Company Registration Number: 09702333 (England & Wales)

EASTERN EDUCATION GROUP TRUST

(A company limited by guarantee)

ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members Alan Maltpress (appointed 1 September 2024)

Ankit Mathur (appointed 1 September 2024)

Jan Bloomfield

James Gazzard (resigned 14 July 2025)

Nicholas Wingfield-Digby

West Suffolk College, represented by Sarah Howard

Trustees Alexandra Sophie Duffety (appointed 11 March 2025)

Chris Higgins Chris Ridgeon

David Bicker (appointed 1 September 2024)

Debbie Wildridge Elton D'Souza, Chair Julia Wakelam Karen Points

Martin Chatt (appointed 1 September 2024) Neil Kellett (appointed 1 September 2024) Richard Attwell (appointed 1 September 2024) Richard Murray (resigned 17 November 2025)

Roger Inman

Sarah Healey Pearce (resigned 26 January 2025)

Sue Daley

Sue Snowdon (appointed 1 September 2024)

Company registered

number 09702333

Company name Eastern Education Group Trust

Principal and registered West Suffolk College

office

Out Risbygate

Bury St. Edmunds

Suffolk IP33 3RL

Trust Clerk Suzannah Gales

Senior management

team

Anthony McGarel, Group Chief Financial Officer Gary Grainger, Group Chief Information Officer

Nikos Savvas, Chief Executive Officer and Accounting Officer & Principal of

Abbeygate Sixth Form

Jake Robson, Group Principal of One Sixth Form College

Suzannah Gales, Group Governance Professional

Laraine Moody, Group Principal (employed by West Suffolk College)

Colin Shaw, Group Sixth Form Principal (employed by West Suffolk College) Simon Graham, Group Chief People Officer (employed by West Suffolk College)

James Clark, Regional Director - Primaries (Joined 1 September 2024) Lawrence Chapman, Regional Director - SEND and Outdoor Learning

(Joined 1 September 2024)

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

Independent auditors Larking Gowen LLP

Chartered Accountants
1 Claydon Business Park

Great Blakenham

Ipswich IP6 0NL

Bankers Lloyds Bank plc

25 Gresham Street

London EC2V 7HN

Solicitors Browne Jacobson LLP

15th Floor 6 Bevis Marks London EC3A 7BA

TRUSTEES' REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the charitable company for the year ended 31 August 2025. The charitable company was incorporated on 24 July 2015 and opened as a Multi Academy Trust on 1 September 2015. The annual report serves the purposes of both a Trustees' report, and a directors' report under company law.

Eastern Education Group Trust (the Trust) is a multi academy trust operating one primary school, five specialist SEND schools and two sixth form academies.

- Exning Primary School is a single form entry mainstream primary school with a specialist SEN unit. Exning Primary School is near Newmarket, Suffolk and it became an academy and joined the Trust from 1 September 2024.
- Chalk Hill is a residential alternative provision academy for boys aged 8-14 years who have been permanently excluded, or are at risk of permanent exclusion, from mainstream school. Chalk Hill is in Sudbury, Suffolk and joined the Trust from 1 September 2024.
- Duke of Lancaster School is a special school for students aged 5-16 with communication and interaction difficulties. Duke of Lancaster School is in Fakenham, Norfolk and joined the Trust from 1 September 2024.
- Priory School is a residential special academy for students aged 5-18 years who have complex/moderate learning difficulties. Priory School is in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk and joined the Trust from 1 September 2024.
- Stone Lodge Academy is a special school for students aged 5-16 with complex moderate learning difficulties. Stone Lodge Academy in Ipswich, Suffolk and joined the Trust from 1 September 2024.
- Sunrise Academy is a special school for students aged 10-16 with social, emotional and mental health needs. Sunrise Academy is in Lowestoft, Suffolk and joined the Trust from 1 September 2024.
- Abbeygate Sixth Form College is a post 16 academy serving Bury St Edmunds and the rural areas of mid-, west- and north- Suffolk as well as parts of Cambridgeshire. Abbeygate Sixth Form College has student numbers of approximately 1,100 students and continues to grow in its new-build accommodation capable of accommodating a maximum capacity of 1,700 students. Abbeygate Sixth Form College is in Bury St Edmunds, Suffolk.
- One Sixth Form College is a post 16 academy serving Ipswich and the rural areas of mid-, south- and east-Suffolk as well as parts of Essex. One Sixth Form College has student numbers of approximately 2,300.
 One Sixth Form College is in Ipswich, Suffolk.

Stanton Community Primary School joined the Trust as an academy converter, with effect from the 1st September 2025 and renamed to Stanton Primary School.

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

Structure, governance and management

a. Constitution

The multi academy trust is a charitable company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity.

The charitable company's memorandum and articles of association are the primary governing documents of the academy trust.

The Trustees of Eastern Education Group Trust are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law.

The charitable company is known as Eastern Education Group Trust and its academies, in the reporting period, were known as:

- Exning Primary School
- Chalk Hill
- Duke of Lancaster School
- Priory School
- Stone Lodge Academy
- Sunrise Academy
- Abbeygate Sixth Form College, and
- One Sixth Form College.

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

b. Members' liability

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

c. Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The recruitment and appointment of Trustees is the responsibility of the Members of the Trust. The Members adopted new Articles of Association in 2023/24, which expanded the number of Trustees Members may appoint, to 15. The Trust Board may co-opt additional Trustees pursuant to Article 58. The total number of Trustees including the Chief Executive Officer who are employees of the Trust shall not exceed one third of the total number of Trustees.

Pursuant to Article 101A, each of the Trust's Educational Excellence Committees which oversee our academies and are designed as a Local Governing Body include provision for at least 2 Parent Local Governors within its membership (1 from each academy).

Pursuant to Article 57, the Chief Executive Officer is eligible to serve as a Trustee however opts not to do so. The Chief Executive Officer remains the Accounting Officer.

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

d. Policies adopted for the induction and training of Trustees

Trustees undertake regular, role specific induction and training. Upon appointment Trustees read and declare their agreement to act in accordance with key governance documents, undertake key training modules (safeguarding, equality diversity and inclusion, etc), have induction meetings with the Chair and Chief Executive Officer, Governance Professional, Vice Chairs, members of the Executive team, observe Committee meetings and are assigned a mentor. Newly appointed Trustees are also given multiple internal and external training opportunities to understand their role.

All Trustees complete a skills audit self-evaluation annually. The skills audit helps the Trust to identify and assess the skills of the Trustee Board and its Committees and identify areas for further development. This information is then used to inform the training and development strategy for the Trust.

e. Organisational structure

The Trust is overseen by the Trust Board which operates a committee structure with a scheme of delegation showing at which level within the committee structure and/or by whom, decisions can be approved. The Trust updated its scheme of delegation in 2024/25 in line with the governance structure listed in the Governance Statement.

In line with sector expectations, the Chief Executive Officer of the Trust is the appointed Accounting Officer.

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

Neither the Trustees nor the Governance Members of the Local Governing Body receive remuneration for their roles. The Chief Executive Officer (CEO) / (Accounting Officer) and Chief Financial Officer (CFO) are remunerated directly by the Trust in accordance with the Academy Trust Handbook. Where a member of staff is a governor or Trustee they will only be remunerated for their contracted employment and not for their board duties.

The Remuneration Committee is responsible for setting the pay of the CEO. The remuneration of the CEO and CFO is in proportion to their part time contract. Of the academy senior leadership team, remuneration is reflected in their contract of employment at market rates, and any progression or cost of living increases must be approved via the Trust policy which is approved by the Trust Board.

g. Trade union facility time

Relevant union officials

Number of employees who were relevant union officials during the year - 2 Full-time equivalent employee number - 2.00

Percentage of time spent on facility time

Number of employees
0
2
0
0

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

Percentage of pay bill spent on facility time £

Total cost of facility time £5,793

Total pay bill £8,779,652.40

Percentage of total pay bill spent on facility time 0.07%

Paid trade union activities

Hours paid on paid facility time 720
Hours spent on paid trade union activities 72
Time spent on paid trade union activities as 10%
a percentage of total paid facility time hours

h. Related parties and other connected charities and organisations

West Suffolk College is the sponsor of Eastern Education Group Trust, and this creates a related party relationship between the two organisations.

West Suffolk College owns the freehold of the site that One Sixth Form College is located on. This property was leased to the Trust for 125 years commencing 1 September 2015.

Eastern Education Group Trust and West Suffolk College share a number of staff across both organisations primarily providing support services to both organisations. The shared service areas include activities such as estates, IT, human resources, procurement, marketing etc. These are recharged at cost between the parties through related party transactions, in accordance with agreed methods.

i. Engagement with employees (including disabled persons)

The Trust is committed to ensuring equality of opportunity for all who learn and work here. We respect and value positively differences in race, gender and gender identity, parental and marital status, sexual orientation, disability, religion or belief and age. We strive vigorously to remove conditions which place people at a disadvantage, and we will actively combat discrimination. The Equality & Diversity Policy and the Disability Access Policy are published on our college websites.

The Trust considers all employment applications from disabled persons, bearing in mind the aptitudes of the individuals concerned. Where an existing employee becomes disabled, every effort is made to ensure that employment with the Trust continues. The Trust's policy is to provide training, career development and opportunities for promotion which, as far as possible, provide identical opportunities to those of nondisabled employees.

The Trust works with employee trade unions and professional associations across both academies and engages in consultation, as required, to ensure that all aspects of the charitable company affecting its employees, including financial and economic factors, are discussed and consulted on with them.

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

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

j. Engagement with suppliers, customers and others in a business relationship with the academy trust

The Trust seeks to engage fairly and efficiently with suppliers, customers, and others in a business relationship with the Trust through sound business and financial practices. For suppliers these practices include clear and transparent communications, the use of procurement frameworks, issuing of purchase orders, prompt payment and other good procurement practices. For customers, we use tariffs for goods and services, professional valuations for property related transactions, we issue invoices and continue to develop the use of online payment systems.

Objectives and activities

The purpose of Eastern Education Group Trust is to provide outstanding education through both its schools and colleges.

a. Objects and aims

As defined in the Articles of Association, the Objects of the Trust are to advance for the public benefit education in the United Kingdom in particular, but not in prejudice to the generosity of the foregoing, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing academies offering curriculum appropriate to the needs of our 16-19 academy students, or mainstream or special academies.

We firmly believe that the answers to the challenges that are being faced all point to the same thing – the need for an outstanding education system. Education unlocks potential, builds the workforce for an evolving economy and helps individuals to develop the knowhow, character traits and mindset to overcome barriers and grasp opportunities. Education is a lifelong need – not something that starts at nursery and concludes at college or university.

Supporting and delivering on that need, however, is easier said than done.

Individually our campuses, our staff and our connections are impressive. Collectively, we play a critical and leading role in helping our region to flourish. From the technology we have at our fingertips, to harnessing progressive attitudes and global connections – we are on the map as one of the leading education providers in the country today.

Our core business is to have an unrelenting focus on progression. We want children and young people to progress to get the best possible outcomes. We want individuals to progress to and in their chosen careers. We want businesses to progress and grow because they have the right skills and workforce. We want the region to become a beacon for education, enterprise and innovation excellence. This strategic plan is about further unlocking and delivering on that aspiration.

Our strategy sets out our vision to ensure that, in an everchanging world, we deliver a world-class, inspirational life-long learning journey that drives prosperity for all in our communities.

At the very heart of our vision is personal progress, for every individual, regardless of where they've come from or where they want to go, there is a place for them at Eastern Education Group.

