

Company Registration Number: 07686458 (England & Wales)

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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FREMAN COLLEGE
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	Mr G Bonner Mr J Leigh Mrs J Martin Mr D Paull-Wills Mrs C Bennett (appointed 30 September 2024) Mrs S Coote (resigned 30 September 2024) Mr M Nicholas (resigned 16 September 2024) Mrs G Perkins (resigned 30 September 2024) Mr P Wilson (resigned 16 September 2024) Mrs S Angus (resigned 30 September 2024) Mrs K Connolly (resigned 16 September 2024) Mrs W Man (resigned 30 September 2024) Mrs C Claydon (resigned 30 September 2024)
Trustees	Mrs J Martin Dr S Aguilar (staff trustee) ¹ Ms S Angus Mrs C Claydon ¹ Mrs S Coote ¹ Ms L Jones (Acting Headteacher and Accounting Officer) (appointed 16 September 2024) Mrs W Man Mr M Nicholas ¹ Mr D Paull-Wills Ms K Connolly (resigned 16 September 2024) ¹ Mr G Bonner (resigned 30 September 2024) Mr M Grimley (staff trustee) (resigned 30 September 2024) ¹ Mr J Leigh (resigned 30 September 2024) ¹ Mrs G Perkins (resigned 30 September 2024) ¹ Dr A Vishnivetskaya (staff trustee) (resigned 30 September 2024) Mr P Wilson (resigned 16 September 2024) ¹ members of Resources Committee
Company registered number	07686458
Company name	Freman College
Principal and registered office	Bowling Green Lane Buntingford Hertfordshire SG9 9BT
Company secretary	Ms S Hebditch
Senior Leadership Team	Ms H Loughran (to 31 August 2024), Headteacher Ms L R Jones (Acting Headteacher from 1 September 2024), Deputy Head Mr W Abell, Assistant Head

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

	Ms S Hebditch, Business Manager Mr M R New, Assistant Head Mr M J Shearn (Acting Deputy Head from 1 September 2024), Assistant Head Mrs Z A Smith (Acting Deputy Head from 1 September 2024), Assistant Head Mr S J Thornewill (Acting Deputy Head from 1 September 2024), Assistant Head
Independent auditors	Hillier Hopkins LLP Chartered Accountants Radius House 51 Clarendon Road Watford Hertfordshire WD17 1HP
Bankers	Lloyds TSB Commercial Bank The Cross Melbourn Street Royston Hertfordshire SG8 7BL
Solicitors	Stone King 13 Queen Square Bath BA1 2HJ

FREMAN COLLEGE
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TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees of Freman College ('the College') present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2025. The annual report serves the purposes of both a trustees' report and a directors' report under company law.

The academy trust operates an academy for students aged 13 to 19 serving a catchment area in East and North Hertfordshire. It has a student capacity of 1,130 including 350 in the sixth form, with 1,060 in the school census on 4th October 2025.

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

Freman College is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

The charitable company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the College

The Trustees of Freman College are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company operates as Freman College.

Details of the Trustees who served during the year, and to the date these accounts are approved are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

b. Members' liability

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

c. Trustees' indemnity insurance

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

d. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Trustees are identified and chosen by the Board and are proposed to the full Board meeting. Candidates are selected based on eligibility, personal competence and professional skills, which can benefit the College, as well as local availability. The Board comprises Parent Trustees, the Headteacher, Staff Trustees and Community Trustees.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

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

New Trustees are inducted into the workings of the College at briefing sessions held with the Chair of Trustees and Headteacher. These sessions cover educational and business matters and include a familiarisation tour of the College's facilities. Trustees are issued with extensive background material together with the statutory guidelines for Trustees. Trustees are encouraged to attend training sessions organised for the education sector.

f. Organisational structure

The Board of Trustees constituted under the Memorandum and Articles of Association governs Freman College. The Board of Trustees is responsible for ensuring high standards of corporate governance are maintained. The full Board of Trustees meets formally four times during the year. Certain of the College's business is delegated through the following sub-committees on which the Headteacher, Business Manager and other senior staff also sit, as appropriate:

Resources (meets four times per year): S Aguilar, C Claydon, S Coote (Chair), M Grimley, L Jones (Acting Headteacher), M Nicholas, G Perkins.

Curriculum and Personnel (meets three times per year): S Angus, W Man, J Martin, D Paull-Wills (Chair), A Vishnivetskaya.

The terms of reference for each of these sub-committees have been written and accepted by the Board of Trustees.

The Headteacher is appointed by the Board of Trustees to manage the day-to-day operations of the College. In order to facilitate effective operations, the Headteacher has delegated authority within the terms approved by the Board of Trustees for operational matters within the College's Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The Board of Trustees has appointed an Acting Headteacher, the substantive Deputy Head, Lisa Jones, whilst they look to appoint a substantive Headteacher. This appointment is for two years, until 31st August 2026, to ensure the stability of the college. The appointment of Lisa Jones to Acting Headteacher led to the Board of Trustees promoting three Assistant Headteachers to Acting Deputy Heads for the same period of time.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

g. i. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year	4
Full-time equivalent employee number	4

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	4
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-
Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time	£
Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	6,427,627
Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time	- %

Paid trade union activities

Time spent on paid trade union activities as a percentage of total paid facility time hours	- %
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h. Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The key management personnel of the College comprise the Board of Trustees and the Senior Leadership Team as listed on page 1.

The Board of Trustees determine the pay range for the leadership of the College as detailed in the College's Pay Policy, determined by the framework of the School Teachers' Pay and Conditions document, which is reviewed annually.

