

**Company registration number 07535683 (England and Wales)**

**GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST  
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

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# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

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### Members

D Lomasney  
P Cantley  
K Rogers

### Trustees

Mr C Ablett  
Ms B Barrett (Appointed 28 November 2024)  
Mr S Coe  
Ms T Droy  
Mr S Frazer (Principal and Accounting Officer)  
Mr G Leah  
Mr C Marrum (Appointed 21 November 2024)  
Mr K Rogers (Chair of Trustees)  
Mr N Salisbury  
Mr P Tzanos

### Senior Management Team

- Principal	S Frazer
- Vice Principal	C Hancock
- Vice Principal	G Keenes
- Assistant Principal	M Harrison
- Assistant Principal	L Niland
- Assistant Principal	E Stanger
- Assistant Principal	D Mills
- Assistant Principal	K Woolridge
- Assistant Principal	A Bunney
- Chief Finance Officer	K Eames

**Company registration number** 07535683 (England and Wales)

**Principal and registered office** West Haddon Road  
Guilsborough  
Northampton  
NN6 8QE  
United Kingdom

**Independent auditor** Azets Audit Services  
Westpoint  
Lynch Wood  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire  
PE2 6FZ  
United Kingdom

**Solicitors** Browne Jacobson  
44 Castle Gate  
Nottingham  
NG1 7BJ  
United Kingdom

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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

The trust is a single school Multi Academy Trust, operating one academy for pupils aged 11 to 19 serving a catchment area in Northamptonshire. Guilsborough Academy has a pupil capacity of 1,412 and had a roll of 1,275 in the school census October 2024.

## **Structure, governance and management**

### **Constitution**

The multi academy trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the multi academy trust.

The Charitable Company operates as Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust.

The trustees of Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law. Details of the trustees who served during the year, and to the date these financial statements are approved, are included in the Reference and Administrative Details on page 1.

### **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.

### **Trustees' indemnities**

Trustees benefit from indemnity insurance to cover the liability of the trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Multi Academy Trust. The cost of this insurance is combined with the main policy.

### **Method of recruitment and appointment or election of trustees**

The Members of the Company shall comprise:

- the Members of the Academy Trust of the date of adoption of the articles (until such time as they cease to be a member);
- any person appointed under any of Article 15A

The members may agree by passing a special resolution to appoint such additional members as they think fit and may agree by passing a special resolution to remove any member(s). The member whose proposed removal is the subject of the resolution shall not be entitled to vote on that resolution.

### Appointment of trustees

Trustees complete a skills audit to identify gaps and enable targeted recruitment. Potential new trustees undergo an interview process and safeguarding checks prior to appointment. The members may appoint by ordinary resolution up to 7 trustees. There are two parent trustees, who are elected following a ballot organised by the trust. Where the number of parents standing for election is less than the number of vacancies, up to two parent trustees will be appointed by the board of trustees. Providing that the Chief Executive Officer agrees to act, the members may by ordinary resolution appoint the Chief Executive Officer as a trustee.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### **Policies and procedures adopted for the induction and training of trustees**

All new trustees are issued with an induction information pack, which provides an overview of the academy trust and the board's responsibilities. It also provides safeguarding information. Copies of key governance documents and the code of conduct are also provided. New trustees are provided with an experienced trustee as a mentor.

Trustees complete a self-assessment evaluation, which covers 5 key areas for effective governance including board culture, structure, accountability, compliance and impact. The self-evaluation process is used to help the trust evaluate its effectiveness and identify areas for development. Subsequent training is organised as required. Trustees also receive training via visits to the academy and through their link role are encouraged to take an active role in accountability and assurance activities.

#### **Organisational structure**

As a multi academy trust with a single academy the trust operates with a single board of trustees and has established three committees to support the delivery of the trust board's responsibilities. The committees operate under a term of reference, written in accordance with the agreed scheme of delegation, which sets out the roles and delegated responsibilities.

The trustees are responsible and accountable for the strategic planning and policy making that enables the day-to-day task of managing the multi academy trust to be effectively delegated to the Principal. Specifically, this requires the committees of the multi academy trust to undertake the responsibilities listed below within each academic year.

The Principal has delegated powers and functions in respect of internal organisation, management and control of the multi academy trust, and overseeing the implementation of all policies approved by those in governance and for the direction of teaching and the curriculum.

#### **Trustees**

- Through an approved written scheme of delegation, including its delegation of financial powers and duties to its committees, the Principal and other staff ensure adequate financial controls are in place and operate in conjunction with the financial regulations of the academy;
- Formally approve the annual multi academy trust budget at least two months prior to the start of each financial year;
- Receive the reports of the external auditor;
- Receive the internal scrutiny reports on the use of resources, systems of internal financial control, other, non-financial matters and discharge of financial responsibilities;
- Contribute to the setting of the academy improvement plan and monitor its effectiveness and implementation
- Setting and monitoring trust policies.
- Implement and monitor the trust risk register.

The multi academy trust has established a number of committees to which it delegates certain responsibilities:

#### **Standards and Curriculum Committee**

- To support the board's responsibilities for ensuring the overall effectiveness of the standards and performance within the Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust.
- To contribute to the formulation of the academy improvement plan through consideration of educational priorities and the aims and objectives of the multi academy trust.
- To consider safeguarding, wellbeing and equalities implication across the trust.
- To review and consider the curriculum planning and delivery across the trust.
- To ensure that assessment is being used appropriately and used to monitor improvements,
- To monitor the engagement of the trust with all stakeholders.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Finance, Audit and Risk Committee

- To support the board's responsibilities for ensuring the adequacy of risk management, internal control and governance arrangements and that public funds are used efficiently and effectively, and any decision taken is in accordance with the scheme of delegation.
- To review the comprehensiveness of financial assurances for the trust board and review the reliability and integrity of those assurances.
- To oversee the effective use and management of reserves and report regularly to the trust board.
- To consider the trust's indicative funding and assess the implications for the multi academy trust, making recommendations and/or raising concerns to the trustees.
- To consider and recommend acceptance/non-acceptance of the multi academy trust's budget, at the start of each financial year.
- To contribute to the formulation of the academy improvement plan through consideration of financial priorities and the aims and objectives of the multi academy trust.
- To implement and monitor the trust risk register, reporting to the board of trustees
- Monitoring the condition of the academy trust buildings and site and maintaining the asset management plan;
- Governance of health and safety in the academy trust, encompassing all staff, curriculum and site including fire evacuation arrangements.
- To monitor outdoor visits and educational trips to ensure off-site activities are appropriate, relevant and are effectively managed.

#### Pay Review Committee

- Annually review of staff pay scales and pay policy for teaching and non-teaching staff (within STRB criteria);
- Ensure the trust appraisal process is being implemented effectively and fairly
- Review the Principal's performance review process and recommendations, reporting to the trust board on actions taken.

#### Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Principal's and CFO's salaries are set in line with national guidance and leadership pay scales, determined with external HR advice, reflecting additional responsibilities, and subject to inflationary increases and performance reviews as per relevant national agreements and trust policies.

The Pay Review Committee, supported by an external advisor, oversees the Principal's performance management. This committee is responsible for setting the Principal's pay scale, agreeing on key performance targets, and considering any external work undertaken on behalf of the trust with other schools, which contributes to the ongoing development and success of the trust's partnerships.

Trustee oversight and final approval of all performance management review (PMR) processes are delegated to the Pay Review Committee. The committee reviews and samples PMR targets and procedures to ensure that robust and effective processes are in place. It receives a detailed summary analysis of pay awards at each level and across individual departments, including clear indications where performance pay has not been awarded. This information also includes an analysis by gender and other protected staff groups, enabling the committee to ensure the process remains rigorous and equitable.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

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

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### Trade union facility time

#### *Relevant union officials*

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during

the relevant period

Full-time equivalent employee number

#### *Percentage of time spent on facility time*

Percentage of time	Number of employees
0%	-
1%-50%	-
51%-99%	-
100%	-

#### *Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time*

Total cost of facility time	-
Total pay bill	-
Percentage of the 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

### **Related parties and other connected charities and organisations**

Guilsborough Academy is a Secondary Alliance partner of the SWAN Training School Alliance.