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

b. Objectives, strategies and activities

Our Learners:

We promise

- Every learner progresses.
- Every learner succeeds.
- No one is left behind.

We provide

- Personalised pathways for every learning need.
- Critical thinking skills for complex world challenges.
- Real employer connections and work experience opportunities.
- Mental health and wellbeing support for life's challenges.
- Character development alongside academic achievement.
- Celebrating diversity and inclusion throughout our schools.
- Progress for learners across every life stage, from early years to adult learning, the learning never stops.

We deliver

- Empowered progress through tailored pathways, from primary to university and beyond, through mainstream and specialist provision.
- Inspiring potential by nurturing leadership and compassion to help students embrace diversity, build relationships, and navigate our changing world.
- Building strong connections through work experience, community partnerships and industry links, for students to develop social skills and confidence, and to support seamless career transitions.
- Pastoral support by dedicated teams who collaborate with families and communities, championing diversity and inclusion so every learner feels valued and empowered.

Our Team:

We promise

- Right skills, right place, right time.
- Everyone is empowered to excel.

We provide

- Leadership development at every level to instill a growth mindset.
- Workforce planning to meet future skills needs.
- Cross-sector collaboration and innovation.
- Professional recognition and career progression tailored to help our staff find their purpose.
- Wellbeing-first culture.
- Building a positive culture through consistency.

We deliver

- Developing mastery through expert-led training, mentoring, and skills programmes designed to break down barriers to success and promote continuous learning for all our people.
- Unlocking autonomy and fostering collaboration through cross-discipline teamwork, innovative problem-solving, and embracing new technologies. We cultivate agility and accountability for shared success.
- Celebrating success as we recognise achievements that transform life chances, celebrating individual growth, milestones, and collective impact across our community.
- Prioritising purpose by offering work-life balance, mental health support, and professional recognition creating a place where people feel valued and motivated to pursue careers which give them purpose.

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

Our Communities:

We promise

- · Stronger communities through learning.
- Breaking down barriers to deliver opportunity for all.

We provide

- Take pride in our civic responsibility.
- We cross generational divides with family upskilling and community hubs.
- Partner with and support other schools regionally.
- Collaborate with businesses to drive economic growth.
- Promote informed citizenship through critical thinking education.
- Drive social mobility through access to diverse educational pathways.

We deliver

- Inclusive and aspirational learning by ensuring education is relevant, future-proofed and accessible to all. We nurture ambition and create environments where all learners feel valued and inspired to succeed.
- Strengthening our communities by connecting education with business, public and third-sector partners to drive meaningful change. Our partnerships contribute to economic growth by developing skills that meet employer needs while building safer, more cohesive neighbourhoods.
- Leading positive social change through collaboration across sector organisations, working to address local challenges, from health and social care to sustainability. Our work with the third sector and with other public sector institutions anchor us at the centre of our communities.
- Creating opportunities beyond the classroom by working together to break down barriers, making sure no
 one is left behind. We develop pathways that lead to good jobs, support community safety initiatives, and
 prepare learners for careers of the future.

Our Infrastructure:

We promise

• World-class facilities meeting cutting-edge technology, to remove barriers to learning.

We provide

To continue enhancing our infrastructure; supporting our inspirational, inclusive and connected learning through:

- Sustainable, accessible learning spaces.
- Safe and innovative AI education.
- Virtual reality and extended reality labs.
- Financial resilience and smart investment.
- Digital security and data protection.

We deliver

- The right technology integrated through accessible digital tools to support diverse learning needs and offer flexible, inclusive, online education.
- A secure financial future with a focus on value for money and adaptable funding models which balance current requirements with future investments while maintaining high financial standards.
- Effectively managed data systems to provide meaningful insights to evaluate our impact and support continuous improvement.

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

Future Proofed Education:

We promise

World-class technology enabled learning experiences.

We provide

- Virtual learning: Our campuses take learning beyond physical spaces. Our virtual campuses help us to
 maximise opportunities so that geography is not a barrier for our learners to access world class learning
 experiences. Through our virtual campus, experts from around the world share their knowledge and
 experiences with our learners.
- Extended Reality: Our cutting-edge Extended Reality (XR) lab, redefines the boundaries of education by merging immersive technology with groundbreaking innovation.
- All enabled learning: All isn't replacing humans, it's empowering them. We're pioneering education that teaches students to work alongside artificial intelligence while maintaining human creativity, empathy, and critical thinking.

Our AI Strategy

- Digital literacy from primary through to adult education
- Critical evaluation of Al-generated content and bias
- Creative collaboration between human intelligence and AI tools
- Ethical understanding of Al's societal impact
- Future skills for jobs that don't yet exist
- Industry Partnerships: collaboration with Meta, Pearson, and leading technology companies ensure our curriculum stays ahead of change.

We deliver

Graduates who are Al-literate, ethically grounded, and ready to lead in an automated world.

c. Public benefit

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to exercising their powers to ensure that the Trust is for the advancement of education. The existence of the Education Excellence Committees further strengthens the Trust's ability to meet the needs of the local community.

Primary education is a formative experience in any child's life; helping children to develop essential skills and prepare them for the years ahead, both in education and the world of work.

With this in mind, we've created a one-of-a-kind programme for primary school children known as Skills Escalator Days.

Serving primary schools across the Eastern region, our Skills Escalator Days give children an insight into the world of work by engaging them in interactive sessions run by professionals from a variety of industries such as BT, UK Power Networks, Suffolk Constabulary, the NHS, the Royal Air Force, and many more.

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

The effect of career-related activities on the aspirations and attitudes of primary aged children is incredibly impactful, which is why we feel so passionately about the work we do.

The Skills Escalator is about facilitating all sectors; education, local government, and industry, to drive the enrichment that engages young minds and helps to develop future workforces that support our local economy.

Many people question the idea of talking to children about the world of work at such a young age but research clearly shows that, by eight years old, children have already formed incredibly strong opinions about their own capabilities based on their gender, ethnicity, and socio-demographic background.

Skills Escalator Days are intended to challenge these stereotypes and inspire young minds to live without limits, especially when it comes to thinking about their careers and futures.

The Skills Escalator Days have been enjoyed by over 4,000 children so far and are now a valued and regular part of the Year 2 primary calendar across the region. Working with over 40 different public and private sector partners, we currently deliver Skills Escalator Days across Haverhill, Bury St Edmunds, Ipswich, Chatteris, Sudbury, Thetford, Mildenhall and Newmarket, with further areas set to be added as demand continues to grow.

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

Strategic report

Eastern Education Group Trust (the Trust) is a multi academy trust operating one primary school, five specialist SEND schools and two sixth form academies.

Achievements and Performance - Sixth Form Academies

One Sixth Form College

The College is inclusive, offering courses at Levels 4, 3, 2 and Foundation Learning, with 88.3% of students on Level 3 or 4 programmes, in 2024/25 the funded number of students was 2,394.

Outcomes for Students

At ONE in August 2025 more than 680 students received A-levels and 600 gained vocational qualifications. In terms of A-levels, ONE saw a 96% overall pass rate, with 67% of students achieving grades at A* to C.

99% of students passed their vocational qualifications. 40% of students who studied on a full-time vocational diploma programme gained a distinction profile (D*D*D* to DDD).

GCSE results, combining the GCSE retake results achieved in January and August 2025:

- Maths was 26% achieved at grades 9-4 which is 10% above the National Average for Post-16 (62 of 234 entries)
- English was 45% achieved at grades 9-4 which is 25% above the National Average for Post-16 (104 of 233 entries)

Level 2 results:

- The overall pass rate is 98% (166 entries)
- 60% of our Level 2 students achieved a Distinction/Merit profile, with especially good outcomes in Health (90% D*-M), and in Beauty Therapy (84% D*-M).

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

Attendance & Retention

Attendance overall is 87%, in-year retention was 95%

Progression/Destinations

- 51% progressed to university, including many prestigious destinations (Oxbridge, Medical, Russell Group).
- 22% choose the employment/apprenticeship/further training route.
- 14% have chosen to take a gap year.
- 8% were undecided at the time of the survey.
- 4% went on to Further Education and Level 4 programmes at One and beyond.

Abbeygate Sixth Form College

The College offers predominantly A Levels and in 2024/25 the funded number of students was 1,126.

Outcomes for Students

ASFC in August 2025 saw a 97.3% overall pass rate, with 71% of students achieving grades at A* to C.

GCSE results, combining the GCSE retake results achieved in January and August 2025:

- Maths was 25% achieved at grades 9-4 which is 9% above the National Average for Post-16•
- English was 100% achieved at grades 9-4 which is 80% above the National Average for Post-16

Attendance & Retention

Attendance overall is 92.4%, in-year retention was 97%

Progression/Destinations

- 60% progressed to university, including many prestigious destinations (Oxbridge, Medical, Russell Group).
- 14% choose the employment/apprenticeship/further training route.
- 20% have chosen to take a gap year.
- 6% were undecided at the time of the survey.

Achievements and Performance - SEND

The majority of our students do not undertake national curriculum assessments as due to their SEND needs they are working at a level significantly below their age-related expected level.

Chalk Hill

Student progress and outcomes

As a Key Stage 2 and 3 Alternative Provision school, the only 'qualification' we offered were AQA Unit Award Scheme and Horsemanship grades. However, now we have redesignated to include Key Stage 4 we will offer GCSEs and Functional Skills.

We do use National Test Style (NTS) assessments to monitor term to term academic progress of students and Boxall profile to monitor developmental progress.

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

Compared to their individual learning plan (ILP) targets and Education, Health and Care Plan (ECHP) outcomes and outcomes in 2024/25, all students are making gradual steps towards their EHCP outcomes, ILPs link directly to these outcomes and the NTS assessments to ensure academic gaps are closing and progress is made.

Duke of Lancaster

Student progress and outcomes

Duke of Lancaster School is a special school for pupils with communication and interaction difficulties. All pupils have a full education, health and care plan. Most pupils have a diagnosis of autism.

The school has 106 funded places. 91% of year 11 students progressed into further education, training or employment.

Priory School

Student progress and outcomes

Students at Priory have the opportunity to access accreditation at a level appropriate to the student in each subject. These range across Pre Entry Level, Entry Level, Level 1 and 2, GCSE. In Key Stages 2 and 3, staff use the ILP and subject objectives to track progress. This also includes baseline assessments.

93% of year 11 students progressed into further education. 85% of year 12 and 13 students progressed to further education.

Stone Lodge

Student progress and outcomes

There are 175 funded places at Stone Lodge. Places are offered for pupils with moderate learning difficulties. Many pupils have wider, complex needs, such as social, emotional and mental health needs, autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and speech and language difficulties.

100% of the 30 students who left Stone Lodge at the end of the year progressed into further education.

Sunrise

Student progress and outcome

The school provides for pupils with social, emotional and mental health needs. All pupils have an EHCP plan. The school meets the requirements of the provider access legislation, which requires schools to provide pupils in Years 8 to 13 with information and engagement about approved technical education qualifications and apprenticeships.

100% of pupils who sat a formal assessment or exam passed their qualification. Qualifications were from entry level to level 2. 75% of students leaving progressed to further education.

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

Achievements and Performance - Primary

Exning Primary School

Exning Primary is a mixed gender primary school for ages 4 to 11. The School has 226 pupils on roll.

National Average (NA) attendance for state funded primary schools in 2024/25 was 94.8%, Exning achieved 95.1%.

Reading attainment was 84% compared to a national average of 75%, Writing was 84% compared to 71% and maths was 81% compared to 74%. Combined results show 75% school attainment at or above national average compared to the national picture of 61%.