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

Structure, governance and management (continued)

i. Risk management

The Board of Trustees have assessed the major risks to which the College is exposed, in particular those relating to teaching, the provision of facilities and other operational areas of Freman College and its finances. The Board of Trustees have implemented a number of systems to assess risks that the College faces, especially in the operational areas. For example, in relation to teaching, health and safety, bullying, school trips and visits and in relation to the control of finance.

The key controls used by Freman College include:

- Formal agendas for all committee meetings
- Volunteers' policy
- Health & safety policy

In accordance with the Academy's equal opportunities policy, the Academy has long-established fair employment practices in the recruitment, selection, retention and training of disabled staff.

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

Objectives and activities

a. Objects and aims

The College's principal object, as set out in the Articles of Association, is to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing an Academy school offering a broad and balanced curriculum.

The focus for the 2024/25 academic year was:

- To continue to improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment by sharing good practice.
- To seek to reduce teacher workload whenever possible without detriment to student achievement.
- To maintain outstanding progress at Key Stage 4 and to ensure that from that high starting point, progress at KS5 achieves positive value-added.
- To do all we can to reduce the gaps between disadvantaged students and others in terms of attendance and progress.
- To continue to embed and develop the use of Satchel One classroom tools and investigate alternatives to SIMs as our MIS.
- To transfer the college network to cloud-based platforms.
- To continue to develop support for parents in supporting academic achievement and student well-being.

b. Public benefit

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Trustees have carefully considered the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit.

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

Strategic report

Achievements and performance

Freman's CPD programme for 2024/25 focused on 4 key areas to support teaching and learning:

- Formative assessment: making the most of classroom feedback.
- Behaviour for learning: creating a classroom climate.
- Independent learning: maximising opportunities for self-assessment / utilising online resources
- Adaptive teaching: supporting a range of students in the classroom eg, SEND, PP, silent students

Alongside SIMs as our primary MIS, the college took on more classroom tools from Satchel One to manage staff workload and provide more information for students and parents about how well students are doing. These tools included modules on attendance, behaviour, welfare notes, seating plans and homework. Internal surveys with all stakeholders show there have been clear benefits to this move. Further work continues 25/26 to explore MIS options for the future.

Student numbers remained buoyant and alongside students' academic learning, a varied and extensive extra-curricular programme supported the personal development of students. These included the college production "We Will Rock You", Freman's Live Lounge and our summer music festival, The Event. Freman fielded teams across all sports and achieved considerable success at district level. Music, drama and sport were all supplemented by house events for all age groups. Trips were an integral part of college life, ranging from Art trips to theatre trips, geography fieldwork to computing fairs as well as the Ski Trip to Bormio and the Classics trip to Naples. Our Duke of Edinburgh scheme remains over-subscribed with 77 participating in the bronze award and 40 in the silver award.

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

a.

Key stage 4

Year 11 students again performed excellently against all the national measures and maintained the College's strong performance record.

Progress

Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the Government did not produce P8 scores in 2020 or 2021 but data that we have suggests that our students' "value-added" scores were in line with previous years. As the Government also cancelled SATs during the pandemic and the affected students reached the age of 16 in 2025, there are no Progress 8 figures published this year.

	Progress 8
2018	0.45
2019	0.45
2020	Not published
2021	Not published
2022	0.69
2023	0.37
2024	0.59
2025	Not published

* The Progress 8 measure is a secondary school accountability system. It aims to encourage schools to teach a broad curriculum and reward schools that teach all pupils well. It measures pupils' progress across 8 subjects from age 11 to 16. Freman's P8 scores have always placed us amongst the top schools nationally.

Attainment

Indicator	2025 KS4 Results	Nationally (FFT early view)	Rank
Attainment 8 Overall	5.4	4.7	19
Attainment 8 English	5.4	5	26
Attainment 8 Maths	5.2	4.7	23
Attainment 8 Ebacc	5.4	4.6	18
Attainment 8 Open	5.5	4.7	14
% 4+ GCSE English & Maths	77%	67%	2200%
% 5+ GCSE English & Maths	54%	47%	2900%
% 5+ GCSE 7-9	26%	17%	1700%

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

Strategic report (continued)

Achievements and performance (continued)

The proportion of Freman students achieving high grades in English and in Mathematics exceeds the national average each year.

	English Language			Maths		
	Freman 2025	National 2025	Freman vs. National	Freman 2025	National 2025	Freman vs. National
Grade						
7+	22.7	15.6	7.1	24.7	16.6	8.1
4+	80.8	60.2	20.6	81.6	58.3	23.3

Sixth Form

Following an exceptional year in 2024, this summer's results were similar in raw attainment to the 2023 level. A higher proportion than ever (75%) chose to go on to university after Sixth Form, with over 90% of these taking a place at their first choice university.

Results

	2025	2024	2023
A level: average points score per entry	36.84	39.06	37.15
A level: average point score expressed as a grade	B-	B	B-
% A*/A grades	26%	36	27
Cam Tec: average point score expressed as a grade	Distinction	Distinction	Distinction
% Distinction grades	58%	56	53

b. Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Governing Body has a reasonable expectation that the College 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 Statement of Accounting Policies.

c. Key performance indicators

- Student numbers – leading directly to DfE funding
- General financial stability
- Ofsted inspection results
- Year 9 student intake
- Sixth Form student numbers

The College's aim for the year to 31 August 2025 was to maintain the current level of educational provision, whilst matching income to expenditure. The aim was for the accrual of surplus balances to support the College's long term financial stability. Net expenditure for the year, excluding the fixed assets fund and adjustments relating to the actuarial valuation of the pension scheme, was £215,925 (2024 – net income of £335,099).