The SWAN Training School Alliance (SWAN TSA), provides high-quality professional staff development. As a strategic partner of the Northamptonshire Teaching School Hub, the SWAN TSA is actively involved in leading the Early Career Framework for Early Career Teachers (ECTs), previously known as NQTs, and National professional Qualification training, supporting school improvement/developing the quality of teaching and learning at whole school or department level, across the South Northamptonshire area. This partnership enables a genuine collaboration between schools; drawing on the vast expertise across the alliance and utilising this to promote effective, coherent school to school support which will create a self-improving school system.

Northamptonshire Teaching School Hub (SWAN TSA) work collaboratively with other nationally recognised training providers, like Olevi, to deliver the Outstanding Teacher programme. Many other courses are delivered using the expertise from within the Teaching School. NPQ's are delivered through external providers such as Ambition Institute. They deliver National Professional Qualifications (NPQs) offering Senior Leadership (NPQSL) and the Specialist NPQs.

Their training alliance recognises that every school has a great support staff network, and their training programme is built to develop support staff as well as teaching staff.

Guilsborough Academy's Secondary Alliance partnership with SWAN TSA ensures the trust has access to the latest curriculum innovations and teaching and learning. Allowing them to meet the professional training needs of all school staff and in turn ensuring they have the skills to ensure students achieve the best outcomes.

As a satellite hub of the Grand Union Teaching Partnership (GUTP) at Towcester's Sponne School, Guilsborough Academy provide a facility for training in their Teacher Training Centre, supporting teacher training in SWAN Alliance schools.

Guilsborough Academy works with an external School Improvement Advisor who is Ofsted trained. This work includes the evaluation of key aspects including all Teaching and Learning, Behaviour Management, Personal Development and Safeguarding. Trustees receive reports on the monitoring visits completed as well as action plans focused on delivering improvements.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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Guilsborough Academy is also a member of the Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce. The Chamber represents around 1,000 Northamptonshire businesses – who employ over one third of the county's workforce. They are the largest business support agency in the county, which act as a bridge between schools, governments, small businesses, corporations, religious organisations, and the general public. Partnership with the Northamptonshire Chamber of Commerce offers a wide range of support services, such as networking opportunities, free marketing tools, social media engagement and discounted training courses and documentation.

### Objectives and activities

#### Objects and aims

Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust is dedicated to achieving and sustaining excellence in education for children and young people aged 4 to 19. Our commitment extends beyond our students to include staff, parents, carers, and the wider community, ensuring that everyone benefits from our work.

We actively engage with the broader educational community, valuing strong partnerships and collaborative relationships. These connections enable us to continually develop our expertise and share best practice, both locally and nationally.

Professional development and partnership working are at the heart of our school's growth. From raising academic standards and embracing innovative teaching methods, to harnessing technology for monitoring, reporting, assessment, and behaviour management, we strive to create an environment where everyone can thrive.

As an academy, we use our freedoms to work with local primary and secondary schools, as well as regional and national partners, to deliver the highest quality education. Our Life Skills curriculum and Assembly themes are designed to nurture our core values and support the personal development of every student.

For 2024/25, the academy trust reviewed their vision, values and mission to the following:

Our Vision:

- Work as a community to ensure there are high expectations for all
- Offer a wide range of diverse and enriching activities to better prepare our students for life in modern Britain
- Put students at the centre of their own learning, enabling them to become effective independent learners and maximise their potential
- Ensure students reach their full potential by motivating, encouraging and inspiring them to be their very best
- Provide a broad and balanced curriculum offering a range of subjects

Our Values:

- RESPECT - Our community is built on mutual respect as we demonstrate tolerance, trust and honesty
- ASPIRATION - We have high aspirations for all and develop resilience to overcome any obstacles which might stand in our way
- RESPONSIBILITY - We take responsibility for our actions to ensure we are working positively together
- EQUALITY - We appreciate others by the strength of character they show and promote equality for all

Our Mission:

*'Learning without Limits'*

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Objectives:

The academy's five primary objectives for the year ending 31 August 2026 are:

- 1. Deliver high-quality education and support:** Ensure all staff are challenging students appropriately, including those with additional barriers to learning and the more able. Continuing the improvements seen during 2024-25 with disadvantaged and SEN students.
- 2. Enhance curriculum and organisational framework:** further development of the Outreach provision and education for those with additional needs. The Academy will secure high quality learning provisions for all students.
- 3. Promote excellence in Teaching and Learning:** Develop quality-first teaching strategies to achieve the highest outcomes for all students, supported by tailored professional development led by the Teaching and Learning Team.
- 4. Uphold fiscal responsibility and ethical standards:** Ensure the Academy adopts appropriate financial management in line with Department for Education's budget, accounting for reductions in funding allocation and lower pupil numbers.
- 5. Strengthening community and industry partnerships:** Build partnerships with industry and business sectors while enhancing engagement with students, staff, and parents/carers within the community.

#### **Objectives, strategies and activities**

Based on the academy's primary objectives, strategies and activities aligned to objectives are detailed as follows:

##### **1. Deliver High-Quality Education and Support**

Maintain rigorous curriculum reviews and ensure all students, including disadvantaged and SEND, receive tailored support. Curriculum learning journeys are shared with stakeholders for clarity and consistency. Personalise learning experiences and encourage student voice and choice.

##### **2. Enhance Curriculum and Organisational Framework**

Regularly assess and improve curriculum and structure, providing a flexible, personalised curriculum across the Trust. Quality assurance is driven by data analysis at MLT and SLT levels, with targeted interventions for underperformance. Ensure continuous improvement through data-driven decision-making. Implement developmentally appropriate, culturally responsive curricula that reflect both the community and the wider world.

##### **3. Promote Excellence in Teaching and Learning**

Develop quality-first teaching strategies, supported by tailored professional development led by the Teaching and Learning Team. Use outcomes from previous quality assurance to inform ongoing improvements. Use high-impact teaching strategies such as explicit teaching, collaborative learning, feedback, and differentiated instruction. Foster a positive climate for learning and professional leadership.

##### **4. Uphold Fiscal Responsibility, Ethical Standards, and Financial Growth**

Ensure efficient, transparent, and ethical spending. Maintain robust financial policies, reserves, and investment frameworks in compliance with the Academy Trust Handbook. Monitor financial health through monthly management accounts, budget reports, and audits. Automate financial returns and reporting using updated government guidance. Maintain prudent reserves to protect against financial risk, while actively using funds to enhance educational provision.

##### **5. Strengthening Community and Industry Partnerships**

Further develop "The Guilsborough Way" with our weekly registration programme focused on Academy routines, civic values and student voice. Build partnerships with local and regional businesses, aligning mutual goals with curriculum areas. Develop sponsorship packages for events and awards and establish an alumni network for financial and mentorship support. Offer work experience and apprenticeship pathways through industry partners. Engage parents/carers via surveys and transparent communication to build trust and accountability.

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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#### **Public benefit**

In setting our objectives and planning our activities, the Multi Academy Trust trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the guidance on public benefit published by the Charity Commission. The Multi Academy Trust promotes education for the benefit of the local community and offers recreational facilities to a variety of local community groups outside of academy hours for the benefit of the general public. Community based projects are also undertaken throughout the year by staff and students which further enhances the public benefit.

#### **Equal Opportunities policy**

The Trustees at Guilsborough Academy recognise that equal opportunities should be an integral part of good practice. The Academy aims to establish equal opportunity in all areas of its activities including creating a working environment in which the contribution and needs of all people are fully valued.