Stanton Primary joined the Trust with effect from 1st September 2025.

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

a. Key performance indicators

The Trust uses key performance indicators as a tool to assess performance throughout the year. These KPIs are a mixture of financial and non financial indicators measuring the performance of the Trust. The suite of indicators are regularly reviewed and modified according to need and priority. These indicators are reported to the Trust Finance Committee and the Board of Trustees during the year.

b. 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 they continue to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements. Further details regarding the adoption of the going concern basis can be found in the accounting policies.

c. Promoting the success of the company

The Companies Act 2006 (section 172) specifies that Directors have a duty to promote the success of the company as follows:

A director of a company must act in the way they consider in good faith, would be most likely to promote the success of the company for the benefit of its members, and in doing so have regard (amongst other matters) to:

- a) the likely consequences of any decision in the long term,
- b) the interests of the company's employees.
- c) the need to foster the company's business relationships with suppliers, customers, and others.
- d) the impact of the company's operations on the community and the environment,
- e) the desirability of the company maintaining a reputation for high standards of business conduct, and
- f) the need to act fairly as between members of the company.

The Trustees of Eastern Education Group Trust are committed to furthering the objects of the Trust in a manner that demonstrates regard for its key stakeholders which include students, staff, parents, suppliers, and members of the wider community. The Board believes that this approach is best secured through enthusiastic adherence to the principles of good and inclusive governance.

In 2024/25, Trustees continued to review the strategic direction of the Trust and its schools and colleges in close collaboration with the Trust's sponsor, West Suffolk College, in furtherance of their common strategic plan as the Eastern Education Group. The Trustees considered several growth opportunities. These included a local authority maintained primary school, which academised and joined the Trust on 1 September 2025. The Trustees' careful due diligence and financial planning helped ensure that Trustees remain sensitive to the longer-term consequences of decisions being made by the Board.

Working with other local education providers across the region, and as part of the Eastern Education Group, the Trust has been able to provide communities with a curriculum that best meets their needs, both now and in the future. Trustees do not believe that short termism and/or unnecessary local competition are in the best interests of students.

The Trust hopes that its broad and inclusive approach to decision-making and the high standards of its governance and operational practice will help to ensure that the promotion of its success is of benefit to all.

Trustees have received training about their duties as Trustees, and this is refreshed regularly.

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

Financial review

Most of the academy's income is obtained from the DfE in the form of recurrent grants, the use of which is restricted to particular purposes. These grants received from the DfE during the year ended 31st August 2025 and the associated expenditure are shown as restricted funds in the Statement of Financial Activities.

The academy has also been in receipt of capital grants from the DfE. In accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice, 'Accounting and Reporting by Charities', such grants are shown in the Statement of Financial Activities as restricted income in the fixed asset fund. The restricted fixed asset fund balance is reduced by annual depreciation charges over the expected useful life of the assets concerned.

During the year ended 31st August 2025 total expenditure of £45,425,126 was supported by recurrent grant funding from the DfE together with other incoming resources. The excess of income over expenditure for the year (excluding restricted fixed asset and pension funds) was £1,394,626.

Reconciliation of Net Movement in Funds to Income over Expenditure 2024/25

~	
Net movement in funds on SOFA 33	3,616,554
	3,200,132)
	,529,394)
Actuarial Pension Loss on SOFA 77	79,000
LGPS Current Service Cost (8	83,000)
Depreciation & Amortisation 2,	611,598
Excess of Income over Expenditure 1,	394,626

As at 31 August 2025 the net book value of fixed assets was £85,679,960 and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown within note 15 to the financial statements and intangible assets within note 14 to the financial statements. The addition in the year in addition reflects the continuing investment in resources for the students & staff of the Trust. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the pupils of the Trust.

As at 31 August 2025 the total restricted income funds and unrestricted funds amounted to £7,107,635. This excludes the restricted pension reserve.

On 1 September 2024, Exning Primary School converted to an Academy and joined the Trust along with SENDAT, an existing MAT which transferred into the Trust bringing on five schools, detailed on page 3. The Trust has recognised donations of £33,200,132 from the schools joining the Trust, this income relates to the assets and liabilities of the schools entering the Trust as detailed on notes 27 and 35. The income is comprised of £28,644,492 relating to fixed assets, a £104,000 pension scheme liability, and £4,659,640 other assets and liabilities.

a. Reserves policy

The Trust reviewed and approved its reserves policy on 11 March 2025.

Trustees have the responsibility to ensure an appropriate level of reserves, balancing the needs of our current students with the future financial sustainability of the Trust, guiding our financial planning so that we are progressing towards our target level of reserves. We have sought guidance as part of this review, and as the reserves policy should be useful, relevant and practical, have determined that the policy should no longer be limited to unrestricted reserves, as the use of all reserves will mostly be on restricted activities such as the fulfilment of educational provision.

Given the year to year fluctuations in financial performance, and the planned future growth of the Trust, it was

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

previously agreed that the Trust should target a range of reserves rather than a single figure. The Trust has therefore determined that total reserves should be between 5% and 10% of total income, with a requirement that unrestricted reserves must be positive.

Current free reserves are £7,107,635 which represent 15.2% of total income excluding donations of transfers from schools joining the Trust. Free reserves are temporarily higher than the target 5-10% of total income. In the coming year the Trust has planned for significant investment in capital assets and improvements in line with our property strategy which is expected to utilise free reserves above this level.

The reserves and additional capital funding such as School Condition Allocation (SCA) are held to finance future capital expenditure on the Trust's property and equipment for the benefit of students. In particular, there is continuing and planned expenditure on replacing part of roof at One Sixth Form College, the provision of a kitchen and associated catering requirements at Sunrise Academy, and the expansion of the SEND Unit provision at Exning Primary and Stanton Primary. There has been additional capital funding in the form of SCA for the first time, the expansion of the Trust and increase in schools gives an entitlement to receive annual SCA funding rather than applying for Condition Improvement Fund (CIF) for projects at individual schools.

b. Investment policy

The Trust recognises the need to obtain best value from all assets that it holds, including any cash balances that it may periodically hold.

This Trust's policy sets out how those balances will be invested in order to achieve best value whilst also ensuring adequate cash flow to enable the management of the day-to-day accounts.

The Trust does not place cash assets in stocks, shares, bonds or other such investment schemes. Cash assets will only be invested in accounts available through its normal bank, currently Lloyds Bank plc. Cash flow and investments shall be managed by the Trust finance team using the following principles:

- Current account balances earn interest which is aggregated across the Trust and then offset against the commission charges accrued producing a net surplus interest payment to the Trust.
- Cash Flow and Current account balances are regularly monitored to ensure immediate financial commitments can be met (payroll and creditor payment runs).
- The Trust will always seek to avoid its current account going overdrawn.
- In balancing risk and reward, will always seek to work with a strategy of minimising risk over maximising reward.

c. Principal risks and uncertainties

The key risks and uncertainties facing the Trust are documented in the risk register of the Trust. This register is regularly reviewed and contains mitigation measures to address or reduce the likelihood and/or impact of risks.

The top two risks on the Trust register at the end of the financial year along with the current mitigations are:

- Risk that Ofsted inspect and downgrade or are unable to find improvement in the grading of any aspects of the Trusts SEND provision, leading to reputational damage.

Mitigations:

- Quality procedures in place across the group
- Establishment of SEND Quality Board
- Schools plans in place and progress being tracked
- Group approach to Safeguarding

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

- The risk of unsuccessful cultural integration post-merger relating to the relationship with the SEND Provision Mitigations:
- EEGT and group committees integrated and operational
- Reporting integrated KPI's
- External support and internal mentoring in place
- Fast track of systems integration
- Regular site visits

Within the risk register, the Trust considers the Trustees' responsibilities to ensure the trust's estate is safe, well maintained and complies with relevant regulations. This is not considered a high risk for the Trust as there are very strong mitigations in place. These include regular condition survey of all sites, robust estates management team and software managing maintenance and repairs, and extensive capital improvement projects as detailed on page 17.

Fundraising

The Trust undertook no fundraising activities during the year.

Streamlined energy and carbon reporting

Greenhouse Gas (GHG) Emissions

In line with the Greenhouse Gas Protocol (GHG) Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard, Eastern Education Group Trust continues to be engaged in a process aimed at reducing our energy and greenhouse gas emissions.

Eastern Education Group Trust maintains scopes one (1) and two (2) and three (3) emissions, which includes electricity, gas, company-owned vehicles and business travel data (whereby mileage is claimed as a business expense via the college).

Eastern Education Group Trust previously devised a strategy to reduce our overall carbon footprint by:

- Encouraging employees to purchase renewable technology cars i.e., hybrid vehicles,
- Purchasing energy efficient equipment where appropriate in our offices,
- Adopting behavioural change measures where possible

Eastern Education Group Trust have a longstanding commitment to tackling climate change. Calculated carbon footprint for the current fiscal year is 514.17 tCO2e, whilst energy consumption was 3,935,527 kWh (3,935.53 MWh).

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

Methodology

Eastern Education Group Trust have reported all emission sources under the Companies Act 2006 (Strategic Report and Director's Reports) Regulations 2013 as required. Reporting of calculated emissions is in line with the GHG Protocol Corporate Accounting and Reporting Standard and emission factors from the UK Government's GHG Conversion Factors for Company Reporting 2025.

The reporting period is the financial year 2024/2025, the same as that covered by the Annual Report and Financial Statements. The boundaries of the GHG inventory are defined using the operational control approach. In general, the emissions reported are the same as those which would be reported based on a financial control boundary.

Our electricity usage is procured via a REGO (Renewable Energy Guarantees Origin), which means that it is from an auditable renewable source.

The academy trust's greenhouse gas emissions and energy consumption are as follows:

	2025	2024
Energy consumption used to calculate emissions (kWh)	3,935,527	2,830,319
Scope 1 - natural gas (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Gas consumption	498	343
Total scope 1	498	343
Scope 3 emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):		
Electricity T&D Business travel in employee-owned:	24	29
Total gross emissions (in tonnes of CO2 equivalent):	522	372
Intensity ratio:		
Tonnes of CO2 equivalent per pupil	0.13	0.11
	0.700	

The intensity metric is based on a total square meter figure of 33,700. Emissions have increased by 38% since the previous reporting period.

Measures taken to improve energy efficiency

- 1. Campus-wide efforts include six electric charging points, electric vehicles, solar panels, battery storage, LED upgrades, biomass and energy-efficient boilers
- 2. Continued LED upgrades and voltage optimisation across campus
- 3. Fleet transition towards low and zero-emission vehicles
- 4. Ongoing review of procurement policy to prioritise sustainable suppliers

Objectives for 2025 / 2026

- 1. Engage teaching and learning community with ESD (Education for Sustainable Development) and create an ESD baseline and action plan
- 2. Implement travel policy to reduce emissions from commuting to/from campus
- 3. Strengthen Scope 3 reporting (business travel and supply chain)
- 4. Deliver Green Skills Development Programme in partnership with Babergh and Mid Suffolk District Council
- 5. Set and implement target to reduce waste in the college by 50-75% and complete a single use plastics and takeaway container audit

Plans for future periods

The Trustees have developed a strategic plan for 2025-28, working in collaboration with the Trust sponsor, West Suffolk College, as Eastern Education Group. This document sets out the strategy for the years 2025/26 through to 2027/28.

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

The vision is to transform lives through the power of exceptional education, that ignites potential and drives prosperity for all.