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

Strategic report (continued)

Financial review

Most of the College's income is obtained from the Department for Education (DfE) in the form of the General Annual Grant (GAG), the use of which is restricted for educational purposes. The grants received from the DfE and other government bodies during the period and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the statement of financial activities.

The College also received grants for fixed assets from the DfE. In accordance with 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 United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), such a grant is shown in the statement of financial activities as restricted income within the fixed assets fund. The balance sheet restricted fixed assets fund is reduced by expenditure equivalent to any depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

The Trustees chose to spend some of their reserves on further site improvements. This has resulted in a deficit position in year, whilst maintaining healthy reserves for future planned projects, such as the building of an AWP, which is currently in the final stages of planning.

The total income for the year was £8,205,391 (2024: £7,695,887).

The deficit for the year, excluding the fixed assets fund and adjustments relating to the actuarial valuation of the pension scheme, was £100,848 (2024: £757,018).

The results for the year are shown on page 29.

The pension valuation conducted by the Academy's actuary showed that the net present value of the LGPS obligation was an asset of £1,236,000 at the year end which is comprised of the fair value of liabilities of £2,607,000 and the fair value of assets of £3,843,000. However, no net pension asset has been recognised in accordance with FRS102 on the basis that the asset is not expected to lead to a reduction in future contributions or a refund in contributions for the Academy.

As a result, an asset ceiling cap has been applied and the carrying value in respect of the pension scheme in the balance sheet is recorded as £nil.

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

a. Reserves policy

The Governors have reviewed the reserves of the College. This review encompassed the nature of income and expenditure streams, the need to match them with commitments and the nature of reserves. The level of reserves will be kept under review by the Governors.

At 31 August 2025, the College had total funds of £7,893,215 (2024: £8,197,677). This comprised £6,375,870 (2024: £6,579,484) of restricted funds and £1,517,345 (2024: £1,618,193) of unrestricted general fund balances. Restricted funds include the pension reserve balance relating to the Local Government defined benefit scheme for non-teaching staff, which was recorded at £nil at 31 August 2025 (2024: £nil). The operational funds at 31 August 2025 were £1,517,345 (2024: £1,618,193).

The reserves held are in line with the College reserves policy which aims to hold reserves to fund future expenditure related to the College Improvement Plan's long term aims and development.

There is a balance of £nil (2024: £nil) on the pension reserve. Any cash flows as a result of this deficit will occur over a number of years. 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.

b. Investment policy

The Governors have expressed the wish that the investment of reserves be restricted to short term and secure deposits to maintain accessibility to cash reserves as needed. Currently there are no plans to make any investments of a long-term nature as there are no significant reserves available for investment.

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

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

Freman College holds a risk register which is reviewed on an annual basis as identified in The Academy Trust Handbook. We also have a Whistle Blowing Policy which is reviewed annually.

The main risks and impacts have been assessed as:

- Ensuring that the appointment of a substantive Headteacher in 2025/26 financial year is undertaken with propriety and accountability.
- Finding a best fit Headteacher to work with the Trustees to ensure the stable future of the college
If Department for Education (DfE) funding is not communicated in a timely fashion and/or is significantly lower than planned for, then this could have adverse financial implications for the College which would need to be addressed. There is currently considerable financial uncertainty with regard to public funding. The College maintains a healthy reserve in order to mitigate any cash-flow concerns.
- Funding is also directly linked to the number of students on role and the Trustees continue to monitor student numbers, including those of the sixth form.
- Safeguarding students in our care in line with statutory guidance. In order to mitigate this risk, the College ensures that staff have regular safeguarding training and ensures that our responsibilities pertaining to safeguarding has a high profile.
- Trustees have also considered the risk associated with financial or other compliance failures.

Freman College has introduced systems, including operational procedures (e.g. vetting of new staff and visitors, and supervision of College grounds) and internal financial controls in order to minimise risk.

The Trustees undertake a formal review of the College risk register on an annual basis in order to satisfy themselves that a wide variety of risks have been examined and robust systems have been implemented to mitigate the risk as far as it is possible to do so.

Fundraising

Freman College follows the fundraising practices as per section 13 of the Charities (Protection and Social Investment) Act 2016. Freman College does not currently work with any commercial or professional fundraisers. Freman College's fundraising activities are currently limited to raising funds for charities which the students' have chosen to support through non-uniform days and cake sales, rather than fundraising for College purposes. These are optional activities.

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

Plans for future periods

A main focus of the 2025/26 academic year is the appointment of a new substantive Headteacher, which will result in a restructuring of the current Acting SLT model.

- The college improvement plan for 24-27 continues to work on the following:
- To continue to improve the quality of teaching, learning and assessment by sharing good practice.
- To seek to reduce teacher workload whenever possible without detriment to student achievement.
- To maintain outstanding progress at Key Stage 4 and to ensure that from that high starting point, progress at KS5 achieves positive value-added.
- To do all we can to reduce the gaps between disadvantaged students and others in terms of attendance and progress.
- To continue to embed and develop the use of Satchel One classroom tools and investigate alternatives to SIMs as our MIS.
- To transfer the college network to cloud-based platforms.
- To continue to develop support for parents in supporting academic achievement and student well-being

In the academic year 25-26, we are focussing in particular on:

- Reviewing our assessment and reporting cycle
- Developing a robust AI strategy
- Developing an independent approach to CPD
- Reviewing our management information system
- Site development: building an all-weather pitch

Disclosure of information to auditors

In so far 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 08-12-2025 | 12:54 GMT and signed on its behalf by:

Signed by:

.....81947355B9CE488.....
Mrs J Martin
Chair of Trustees

FREMAN COLLEGE
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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

As Trustees, we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Freman College 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 Headteacher, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Freman College 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.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

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 5 times during the year.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr S Aguilar	4	4
Ms S Angus	4	4
Mrs C Claydon	2	4
Mrs S Coote	1	4
Ms L Jones	4	4
Mrs W Man	4	4
Mrs J Martin	4	4
Mr M Nicholas	4	4
Mr D Paull-Wills	2	4

The Trustees carried out a skills-based audit in October 2024 using a template provided by the National Governors Association and the outcome of this was considered in December 2024. The audit confirmed that there is a good skills mix within the Board of Trustees, with appropriate levels of experience and knowledge spread through the committees. Trustee skills are considered when appointing Trustees to committees. The Trustees refer to the audit when considering the suitability of prospective Trustees to a Community Trustee role.

Trustees consider the committee structure each academic year and agreed to keep two committees for 2024/25: Resources (which includes Audit) and Curriculum and Personnel.

Resources Committee

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Governing Body. Its purpose is:

Premises

- To provide support and guidance for the Headteacher on all matters relating to the College premises and grounds, security and health and safety.
- To monitor and revise the premises elements of the Accessibility Plan.
- To inspect the premises and grounds annually and prepare a report on any issues identified and a proposed order of priorities for maintenance and development, for the approval of the Governing Body.
- To approve the costs and arrangements for repairs, maintenance and redecoration within the budget allocation and to oversee the preparation and implementation of contracts.
- To undertake an annual safety and security audit of the premises and report on the same to the Governing Body; and to ensure that the College complies with health and safety regulations.
- To report findings of inspections and audits to the Headteacher and liaise with her to ensure that action is taken as appropriate.
- To ensure the discharge of Governors' responsibilities regarding litter under the Environmental Protection Act 1990.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

- To prepare a lettings and charges policy for the approval of the Governing Body and to monitor and evaluate the implementation of that policy.
- To consider and make recommendations on risk management and insurance arrangements with regard to vandalism and other premises-related matters.

Finance

- To assist the decision making of the Governing Body, by enabling more detailed consideration to be given to the best means of fulfilling the Governing Body's responsibility to ensure sound management of the College's finances and resources, including proper planning, monitoring and probity.
- To make appropriate comments and recommendations on such matters to the Governing Body on a regular basis.
- To refer major issues to the full Governing Body for ratification.
- To consider the College's indicative funding, notified annually by the DfE and to assess its implications, in consultation with the Headteacher, in advance of the financial year, drawing any matters of significance or concern to the attention of the Governing Body.
- To consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the College's budget at the start of each financial year.
- To contribute to the formulation of the College's development plan, through the consideration of financial priorities and proposals, in consultation with the Headteacher, with the stated and agreed aims and objectives of the College.
- To receive and make recommendations on the broad budget headings and areas of expenditure to be adopted each year, including the use of any contingency fund or balances, ensuring the compatibility of all such proposals with the development priorities set out in the development plan.
- To liaise with and receive reports from the Curriculum and Personnel Committee as appropriate, and to make recommendations to that Committee about the financial aspects of matters being considered by them.
- To monitor and review expenditure on a regular basis and ensure compliance with the overall financial plan for the College, and with the financial regulations of the DfE, drawing any matters of concern to the attention of the Governing Body.
- To monitor and review procedures for ensuring the effective implementation and operation of financial procedures, on a regular basis, including the implementation of bank account arrangements and, where appropriate to make recommendations for improvement.
- To receive the financial statements to form part of the annual report of the Governing Body for recommendation to the full Governing Body and for filing in accordance with Companies Act requirements.
- To receive auditors' reports and to recommend to the full Governing Body action as appropriate in response

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

to audit findings.

- To recommend to the full Governing Body the appointment or reappointment of the auditors of the College.

Audit

- To act as the College's Audit Committee and ensure, as far as is within its competence, that the financial controls, procedures and arrangements required by law, by the DfE, by the auditors and by other authorities are in place and are being properly implemented and regularly monitored. Including:
 - Reviewing the risks to internal financial control.
 - Agreeing a programme of work to address risks and provide assurance to the external auditors.
 - Approving internal audit schedule of works.
 - Reporting serious concerns to the Chair who will take all necessary steps to investigate.

No member of staff employed by the College may participate as a member of the Committee when audit matters are discussed. They may attend to provide information and participate in discussions.

Attendance at Resources Committee meetings during the year was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Dr S Aguilar (Staff trustee)	4	4
Mrs C Claydon	3	4
Mrs S Coote (Chair)	3	4
Mr M Grimley (Governor)	4	4
Ms L Jones (Accounting Officer)	4	4
Mr M Nicholas	4	4
Mrs G Perkins (Governor)	2	4

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

As accounting officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

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

Pupil Premium

Students eligible for help from pupil premium funding continued to be a focus for 2024/25. The students are identified early in year 9 and this has enabled the College to support them effectively throughout their time with us, improving their outcomes. The funding has enabled us to implement targeted intervention at a crucial time in the students' education.

Purchasing

The College continues to improve its purchasing and contract management by utilising national benchmarking data, contacts in a consortium of convertor academies, and industry recommended sources such as CPC. Purchasing decisions are robustly questioned by Governors ensuring that the principles of best value are adhered to.

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 College'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 at the College for the year ended 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 College 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 an ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the College's significant risks that has been in place for the year ended 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the board of Trustees.