#### **Disabled persons**

Guilsborough Academy is committed to supporting students and staff with disabilities by providing an accessible environment. Lifts, ramps, and accessible toilets are installed, and door widths are designed to ensure wheelchair access to all primary areas. Our policy promotes the recruitment and retention of individuals with disabilities, supported by adaptations to the physical environment, access to resources, and provisions for training and career development.

## **Strategic report**

### **Achievements and performance**

#### **Enhancing Educational Outcomes**

- Implemented rigorous monitoring and evaluation processes to assess all aspects of achievement and attainment.
- Continuously innovated and developed an enhanced curriculum to maintain breadth and balance, meeting individual students' needs while ensuring compliance with DfE requirements.

#### **Staffing Excellence**

- Regularly reviewed staffing structures in line with curriculum demands, prioritising the appointment of the best available subject specialists and quality teachers.
- Advertised all vacancies externally, with a commitment to complying with all aspects of the Equality Act and associated policies.
- Benefit package to support the wellbeing of all staff.

#### **Support for Disadvantaged Students**

- Dedicated to improving the life chances of students entitled to Pupil Premium and other disadvantaged groups through a significant and varied support programme.
- Provided tailored alternative curriculum provisions and small group interventions in key subjects by qualified teachers.

#### **Collaborative Partnerships**

- Worked as part of a local educational partnership with secondary and primary partners, facilitating supportive professional development at all levels.
- Engaged several Specialist Leaders of Education to work with other local schools to drive improvements.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Key performance indicators

The Trust Board reviews the multi academy trust's performance against key performance indicators:

- The turnover of staff for 2024-25 was 23% with 15 teaching staff and 19 members of support staff leaving throughout the year.
- Income streams - GAG (General Annual Grant) and Local Authority grants, alongside any other dedicated sources of income, are monitored termly by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee. The Multi Academy Trust prepares 3-year budgets.
- Number of students - While the number of students admitted in 2024 was significantly lower than the Pan (189), the number increased in 2025. A further increase is expected in 2025 as the Academy continues to demonstrate improvements following the Ofsted of 2023. Leaders continue to work towards the PAN of 238.
- Achievement and Attainment – Leaders have continued to work with an external School Improvement Advisor to develop key areas of the Academy. Attainment in 2025 was up on 2024 with Grade 4+ showing improvement and the attainment of disadvantaged students demonstrating significant improvement.
- Premises - the Principal maintains an Asset Management Plan, which is reviewed by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee on an annual basis. The AMP and progress of the AMP works have regularly been discussed and minutes taken at FAR Committee meetings.

At Guilsborough, in response to the current environmental challenges, we have developed a Sustainability and Climate Change Action Plan. Our goal is to achieve a year-on-year reduction in emissions and ultimately become a net zero carbon school. We are continuously reviewing energy efficiency initiatives and cost-saving measures, including the potential use of photovoltaic (PV) panels to further reduce our carbon footprint.

During the 2024-25 period, reserves and Department for Education (DfE) funding (CIF Bid) were allocated to support the following initiatives:

- Further installation of new doors and windows
- Finalised the replacement of roofs to enhance energy efficiency
- Implementation of smart screens with auto shutdown features
- Continued installation of Passive Infrared Sensors (PIRs) in communal areas

Throughout this year, roofing projects funded by CIF bid have been completed. Additional academy-funded projects include the refurbishment of changing rooms in E block, and C Block disused toilets, smart screens removing all projectors, replacement of 50-year-old walk in fridge, air conditioning unit installation to improve working conditions on the top floor of B Block, removal of condemned mobile, new gate for student safety and additional lighting on the bus service road.

Our comprehensive site condition survey, encompassing all areas of the site, including mechanical and electrical systems, provides a detailed overview of the condition of our buildings and infrastructure, supporting the 3/5/10-year improvement plans.

#### Going concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the board of trustees has a reasonable expectation that the academy trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, the board of trustees continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the accounts. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the statement of accounting policies.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Financial review

The Multi Academy Trust is in a good financial position, however with increasing costs the academy is budgeting to use reserves to support delivery of the curriculum and continued planned improvements in teaching and learning. The Trust is holding sufficient contingency to support its activities over the next three years. Detailed three-year budget planning is in place, with income proposed within the current published position on Government funding streams.

All expenditure is clearly related to the key objectives of the Multi Academy Trust.

- The Multi Academy holds cash reserves in investment accounts, in order to maximise income.
- The Multi Academy currently has no further investments.

Guilsborough Academy has a good level of reserves in place and continues to support for structural maintenance and premises improvement. For example, refurbishment of classrooms, upgrade ICT, and science labs.

At 31 August 2025 the total funds comprised:

• Unrestricted	£ 1,182,777
• Restricted: Fixed Asset Funds	£13,372,201
• Other restricted funds	<u>£ 457,567</u>
• Total Funds	£15,012,545

Available revenue reserves at 31 August 2025 are £1,457,738 (2024 - £1,578,850). This equates to the balance of unrestricted and restricted funds, less the amount due to the DfE for the capital loan of £182,606.

#### Reserves policy

Keeping an appropriate level of financial reserves is essential to protect against:

- Income reduction due to government funding changes;
- Possible reductions in student numbers;
- Maintaining the school premises at an acceptable level against asset management plans and taking account of the age of the buildings;
- Additional reserves are held against the national cut in sixth form funding to maintain a broad and balanced curriculum for sixth form in this rural school enabling an appropriate range of subject choices to be maintained as numbers increase again.
- Unplanned staffing costs;
- New local schools being opened.

The Local Government Pension Scheme is a known surplus which has been capped in line with FRS regulations and this is recognised in the Multi Academy Trust's accounts. Annual contributions are adjusted to mitigate any risk.

The trustees will monitor reserves to ensure they remain at an appropriate level and consider 5% of the budget an appropriate level of contingency.

The Multi Academy Trust has a low exposure to financial risks.

- There are limited trade debtors and effective systems for control are in place.

#### Investment policy

The Multi Academy Trust uses low risk accounts and there is no intention to withdraw any funding for further investment. Financial advice is regularly received from a dedicated bank relationship manager and discussed at the Finance, Audit and Risk committee meetings as appropriate.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

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

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### Principal risks and uncertainties

The Multi Academy Trust has continued to strengthen its systems of internal control, encompassing financial, operational, and risk management processes designed to safeguard the Trust's assets and reputation.

A comprehensive risk management process is in place, conducted three times a year. This process systematically reviews risks across key areas, including strategic, reputational, financial, governance, health and safety, legal, educational standards, IT, and safeguarding. All identified risks are captured in a central risk register, which is reviewed and agreed upon by the Trust's senior leadership team. Key findings and recommendations are then reported to the Finance, Audit & Risk (FAR) Committee and the Board of Trustees for oversight and action.

### Key Risk Area: Government Funding

The Trust is significantly reliant on continued government funding through education sector funding bodies. There is no guarantee that government policy or funding levels will remain consistent, as funding is closely linked to student numbers.

#### Mitigation strategies include:

- Delivering high-quality attainment and achievement to maintain and grow pupil numbers.
- Proactively investing reserves to improve outcomes at Guilsborough Academy, which is currently rated as 'requires improvement', with the aim of returning positive outcomes under the new inspection framework.
- Maintaining robust recruitment strategies and a high-quality curriculum offer to attract and retain students, with the objective of becoming oversubscribed.
- Regularly reviewing the Academy's reserves and maintaining strong contingency planning to ensure financial resilience.

The Multi Academy Trust is committed to maintaining a robust risk management framework that safeguards its reputation, ensures the safety and wellbeing of all stakeholders, and secures its financial and operational resilience.