The 4 strategic priorities are defined in the document as Our Learners, Our Team, Our Communities and Our Infrastructure. 2024/25 saw the merger with a specialist SEND academy trust, bringing five special schools into the Group, and also the addition of an academy conversion of a primary school. To further this vision, the Trust has merged post year end with another primary academy converter, increasing the number of schools in the Trust to nine.

Eastern Education Group we will also continue to build community connections to bridge education, business and community to create a thriving culture of opportunity, enhanced by our Al strategy and investment in cutting-edge technologies, enabling world class learning experiences.

Funds held as custodian on behalf of others

There are modest funds held by the Trust on behalf of the SWISS (South West Ipswich & South Suffolk) schools' partnership which will be fully disbursed in 2025/2026.

Disclosure of information to auditors

Insofar as the Trustees are aware:

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

The Trustees' Report was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on 11 December 2025 and signed on its behalf by:

Elton D'Souza Chair of Trustees

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT

Scope of responsibility

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

As Trustees, we have reviewed and taken account of the guidance in DfE's MAT Governance Guide.

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

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Trust Board met 6 times during the year, of which 3 were routine meetings and 3 were extraordinary meetings.

These meetings were held on:

- 12 December 2024
- 3 February 2025
- 7 March 2025
- 27 March 2025
- 2 June 2025, and
- 10 July 2025.

The Trust Board also met on 17 January 2025 and 19 May 2025 for its joint strategic conference.

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

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Alexandra Duffety	2	3
Chris Higgins	5	6
Chris Ridgeon	2	6
David Bicker	5	6
Deborah Wildridge	4	6
Elton D'Souza, Chair	6	6
Julia Wakelam	3	6
Karen Points	6	6
Martin Chatt	6	6
Neil Kellett	5	6
Richard Attwell	4	6
Richard Murray	2	6
Roger Inman	6	6
Sarah Healey Pearce	0	1
Sue Daley	5	6
Sue Snowdon	5	6

The Trust delegates responsibility to the Trust Board and its Committees, to the Chief Executive Officer and the Executive Team in respect of key aspects of the leadership and management of the Trust and its schools and colleges and to ensure compliance with legal, regulatory and statutory requirements.

The Trust Board conducts its business through a number of Committees. Each Committee has terms of reference, which have been approved by the Trust Board.

These Committees are:

- Primary Educational Excellence Committee
- SEND Educational Excellence Committee
- Post-16 Educational Excellence Committee
- Audit and Risk Management Committee
- Finance Committee
- Nominations and Governance Committee
- Remuneration Committee, and
- Resources Committee

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Full details of the delegation can be found in the Trust's Scheme of Delegation, Committee Terms of Reference, Financial Regulations, Governance Policies and Standing Orders.

Governance Reviews

In July 2025, the Trust Board reviewed its self-assessment of governance which reflected on its performance throughout 2024/25. This review was based on the DfE's Trust Quality Descriptors and considered the efficacy of both the Trust Board and its committees and included external assurance and feedback received from Ofsted. The review concluded that the governance is effective.

The Trust intends to carry out a self-assessment of governance in 2025/26.

Conflicts of interest

In July 2024, the Trust Board adopted and signed an updated collaboration agreement with its Sponsor to further clarify the relationship. The Trust Board has a detailed code of conduct with conflict of interest guidance, to support Trustees to continue to act in the best interest of the Trust.

All those in senior staff positions and involved in governance declare any conflicts of interests annually and upon any change of circumstance. The Governance Professional maintains the register of interests for the Trust, and the interests of those involved in governance is published on the Trust's website.

In the event of conflicts of interests relating to matters discussed at Trust Board and/or at Committee meetings, this conflict of interest is recorded in the minutes of the meeting and, in line with the Trust's code of conduct, the conflicted individual(s) absent themselves from the decision making.

The Trust's Financial Regulations deal with practical day-to-day administration of conflicts of interest by requiring any such conflicts to be considered as part of the procurement process.

The Finance Committee is a committee of the Trust Board. Its purpose is to formulate guidelines for and oversee the discharge of the Trust's responsibilities for the proper management of the finances of the Trust and its academies.

The Committee meets six times per year and reports to the Trust Board termly and ad hoc as required, this year the Committee met on:

- 6 November 2024
- 27 November 2024
- 5 February 2025
- 11 March 2025
- 11 May 2025, and
- 26 June 2025.

During the academic year, the Trust Board resolved to establish the Finance Committee as a joint Committee with West Suffolk College in furtherance of our shared strategy for the Eastern Education Group. Therefore, some members of the Committee (denoted with an *) are appointments of West Suffolk College, rather than Trust Board members.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Governance (continued)

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Alexandra Duffety	2	2
Chris Higgins	6	6
Chris Ridgeon	4	6
Deborah Wildridge	6	6
Elton D'Souza	4	6
Jenny Drake *	2	6
Karen Points	6	6
Martin Chatt	5	6
Richard Attwell	3	6
Sarah Healey Pearce	1	2

Additionally, to ensure the Trust Board maintains effective oversight of funds; all Trustees receive the monthly financial accounts and have full access to the detailed reports reviewed by the Finance Committee.

The Audit and Risk Management Committee is a committee of the Trust Board which reviews the effectiveness of the internal control environment and risk management arrangements providing timely advice to the Trust Board on areas within its remit. The Committee receives an annual report on the compliance of the Trust's data returns to the Department for Education and acts as the independent Committee able to consider related party transactions with the Trust's sponsor, West Suffolk College.

The Committee meets four times per year and reports to the Trust Board termly and ad hoc as required. This year the Committee held an additional extraordinary meeting and met on:

- 8 October 2024
- 19 November 2024
- 25 February 2025
- 17 June 2025, and
- 24 June 2025.

Attendance during the year at meetings was as follows:

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
David Bicker	5	5
Julia Wakelam	5	5
Paul Frazer-Gale	2	5
Richard Attwell	5	5
Richard Murray	2	2
Roger Inman	4	5

Additionally, to ensure the Trust Board maintains effective oversight of risk; all Trustees receive the risk register and have full access to the detailed reports reviewed by the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money

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

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

- delivering the curriculum under a Group staffing structure and recruiting optimum student numbers
- optimising allocation of staff time and centralising support services within the Group
- · taking a considered approach to investment in the building, infrastructure and IT
- applying the principles of the Trust's best value statement
- using a carefully considered reserves policy ensured that the longterm financial viability of the Trust is balanced with the needs of current students
- maintaining high quality outcomes with a positive financial performance.

Throughout 2024/25 the Trust continued to effectively and appropriately manage its finances centrally to achieve procurement benefits and to accurately forecast income and expenditure, enabling the Trust to align its reserves policy to the estates and infrastructure investment needs to ensure the Trust remains financially sustainable. The Trust also continued to effectively deliver central support services to the schools within the Trust.

The Trust also continued, as it has since its creation in 2015, to benefit from its close and mutually supportive, strategic alliance and collaboration with its sponsor organisation, West Suffolk College. The Trust and the College co ordinate regional education provision, through the Eastern Education Group, as complementary charitable, public benefit, non profit distributing educational institutions.

The collaboration between the Trust and the College provides value for money through being a uniquely purpose aligned, symbiotic relationship, within which the Trust receives a comprehensive package of support, including subsidy, shared services, at cost services and goods, enhanced and larger scale resources and added value benefits. The Trust also provides reciprocal benefits to the College.

The Trust Board independently determines that the collaborative arrangements with the College are in the best public benefit and value for money interests of the Trust, in general and as applicable, in relation to each separable element and keeps such determinations under review. The Public Contracts Regulations 2015 and the Trust's Procurement Policy are met through the unique nature, value and inter connectedness of the arrangements and/or particular competitive assessments to the extent any separable element may potentially be delivered more beneficially by a third party supplier.

Particular terms and conditions for the provision of particular services by the College to the Trust are agreed, between the two charitable educational institutions (with appropriate potential conflict of interest management), under the framework established by the over arching collaboration arrangements.

Under the Academies Trust Handbook, which sets out the conditions of the Trust's primary funding by the DfE, service provision by the College to the Trust formally constitutes a Related Party Transaction ("RPT") and such RPTs require prior DfE notification. This is a regulatory potential conflict of interest management safeguard.

Between the College and the Trust, as collaborative, charitable, public benefit, complementary educational institutions, there is a pre dominant common and co incidence of interest. Nevertheless, both parties need to be alert to the residual potential for a conflict of interest arising within the operational relationship.

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

Review of value for money (continued)

EEGT was successful in 2021/22 in obtaining DfE approval for RPTs submitted during the years 2022/23 – 2025/26.

Subsequent changes to DfE regulations mean that further approval will not be required in future years, but notification is still required.

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

Capacity to handle risk

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the academy trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the academy trust's significant risks that has been in place for the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 and up to the date of approval of the annual report and financial statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

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GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework

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

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

To improve transparency and control the Board of Trustees has decided to buy-in an internal audit service from Scrutton Bland

The use of a specialist internal audit service is considered beneficial to the Trust in terms of the level of independence and assurance provided in respect of the review of internal controls.

The internal auditor role includes giving advice on financial matters and performing a range of checks on the Trust's financial systems, internal control and identification, monitoring and management of risk. In particular, the checks carried out by Scrutton Bland in the current period included:

Cash, Electronic Payments, Income and Debtors

- Review controls in place
- Confirm debtor income is identified and recovered in a timely manner
- Significant assurance was provided
- One medium and one low level recommendation was made

Month End Procedures & Control Account Reconciliations

- Review timeliness, integrity and accuracy of financial records and transactions
- Significant assurance was provided
- One medium and two low level recommendations were made

Business Continuity / Disaster Recovery

- Review framework in place to identify and mitigate business continuity risks
- Significant assurance was provided
- Two medium and three low level recommendations were made

Artificial Intelligence (advisory audit)

- Advisory review of the groups approach to AI
- Six low risk recommendations were raised

Environmental and Social Responsibilities (advisory audit)

- Review Trusts approach to environmental and social responsibilities
- 17 areas were suggested for consideration. Scrutton Bland explained that the number of recommendations was positive as the group is further ahead with their plans than other organisations in the sector.

Maths and English

Review sixth form frameworks in place to ensure condition of funding is being complied with

GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)

The risk and control framework (continued)

significant assurance

Two medium recommendations and four low level recommendations were made

Follow up of audit recommendations

• Scrutton Bland confirmed that good progress had been made towards resolving audit recommendations

On a termly basis, the reviewer reports to the Board of Trustees through the Audit and Risk Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities. The internal auditor also provides an annual assessment based on its audit work of internal controls including an assessment of the Trust's risk management.

Scrutton Bland has delivered their schedule as planned and provided details of any material control issues arising as a result of the review along with recommendations of any remedial action required to rectify the issues. Work arising from the internal review reports and recommendations is managed using an internal audit tracking document to ensure necessary steps are taken in a timely manner. This is subject to the regular review of the Audit Committee.

Review of effectiveness

As accounting officer, the Chief Executive Officer 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 and external auditors
- the financial management and governance self-assessment process, including the review of management reports;
- the work of the executive managers within the academy trust who have responsibility for the development
- · and maintenance of the internal control framework;

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

Conclusion

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

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

Elton D'Souza Chair of Trustees

Date: 11 December 2025

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Dr Nikos SavvasAccounting Officer

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STATEMENT OF REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

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

Il 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.