The risk and control framework

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

- comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees
- regular reviews by the Finance and General Purposes 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

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

- delegation of authority and separation of duties; and
- identification and management of risks

The Board of Trustees has decided not to appoint an internal auditor. However, the Trustees have appointed Mrs J Grosch, the Finance Manager of Chauncy School, to perform a peer review.

Their role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the academy trust's financial systems. In particular, the checks carried out in the current period included:

- testing of payroll systems;
- testing purchase systems;
- testing of trip financial management

On a termly basis, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees through the Resources 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.

No breaches in the College's control systems were identified during the reviews.

Review of effectiveness

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

- The work of internal checks;
- the work of the executive managers within the Academy who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework.
- the work of the external auditors;

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

Conclusion

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

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

Signed by:

Jacqueline Margaret Martin

91947355B9CF488.....

Mrs J Martin

Chair of Trustees

Date: 08-12-2025 | 12:54 GMT

Signed by:

Lisa Jones

F026B83DE503455.....

Ms L Jones

Accounting Officer

08-12-2025 | 12:56 GMT


FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As accounting officer of Freman College I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Board of Trustees and the Department for Education (DfE) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding received by the Academy, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2024.

I confirm that I and the Academy Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2024.

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

Signed by:

.....F026B83DE503455.....
Ms L Jones
Headteacher and Accounting Officer
Date: 08-12-2025 | 12:56 GMT

FREMAN COLLEGE
(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:

Signed by:

.....91947355B9CE488.....
Mrs J Martin
Chair of Trustees
Date: 08-12-2025 | 12:54 GMT

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FREMAN COLLEGE**

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy'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.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FREMAN COLLEGE (CONTINUED)**

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy 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.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FREMAN COLLEGE (CONTINUED)**

Responsibilities of trustees

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

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

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FREMAN COLLEGE (CONTINUED)**

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:

- the control environment and performance of the academy, including the remuneration incentives and pressures of key management;
- the primary responsibility for the prevention and detection of fraud rests with both those charged with governance of the entity and management. We consider the results of our enquiries of management and internal audit about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to:
- identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance;
 - detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud;
 - the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations;
 - the matters discussed among the audit engagement team, regarding how and where fraud might occur in the financial statements and any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud and identified the greatest potential for fraud. In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override, including testing journals and evaluating whether there was evidence of bias by the directors that represented a risk of material misstatement due to fraud.

We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the academy operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. We focused on laws and regulations that could give rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements, including, but not limited to, the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019, the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 and relevant tax legislation.

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

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF
FREMAN COLLEGE (CONTINUED)**

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.

Use of our report

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

Signed by:



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Alexander Bottom ACA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Hillier Hopkins LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditor

Radius House

51 Clarendon Road

Watford

Hertfordshire

WD17 1HP

Date: 08-12-2025 | 15:43 GMT

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FREMAN COLLEGE AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 28 June 2022 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 Freman College 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 Freman College 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 Freman College 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 Freman College and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Freman College's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Freman College's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 16 July 2013 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.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO FREMAN COLLEGE AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

Approach

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw our conclusion includes:

- An assessment of the risk of material misstatement and irregularity across the Academy Trust's activities;
- Testing and review of areas identified through risk assessment including enquiry, observation, inspection and review of supporting evidence;
- Review of system controls, policies and procedures in place to ensure compliance with the regularity regime;
- Consideration of evidence obtained through the work performed as part of our financial statements audit in order to support the regularity conclusion.

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.

DocuSigned by:

Hillier Hopkins LLP

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Hillier Hopkins LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditor
Radius House
51 Clarendon Road
Watford
Hertfordshire
WD17 1HP

Date: 08-12-2025 | 15:44 GMT

FREMAN COLLEGE
(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	26,570	-	22,113	48,683	54,903
Other trading activities		85,515	-	-	85,515	48,910
Investments	6	24,328	31,000	-	55,328	55,580
Charitable activities		515,445	7,500,420	-	8,015,865	7,536,494
Total income		651,858	7,531,420	22,113	8,205,391	7,695,887
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		323,001	7,629,856	507,996	8,460,853	8,030,986
Total expenditure		323,001	7,629,856	507,996	8,460,853	8,030,986
Net income/ (expenditure)		328,857	(98,436)	(485,883)	(255,462)	(335,099)
Transfers between funds	16	(429,705)	147,436	282,269	-	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains/(losses)		(100,848)	49,000	(203,614)	(255,462)	(335,099)
Other recognised gains/(losses):						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	22	-	(49,000)	-	(49,000)	(34,000)
Net movement in funds		(100,848)	-	(203,614)	(304,462)	(369,099)
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		1,618,193	-	6,579,484	8,197,677	8,566,776
Net movement in funds		(100,848)	-	(203,614)	(304,462)	(369,099)
Total funds carried forward		1,517,345	-	6,375,870	7,893,215	8,197,677

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

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

The notes on pages 33 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)
REGISTERED NUMBER: 07686458

BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note	2025 £	2024 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	6,375,870	6,579,484
Current assets			
Debtors	14	198,843	160,802
Cash at bank and in hand		1,735,788	2,062,202
		<u>1,934,631</u>	<u>2,223,004</u>
Current liabilities			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(417,286)	(604,811)
Net current assets		<u>1,517,345</u>	<u>1,618,193</u>
Total net assets		<u><u>7,893,215</u></u>	<u><u>8,197,677</u></u>
Funds of the Academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	16	6,375,870	6,579,484
Total restricted funds	16	<u>6,375,870</u>	<u>6,579,484</u>
Unrestricted income funds	16	<u>1,517,345</u>	<u>1,618,193</u>
Total funds		<u><u>7,893,215</u></u>	<u><u>8,197,677</u></u>