- **Safeguarding and Information Technology:** Strong systems for safeguarding and the acceptable use of information technology are in place, ensuring compliance with statutory guidance and best practice. Regular training and monitoring underpin a culture of vigilance and accountability, with clear reporting lines to designated safeguarding leads and the Trust Board.

- **Health and Safety:**

Comprehensive policies and procedures, including risk assessments and ongoing training, are maintained to ensure a safe working and learning environment. The Trust complies with all relevant legislation, including the Health and Safety at Work Act 1974 and associated regulations. Health and safety responsibilities are clearly defined, with nominated officers at the academy and regular inspections of premises and equipment.

- **Premises Risks:**

Appropriate insurances are in place to protect the Trust against damage or theft of property. Lone working arrangements are supported by robust policies and, where necessary, technology such as SOS alarm devices to ensure staff safety.

- **Pension Liabilities:**

The financial statements report the share of the pension scheme surplus or deficit on the Trust's balance sheet in accordance with Financial Reporting Standard 17. The reserves policy is regularly reviewed to ensure the Trust can meet its pension obligations and maintain financial stability.

- **Reserves and Financial Planning:**

The Trust maintains a reserves policy that supports contingency planning and long-term sustainability. Financial planning is conducted over a rolling three-year period, linked to educational aims and only drawing on reserves when necessary. Internal scrutiny and regular review of reserves are overseen by the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee, with findings reported to the Board of Trustees.

- **Risk Management Process:**

Risks are identified, measured, managed, and monitored through a formal risk register, reviewed at least termly by senior leaders and the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee. The process covers strategic, reputational, financial, governance, health and safety, legal, standards, IT, and safeguarding risks.

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

## **TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

#### **Fundraising**

The academy acknowledges that fundraising is an area of finance which needs to be managed correctly and in accordance with the Charity Commission guidelines for trustees.

- Guilsborough Academy support a number of charities including Cancer Research, Children in Need, Teenage Cancer Trust, NSPCC.
- There are no commercial participates or professional fundraisers working with the academy or providing oversight of fundraising activities.
- All fundraising carried out by the academy conforms to recognised standards.

With regards to donations to the academy, this aspect is not proactively promoted to either the Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust community or the public. This therefore avoids any pressure, or intrusive approaches being made.

#### **Plans for future periods**

The Multi Academy Trust will seek to maintain a balanced budget, with secure financial planning over a 3-year rolling programme, linked securely to its educational aims only using reserves where necessary.

The Multi Academy Trust will seek to achieve exceptional attainment and achievement.

Guilsborough outcomes will be supported by a continued outstanding curriculum offer, ensuring students follow personalised pathways which will enable future success. Linked to the Multi Academy Trust's wider reputation for excellent pastoral care and extra-curricular programmes, these outcomes will ensure a sound basis for successful marketing and strong recruitment of future student numbers, which in turn will secure a sound financial footing for the academy trust's future.

#### **Auditor**

In so far as the trustees are aware:

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

Azets Audit Services was appointed auditor to the charitable company. A resolution proposing re-appointment will be put to the members.

The trustees' report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the board of trustees, as the company directors, on 10/12/25.... and signed on its behalf by:



Mr K Rogers  
Chair of Trustees

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### Scope of responsibility

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

As trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in the DfE's Academy Trust Governance Guide and the five pillars of academy trust quality. Trustees adhere to the Academy Trust Handbook and receive a report detailing the trust's compliance with the requirements set out in the Academy Trust Handbook annually.

The board of trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the principal, as accounting officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust and the Secretary of State for Education. The accounting officer is also responsible for reporting to the board of trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control. This responsibility has been held by the Principal from 1st January 2023.

#### Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The board of trustees has formally met 7 times during the year. Attendance during the year at meetings of the board of trustees was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr C Ablett	7	8
Ms B Barrett (Appointed 28 November 2024)	4	5
Mr S Coe	8	8
Ms T Droy	6	8
Mr S Frazer (Principal and Accounting Officer)	7	8
Mr G Leah	8	8
Mr C Marrum (Appointed 21 November 2024)	4	5
Mr K Rogers (Chair of Trustees)	7	8
Mr N Salisbury	4	8
Mr P Tzanos	4	8

The academy trust's culture and values are firmly rooted in its charitable objectives and governing documents. Trustees are committed to embedding these principles throughout the organisation, ensuring that policies and practices consistently reflect the trust's ethos.#

To drive improvement, trustees have supported academy leaders in implementing robust and positive behaviour policies and systems. This proactive approach has contributed to raising standards across the trust. Trustees maintain a strong presence and actively monitor progress by regularly attending meetings, visiting academies, and engaging in meaningful discussions with staff. A guidance document for trustee visits has strengthened this process, enabling more rigorous follow-up and constructive dialogue at subsequent meetings.

Collaboration between trustees and staff is a hallmark of the trust's governance. Senior leaders are increasingly invited to attend meetings, providing direct feedback and first-hand reports to trustees. This wider engagement has deepened trustees' understanding of the trust's strengths and areas for development.

To further enhance their oversight, trustees have broadened their awareness of external sources of information. The trust has continued to commissioned an experienced HM Inspector to provide independent scrutiny and expert advice. Following academy visits, trustees participate in feedback sessions with staff and the external advisor. Reports by the external advisor made available to all trustees for their information and trustees attended a training session, run by the external advisor in February 2025.

Dates of the visit for 2025/26 are two for September and October, one in December, March, April, June & July.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Trustees receive comprehensive student performance and progress updates at every meeting of the trust board and the standards and curriculum committee. They closely monitor the attainment and progress of all students, with particular attention to groups such as those with SEND and disadvantaged backgrounds.

The trust board is committed to upholding the Seven Nolan Principles of Public Life and adheres to the highest standards of ethical practice and leadership. There is a code of conduct for trustees, which is reviewed annually. Trustees are mindful of the work-life balance of all staff, including senior leaders, and actively support staff in fulfilling their roles.

In addition, trustees have made a clear commitment to the wellbeing of both students and staff. Trustees have worked with staff to achieve the Carnegie Mental Health Award and are currently working towards the Carnegie Accredited Wellbeing Governor award. Trustees receive regular reports for the academy's wellbeing committee.

#### Conflicts of interest

Members, trustees, senior leaders and staff with budgetary responsibility at the academy trust complete an annual declaration of interest form. This is recorded on a central register and is published on the academy trust website. Declarations of interest are also taken at the start of all meetings and committees. If a conflict of interest is identified, the person involved will be removed from any decision linked to that interest and this will be documented.

#### Governance reviews

Trustees consider reviewing board effectiveness is good practice and self-review is one of the main methods that the trust board uses to monitor and improve the quality and impact of their governance. The board has undertaken a self-evaluation review process, covering key areas of board practice including such as the core functions of governance, board culture, structure, compliance accountability, and impact. The process allowed the board to review its effectiveness and to identify areas for development. An external review of governance is planned for the coming academic year.

The Finance, Audit and Risk Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Mr C Ablett	4	5
Ms B Barrett (Appointed 28 November 2024)	1	2
Mr S Frazer (Principal and Accounting Officer)	5	5
Mr G Leah	3	3
Mr C Marrum (Appointed 21 November 2024)	4	4
Mr P Tzanos	4	5

The Standards and Curriculum Committee is a sub-committee of the main board of trustees.