Dr Nikos Savvas

Accounting Officer
Date: 11 December 2025

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Elton D'Souza Chair of Trustees

Date: 11 December 2025

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EASTERN EDUCATION GROUP TRUST

Opinion

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

In our opinion the financial statements:

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

Basis for opinion

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

Conclusions relating to going concern

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

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

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

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INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EASTERN EDUCATION GROUP TRUST (CONTINUED)

Other information

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

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

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

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

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

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

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

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

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EASTERN EDUCATION GROUP TRUST (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

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

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

Due to the field in which the Company operates, we identified the areas most likely to have a direct material impact on the financial statements as compliance with tax legislation, accounting standards and requirements, including Charities SORP (FRS 102) and the Academies Accounts Direction 2024 to 2025, the Companies Act 2006 and charity law. In addition, we considered the provisions of other laws and regulations which whilst not having a direct impact on the financial statements, are fundamental to the Company's ability to operate, including Academies Trust Handbook 2024, funding agreements, safeguarding requirements, health and safety; employment law, data protection and compliance with various other regulations relevant to the conduct of the Company's operations.

Our approach to identifying and assessing the risk of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non compliance with laws and regulations, included the following:

- Enquiries with management, the Accounting Officer and the Trustees about any known or suspected instances of non compliance with laws and regulations, accidents in the workplace, safeguarding breaches, data breaches, potential litigation or claims and fraud;
- Considering the conclusion of our assurance report on regularity to the Trust and the Education and Skills Funding Agency;
- Reviewing the Accounting Officer's Statement on Regularity, Propriety and Compliance;
- Review the findings of the Trust's internal scrutiny;
- Reviewing legal and professional fees to confirm matters where the Trust engaged lawyers during the year;
- Reviewing financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with applicable laws and regulations:
- Reviewing Board and Finance Committee minutes and any relevant correspondence with external authorities, including regulators;
- Challenging assumptions and judgements made by management in their significant accounting estimates, particularly around the actuarial assumptions used to estimate the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit obligation; and
- Auditing the risk of management override of controls, including through testing journal entries and other adjustments for appropriateness, and evaluating the business rationale of any significant transactions outside the normal course of business.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EASTERN EDUCATION GROUP TRUST (CONTINUED)

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

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

Use of our report

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

Larking Gowen LLP

Chartered Accountants Statutory Auditors Ipswich

Date: 12 December 2025

(A company limited by guarantee)

INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO EASTERN EDUCATION GROUP TRUST AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EDUCATION

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated 17 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 Eastern Education Group Trust during the year 1 September 2024 to 31 August 2025 have not been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Eastern Education Group 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 Eastern Education Group 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 Eastern Education Group Trust and the Secretary of State for Education, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Easter Education Group Trust's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Eastern Education Group Trust funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated 28 August 2015 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 year 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.

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by DfE, 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 our conclusion includes, but not limited to:

- Enquiry of senior management and the Trustees
- Review of the results of the Academy Trust's process of independent checking of financial controls, systems, transactions and risks
- Inspection and review of the accounting records, meeting minutes, internal control procedures, management representations and declarations of interest
- Testing compliance with the Trust's financial controls and
- Review of governance arrangements and certain transactions

Conclusion

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

Larking Gowen LLP Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

Date: 12 December 2025

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

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital						
grants:	3					
Transfer from local authority on conversion		1,221,063	(104,000)	3,635,000	4,752,063	_
Transfer of existing		1,221,003	(104,000)	3,033,000	4,732,003	
academies into the						
academy trust		2,517,073	653,249	25,277,747	28,448,069	-
Other donations and capital grants		22,786	18,795	1,529,394	1,570,975	101,167
Other trading activities	5	2,538,745	37,994	1,529,594	2,576,739	1,919,144
Investments	6	61,837	199,000	_	260,837	37,274
Charitable activities:	4	01,007	100,000		200,001	07,277
Academy trust	·					
educational operations		644,073	40,947,275	-	41,591,348	20,188,556
Provision of boarding						
activities	36	-	620,649	-	620,649	-
Total income		7,005,577	42,372,962	30,442,141	79,820,680	22,246,141
Expenditure on:						
Raising funds	7	9,756	1,213	-	10,969	8,243
Charitable activities	8	799,684	41,320,221	2,611,630	44,731,535	23,062,930
Provision of boarding activities	36	-	682,622	-	682,622	-
Total expenditure		809,440	42,004,056	2,611,630	45,425,126	23,071,173
Net income/(expenditure)		6,196,137	368,906	27,830,511	34,395,554	(825,032)
Transfers between funds	20	(2,588,095)	1,342,224	1,245,871	_	-
Net movement in funds before other recognised		()===,===,	,- ,	, -,-		
gains/(losses)		3,608,042	1,711,130	29,076,382	34,395,554	(825,032)
Other recognised gains/(losses): Actuarial losses on						
defined benefit pension schemes	29	-	(779,000)	-	(779,000)	(195,000)

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

N	Unrestricted funds 2025 ote £	funds 2025	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Net movement in funds	3,608,042	932,130	29,076,382	33,616,554	(1,020,032)
Reconciliation of funds:					
Total funds brought forward	2,334,470	232,857	57,515,375	60,082,702	61,102,734
Net movement in funds	3,608,042	932,130	29,076,382	33,616,554	(1,020,032)
Total funds carried forward	5,942,512	1,164,987	86,591,757	93,699,256	60,082,702

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

The notes on pages 42 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

(A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 09702333

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

	Note		2025 £		2024 £
Fixed assets					
Intangible assets	14		170,966		75,675
Tangible assets	15		85,508,994		58,151,231
			85,679,960		58,226,906
Current assets					
Stocks	16	13,925		4,461	
Debtors	17	1,950,073		<i>696,74</i> 3	
Cash at bank and in hand		11,204,749		5,078,058	
		13,168,747		5,779,262	
Current liabilities					
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	18	(4,509,451)		(3, 123, 466)	
Net current assets			8,659,296		2,655,796
Total assets less current liabilities			94,339,256		60,882,702
Creditors: amounts falling due after more than one year	19		(640,000)		(800,000)
Total net assets			93,699,256		60,082,702

(A company limited by guarantee) REGISTERED NUMBER: 09702333

BALANCE SHEET (CONTINUED) AS AT 31 AUGUST 2025

Funds of the academy trust	Note		2025 £		2024 £
Restricted funds:					
Fixed asset funds	20	86,591,757		57,515,375	
Restricted income funds	20	1,164,987		232,857	
Total restricted funds	20		87,756,744		57,748,232
Unrestricted income funds	20		5,942,512		2,334,470
Total funds			93,699,256		60,082,702

The financial statements on pages 37 to 80 were approved and authorised for issue by the Trustees and are signed on their behalf, by:

Elton D'Souza

Chair of Trustees

Date: 11 December 2025

The notes on pages 42 to 80 form part of these financial statements.

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2025

Nata	2025	2024
Note	£	£
22	6,035,620	1,185,875
24	171,071	(821,870)
23	(80,000)	(80,000)
	6,126,691	284,005
	5,078,058	4,794,053
25, 26	11,204,749	5,078,058
	24 23	Note £ 22 6,035,620 24 171,071 23 (80,000) 6,126,691 5,078,058

Net cash provided by operating activities includes cash transferred from new joiner schools to the Trust of £4,167,014.

The notes on pages 42 to 80 form part of these financial statements

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

1. Accounting policies

Eastern Education Group Trust is a private company limited by guarantee incorporated in England and Wales, registered number 09702333. The registered office is West Suffolk College, Out Risbyate, Bury St. Edmunds, IP33 3RL.

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

1.1 Basis of preparation of financial statements

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

Eastern Education Group Trust meets the definition of a public benefit entity under FRS 102.

The financial statements are presented in Sterling (£) and rounded to the nearest £.

1.2 Going concern

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

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income

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

Grants

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

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

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

• Sponsorship income

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

Donations

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

Other income

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

Donated goods, facilities and services

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 'Stocks' 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'.

Transfer on conversion

The assets and liabilities transferred on conversion from One Six Form College to the Trust were valued on either the basis of depreciated replacement value (long leased buildings) or their fair value (all other assets).

On conversion, the Trust entered into a leasehold agreement with West Suffolk College for the land. A sum of £1.6m is being paid to West Suffolk College at £80,000 per year for the first 10 years

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.3 Income (continued)

and £160,000 for 5 years following enacting clause at break period and thereafter a peppercorn rent sum of £1 for 105 years. To reflect the substance of this transaction, the Trust accounted for the full £1.6m on transfer, with subsequent payments reducing the liability.

Transfer of existing academies into the academy trust

Where assets and liabilities are received on the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust, the transferred assets are measured at fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet at the point when the risks and rewards of ownership pass to the academy trust. An equal amount of income is recognised for the transfer of an existing academy into the academy trust within 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' to the net assets acquired.

Donated fixed assets (excluding transfers on conversion or into the academy trust)

Where the donated good is a fixed asset it is measured at fair value, unless it is impractical to measure this reliably, in which case the cost of the item to the donor should be used. The gain is recognised as 'Income from Donations and Capital Grants' and a corresponding amount is included in the appropriate fixed asset category and depreciated over the useful economic life in accordance with the academy trust's accounting policies.

The Abbeygate Sixth Form College leasehold property was included in 2021 at £32.48m using the DfE's Depreciated Replacement Cost (DRC) valuation.

1.4 Expenditure

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

• 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.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 Interest receivable

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

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 Taxation

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

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

1.7 Intangible assets

Intangible assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised and recognised when future economic benefits are probable and the cost or value of the asset can be measured reliably.

Intangible assets are initially recognised at cost and are subsequently measured at cost net of amortisation and any provision for impairment.

Amortisation is provided on intangible assets at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life.

Amortisation is provided on the following basis:

Purchased computer software - 25 %

1.8 Tangible fixed assets

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

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

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

Accounting policies (continued)

1.8 Tangible fixed assets (continued)

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

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Freehold buildings - 50 years
Fixture, fittings & equipment - 10 years
Plant and machinery - 10 years
Computer hardware - 4 years
Motor vehicles - 5 years

Assets in the course of construction are included at cost. Depreciation on these assets is not charged until they are brought into use.

Long-term leasehold land is depreciated over the remaining life of the lease on a straight line basis over a 125 year period.

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.

1.9 Stocks

Unsold art supplies are valued at the lower of cost and net realisable value.

1.10 Debtors

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

1.11 Cash at bank and in hand

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

1.12 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.

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

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.13 Provisions

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

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

1.14 Financial instruments

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

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 17. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

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

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in notes 18 and 19. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

1.15 Leased Assets

Leasing agreements, which transfer to the academy trust substantially all the risks and rewards incidental to ownership of an asset, are treated as finance leases.

Assets held under finance leases are recognised initially at the fair value of the leased asset or, if lower, the present value of minimum lease payments as determined at the inception of the lease. The corresponding liability to the lessor is included in the balance sheet as a finance lease obligation. Assets held under finance leases are included in tangible fixed assets and depreciated over the shorter of the lease term and the estimated useful economic life of the asset and assessed for impairment losses in the same way as for owned assets.

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

Accounting policies (continued)

1.16 Pensions

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

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

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

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

1.17 Agency arrangements

The academy trust acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from DfE. Payments received from DfE and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the statement of financial activities as the Trust does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Trust can use 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 34.

1.18 Fund accounting

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

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

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

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

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

2. Critical accounting estimates and areas of judgment

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

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The academy 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 29, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2022 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2025. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgment:

There is significant judgements needed in assessing whether any LGPS surplus should be recognised as a pension asset or whether the surplus should be restricted to some level or in total. FRS 102 section 28.22 states a plan surplus can be recognised only to the extent an entity is able to recover the surplus, either through reduced contributions in the future, or through refunds from the scheme. The impact of this assessment is that no scheme surplus has been recognised as a pension asset at the balance sheet date.