The financial statements on pages 29 to 57 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

Signed by:

.....
Mrs J Martin
Chair of Trustees
Date: 08-12-2025 | 12:54 GMT

The notes on pages 33 to 57 form part of these financial statements.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(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 (used in)/provided by operating activities	18	(68,473)	75,008
Cash flows from investing activities	19	(257,941)	(768,487)
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(326,414)	(693,479)
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		2,062,202	2,755,681
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	20, 21	1,735,788	2,062,202

The notes on pages 33 to 57 form part of these financial statements

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

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 Academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

- **Grants**

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

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

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

- **Donations**

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

- **Other income**

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

1.4 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's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.5 Government grants

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

1.6 Interest receivable

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.7 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold property	- 30 years
Furniture and equipment	- 4 years
Computer equipment	- 3 years
Motor vehicles	- 4 years

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

1.8 Debtors

Trade and other debtors are recognised at the settlement amount after any trade discount offered. Prepayments are valued at the amount prepaid net of any trade discounts due.

FREMAN COLLEGE
(A Company Limited by Guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.9 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.10 Liabilities

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy 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.

1.11 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. 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 15. 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.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.12 Pensions

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

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

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

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

1.13 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the DfE. Payments received from the DfE and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy does not have control over the charitable application of the funds.

1.14 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

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

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy 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 asset. 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 asset 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 asset

The net asset on 31 August 2025 was £1,236,000. Note 22 includes details of the effects of changes in the key assumptions on the liability. As the present value of the defined benefit obligation at the reporting date is less than the fair value of the plan assets, the plan has a notional surplus. As the Trustees do not consider that the Academy Trust will be able to recover the surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through reduced refunds from the plan, the surplus has not been recognised in these financial statements in line with paragraph 28.22 of FRS102

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Donations	26,570	-	26,570	32,740
Government grants	-	22,113	22,113	22,163
	26,570	22,113	48,683	54,903
Total 2024	32,740	22,163	54,903	

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

4. Funding for the Academy's charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Educational activities				
DfE grants				
General Annual Grant (GAG)	-	5,242,270	5,242,270	4,828,824
Other DfE grants				
Pupil Premium	-	104,225	104,225	92,743
Rates relief	-	31,885	31,885	30,518
Teachers Pay	-	85,209	85,209	82,619
Teachers Pension	-	182,129	182,129	111,848
Other DfE grants	-	236,621	236,621	(7,749)
16-19 Funding	-	1,351,222	1,351,222	1,471,634
Mainstream schools additional grant (MSAG)	-	-	-	157,640
	-	7,233,561	7,233,561	6,768,077
Other Government grants				
Local Authority Grants	-	266,359	266,359	148,700
	-	266,359	266,359	148,700
Other income from the Academy's educational activities	515,445	500	515,945	597,016
Additional funding (DfE)				
Catch-up Premium	-	-	-	22,701
	-	-	-	22,701
	515,445	7,500,420	8,015,865	7,536,494
Total 2024	597,016	6,939,478	7,536,494	

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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 £
Hire of facilities	33,619	33,619	18,795
Sale of goods/services	25,248	25,248	15,697
Music income	7,688	7,688	6,240
Insurance claim	-	-	3,053
Other trading income	18,960	18,960	5,125
	<u>85,515</u>	<u>85,515</u>	<u>48,910</u>
Total 2024	<u>48,910</u>	<u>48,910</u>	

6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Investment income	24,328	-	24,328	36,580
Pension income	-	31,000	31,000	19,000
	<u>24,328</u>	<u>31,000</u>	<u>55,328</u>	<u>55,580</u>
Total 2024	<u>36,580</u>	<u>19,000</u>	<u>55,580</u>	

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

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Educational activities:					
Direct costs	5,585,246	-	760,733	6,345,979	6,059,649
Allocated support costs	878,744	815,884	420,246	2,114,874	1,971,337
	<u>6,463,990</u>	<u>815,884</u>	<u>1,180,979</u>	<u>8,460,853</u>	<u>8,030,986</u>
Total 2024	<u>6,036,181</u>	<u>700,099</u>	<u>1,294,706</u>	<u>8,030,986</u>	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2025 £	Support costs 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Educational activities	<u>6,345,979</u>	<u>2,114,874</u>	<u>8,460,853</u>	<u>8,030,986</u>
Total 2024	<u>6,059,649</u>	<u>1,971,337</u>	<u>8,030,986</u>	

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

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Educational activities 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Staff costs	842,381	842,381	749,292
Depreciation	456,666	456,666	352,188
Technology costs	99,339	99,339	128,512
Premises costs	359,218	359,218	347,962
Other support costs	337,496	337,496	377,697
Governance costs	19,774	19,774	15,686
	<u>2,114,874</u>	<u>2,114,874</u>	<u>1,971,337</u>
<i>Total 2024</i>	<u><u>1,971,337</u></u>	<u><u>1,971,337</u></u>	

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2025 £	<i>2024 £</i>
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	507,996	525,049
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	13,250	12,000
- other services	4,325	4,125
	<u><u>13,250</u></u>	<u><u>12,000</u></u>

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

10. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025 £	2024 £
Wages and salaries	4,726,414	4,523,711
Social security costs	527,124	442,913
Pension costs	1,174,089	1,049,473
	<u>6,427,627</u>	<u>6,016,097</u>
Agency staff costs	36,363	20,084
	<u>6,463,990</u>	<u>6,036,181</u>

b. Staff numbers

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Teachers	65	66
Administration and support	109	105
Management	7	8
	<u>181</u>	<u>179</u>

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

10. Staff (continued)

c. 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	6	5
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	1
In the band £110,001 - £120,000	-	1

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £866,922 (2024 - £827,473).

