Reserve	(166,000)	-	96,000	-	70,000	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	(166,000)	5,987,983	(5,891,983)	-	70,000	-
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Class II Restricted Funds - all funds	8,926,912	-	(126,535)	969,370	-	9,769,747
Capital grant monies	1,007,502	24,359	-	(957,712)	-	74,149
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,934,414	24,359	(126,535)	11,658	-	9,843,896
Total Restricted funds	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	9,768,414	6,012,342	(6,018,518)	11,658	70,000	9,843,896
Total funds	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	10,170,595	6,430,186	(6,645,809)	-	70,000	10,024,972

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

15. Statement of funds (continued)

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances at 31 August 2025 were allocated as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Codsall Middle School	(70,017)	(82,240)
St Nicholas First School	198,995	200,912
Birches First School	202,195	141,603
MAT	(37,832)	(79,199)
 Total before fixed asset funds and pension reserve	 293,341	 181,076
Restricted fixed asset fund	9,747,814	9,843,896
 Total	 10,041,155	 10,024,972

The following academy is carrying a net deficit on its portion of the funds as follows:

	Deficit £
Codsall Middle School	70,017

Codsall Middle have a deficit budget position due to revenue contributions to CIF projects.

The Trust is taking the following action to return the academy to surplus:

Codsall Middle School have a longer-term deficit recover plan to return to a surplus position within the next five years. The Central budget is a historic deficit due to restructuring costs and this has been reducing each year and is projected to return to a surplus position in 2025/26.

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

15. 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 £	Total 2024 £
Codsall Middle School	2,330,944	364,056	21,356	538,455	3,254,811	3,120,451
St Nicholas First School	1,442,682	160,302	20,765	320,256	1,944,005	1,986,143
Birches First School	766,588	182,844	13,188	145,110	1,107,730	1,003,983
MAT	141,556	208,942	-	44,290	394,788	504,697
Pension Cost/(gain)	-	(115,000)	-	-	(115,000)	(96,000)
Trust	4,681,770	801,144	55,309	1,048,111	6,586,334	6,519,274

16. 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	-	9,706,692	9,706,692
Current assets	789,114	41,122	830,236
Creditors due within one year	(495,773)	-	(495,773)
Total	293,341	9,747,814	10,041,155

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16. Analysis of net assets between funds (continued)

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	9,769,748	9,769,748
Current assets	736,500	74,148	810,648
Creditors due within one year	(555,424)	-	(555,424)
Total	181,076	9,843,896	10,024,972

17. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of financial activities)	131,183	(215,623)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	121,293	126,535
(Increase)/decrease in debtors	(59,514)	908,423
Decrease in creditors	(59,651)	(345,156)
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(115,000)	(96,000)
Net cash provided by operating activities	18,311	378,179

18. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(58,237)	(969,370)
Net cash used in investing activities	(58,237)	(969,370)

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19. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand and at bank	351,829	391,755
Total cash and cash equivalents	351,829	391,755
	=====	=====

20. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	391,755	(39,926)	351,829
	391,755	(39,926)	351,829
	=====	=====	=====

21. Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	105,726	145,136
	=====	=====

22. Pension commitments

The 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 Hymans Robertson LLP. 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 £122,621 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £113,353) and are included within creditors.

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

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 teachers in academy trusts. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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 23.68% 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.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £681,654 (2024 - £589,191).

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

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

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £494,798 (2024 - £519,212), of which employer's contributions totalled £401,756 (2024 - £424,316) and employees' contributions totalled £93,042 (2024 - £94,976). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 24.2 per cent for employers and 5.5 -12.5 per cent for employees.

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

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013 and on 21 July 2022, the Department for Education reaffirmed its commitment to the guarantee, with a parliamentary minute published on [GOV.UK](#).

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.20	3.15
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.70	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5

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	18.5	18.3
Females	24.7	24.6
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	20.7	20.5
Females	25.8	25.7

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2025 £000	2024 £000
Discount rate -0.1%	95	113
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	173	195
Salary rate +0.1%	4	5
Pension rate +0.1%	94	111

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2025 £	At 31 August 2024 £
Equities	3,595,340	3,303,680
Corporate bonds	1,709,260	1,393,740
Property	471,520	361,340
Cash and other liquid assets	117,880	103,240
Total market value of assets	5,894,000	5,162,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £88,000 (2024 - £331,000).

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	(304,000)	(329,000)
Interest income	267,000	227,000
Interest cost	(250,000)	(233,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	(287,000)	(335,000)

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22. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	4,865,000	4,286,000
Current service cost	304,000	329,000
Interest cost	250,000	233,000
Employee contributions	93,000	97,000
Actuarial gains	(1,065,000)	(36,000)
Benefits paid	(118,000)	(44,000)
At 31 August	4,329,000	4,865,000

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	5,459,000	4,120,000
Interest income	267,000	227,000
Actuarial gains	88,000	331,000
Employer contributions	402,000	728,000
Employee contributions	93,000	97,000
Benefits paid	(118,000)	(44,000)
At 31 August	6,191,000	5,459,000

23. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	1,920	6,970
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	872	2,792
	2,792	9,762

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24. Members' liability

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

25. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the 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 Trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.