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

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025 £
Transfer from local authority on conversion Transfer of existing academies into the	1,221,063	(104,000)	3,635,000	4,752,063
academy trust	2,517,073	653,249	25,277,747	28,448,069
	3,738,136	549,249	28,912,747	33,200,132
Donations	22,786	7,465	-	30,251
Devolved Formula Capital	-	-	280,857	280,857
Other Grants	-	11,330	1,248,537	1,259,867
	3,760,922	568,044	30,442,141	34,771,107
			Restricted	
		Restricted	fixed asset	Total
		funds 2024	funds 2024	funds 2024
		£024	£024	£ 2024
Donations		21,728	-	21,728
Devolved Formula Capital		-	76,074	76,074
Other Grants		3,365	-	3,365
		25,093	76,074	101,167

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

4. Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities

Academy's educational operations	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
DfE grants			
General Annual Grant	-	26,834,192	26,834,192
Other DfE grants			
Rates Relief	-	232,010	232,010
Teachers' Pay Grant	-	277,335	277,335
Teachers' Pension Grant	-	1,624,609	1,624,609
Pupil premium	-	354,723	354,723
Universal Infant FSM	-	38,226	38,226
PE & Sports grant	-	72,677	72,677
	-	29,433,772	29,433,772
Other Government grants			
SEN Element 3	-	1,386,721	1,386,721
SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance	-	9,235	9,235
Other	-	2,390,435	2,390,435
Local authority SEN funding	-	7,662,772	7,662,772
Other income from the academy trust's academy's	-	11,449,163	11,449,163
educational operations Additional funding (DfE)	644,073	2,000	646,073
Academies Tuition Funding	-	592	592
Other DfE	-	61,748	61,748
		62,340	62,340
Total 2025	644,073	40,947,275	41,591,348

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

4. Funding for the academy trust's charitable activities (continued)

Other DfE grants Post Opening Grant	Academy's educational operations	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Other DfE grants Post Opening Grant	DfE grants			
Post Opening Grant - 100,000 100,000 Rates Relief - 225,276 225,276 Teachers' Pension Grant - 791,587 791,587 Other Government grants SEN Element 3 - 955,200 955,200 SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,430 Other - 168,730 168,730 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)	General Annual Grant	-	17,477,921	17,477,921
Rates Relief - 225,276 225,276 Teachers' Pension Grant - 791,587 791,587 Other Government grants SEN Element 3 - 955,200 955,200 SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,430 Other - 168,730 168,730 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)	Other DfE grants			
Teachers' Pension Grant - 791,587 791,588 - 18,594,784 18,594,784 Other Government grants SEN Element 3 - 955,200 955,200 SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,439 Other - 168,730 168,730 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)	Post Opening Grant	-	100,000	100,000
Other Government grants SEN Element 3 - 955,200 955,200 SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,430 Other - 168,730 168,730 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)	Rates Relief	-	225,276	225,276
Other Government grants SEN Element 3 - 955,200 955,200 SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,439 Other - 168,730 168,730 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE) 305,385 - 305,385	Teachers' Pension Grant	-	791,587	791,587
SEN Element 3 - 955,200 955,200 SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,430 Other - 168,730 168,730 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)			18,594,784	18,594,784
SCC Reimbursement LGPS insurance - 5,439 5,439 Other - 168,730 168,73 - 1,129,369 1,129,369 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE) 305,385 - 305,385	_			
Other - 168,730 168,730 - 1,129,369 1,129,369 Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)		-	•	955,200
Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)		-	•	<i>5,4</i> 39
Other income from the academy trust's academy's educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)	Other	-	168,730	168,730
educational operations 305,385 - 305,385 Additional funding (DfE)	Other transport from the real famous transitions and famous to	-	1,129,369	1,129,369
Additional funding (DfE)		305 385	_	305 385
		333,333		300,000
,		_	111.478	111,478
Other DfE - 47,540 47,54	<u> </u>	-	-	47,540
- 159,018 159,01			159,018	159,018
	Total 2024	305,385		20,188,556

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

5. Income from other trading activities

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025	Total funds 2025 £
Hire of Facilities	416,798	-	416,798
Items Sold	20,498	-	20,498
Curriculum Bids	-	800	800
ONE Bus	427,901	-	427,901
Abbeygate Bus	31,009	-	31,009
Exam Resits	31,544	-	31,544
Insurance Claim	-	15,308	15,308
Other schools - services provided	27,838	21,886	49,724
WSC support services	1,215,091	-	1,215,091
Other	368,066	-	368,066
	2,538,745	37,994	2,576,739
	Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Restricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Hire of Facilities	418,892	_	418,892
Items Sold	12,958	_	12,958
Curriculum Bids	-	5,313	5,313
ONE Bus	250,491	-	250,491
Exam Resits	10,076	-	10,076
Insurance claim	-	47,762	47,762
Other schools - services provided	49,846	23,348	73,194
WSC support services	1,100,458	-	1,100,458
	1,842,721	76,423	1,919,144

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

6.	Investment income
U.	

	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Total funds 2025 £
Bank interest	61,837	-	61,837
Pension income	-	199,000	199,000
	61,837	199,000	260,837
		Unrestricted funds 2024 £	Total funds 2024 £
Bank interest Pension income		31,274 6,000	31,274 6,000
		37,274	37,274

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2025 £	Premises 2025 £	Other 2025 £	Total 2025 £
Expenditure on raising voluntary income:				
Direct costs Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:	-	-	1,213	1,213
Allocated support costs Academy's educational operations:	-	-	9,756	9,756
Direct costs	26,719,938	2,668,205	4,051,673	33,439,816
Allocated support costs Boarding activities:	6,715,136	2,190,382	2,386,201	11,291,719
Direct costs	477,322	-	15,202	492,524
Allocated support costs	104,292	-	85,806	190,098
	34,016,688	4,858,587	6,549,851	45,425,126

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

7.	Expenditure	(continued)
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Academy's educational operations

8.

	Staff Costs 2024 £	Premises 2024 £	Other 2024 £	Total 2024 £
Expenditure on fundraising trading activities:				
Allocated support costs Academy's educational operations:	-	-	8,243	8,243
Direct costs	12,877,879	1,859,611	1,844,526	16,582,016
Allocated support costs	3,345,080	2,575,281	560,553	6,480,914
	16,222,959	4,434,892	2,413,322	23,071,173
Analysis of expenditure by activities				
		Activities undertaken directly	Support costs	Total
		2025 £	2025 £	funds 2025 £

Activities undertaken

directly

16,582,016

2024

Support

6,480,914

costs

2024

£

Total

funds

2024 £

23,062,930

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

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Total funds 2025 £	Total funds 2024 £
Staff costs	6,715,136	3,345,080
Staff recruitment and other costs	91,196	49,429
Catering	293,305	-
Technology	584,553	323,521
Minibus and travel	700,005	497,887
Rent, rates and utilities	926,956	716,016
Maintenance of property	943,314	614,027
Cleaning	254,005	360,384
Administration	319,731	<i>243,098</i>
Insurance	97,833	63,551
Legal fees	316,755	242,472
Governance costs	48,930	25,449
	11,291,719	6,480,914

9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

Operating lease rentals	106,840	108,060
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets Amortisation of intangible assets	2,574,177 37,421	1,835,510 24,101
Fees paid to auditors for: - Audit	25,200	17,670
- Other services	5,850	4,135

2024

2025

£

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

10. Staff

a. Staff costs and employee benefits

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2025	2024
	£	£
Wages and salaries	24,313,167	11,246,991
Social security costs	2,622,323	1,092,445
Pension costs	5,107,116	2,359,033
Other employee benefits	91,458	41,395
	32,134,064	14,739,864
Agency staff costs	1,882,760	1,483,095
	34,016,824	16,222,959

b. Severance payments

The academy trust paid 4 severance payments in the year (2024 - 2), disclosed in the following bands:

	2025 No.	2024 No.
£0 - £25,000	3	2
£25,001 - £50,000	1	-

c. Staff numbers

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
Teachers	298	169
Administration and support	542	191
Management	7	4
	847	364

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

10. Staff (continued)

d. Higher paid staff

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

	2025 No.	2024 No.
In the band £60,001 - £70,000	11	2
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	8	2
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	3	2
In the band £90,001 - £100,000	3	1
In the band £120,001 - £130,000	1	-
In the band £140,001 - £150,000	1	-

e. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the academy trust comprise the Trustees and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of 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 £822,516 (2024 - £564,119).

11. Central services

No central services were provided by the academy trust to its academies during the year and no central charges arose.

12. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

During the previous year, one trustee was paid remuneration or received other benefits from an employment with the academy trust. The value of trustee remuneration and other benefits was as follows:

N Savvas (Chief Executive Officer and Trustee - resigned as Trustee 31 August 2024):

Remuneration £nil (2024: £70,000 - £80,000)

Employer's pension contributions paid £nil (2024 - £15,000 - £20,000)

During the year ended 31 August 2025, travel expenses totalling £715 were reimbursed to 1 Trustee (2024: Nil).

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

13. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

In accordance with normal commercial practice, the academy trust has purchased insurance to protect Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business. The insurance provides cover up to £1,000,000 on any one claim and the cost for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £2,264 (2024 - £2,125). The cost of this insurance is included in the total insurance cost.

14. Intangible assets

	Computer software £
Cost	
At 1 September 2024	138,314
Additions	132,712
At 31 August 2025	271,026
Amortisation	
At 1 September 2024	62,639
Charge for the year	37,421
At 31 August 2025	100,060
Net book value	
At 31 August 2025	170,966
At 31 August 2024	75,675