Attendance at meetings in the year was as follows:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of possible
Ms B Barrett (Appointed 28 November 2024)	2	2
Mr S Coe	5	5
Ms T Droy	4	5
Mr S Frazer (Principal and Accounting Officer)	5	5
Mr G Leah	2	2
Mr N Salisbury	5	5

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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#### **Review of value for money**

As accounting officer, the principal has responsibility for ensuring that the academy trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The accounting officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes, as well as estates safety and management, achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The accounting officer considers how the academy trust's use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year, and reports to the board of trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data or by using a framework where appropriate. The accounting officer for the academy trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- **Financial governance** - Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust has a strong financial governance, with an annual cycle of meetings to discuss and review, month end and forecast data, budget management, three-year plans and short/long term financial plans.
- **Staffing** - Staffing costs and structures are regularly reviewed in line with curriculum demands with high priority given to appointing best available, subject specialist, quality teachers.
- **Value for money purchasing** - Robust financial controls in place, staff research the best value for goods and services and quotes are obtained for the higher of costs with orders authorised and approved by senior link personnel. Credit card usage enables goods to be purchased from online suppliers to also receive better value.
- **Networking and benchmarking** - The Trust is part of a local Business Managers forum who contact regularly sharing best practice, updates and news including finance costs for tendering, contracts and services, staffing and also sharing of benchmark data collected from the DfE's website comparing the local schools. The CFO is also a member of the Finance Directors Forum and The Trust Network and able to link with other education finance professionals, attends regularly webinar's, conferences and power hours run by the ESFA and ISBL and receives updates and information from The Key and ASCL.

#### **The purpose of the system of internal control**

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can therefore only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an on-going process designed to identify and prioritise the risks to the achievement of academy trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust for the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements.

#### **Capacity to handle risk**

Members, trustees, senior leaders and staff with budgetary responsibility at the academy trust complete an annual declaration of interest form. This is recorded on a central register and is published on the academy trust website. Declarations of interest are also taken at the start of all meetings and committees. If a conflict of interest is identified, the person involved will be removed from any decision linked to that interest and this will be documented.

#### **The risk and control framework**

The academy trust's system of internal 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, policy and personnel committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works and expenditure programmes;
- setting targets to measure financial and other performance;
- clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines;
- identification and management of risks.

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

## **GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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The board has decided to engage SBS Internal Scrutiny to carry out internal scrutiny reviews for the year. Their role includes giving advice on financial and other matters and performing a range of checks on the MAT's financial and other systems. In particular the checks carried out in the current period included:

- Payroll processing & Management
- Website, Governance & Policies
- Safer Recruitment

SBS Internal Scrutiny reports to the board of trustees, through the Finance, Audit and Risk Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the board of trustees' financial responsibilities and annually prepares an annual summary report to the committee outlining the areas reviewed, key findings, recommendations and conclusions to help the committee consider actions and assess year on year progress.

The report findings were full assurance for payroll processing, full assurance with 3 partial assurances noted in websites, governance & policies, safer recruitment noted 2 limited assurances, 5 partial and 15 full assurances. All points raised have been addressed

#### **Review of effectiveness**

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

- the work of the internal auditor;
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process or the school resource management self-assessment tool;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework;
- the work of the external auditor.

The accounting officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Finance, Audit and Risk committee and plans to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the systems are in place.

#### **Conclusion**

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

Approved by order of the board of trustees on 10/12/25 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr K Rogers  
Chair of Trustees

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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

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

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



Mr S Frazer  
Accounting Officer

Date: 10/12/25

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

## **STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES**

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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The trustees (who are also the directors of Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the trustees' report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 published by the Department for Education, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

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

The 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 that grants received from ESFA/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 on 10/12/25 and signed on its behalf by:



Mr K Rogers  
Chair of Trustees

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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### Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

### Basis for opinion

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

### Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

### Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

## **INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)**

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **Opinions on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006**

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

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

### **Matters on which we are required to report by exception**

In the light of the knowledge and understanding of the academy trust and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the trustees' report, including the incorporated strategic report.

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

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

### **Responsibilities of trustees**

As explained more fully in the statement of trustees' responsibilities, the trustees are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error. In preparing the financial statements, the trustees are responsible for assessing the academy trust's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the trustees either intend to liquidate the charitable company, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

### **Auditor's responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements**

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

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

### **Extent to which the audit was considered capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud**

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above and on the Financial Reporting Council's website, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud.

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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

- Enquiry of senior leadership, Governors/Trustees and those charged with governance around actual and potential litigation and claims as well as actual, suspected and alleged fraud;
- Reviewing minutes of meetings of those charged with governance;
- Assessing the extent of compliance with the laws and regulations considered to have a direct material effect on the financial statements or the operations of the company through enquiry and inspection;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations including compliance with the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025 issued by the Department for Education;
- Performing audit work over the recognition of grant income and the allocation of expenditure to funds;
- Performing audit work over the risk of management bias and override of controls, including testing of journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, evaluating the rationale of significant transactions outside the normal course of business and reviewing accounting estimates for indicators of potential bias.

Because of the inherent limitations of an audit, there is a risk that we will not detect all irregularities, including those leading to a material misstatement in the financial statements or non-compliance with regulation. This risk increases the more that compliance with a law or regulation is removed from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, as we will be less likely to become aware of instances of non-compliance. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

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

#### Use of our report

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



**Tracey Richardson BSc (Hons) FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)**

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

Westpoint  
Lynch Wood  
Peterborough  
Cambridgeshire  
PE2 6FZ  
United Kingdom

Date: 12/12/25

# **GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST**

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

### **FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 19 September 2025 and further to the requirements of the Department for Education (DfE) as included in the extant Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountants of Academy Trusts, 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 Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust during the period 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes intended by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

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

#### **Respective responsibilities of the accounting officer of Guilsborough Multi Academy Trust and the reporting accountant**

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

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

#### **Approach**

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

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

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

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

The work undertaken to draw to our conclusion includes:

- a review of the activities of the academy, by reference to sources of income and other information available to us;
- sample testing of expenditure, including payroll;
- a review of minutes of Trustees' meetings.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S REPORT ON REGULARITY TO GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION (CONTINUED)

**FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025**

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### **Conclusion**

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



### **Reporting Accountant**

Azets Audit Services

Westpoint

Lynch Wood

Peterborough

Cambridgeshire

PE2 6FZ

United Kingdom

Date: 17/12/25

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds: General £	Restricted funds: Fixed asset £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>						
Donations and capital grants	3	464	-	(52,965)	(52,501)	967,628
Charitable activities:						
- Funding for educational operations	4	180,508	8,998,392	-	9,178,900	8,835,704
Other trading activities	5	-	33,971	-	33,971	35,064
Investments	6	57,804	-	-	57,804	86,408
<b>Total</b>		<u>238,776</u>	<u>9,032,363</u>	<u>(52,965)</u>	<u>9,218,174</u>	<u>9,924,804</u>
<b>Expenditure on:</b>						
Charitable activities:						
- Educational operations	8	171,258	8,935,782	621,368	9,728,408	9,514,508
<b>Total</b>	<u>7</u>	<u>171,258</u>	<u>8,935,782</u>	<u>621,368</u>	<u>9,728,408</u>	<u>9,514,508</u>
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		67,518	96,581	(674,333)	(510,234)	410,296
Transfers between funds	19	-	(250,605)	250,605	-	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>						
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	(52,000)	-	(52,000)	(96,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		<u>67,518</u>	<u>(206,024)</u>	<u>(423,728)</u>	<u>(562,234)</u>	<u>314,296</u>
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>						
Total funds brought forward		1,115,259	663,591	13,795,929	15,574,779	15,260,483
Total funds carried forward		<u>1,182,777</u>	<u>457,567</u>	<u>13,372,201</u>	<u>15,012,545</u>	<u>15,574,779</u>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (CONTINUED) INCLUDING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Comparative year information Year ended 31 August 2024	Notes	Unrestricted funds	Restricted funds:		Total 2024
			General	Fixed asset	
<b>Income and endowments from:</b>					
Donations and capital grants	3	4,492	-	963,136	967,628
Charitable activities:					
- Funding for educational operations	4	286,010	8,549,694	-	8,835,704
Other trading activities	5	-	35,064	-	35,064
Investments	6	86,408	-	-	86,408
<b>Total</b>		376,910	8,584,758	963,136	9,924,804
<b>Expenditure on:</b>					
Charitable activities:					
- Educational operations	8	49,626	8,722,804	742,078	9,514,508
<b>Total</b>	7	49,626	8,722,804	742,078	9,514,508
<b>Net income/(expenditure)</b>		327,284	(138,046)	221,058	410,296
Transfers between funds	19	-	(364,475)	364,475	-
<b>Other recognised gains/(losses)</b>					
Actuarial losses on defined benefit pension schemes	26	-	(96,000)	-	(96,000)
<b>Net movement in funds</b>		327,284	(598,521)	585,533	314,296
<b>Reconciliation of funds</b>					
Total funds brought forward		766,165	1,283,922	13,210,396	15,260,483
Total funds carried forward		1,093,449	685,401	13,795,929	15,574,779