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

One or more Trustees has been paid remuneration or has received other benefits from an employment with the Academy. 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 £
Ms H Loughran, Head Teacher (resigned 16 September 2024)	Remuneration		115,000 - 120,000
	Pension contributions paid		25,000 - 30,000
Dr S Aguilar	Remuneration	55,000 - 60,000	50,000 - 55,000
	Pension contributions paid	15,000 - 20,000	10,000 - 15,000
Mr M Grimley (resigned 30 September 2024)	Remuneration	0 - 5,000	50,000 - 55,000
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5,000	10,000 - 15,000
Dr A Vishnivetskaya (resigned 30 September 2024)	Remuneration	0 - 5,000	25,000 - 30,000
	Pension contributions paid	0 - 5,000	5,000 - 10,000
Ms L Jones (appointed 16 September 2024)	Remuneration	95,000 - 100,000	N/A
	Pension contributions paid	25,000 - 30,000	N/A

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

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses (continued)

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

12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

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

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Freehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
Cost or valuation					
At 1 September 2024	10,595,844	908,579	775,474	-	12,279,897
Additions	81,835	91,224	71,323	60,000	304,382
At 31 August 2025	10,677,679	999,803	846,797	60,000	12,584,279
Depreciation					
At 1 September 2024	4,191,096	771,211	738,106	-	5,700,413
Charge for the year	359,141	82,525	51,330	15,000	507,996
At 31 August 2025	4,550,237	853,736	789,436	15,000	6,208,409
Net book value					
At 31 August 2025	6,127,442	146,067	57,361	45,000	6,375,870
At 31 August 2024	6,404,748	137,368	37,368	-	6,579,484

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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14. Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Due within one year		
Trade debtors	26,955	10,042
Other debtors	105,895	60,791
Prepayments and accrued income	65,993	89,969
	<u>198,843</u>	<u>160,802</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade creditors	16,616	42,882
Other taxation and social security	122,487	102,501
Other creditors	128,755	135,156
Accruals and deferred income	149,428	324,272
	<u>417,286</u>	<u>604,811</u>

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	138,710	216,964
Resources deferred during the year	123,160	138,710
Amounts released from previous periods	(138,710)	(216,964)
	<u>123,160</u>	<u>138,710</u>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for various grants and trip income relating to activities in the next financial year.

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

16. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
General Fund	1,618,193	651,858	(323,001)	(429,705)	-	1,517,345
Restricted general funds						
GAG	-	5,242,270	(5,389,706)	147,436	-	-
16-19 Funding	-	1,351,222	(1,351,222)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	104,225	(104,225)	-	-	-
Rates Relief	-	31,885	(31,885)	-	-	-
Other DfE Grants	-	519,207	(519,207)	-	-	-
Local Authority Grants	-	251,111	(251,111)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	500	(500)	-	-	-
Pension Reserve	-	31,000	18,000	-	(49,000)	-
	-	7,531,420	(7,629,856)	147,436	(49,000)	-
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed Assets	6,579,484	-	(507,996)	304,382	-	6,375,870
DFC	-	22,113	-	(22,113)	-	-
	6,579,484	22,113	(507,996)	282,269	-	6,375,870
Total Restricted funds	6,579,484	7,553,533	(8,137,852)	429,705	(49,000)	6,375,870
Total funds	8,197,677	8,205,391	(8,460,853)	-	(49,000)	7,893,215

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

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

The General Annual Grant (GAG) represents the core funding for the educational activities of the school that has been provided to the academy by the Department for Education. The General Annual Grant Fund has been set up because the GAG must be used for the normal running costs of the academy.

Pupil Premium is a grant allocated to academies with pupils that are known to be eligible for free school meals. The purpose is to raise attainment for pupils from low income families.

Other DfE grants represents the funding received from the DfE which is restricted in nature.

The pension reserve represents the net deficit on the LGPS defined benefit pension scheme. The deficit arose because of the pension scheme deficit inherited upon conversion.

The restricted fixed asset fund includes the freehold property and all other fixed assets. Depreciation charged on the assets is allocated to the fund. The transfer of restricted funds to the fixed asset reserve fund represents the spending of restricted monies for fixed asset additions as permitted by the terms of the grant.

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

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

16. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
Unrestricted funds						
General Fund	2,375,211	715,246	(291,985)	(1,180,279)	-	1,618,193
Restricted general funds						
GAG	-	4,828,824	(5,245,450)	416,626	-	-
16-19 Funding	-	1,471,634	(1,471,634)	-	-	-
Mainstream schools additional grant (MSAG)	-	157,640	(157,640)	-	-	-
Pupil Premium	-	92,743	(92,743)	-	-	-
Rates Relief	-	30,518	(30,518)	-	-	-
Other DfE Grants	-	186,718	(186,718)	-	-	-
Local Authority Grants	-	148,700	(148,700)	-	-	-
Other restricted income	-	22,701	(22,701)	-	-	-
Pension Reserve	-	19,000	15,000	-	(34,000)	-
	-	6,958,478	(7,341,104)	416,626	(34,000)	-
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Fixed Assets	6,150,151	-	(397,897)	827,230	-	6,579,484
DFC	41,414	22,163	-	(63,577)	-	-
	6,191,565	22,163	(397,897)	763,653	-	6,579,484