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

15. Tangible fixed assets

Long-term leasehold property £	Short-term leasehold property £	Assets under construction £	Furniture and equipment £	Plant and machinery £	Computer equipment £	Motor vehicles £	Total £
63,479,999	99,618	-	500,282	1,995,726	2,645,108	43,812	68,764,545
38,772	240,714	493,845	53,786	143,004	308,347	8,980	1,287,448
27,848,824	-	-	89,565	524,559	159,690	21,854	28,644,492
91,367,595	340,332	493,845	643,633	2,663,289	3,113,145	74,646	98,696,485
7,756,031	30,379	-	225,265	400,010	2,188,771	12,858	10,613,314
1,778,846	16,347	-	94,686	323,899	346,981	13,418	2,574,177
9,534,877	46,726	-	319,951	723,909	2,535,752	26,276	13,187,491
81,832,718	293,606	493,845	323,682	1,939,380	577,393	48,370	85,508,994
55,723,968	69,239	-	275,017	1,595,716	456,337	30,954	58,151,231
	leasehold property £ 63,479,999 38,772 27,848,824 91,367,595 7,756,031 1,778,846 9,534,877	leasehold property £ 63,479,999 99,618 38,772 240,714 27,848,824 - 91,367,595 340,332 7,756,031 30,379 1,778,846 16,347 9,534,877 46,726	leasehold property construction £ £ £ £ £ £ 63,479,999 99,618 - 38,772 240,714 493,845 27,848,824 91,367,595 340,332 493,845 - 9,534,877 46,726 81,832,718 293,606 493,845	leasehold property leasehold property under £ and equipment £ 63,479,999 99,618 - 500,282 38,772 240,714 493,845 53,786 27,848,824 - - 89,565 91,367,595 340,332 493,845 643,633 7,756,031 30,379 - 225,265 1,778,846 16,347 - 94,686 9,534,877 46,726 - 319,951 81,832,718 293,606 493,845 323,682	leasehold property leasehold property under £ and equipment £ Plant and machinery £ 63,479,999 99,618 - 500,282 1,995,726 38,772 240,714 493,845 53,786 143,004 27,848,824 - - 89,565 524,559 91,367,595 340,332 493,845 643,633 2,663,289 7,756,031 30,379 - 225,265 400,010 1,778,846 16,347 - 94,686 323,899 9,534,877 46,726 - 319,951 723,909 81,832,718 293,606 493,845 323,682 1,939,380	leasehold property leasehold property leasehold fe under equipment fe and equipment fe Plant and machinery fe Computer equipment fe 63,479,999 99,618 - 500,282 1,995,726 2,645,108 38,772 240,714 493,845 53,786 143,004 308,347 27,848,824 - - 89,565 524,559 159,690 91,367,595 340,332 493,845 643,633 2,663,289 3,113,145 7,756,031 30,379 - 225,265 400,010 2,188,771 1,778,846 16,347 - 94,686 323,899 346,981 9,534,877 46,726 - 319,951 723,909 2,535,752 81,832,718 293,606 493,845 323,682 1,939,380 577,393	leasehold property leasehold property leasehold fe under struction fe and equipment fe Plant and machinery fe Computer equipment fe Motor vehicles fe 63,479,999 99,618 - 500,282 1,995,726 2,645,108 43,812 38,772 240,714 493,845 53,786 143,004 308,347 8,980 27,848,824 - - 89,565 524,559 159,690 21,854 91,367,595 340,332 493,845 643,633 2,663,289 3,113,145 74,646 7,756,031 30,379 - 225,265 400,010 2,188,771 12,858 1,778,846 16,347 - 94,686 323,899 346,981 13,418 9,534,877 46,726 - 319,951 723,909 2,535,752 26,276 81,832,718 293,606 493,845 323,682 1,939,380 577,393 48,370

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

	Stocks		
		2025	2024
	And accounting	£	£
	Art supplies	13,925	4,461
17.	Debtors		
		2025 £	2024 £
	Due within an area	4	2
	Due within one year Trade debtors	116,943	70 240
	Other debtors	553,761	<i>7</i> 2,318 168,960
	Prepayments and accrued income	1,279,369	455,465
	r repayments and accraca meetic		400,400
		1,950,073	696,743
18.	Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year	2025 £	2024
			£
	Other creditors - Ioan		£ 80,000
	Other creditors - Ioan Trade creditors	160,000	80,000
	Trade creditors		
		160,000	80,000 409,689
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests	160,000 355,696 -	80,000 409,689 470,854
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security	160,000 355,696 - 585,850	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security Other creditors	160,000 355,696 - 585,850 1,577,504	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022 1,132,462
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security Other creditors	160,000 355,696 - 585,850 1,577,504 1,830,401 4,509,451	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022 1,132,462 781,439 3,123,466
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security Other creditors	160,000 355,696 - 585,850 1,577,504 1,830,401 - 4,509,451	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022 1,132,462 781,439 3,123,466
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income Deferred income at 1 September 2024	160,000 355,696 - 585,850 1,577,504 1,830,401 	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022 1,132,462 781,439 3,123,466 2024 £
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income Deferred income at 1 September 2024 Resources deferred during the year	160,000 355,696 - 585,850 1,577,504 1,830,401 - 4,509,451 - 2025 £ 83,789 5,773	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022 1,132,462 781,439 3,123,466 2024 £ 52,534 83,789
	Trade creditors Amounts owed to other participating interests Other taxation and social security Other creditors Accruals and deferred income Deferred income at 1 September 2024	160,000 355,696 - 585,850 1,577,504 1,830,401 	80,000 409,689 470,854 249,022 1,132,462 781,439 3,123,466 2024 £

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

19. Creditors: Amounts falling due after more than one year

2025 2024 £ £ 640,000 800,000

Other creditors - loan

Included within other creditors - loan, is a debt of £800,000 which is the balance of the rental payments due to West Suffolk College of which £160,000 is included within creditors within one year and £640,000 included in creditors due after more than one year. This is due to be repaid at £160,000 per year over a term of 4 years. There is no interest due on either of the amounts referred to above.

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

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	2,334,470	7,005,577	(809,440)	(2,588,095)		5,942,512
Restricted general funds						
General Annual		00 007 004	(00.000.005)	4 000 054		4 404 007
Grant (GAG) Rates	-	26,207,801	(26,323,065)	1,280,251	-	1,164,987
SEN element 3	_	232,010 1,386,721	(232,010) (1,386,721)	-	-	-
Other restricted	232,857	4,266,065	(4,498,922)	_	_	_
Teachers pay and pension grant	,	1,901,944	(1,901,944)	_	_	_
Local authority		1,501,544	(1,301,344)			
SEN funding	-	7,662,772	(7,662,772)	-	-	-
Provision for			(222 222)			
boarding	-	620,649	(682,622)	61,973	(770,000)	-
Pension reserve	-	95,000	684,000	-	(779,000)	-
	232,857	42,372,962	(42,004,056)	1,342,224	(779,000)	1,164,987
Restricted fixed asset funds	ı					
Transfer on conversion	24,851,033	24,658,400	(1,101,627)	80,000	-	48,487,806
DfE Group capital grants Capital	242,858	3,834,935	(267,462)	204,804	-	4,015,135
expenditure	2.052.777		(474.049)	064 067		2 520 026
from GAG Donated assets	2,053,777	-	(474,918) (609,054)	961,067	-	2,539,926
Other restricted	30,129,446	-	(609,054)	-	-	29,520,392
funds	235,321	957,197	(105,641)	-	-	1,086,877
Unrestricted funds	2,940	14,293	(1,429)	-	-	15,804

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

20. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Local authority capital grants	-	977,316	(51,499)	-	-	925,817
	57,515,375	30,442,141	(2,611,630)	1,245,871	-	86,591,757
Total Restricted funds	57,748,232	72,815,103	(44,615,686)	2,588,095	(779,000)	87,756,744
	Balance at 1 September 2024 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2025 £
Total funds	60,082,702	79,820,680	(45,425,126)	-	(779,000)	93,699,256

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

General Annual Grant (GAG) and other restricted funds are for the operational activities of the schools.

Local Authority SEN Funding: The academy trust receives a significant proportion of its funding direct from the Local Authority in the way of additional place and provision funding; High Tariff Needs Funding and other bespoke commissions. The grants are restricted to be expended for the delivery of free education and to support the running costs of the academy trust.

The pension reserve represents the Trust's defined benefit pension scheme liability.

The restricted fixed asset fund represents the net book value of fixed assets held by the Trust and unspent capital funding received to carry out works of a capital nature and after adjusting for the outstanding loan to West Suffolk College.

The transfer of £1,245,871 represents the purchase of fixed assets from revenue funds (GAG). Included in these figures is a transfer of £80,000 from Restricted GAG fund to the Fixed Asset Fund which reflects the leasehold payment for the One Sixth Form College site.

A transfer of £1,118,378 was made from unrestricted funds to restricted GAG to support the fund deficit. A further transfer of £1,469,717 was made from unrestricted funds to restricted GAG, representing costs recharged to WSC.

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

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

20. Statement of funds (continued)

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

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Unrestricted funds						
Unrestricted funds	1,765,903	2,185,380	(357,286)	(1,259,527)		2,334,470
Restricted general funds						
General Annual Grant (GAG)	_	17,577,921	(17,741,815)	163,894	_	_
Rates	167	225,276	(225,443)	-	_	_
SEN element 3	142	955,200	(955,342)	_	_	_
Other restricted	900,266	432,476	(397,171)	(702,714)	_	232,857
Teachers pay and pension	000,200					202,007
grant	-	793,814	(796,506)	2,692	-	-
Pension reserve	-	-	(738,000)	933,000	(195,000)	-
	900,575	19,984,687	(20,854,277)	396,872	(195,000)	232,857
Restricted fixed asset funds						
Transfer on conversion	25,398,383	-	(627,350)	80,000	-	24,851,033
DfE Group capital grants Capital	420,655	76,074	(253,871)	-	-	242,858
expenditure						
from GAG	1,639,494	-	(368,372)	782,655	-	2,053,777
Donated assets	30,738,500	-	(609,054)	-	-	30,129,446
Other restricted funds	235,569	-	(248)	-	-	235,321
Unrestricted funds	3,655	-	(715)	-	-	2,940
	58,436,256	76,074	(1,859,610)	862,655	-	57,515,375
	<u></u>					

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

20. Statement of funds (continued)

	Balance at 1 September 2023 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers in/out £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2024 £
Total Restricted funds	59,336,831	20,060,761	(22,713,887)	1,259,527	(195,000)	57,748,232
Total funds	61,102,734	22,246,141	(23,071,173)	-	(195,000)	60,082,702

Total funds analysis by academy

Fund balances for each academy at 31 August 2025 and 31 August 2024 were zero, hence a breakdown by academy is not included in these accounts.

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

20. Statement of funds (continued)

Total cost analysis by academy

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs £		Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2025 £
Abbeygate Sixth Form College	3,320,578	198,739	672,326	967,288	5,158,931
Chalk Hill	775,439	130,237	2,587	85,291	993,554
Duke of Lancaster School	1,868,795	371,223	104,732	390,086	2,734,836
Exning Primary School	1,081,986	524,491	89,032	224,408	1,919,917
One Sixth Form College	8,976,140	468,776	1,023,437	2,308,762	12,777,115
Priory School	3,737,030	430,731	50,247	602,166	4,820,174
Stone Lodge Academy	2,731,215	382,508	54,748	228,503	3,396,974
Sunrise Academy	989,497	297,105	205,331	216,709	1,708,642
Central services	3,729,414	3,983,106	221,460	1,369,405	9,303,385
Academy trust	27,210,094	6,786,916	2,423,900	6,392,618	42,813,528

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

	Teaching and educational support staff costs £	Other support staff costs	Educational supplies £	Other costs excluding depreciation £	Total 2024 £
Abbeygate	2,905,580	170,118	497,760	885,285	4,458,743
Suffolk One	7,632,253	357,534	1,023,956	1,896,091	10,909,834
Central services	2,298,651	2,817,428	6,261	720,646	5,842,986
Academy trust	12,836,484	3,345,080	1,527,977	3,502,022	21,211,563

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

21. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

Analysis of fiet assets between fullus - cu	Unrestricted funds 2025 £	Restricted funds 2025 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2025	Total funds 2025 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	85,508,994	85,508,994
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	170,966	170,966
Current assets	6,985,595	4,471,355	1,711,797	13,168,747
Creditors due within one year	(1,043,083)	(3,306,368)	(160,000)	(4,509,451)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(640,000)	(640,000)
Total	5,942,512	1,164,987	86,591,757	93,699,256
Analysis of net assets between funds - pri	or year			
	Unrestricted	Restricted	Restricted fixed asset	Total

			Restricted	
	Unrestricted	Restricted	fixed asset	Total
	funds	funds	funds	funds
	2024	2024	2024	2024
	£	£	£	£
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	58,151,231	58,151,231
Intangible fixed assets	-	-	75,675	75,675
Current assets	3,084,691	2,526,102	168, 4 69	5,779,262
Creditors due within one year	(750,221)	(2,293,245)	(80,000)	(3, 123, 466)
Creditors due in more than one year	-	-	(800,000)	(800,000)
Total	2,334,470	232,857	57,515,375	60,082,702