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## BALANCE SHEET

AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>			
Tangible assets	13	13,554,807	13,581,644
<b>Current assets</b>			
Stock	14	8,439	16,887
Debtors	15	359,041	576,011
Cash at bank and in hand		1,951,130	2,761,405
		2,318,610	3,354,303
<b>Current liabilities</b>			
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	16	(692,542)	(1,169,311)
<b>Net current assets</b>		1,626,068	2,184,992
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		15,180,875	15,766,636
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	17	(168,330)	(191,857)
<b>Net assets excluding pension asset</b>		15,012,545	15,574,779
Defined benefit pension scheme asset	26	-	-
<b>Total net assets</b>		15,012,545	15,574,779
<b>Funds of the academy trust:</b>			
<b>Restricted funds</b>	19		
- Fixed asset funds		13,372,201	13,795,929
- Restricted income funds		457,567	663,591
<b>Total restricted funds</b>		13,829,768	14,459,520
<b>Unrestricted income funds</b>	19	1,182,777	1,115,259
<b>Total funds</b>		15,012,545	15,574,779

The financial statements on pages 24 to 47 were approved by the trustees and authorised for issue on 10/12/25 and are signed on their behalf by:



Mr K Rogers  
Chair of Trustees

Company registration number 07535683 (England and Wales)

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

	Notes	2025	2024
		£	£
<b>Cash flows from operating activities</b>			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	23	(201,189)	184,163
<b>Cash flows from investing activities</b>			
Dividends, interest and rents from investments		57,804	86,408
Capital grants from DfE Group		(64,039)	946,363
Purchase of tangible fixed assets		(583,457)	(1,166,971)
Proceeds from sale of tangible fixed assets		-	6,000
<b>Net cash used in investing activities</b>		<b>(589,692)</b>	<b>(128,200)</b>
<b>Cash flows from financing activities</b>			
New long term bank loan		-	202,000
Repayment of long term bank loan		(19,394)	-
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by financing activities</b>		<b>(19,394)</b>	<b>202,000</b>
<b>Net (decrease)/increase in cash and cash equivalents in the reporting period</b>		<b>(810,275)</b>	<b>257,963</b>
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year		2,761,405	2,503,442
<b>Cash and cash equivalents at end of the year</b>		<b>1,951,130</b>	<b>2,761,405</b>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

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

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### 1 Accounting policies

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

#### 1.1 Basis of preparation

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

#### 1.2 Going concern

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

#### 1.3 Income

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

##### Grants

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

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the statement of financial activities in the period for which it is receivable, and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

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

##### Sponsorship income

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

##### Donations

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

##### Other income

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### Donated goods, facilities and services

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

##### Donated fixed assets

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

##### 16-19 Bursary Fund Income

The academy trust operates as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from the ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the academy trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The academy trust can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the statement of financial activities. The funds received and paid and any balances held are disclosed in note 26.

#### 1.4 Expenditure

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

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

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

##### Expenditure on raising funds

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

##### Charitable activities

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

#### 1 Accounting policies

(Continued)

##### 1.5 Tangible fixed assets and depreciation

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

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

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

Leasehold land and buildings	Up to 50 years useful life
Computer equipment	25% per annum
Fixtures, fittings & equipment	10-20% per annum

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

##### 1.6 Liabilities

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

##### 1.7 Leased assets

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

##### 1.8 Financial instruments

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

###### Financial assets

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

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

###### Financial liabilities

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

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

### FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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<b>1 Accounting policies</b>	<b>(Continued)</b>
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**1.9 Stock**

Stock is valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value. Net realisable value is based on estimated selling price less further costs to completion and disposal. Provision is made for obsolete and slow moving stock.

**1.10 Taxation**

The academy trust is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes. Accordingly, the academy trust is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by chapter 3 part 11 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

**1.11 Pensions benefits**

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

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

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

**1.12 Fund accounting**

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

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by 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.

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**2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement**

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 2 Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgement

(Continued)

#### Critical accounting estimates and assumptions

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

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme 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 26, will impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore, a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

### 3 Donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Donated fixed assets	-	11,074	11,074	16,773
Capital grants	-	(64,039)	(64,039)	946,363
Other donations	464	-	464	4,492
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>
	464	(52,965)	(52,501)	967,628
	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/> <hr/> <hr/>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 4 Funding for the academy trust's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>DfE/ESFA grants</b>				
General annual grant (GAG)	-	6,813,737	6,813,737	6,495,828
Other DfE/ESFA grants:				
- Pupil premium	-	188,050	188,050	185,858
- 16-19 core education funding	-	1,037,167	1,037,167	1,004,632
- Core schools budget grant	-	253,023	253,023	230,107
- Teachers pay and pension grants	-	329,161	329,161	229,569
- Others	-	55,321	55,321	66,034
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	-	8,676,459	8,676,459	8,212,028
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Other government grants</b>				
Local authority grants	-	211,180	211,180	231,282
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Other incoming resources</b>	180,508	110,753	291,261	392,394
	=====	=====	=====	=====
<b>Total funding</b>	180,508	8,998,392	9,178,900	8,835,704
	=====	=====	=====	=====

### 5 Other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Hire of facilities	-	5,993	5,993	3,149
Music tuition	-	27,978	27,978	31,915
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	-	33,971	33,971	35,064
	=====	=====	=====	=====

### 6 Investment income

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Short term deposits	22,985	-	22,985	51,480
Other investment income	34,819	-	34,819	34,928
	=====	=====	=====	=====
	57,804	-	57,804	86,408
	=====	=====	=====	=====

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 7 Expenditure

	Staff costs £	Premises £	Non-pay expenditure Other £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
Academy's educational operations					
- Direct costs	6,005,643	-	740,399	6,746,042	6,551,819
- Allocated support costs	1,309,773	1,192,982	479,611	2,982,366	2,962,689
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	7,315,416	1,192,982	1,220,010	9,728,408	9,514,508
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:					
				2025 £	2024 £
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets				564,563	562,154
Loss on disposal of fixed assets				56,805	92,534
Fees payable to auditor for:					
- Audit				11,750	8,925
- Other services				3,180	5,325
Net interest on defined benefit pension liability				(61,000)	(45,000)
				<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

### 8 Charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted funds £	Total 2025 £	Total 2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Educational operations	167,939	6,578,103	6,746,042	6,551,819
<b>Support costs</b>				
Educational operations	3,319	2,979,047	2,982,366	2,962,689
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
	171,258	9,557,150	9,728,408	9,514,508
	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
<b>Analysis of costs</b>				
			2025 £	2024 £
<b>Direct costs</b>				
Teaching and educational support staff costs			6,021,490	5,800,396
Staff development			10,520	16,936
Technology costs			11,799	8,167
Educational supplies and services			273,744	247,953
Examination fees			158,702	145,046
Educational consultancy			89,418	98,404
Other direct costs			180,369	234,917
			<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>
			6,746,042	6,551,819
			<hr/> <hr/>	<hr/> <hr/>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