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

	<i>Balance at 1 September 2023 £</i>	<i>Income £</i>	<i>Expenditure £</i>	<i>Transfers in/out £</i>	<i>Gains/ (Losses) £</i>	<i>Balance at 31 August 2024 £</i>
Total Restricted funds	6,191,565	6,980,641	(7,739,001)	1,180,279	(34,000)	6,579,484
Total funds	<u>8,566,776</u>	<u>7,695,887</u>	<u>(8,030,986)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>(34,000)</u>	<u>8,197,677</u>

17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	6,375,870	6,375,870
Current assets	1,602,543	332,088	-	1,934,631
Creditors due within one year	(85,198)	(332,088)	-	(417,286)
Total	<u>1,517,345</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>6,375,870</u>	<u>7,893,215</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	<i>Unrestricted funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Restricted fixed asset funds 2024 £</i>	<i>Total funds 2024 £</i>
Tangible fixed assets	-	6,579,484	6,579,484
Current assets	2,223,004	-	2,223,004
Creditors due within one year	(604,811)	-	(604,811)
Total	<u>1,618,193</u>	<u>6,579,484</u>	<u>8,197,677</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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18. Reconciliation of net expenditure to net cash flow from operating activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Net expenditure for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	(255,462)	(335,099)
Adjustments for:		
Depreciation	507,996	397,897
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(22,113)	(22,163)
Interest receivable	(24,328)	(36,580)
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(49,000)	(34,000)
Increase in debtors	(38,041)	(30,817)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors	(187,525)	135,770
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	(68,473)	75,008

19. Cash flows from investing activities

	2025 £	2024 £
Dividends, interest and rents from investments	24,328	36,580
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(304,382)	(827,230)
Capital grants from DfE Group	22,113	22,163
Net cash used in investing activities	(257,941)	(768,487)

20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand and at bank	1,735,788	2,062,202
Total cash and cash equivalents	1,735,788	2,062,202

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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21. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand	2,062,202	(326,414)	1,735,788
	<u>2,062,202</u>	<u>(326,414)</u>	<u>1,735,788</u>

22. Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £77,665 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £106,043) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

22. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

- employer contribution rates set at 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- 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 from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2028.

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £821,566 (2024 - £729,121).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2023/10/valuation-result.aspx>).

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

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

22. Pension commitments (continued)

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £294,000 (2024 - £270,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £229,000 (2024 - £211,000) and employees' contributions totalled £65,000 (2024 - £59,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.7 per cent for employers and 5.5 - 12.5 per cent for employees.

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

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

The pension valuation conducted by the Academy's actuary showed that the net present value of the LGPS obligation was an asset of £1,236,000 at the year end which is comprised of the fair value of liabilities of £2,607,000 and the fair value of assets of £3,843,000. However, no net pension asset has been recognised in accordance with FRS102 on the basis that the asset is not expected to lead to a reduction in future contributions or a refund in contributions for the Academy.

As a result, an asset ceiling cap has been applied and the carrying value in respect of the pension scheme in the balance sheet is recorded as £nil.

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.55	3.15
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.55	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5.00

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	22.6	21.5
Females	24.5	24.9
<i>Retiring in 20 years</i>		
Males	24.2	22.5
Females	26.2	25.6

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

22. Pension commitments (continued)

Sensitivity analysis

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£000	<i>£000</i>
Discount rate -0.1%	52	<i>67</i>
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	57	<i>112</i>
CPI rate +0.1%	50	<i>65</i>
	=====	<i>=====</i>

Share of scheme assets

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

	At 31 August 2025	<i>At 31 August 2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Equities	2,299,000	<i>1,916,000</i>
Corporate bonds	871,000	<i>892,000</i>
Property	570,000	<i>396,000</i>
Cash and other liquid assets	103,000	<i>99,000</i>
Asset cap	(1,236,000)	<i>(495,000)</i>
Total market value of assets	===== 2,607,000	<i>=====</i> <i>2,808,000</i>

The actual return on scheme assets was £231,000 (2024 - £262,000).

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

	2025	<i>2024</i>
	£	<i>£</i>
Current service cost	(211,000)	<i>(196,000)</i>
Interest income	173,000	<i>152,000</i>
Interest cost	(142,000)	<i>(133,000)</i>
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities	===== (180,000)	<i>=====</i> <i>(177,000)</i>

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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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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	2,808,000	2,434,000
Current service cost	211,000	196,000
Interest cost	142,000	133,000
Employee contributions	65,000	59,000
Actuarial losses	107,000	144,000
Benefits paid	14,000	(22,000)
Asset ceiling cap	(740,000)	(136,000)
At 31 August	2,607,000	2,808,000

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

	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September	2,808,000	2,434,000
Interest income	173,000	152,000
Actuarial gains	58,000	110,000
Employer contributions	229,000	211,000
Employee contributions	65,000	59,000
Benefits paid	14,000	(22,000)
Asset ceiling cap	(740,000)	(136,000)
At 31 August	2,607,000	2,808,000

The Academy has an unrecognised surplus of £1,236,000 (2024 - £496,000) in respect of its defined benefit pension scheme as it does not expect to recover the plan surplus either through reduced contributions in the future or through refunds from the plan.

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

23. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	8,474	8,474
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	4,943	12,711
	<u>13,417</u>	<u>21,185</u>

24. Members' liability

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

25. Related party transactions

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

26. Agency arrangements

The Academy distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the Academy received £11,209 (2024 - £15,793) and disbursed £21,007 (2024 - £1,621) from the fund. There is £19,314 (2024 - £29,112) included in other creditors relating to undistributed funds that are repayable to the DfE.