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

22.	Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operation	ating activities	
		2025 £	2024 £
	Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	34,395,554	(825,032)
	Adjustments for:		
	Amortisation	37,421	24,101
	Depreciation	2,574,177	1,835,510
	Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(1,529,394)	(76,074)
	Interest receivable	(61,837)	(37,274)
	Defined benefit pension scheme deficit inherited	104,000	-
	Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	(684,000)	(189,000)
	Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	(199,000)	(6,000)
	(Increase)/decrease in stocks	(9,464)	435
	Increase in debtors	(1,253,330)	(200,755)
	Increase in creditors	1,305,985	659,964
	Donated assets	(28,644,492)	-
	Net cash provided by operating activities	6,035,620	1,185,875
23.	Cash flows from financing activities		
		2025	2024
	Repayments of borrowing	£ (80,000)	£ (80,000)
	Net cash used in financing activities	(80,000)	(80,000)
24.	Cash flows from investing activities		
		2025 £	2024 £
	Dividends, interest and rents from investments	61,837	37,274
	Purchase of intangible assets	(132,712)	(62,800)
	Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(1,287,448)	(872,418)
	Capital grants from DfE Group	1,529,394	76,074
	Net cash provided by/(used in) investing activities	171,071	(821,870)

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

25.	Analysis of	cash and	l cash equivalent	S

	2025 £	2024 £
Cash in hand and at bank	11,204,749	5,078,058
Total cash and cash equivalents	11,204,749	5,078,058

26. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2024 £	Cash flows £	Other non- cash changes £	At 31 August 2025 £
Cash at bank and in hand Debt due within 1 year Debt due after 1 year	5,078,058 (80,000) (800,000)	6,126,691 80,000 -	- (160,000) 160,000	11,204,749 (160,000) (640,000)
	4,198,058	6,206,691		10,404,749

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

27. Conversion to an academy trust

On 1 September 2024 Exning Primary School converted to academy trust status under the Academies Act 2010 and all the operations and assets and liabilities were transferred to Eastern Education Group Trust from Suffolk County Council for £NIL consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet under the appropriate heading with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as Income from Donations and Capital Grants - transfer from local authority on conversion.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of Financial Activities.

		Unrestricted funds £	Total funds £
	Tangible fixed assets	~	~
	Freehold land and buildings	3,635,000	3,635,000
	Current assets		
	Cash - representing budget surplus on LA funds	993,000	993,000
	Cash - representing budget surplus on other school funds	228,063	228,063
	Pensions - pension scheme liabilities	(104,000)	(104,000)
	Net assets	4,752,063	4,752,063
28.	Capital commitments		
		2025 £	2024 £
	Contracted for but not provided in these financial statements		
	Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	141,262	-

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

29. Pension commitments

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

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

Contributions amounting to £629,072 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2025 (2024 - £299,217) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

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

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

- employer contribution rates are currently 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 valuation result was implemented from 1 April 2024. The next valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2027.

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

29. Pension commitments (continued)

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £3,274,116 (2024 - £1,615,033).

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

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

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2025 was £3,189,000 (2024 - £1,230,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £2,517,000 (2024 - £933,000) and employees' contributions totalled £672,000 (2024 - £297,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 21.9 per cent for employers and variable per cent for employees.

As described in note 27 the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the academy trust, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the academy trust at the balance sheet date.

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

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2025	2024
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.7	3.65
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.7	2.65
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	6.1	5.00

The Trust operates two defined benefit pension schemes, one in Suffolk and the other in Norfolk. The scheme in Norfolk applies to one primary school, Duke of Lancaster, and this scheme does not have materially different underlying assumptions from those of the Suffolk scheme. Given this, and that the majority of the Trust's schools are within the Suffolk scheme, it is the Suffolk scheme's assumptions that are disclosed in these financial statements. The following disclosures on the Trust's pension assets, liabilities, and amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities relate to the two schemes combined.

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

29. Pension commitments (continued)

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

	2025 Years	2024 Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.7	21.4
Females	24.2	23.8
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.3	21.4
Females	<u> </u>	25.6
Sensitivity analysis		
	2025 £000	2024 £000
Discount rate +0.1%	435	225
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	696	339
CPI rate -0.1%	434	222
Salary rate +0.1%	15	7

Share of scheme assets

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

Au	At 31 gust 2025 £	At 31 August 2024 £
Equities 18,007	,260	6,016,400
Corporate bonds 7,403	,460	2,499,120
Property 2,564	,220	647,920
Cash and other liquid assets 302	,060	92,560
Total market value of assets 28,277	,000	9,256,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £1,811,000 (2024 - £563,000).

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

29. Pension commitments (continued)

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

Interest income 1,249,000 400	
	,000)
Interest cost (1,050,000) (394	1,000) 3,000)
	,000)
Total amount recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities (1,634,000) (738	
Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follows:	
2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September 8,484,000 7,086	,000
Conversion of academy trusts 589,000	-
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust 10,847,000	-
Current service cost 1,833,000 744	1,000
Interest cost 1,050,000 394	1,000
Employee contributions 672,000 297	7,000
Actuarial (gains)/losses (5,440,000) 12	2,000
Benefits paid (295,000) (49),000)
At 31 August 17,740,000 8,484	!,000
Changes in the fair value of the academy trust's share of scheme assets were as follows:	
2025 £	2024 £
At 1 September 9,256,000 7,112	,000
Conversion of academy trusts 485,000	-
Transferred in on existing academies joining the trust 13,831,000	-
Interest income 1,249,000 400	,000
Actuarial gains 562,000 563	3,000
Employer contributions 2,517,000 933	3,000
Employee contributions 672,000 297	7,000
Benefits paid (295,000) (49),000)
At 31 August 28,277,000 9,256	,000

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

29. Pension commitments (continued)

The actuarial valuation on the plan for accounting purposes showed a plan surplus of £10,537,000 (2024 - £772,000) at 31 August 2025, being the excess of scheme assets over the defined benefit obligation. A plan surplus is recognised in the financial statements as a defined benefit plan asset, only to the extent that the Trust can recover the asset either through reduced contributions in the future or refunds from the plan. The Trust notes advice from the Scheme Actuary that the prevailing view held by LGPS practitioners is that employers have no unconditional right to a refund in the LGPS and that a minimum funding requirement for future service exists in the LGPS.

In a prior period the Trust commissioned the Scheme Actuary to report on factors relevant to how much of an asset should be recognised. The conclusion was that the asset was not recoverable and therefore was capped at £Nil on the balance sheet. Consistent with that, the 2025 LGPS plan asset is also restricted to £Nil in these accounts.

The pension surplus for SENDAT upon transfer to EEGT was £2,984,000; however in line with the pension accounting policy, this has been bought in at £nil value, as the net asset has been capped.

30. Operating lease commitments

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

	2025 £	2024 £
Not later than 1 year	80,749	86,695
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	136,661	24,743
Later than 5 years	10,545	-
	227,955	111,438

31. Members' liability

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

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

32. Related party transactions

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

The following related party transactions took place in the period of account:

Related Party: West Suffolk College

West Suffolk College is the sponsor of Eastern Education Group Trust and this creates the related party relationship.

West Suffolk College owns the freehold of the site that One Sixth Form College is located on and this property was leased to EEGT for 125 years commencing 1 September 2015. One Sixth Form College paid a sum of £80,000 relating to rent to West Suffolk College for the year (2024: £80,000). The year-end liability is £800,000 (2024: £880,000).

A Services agreement dated June 2022 between West Suffolk College (WSC) and Eastern Education Group Trust (EEGT) governs the provision of services for both ways between the parties. WSC staff provided support to EEGT and some EEGT staff have supported WSC. This arrangement was authorised in advance by DfE.

The charges between the parties in 2024/25 were:

West Suffolk College charge to Eastern Education Group Trust

Support Services £1,472,431 (2024: £1,267,133).

Curriculum support £6,540 (2024: £13,661)

General recharges £249,999 (2024: £51,008).

Eastern Education Group Trust charge to West Suffolk College

Support Services £1,192,990 (2024: £1,032,242).

Curriculum support £35,751 (2024: £76,592).

General recharges £Nil (2024: £18,442).

The net debtor position at year-end for West Suffolk College is £84,445.

33. Post balance sheet events

On the 1 September 2025, Stanton Primary School joined the Trust.

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

34. Agency arrangements

The academy trust distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for DfE. In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 the academy trust received £553,640 (2024: £495,416) and disbursed £323,505 (£2024: £264,637) from the fund for both academies. As at 31 August 2025, the cumulative unspent 16-19 bursary fund is £709,451 (2024: £629,044), of which £193,142 (2024: £149,600) relates to undistributed funding that is repayable to the DfE.

In the accounting period ending 31 August 2025 free school meals (Free Meals In Further Education) were accounted for an agency arrangement and the Trust received £159,705 (2024: £154,915) and disbursed £102,888 (2024: £129,708) for both academies. At 31 August 2025 the cumulative unspent free school meals fund is £208,118 (2024: £151,301), of which £Nil (2024: £28,600) relates to undistributed funding that is repayable to the DfE.

The Trust acts as an agent in distributing the SWISS Partnership monies. In the year the Trust received £Nil (2024: £Nil) and disbursed £3,717 (2024: £Nil). An amount of £13,010 (2024: £16,727) is included in other creditors.

35. Transfer of existing academies into the academy trust

On 1 September 2024 SENDAT joined the trust, with all its operations, assets and liabilities transferred to Eastern Education Group Trust for Nil consideration.

The transfer has been accounted for as a combination that is in substance a gift. The assets and liabilities transferred were valued at their fair value and recognised in the Balance Sheet under the appropriate heading with a corresponding net amount recognised as a net gain in the Statement of Financial Activities as Income from Donations and Capital Grants - transfer of existing academies into the academy trust.

The following table sets out the fair values of the identifiable assets and liabilities transferred and an analysis of their recognition in the Statement of Financial Activities.

	Value reported by transferring trust £	Fair value adjustments £	Transfer in recognised £
Tangible fixed assets			
Long-term leasehold property	22,665,907	1,547,973	24,213,880
Furniture and equipment	89,567	-	89,567
Plant and machinery	524,556	-	524,556
Computer equipment	159,690	-	159,690
Motor vehicles	21,855	-	21,855
Current assets			
Stocks	9,674	-	9,674
Debtors due after one year	534,275	-	534,275

(A company limited by guarantee)

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

35. Transfer of existing academies into the academy trust (continued)

	Value reported by transferring trust £	Fair value adjustments £	Transfer in recognised £
Current asset investments	1,000,000	-	1,000,000
Cash at bank and in hand	2,945,951	-	2,945,951
Liabilities Creditors due within one year	(1,051,379)	-	(1,051,379)
Net assets	26,900,096	1,547,973	28,448,069

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

Boarding school trading account				
	2025 £	2025 £	2024 £	2024 £
Income	~	-	~	~
Direct income				
Grant	620,649		-	
Total income		620,649		-
Expenditure				
Direct expenditure				
Direct staff costs	477,322		-	
Other direct costs	15,202		-	
Total direct expenditure	492,524	_		
Other expenditure				
Other staff costs	104,292		-	
Other operational costs	85,806		-	
Total other expenditure	190,098	_	-	
Total expenditure	<u>-</u>	682,622		-
Transfers between funds excluding depreciation		61,973		-
Surplus from all sources	-	-		-
Boarding school balances at 1 September 2024		-		-
Boarding school balances at 31 August 2025	-			-