8	Charitable activities	(Continued)	
	<b>Support costs</b>		
	Support staff costs	1,348,087	1,143,286
	Depreciation	621,368	654,688
	Technology costs	271,850	233,102
	Maintenance of premises and equipment	112,418	243,397
	Cleaning	198,924	180,948
	Energy costs	156,813	194,153
	Rent, rates and other occupancy costs	66,411	8,203
	Insurance	35,491	34,742
	Security and transport	34,646	41,489
	Catering	61,946	50,324
	Finance costs	(61,000)	(45,000)
	Legal costs	4,795	-
	Other support costs	115,367	214,011
	Governance costs	15,250	9,346
		2,982,366	2,962,689
		<hr/>	<hr/>
9	<b>Governance costs</b>		
	<b>All from restricted funds:</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Total</b>
		<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
		£	£
	<b>Amounts included in support costs</b>		
	Legal costs	4,795	-
	Auditor's remuneration		
	- Audit of financial statements	12,600	9,346
	- Other audit costs	2,650	-
		20,045	9,346
		<hr/>	<hr/>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 10 Staff

#### Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	5,142,513	4,944,578
Social security costs	588,705	500,492
Pension costs	1,304,290	1,151,227
 Staff costs - employees	 7,035,508	 6,596,297
Agency staff costs	236,971	277,652
Staff restructuring costs	42,937	33,501
 Staff development and other staff costs	 7,315,416	 6,907,450
	64,681	53,168
 Total staff expenditure	 7,380,097	 6,960,618
	 =====	 =====

Staff restructuring costs comprise:

Redundancy payments	10,809	-
Severance payments	16,606	-
Other restructuring costs	15,522	33,501
 42,937	 =====	 =====
	 =====	 =====

#### Severance payments

The academy trust paid 6 severance payments in the year, disclosed in the following bands:

£0 - £25,000	6
--------------	---

#### Staff numbers

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

	2025	2024
	Number	Number
Teachers	69	67
Administration and support	58	62
Management	10	10
 137	 =====	 =====
	 =====	 =====

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 10 Staff

(Continued)

#### Higher paid staff

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

	2025 Number	2024 Number
£60,001 - £70,000	11	8
£70,001 - £80,000	4	3
£80,001 - £90,000	1	-
£100,001 - £110,000	-	1
£110,001 - £120,000	1	-
	====	====

#### Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of key management personnel benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the academy trust was £1,021,811 (2024: £968,425).

### 11 Trustees' remuneration and expenses

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

The value of trustees' remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

#### S Frazer (Principal and trustee)

- Remuneration £115,000 - £120,000 (2024: £105,000 - £110,000)
- Employer's pension contributions £30,000 - £35,000 (2024: £25,000 - £30,000)

During the year, travel and subsistence payments totalling £nil (2024: £nil) were reimbursed or paid directly to 0 trustees (2024: 0 trustees).

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

### 12 Trustees' and officers' insurance

The academy trust has opted into the Department for Education's Risk Protection Arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy trust 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.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 13 Tangible fixed assets

	Leasehold land and buildings £	Computer equipment £	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £	Total £
<b>Cost</b>				
At 1 September 2024	17,428,828	730,618	1,232,687	19,392,133
Additions	488,605	76,770	29,156	594,531
Disposals	(68,550)	(249,019)	(128,934)	(446,503)
At 31 August 2025	17,848,883	558,369	1,132,909	19,540,161
<b>Depreciation</b>				
At 1 September 2024	4,241,673	517,493	1,051,323	5,810,489
On disposals	(22,684)	(243,097)	(123,917)	(389,698)
Charge for the year	396,078	103,227	65,258	564,563
At 31 August 2025	4,615,067	377,623	992,664	5,985,354
<b>Net book value</b>				
At 31 August 2025	13,233,816	180,746	140,245	13,554,807
At 31 August 2024	13,187,155	213,125	181,364	13,581,644

### 14 Stock

	2025 £	2024 £
Other stock	8,439	16,887

### 15 Debtors

	2025 £	2024 £
Trade debtors	4,407	4,719
VAT recoverable	53,258	138,029
Prepayments and accrued income	301,376	433,263
	359,041	576,011

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 16 Creditors: amounts falling due within one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Government loans	14,276	10,143
Trade creditors	233,271	823,907
Other taxation and social security	133,850	112,519
Other creditors	144,201	6,274
Accruals and deferred income	166,944	216,468
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	692,542	1,169,311
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 17 Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year

	2025	2024
	£	£
Government loans	168,330	191,857
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Analysis of loans	2025	2024
	£	£
Not wholly repayable within five years by instalments	182,606	202,000
Less: included in current liabilities	(14,276)	(10,143)
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Amounts included above	168,330	191,857
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Instalments not due within five years	103,154	110,710
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Loan maturity	2025	2024
	£	£
Debt due in one year or less	14,276	10,143
Due in more than one year but not more than two years	15,041	20,287
Due in more than two years but not more than five years	50,135	60,860
Due in more than five years	103,154	110,710
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	182,606	202,000
	<hr/>	<hr/>

Included within other creditors are new loans from the DfE under the Condition Improvement Fund totalling £nil (2024: £202,000). The CIF loans are interest bearing at the Public Works Loan Board (PWLB) rates of interest and are repayable over 10 years.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 18 Deferred income

	2025 £	2024 £
Deferred income is included within:		
Creditors due within one year	76,226	67,755
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deferred income at 1 September 2024	67,755	123,544
Released from previous years	(67,755)	(102,949)
Resources deferred in the year	76,226	47,160
	<hr/>	<hr/>
Deferred income at 31 August 2025	76,226	67,755
	<hr/>	<hr/>

At the balance sheet date the Academy Trust was holding funds received in advance for National tutoring income, unspent bursaries and parental contributions to educational visits and after school clubs.

### 19 Funds

	Balance at 1 September	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August
	2024 £				2025 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	383,708	6,813,737	(6,489,273)	(250,605)	457,567
Pupil premium	-	188,050	(188,050)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	123,847	1,674,672	(1,798,519)	-	-
Other government grants	23,607	211,180	(234,787)	-	-
Other restricted funds	132,429	144,724	(277,153)	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	52,000	(52,000)	-
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	663,591	9,032,363	(8,935,782)	(302,605)	457,567
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
DfE group capital grants	416,285	(64,039)	-	(352,246)	-
Capital expenditure from GAG	13,568,226	-	(618,013)	583,171	13,533,384
DfE capital loans	(202,000)	-	-	19,394	(182,606)
Donated fixed assets	13,418	11,074	(3,355)	286	21,423
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
	13,795,929	(52,965)	(621,368)	250,605	13,372,201
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>14,459,520</b>	<b>8,979,398</b>	<b>(9,557,150)</b>	<b>(52,000)</b>	<b>13,829,768</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	1,115,259	238,776	(171,258)	-	1,182,777
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>15,574,779</b>	<b>9,218,174</b>	<b>(9,728,408)</b>	<b>(52,000)</b>	<b>15,012,545</b>
	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 19 Funds

(Continued)

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

Restricted General Funds represent unspent General Annual Grant (GAG), which must be used for the normal recurring costs of the Academy Trust together with other restricted general funds. Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy Trust was not subject to a limit on the account of GAG that it should carry forward at 31 August 2025.

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds represent £13,554,807 reserved against future depreciation charges. The remainder relates to unspent capital grants and ESFA capital loans which will be utilised to enhance the Academy's facilities. During the year, a transfer of £250,605 was made from GAG funds to restricted fixed asset funds in order to fund the acquisition of various tangible fixed assets.

Restricted Pension Reserve Funds represent the Academy Trust's share of the assets and liabilities of the Local Government Pension Scheme at 31 August 2025.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains, losses and transfers £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
<b>Restricted general funds</b>					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	932,039	7,500,460	(7,684,316)	(364,475)	383,708
Pupil premium	-	185,858	(185,858)	-	-
Other DfE/ESFA grants	123,847	525,710	(525,710)	-	123,847
Other government grants	23,607	231,282	(231,282)	-	23,607
Other restricted funds	132,429	106,384	(106,384)	-	132,429
Pension reserve	72,000	-	24,000	(96,000)	-
	1,283,922	8,549,694	(8,709,550)	(460,475)	663,591
<b>Restricted fixed asset funds</b>					
DfE group capital grants	13,058,588	910,070	(651,333)	250,901	13,568,226
DfE Group Capital grants	100,409	36,293	(87,390)	350,217	399,529
	51,399	-	-	(34,643)	16,756
DfE capital loans	-	-	-	(202,000)	(202,000)
Donated fixed assets	-	16,773	(3,355)	-	13,418
	13,210,396	963,136	(742,078)	364,475	13,795,929
<b>Total restricted funds</b>	<b>14,494,318</b>	<b>9,512,830</b>	<b>(9,451,628)</b>	<b>(96,000)</b>	<b>14,459,520</b>
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General funds	766,165	376,910	(49,626)	-	1,093,449
<b>Total funds</b>	<b>15,260,483</b>	<b>9,889,740</b>	<b>(9,501,254)</b>	<b>(96,000)</b>	<b>15,552,969</b>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 20 Analysis of net assets between funds

	Unrestricted Funds £	Restricted funds: General £		Fixed asset £	Total Funds £
<b>Fund balances at 31 August 2025 are represented by:</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	-	-		13,554,807	13,554,807
Current assets	1,182,777	1,135,833		-	2,318,610
Current liabilities	-	(678,266)		(14,276)	(692,542)
Non-current liabilities	-	-		(168,330)	(168,330)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,182,777</b>	<b>457,567</b>		<b>13,372,201</b>	<b>15,012,545</b>
 <b>Fund balances at 31 August 2024 are represented by:</b>					
Tangible fixed assets	-	-		13,581,644	13,581,644
Current assets	1,115,259	1,822,759		416,285	3,354,303
Current liabilities	-	(1,159,168)		(10,143)	(1,169,311)
Non-current liabilities	-	-		(191,857)	(191,857)
<b>Total net assets</b>	<b>1,115,259</b>	<b>663,591</b>		<b>13,795,929</b>	<b>15,574,779</b>

### 21 Long-term commitments

#### Operating leases

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Amounts due within one year	13,738	20,486
Amounts due in two and five years	3,229	16,966
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	16,967	37,452
	<hr/>	<hr/>

### 22 Capital commitments

	2025 £	2024 £
Expenditure contracted for but not provided in the financial statements	90,000	316,563
	<hr/>	<hr/>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 23 Reconciliation of net (expenditure)/income to net cash flow from operating activities

	Notes	2025 £	2024 £
Net (expenditure)/income for the reporting period (as per the statement of financial activities)		(510,234)	410,296
Adjusted for:			
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income		52,965	(963,136)
Investment income receivable	6	(57,804)	(86,408)
Defined benefit pension costs less contributions payable	26	9,000	21,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance income	26	(61,000)	(45,000)
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets		564,563	562,154
Loss on disposal of fixed assets		56,805	92,534
Decrease/(increase) in stocks		8,448	(7,940)
Decrease/(increase) in debtors		216,970	(102,386)
(Decrease)/increase in creditors		(480,902)	303,049
<b>Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities</b>		<b>(201,189)</b>	<b>184,163</b>

### 24 Analysis of changes in net funds

	1 September 2024	Cash flows	31 August 2025
	£	£	£
Cash	2,761,405	(810,275)	1,951,130
Loans falling due within one year	(10,143)	(4,133)	(14,276)
Loans falling due after more than one year	(191,857)	23,527	(168,330)
	<b>2,559,405</b>	<b>(790,881)</b>	<b>1,768,524</b>

### 25 Members' liability

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

### 26 Pension and similar obligations

The academy trust's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Northamptonshire 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 that of the LGPS related to the period ended 31 March 2022.

There were no outstanding or prepaid contributions at either the beginning or the end of the financial year.

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 26 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

#### Teachers' Pension Scheme

##### Introduction

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

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

##### Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

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

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

The employer's pension costs paid to the TPS in the period amounted to £1,070,648 (2024: £879,674).

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

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

#### Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contributions are as noted below. The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.1% for employers and 5.5 to 12.5% for employees.

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

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 26 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

	2025	2024
	£	£
<b>Total contributions made</b>		
Employer's contributions	251,000	251,000
Employees' contributions	78,000	79,000
<b>Total contributions</b>	<b>329,000</b>	<b>330,000</b>
<b>Principal actuarial assumptions</b>	<b>2025</b>	<b>2024</b>
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.20	3.15
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.70	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.05	5.00
Commutation of pensions to lump sums	55	55

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

	2025	2024
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
- Males	20.3	20.1
- Females	24.6	24.5
Retiring in 20 years		
- Males	22.0	21.8
- Females	25.9	25.8

### Sensitivity analysis

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

	2025	2024
	£	£
Defined benefit pension scheme net asset		
Scheme assets	6,953,000	6,326,000
Scheme obligations	(4,560,000)	(5,092,000)
<b>Net asset</b>	<b>2,393,000</b>	<b>1,234,000</b>
Restriction on scheme assets	(2,393,000)	(1,234,000)
<b>Total liability recognised</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED) FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 26 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

The academy trust's share of the assets in the scheme	2025 Fair value £	2024 Fair value £
Equities	3,755,000	3,353,000
Bonds	1,947,000	1,771,000
Property	1,042,000	949,000
Other assets	209,000	253,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total market value of assets	6,953,000	6,326,000
Restriction on scheme assets	(2,393,000)	(1,234,000)
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Net assets recognised	4,560,000	5,092,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
The actual return on scheme assets was £416,000 (2024: £618,000).		
Amount recognised in the statement of financial activities	2025 £	2024 £
Current service cost	260,000	272,000
Interest income	(321,000)	(291,000)
Interest cost	260,000	246,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Total amount recognised	199,000	227,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
Changes in the present value of defined benefit obligations	2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September 2024	5,092,000	4,599,000
Current service cost	260,000	272,000
Interest cost	260,000	246,000
Employee contributions	78,000	79,000
Actuarial gain	(1,012,000)	(3,000)
Benefits paid	(118,000)	(101,000)
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>
At 31 August 2025	4,560,000	5,092,000
<hr/>	<hr/>	<hr/>

# GUILSBOROUGH MULTI ACADEMY TRUST

## NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS (CONTINUED)

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

### 26 Pension and similar obligations

(Continued)

#### Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets

	2025	2024
	£	£
At 1 September 2024	6,326,000	5,479,000
Interest income	321,000	291,000
Actuarial gain	95,000	327,000
Employer contributions	251,000	251,000
Employee contributions	78,000	79,000
Benefits paid	(118,000)	(101,000)
At 31 August 2025	6,953,000	6,326,000
Restriction on scheme assets	(2,393,000)	(1,234,000)
Net assets recognised	4,560,000	5,092,000

#### Restriction of pension scheme assets

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

### 27 Related party transactions

Owing to the academy trust's operations and the composition of the board of trustees' being drawn from local public and private sector organisation, transactions may take place with organisation in which the academy trust has an interest. All transactions involving such organisation are conducted at arm's length and in accordance with the academy trust's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures.

Some of the trustees' have children who are pupils at the academy, consequently there will be transactions between those trustees' and the academy in respect of their children's education. These are on the same basis as other pupils at the academy.

Mr T Droy, a trustee of the Trust, has an interest in The Piano Technology School, a firm which provides services to the Trust. The value of the services provided during the year was £nil (2024 - £60).

